



FEB 19 1986

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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PUBLISHED BY JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY • 165 WEST 46TH STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10036-2574 • (212) 575-9370

Vol. 64 - 69th Year

Friday, February 14, 1986

No. 31

## THE ORDEAL OF SHCHARANSKY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Anatoly Shcharansky, who changed his given name to Nathan when he arrived in Israel Tuesday night, told of the brutal punishments he endured during his nine years in the Soviet Gulag and spoke of his plans for the future, in his first television interview here Wednesday.

He said he expected his mother, Ida Milgram, and his brother, Leonid, to join him in Israel "within a month." "I am hoping for this. This was part of the deal" for the East-West prisoner exchange of which he was a part, Shcharansky said.

The 38-year-old, slightly built, balding mathematician, computer expert and cybernetics scientist proved deft in his responses to questions on matters that are fiercely controversial in Israel. Asked if he was "a religious man," a matter that has intrigued Israelis because his wife, Avital Shcharansky, seated by his side, became Orthodox since she immigrated to Israel in 1974, the aliya activist gave no direct reply.

But in the course of the interview, he recalled that he was punished by 130 days in solitary confinement in his Soviet prison because he had gone on a hunger strike to protest the confiscation of a book of psalms.

## Reserves Judgement On 'Eretz Israel' Issue

Asked his opinion of the "Eretz Israel" issue, the question of whether Israel should retain all of the Arab lands it conquered in the 1967 war or trade land for peace, Shcharansky said he reserved judgement because he still had much to learn about the subject; to which the TV anchorman interjected, "Don't worry, you will."

Shcharansky said he hoped to resume his profession in Israel — he was a computer and cybernetics technologist at the Moscow Research Institute before his dismissal in 1975 for applying for an exit visa — but he was concerned that his knowledge is outdated considering the rapid advances in those fields during his nine years' incarceration.

"I think I will have problems, but these aren't very difficult problems.... But it is too early to make concrete plans," Shcharansky said. Asked if he planned to enter politics in Israel, he replied, "I certainly won't be a professional politician. But I think I have a duty to use my unique experience in order to help other people who... are still in Russia. We — Avital and I — must consider how to use our experience. Hers is even more unique than mine," he said.

With respect to the ongoing controversy in Israel and world Jewry over tactics in the struggle for Soviet Jews — activism versus quiet diplomacy, Shcharansky said in effect that he favored a two-track approach.

In the early 1970's, he recalled, he and other Moscow activists opposed the quiet diplomacy approach of President Nixon and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "But on the other hand, pressures without diplomacy are also ineffective," he said.

On the subject of his health, Shcharansky said: "I had some very bad periods ... problems with my heart and my eyes. This was the result of their holding me in solitary confinement for more than 400 days in all .... Today I told a doctor here about conditions in solitary and he was frankly stunned and asked how it was possible to survive such conditions."

Shcharansky noted that under Soviet penal law, 15 days was the longest time allowed to keep a prisoner in solitary confinement. But his warders ignored the law. "For instance, when they took away this little book of psalms, claiming I was not allowed to have religious books, I began a hunger strike. And (as punishment) for that they put me in solitary for 130 days. After 92 days I collapsed."

Recalling his years in prison and labor camps, Shcharansky said, "Many times in my dreams I would see how I arrive in our land and how Avital greets me. Each time it ended the same way: I woke up. Now, too, though this dream is lasting for three whole days, since they took me from the KGB prison in Moscow, I am afraid to wake up." (See related Shcharansky story, P. 3.)

## TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN THREE CITIES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Small bombs exploded in Haifa and Afula today without causing casualties. But a major tragedy was averted in Bet Shean where an explosive device of considerable size was found in an Egged bus and safely defused by police sappers.

The Haifa bomb detonated near the District Court building in the Hadar HaCarmel section where the trial of four Arabs accused of murdering an Israeli woman several months ago is underway. It was the third bomb explosion in Haifa in recent weeks.

The Afula bomb was the eighth to explode in the Jezreel Valley town in the past few months. It was hidden in shrubbery behind the central bus terminal. Local residents said there has been an average of one bomb blast every three weeks in the last 5-6 months.

In Bet Shean, a cleaning worker at the bus station noticed a suspicious looking package left behind in a bus which had just arrived from Jerusalem. He called the police bomb squad which disposed of the device. The bus follows a route from Jerusalem through the West Bank and Jordan Valley to Bet Shean. The bomb is believed to have been planted by one of the many Arab passengers who got on and off at the various stops.

## SCIENTISTS FROM CHINA DUE IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA) — A Chinese scientist from the People's Republic of China is due in Israel next week to present a paper at the annual Israel conference on aviation and astronautics, to be held in Tel Aviv and Haifa.

He is Z.C. Shi, of China's Aerodynamic Research Institute in Sichuan province, who will deliver a paper on an aspect of supersonic flow, jointly with J.J. Gottlieb, of Toronto University's Institute for Aerospace Studies.

Other senior Chinese officials of cooperative associations are also expected in Israel later this year, to

attend the Agritech '86 international agricultural exhibition to open in Tel Aviv in September. Israeli officials are unwilling to say much about the expected appearances at the conference of Chinese delegates, as well as delegates from developing countries in Africa and Asia, and countries from Eastern Europe, declaring that this is a sensitive issue.

#### ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TALKS ON TABA AND NORMALIZATION ARE GOING WELL

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Gen. Avraham Tamir, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, said today that the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations over the Taba border dispute and normalization of relations are going well and should be completed in a few weeks. The two issues are being discussed separately but in tandem.

Tamir, and David Kimche, Director General of the Foreign Ministry, head the Israeli negotiators and the Egyptian delegation is headed by Dr. Nabil El-Arabi. The working teams of both sides met yesterday at the Accadia Hotel in Herzliyah to resume the latest round of talks which began in Cairo last week.

The meetings are the second since Israel's Inner Cabinet, on January 13, accepted Egyptian demands to submit the Taba dispute to international binding arbitration, with the proviso that at least the first few months of the process be devoted to seeking conciliation, meaning a compromise between the disputants. Tamir said the current talks are concerned with the terms of reference of the arbitration panel — yet to be selected — and its powers and duties.

Kimche said this morning that Israel would not link the compromise approach to arbitration to any conditions for the implementation of agreements on the normalization of relations between Israel and Egypt. He said Israel wanted to keep the normalization aspects of the 1979 peace treaty separate from the Taba issue.

Otherwise, he explained to reporters, the arbitrators could have a say in how the agreements already reached between the two countries should be carried out, and this is not in Israel's interests. At the same time, he said, Cairo has agreed that progress in the talks is a two-way affair covering both the terms of arbitration and normalization.

#### Talks Have Produced Some Progress

Kimche agreed with Tamir that the first day of talks produced some progress. "We are moving at a good pace, but there is a lot of work still to be done," he said. El-Arabi confirmed this. He said in an Israeli Radio interview today that there are many subjects which still require intensive discussions.

The Egyptians have requested a meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin tomorrow and after seeing him they will go to Jerusalem to attend prayer services at the El Aksa Mosque. Friday is the Moslem sabbath. On Saturday, the visitors will tour northern Israel and a final session of talks will be held in Herzliyah Sunday.

#### KACH PARTY HOLDS CONVENTION UNDER HEAVY POLICE PROTECTION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach Party held its convention at the Binyanei HaOoma last night under heavy police protection as thousands demonstrated outside against the party's racist program.

The anti-racist rally drew such notables as Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem and Absorption Minister Yaacov Tsur. It was peaceful, but scuffles developed as some protestors tried to keep Kach members from entering the convention center. Mounted police intervened and 17 demonstrators were arrested. About 300 Kach activists heard Kahane and other speakers expound their views.

There was anger, meanwhile, in the Knesset where Labor MKs tried unsuccessfully to speed action on an anti-racism bill that would bar from parliament any political faction advocating racist acts. Laborites wanted the anti-racist legislation adopted yesterday, before the Kach convention. The bill has gone through most of the committee stages. But its presentation to the plenum for a final reading yesterday was held up because of the illness of the chairman of the Legal Committee, Likud MK Eli Kulash.

Last week, a resolution by the World Zionist Organization to cancel the agreement to rent Binyanei HaOoma premises to Kach, was overruled by the courts.

#### ADL REJECTS CHARGES BY U.S. ARABS

NEW YORK, Feb. 13 (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today rejected as "totally unfounded" allegations by Arab American leaders before the United States Civil Rights Commission that the ADL, among other American Jewish groups, had encouraged anti-Arab stereotyping and engaged in intimidation against Arab Americans.

"The record shows that the ADL, in its 73-year-history, has consistently and vigorously opposed discrimination, stereotyping and intimidation directed against any ethnic group, including Arab Americans," declared Justice Finger, director of the ADL's civil rights division.

He was responding to published reports on the Civil Rights Commission hearings at which two prominent Arab American leaders asserted that major Jewish groups as well as politicians and the news and entertainment media had encouraged a negative portrayal of Arabs.

Former Senator James Abourezk (D., S.D.), who heads the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), told the Commission yesterday that the Arab-Israel conflict and the 1970's oil embargo "have given rise to an ugly, racist type of anti-Semitism toward people of Arab descent living in this country."

He also said that "Arab Americans have become scapegoats for tensions and violence half a world away with which they have absolutely no connection." Abourezk and James Zogby, executive director of the Arab-American Institute, cited recent incidents of violence against Arab Americans, including the bombing murder last year in Los Angeles of Alex Odeh, the ADC's West Coast coordinator.

#### DULZIN CALLS FOR INTENSIFYING STRUGGLE ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and chairman of the Presidium of the World Council on Soviet Jewry, called yesterday for "intensifying" the struggle and campaign on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Addressing a special meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in celebration of the release of Anatoly Shcharansky, Dulzin said that "the lesson" of Shcharansky's release is that "we should never give up our struggle and ef-

forts" to release the other Prisoners of Zion in the Soviet Union and help all other Soviet Jews who want to emigrate to Israel to do so.

Expressing "gratitude" to President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz for the role they played in bringing about Shcharansky's freedom, Dulzin said that Shcharansky is a "symbol" of Soviet Jewry as a whole in its continued fight for human rights and emigration. "Mazel Tov, it's a day of celebration for all of us," Dulzin said, referring to Shcharansky's release and his beginning of a new life in Israel.

Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, who also addressed the meeting, said that Shcharansky's release is not a signal that the oppression of Soviet Jews is about to end, and that the fight for Soviet Jewry must continue.

Observing that Shcharansky's departure was the result of "quiet diplomacy" on the part of the Reagan Administration as well as the public campaign and protests in the United States, Abram called "to keep the pressure" of the public campaign in order to give the President the "backing" he needs when he negotiates with the Soviets. He said that Congress should demand that the issue of Soviet Jewry be brought up again at the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting scheduled for later this year.

#### SHCHARANSKY SAYS HE WOULD BE GLAD IF MANDELA COULD BE RELEASED FROM JAIL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Anatoly Shcharansky said today he would be glad if Black South African leader Nelson Mandela could be released from prison as part of the East-West package deal responsible for his own release by the Soviet Union. But the dissident and aliyah activist carefully distinguished his own movement from that of Mandela who he noted has been accused of violence in his struggle against apartheid.

Appearing at a press conference here, Shcharansky stressed that he and other Jewish activists in the USSR were never violent. "Our only battlefields were small apartments" from which world public opinion was alerted to the plight of Soviet Jewry, he said.

He said he believed in principle that all political prisoners should be freed. But he did not want Moscow to mislead the world by comparing his case and Mandela's, trying to imply thereby that he and his Helsinki Watch group were in anyway involved in violent activities such as the anti-apartheid activist has been charged with.

Proposals were made to the South African regime two years ago that Mandela be released from prison in return for the release of Shcharansky. The South Africans rejected this out of hand. But when Shcharansky's release appeared imminent, South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha said he would free Mandela if Shcharansky and South Africans imprisoned in neighboring Angola also were released.

Rumors have persisted that Mandela soon would be freed. Israel Radio said Tuesday that Mandela would be released, possibly the following day, as part of the prisoner exchange that brought Shcharansky to Israel. According to the Israel Radio report, Premier Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir recently exchanged notes with Botha on the inclusion of Mandela in the exchange.

#### CHIEF OF STAFF WOULD LIKE TO SEE LAVIE EXPENDITURE CUT OR DEFERRED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA) — Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy indicated to military correspondents yesterday that he was unhappy over the large portion of the already curtailed defense budget allocated to Israel's second generation jet fighter plane, the Lavie, and that he would like to see the project cut out or deferred unless more funds are made available.

Levy, along with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, had been a leading proponent of the Lavie which other senior military officers and political figures believe should be abandoned for economic reasons. Now he apparently feels there are more urgent defense programs that could use the money.

A senior aide told reporters last week that the Chief of Staff favored delaying the new supersonic jet fighter which is expected to be ready for test flights later this year. Levy has plans to restructure the defense budget but he declined to reveal them to the public before he presents them to the political leadership. Speaking of the reduced budget, he said, "It is inconceivable that our order of priorities will not change when there is a change in the resources" available.

#### TURKISH VESSEL SEIZED IN GAZA WATERS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA) — An Israeli naval patrol boat stopped and boarded a small Turkish vessel in waters off Gaza Tuesday after its captain was killed, apparently by warning shots the Israeli gunners aimed across the vessel's bows. She was believed to be carrying drugs which were jettisoned.

A military spokesman said the ship was maneuvering in a suspicious manner and took evasive action when ordered to heave-to. It displayed no identification and raised the Turkish flag only when the Israeli boarding party arrived. A body found on deck was identified by crew members as the captain.

The vessel was escorted to an Israeli port where a search yielded neither drugs nor arms or ammunition. Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy told reporters today that if no contraband was found, the vessel would be released. The crew consisted of Turkish nationals and one Palestinian.

At the time of the incident they were enroute from Cyprus to Beirut. When the Israel patrol boat approached, the crew was seen dumping objects overboard. Two inner tubes packed with hashish were washed up on the Gaza beach some time later. Navy sources said the same vessel was intercepted on previous occasions after attempting evasive action.

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SAO PAULO (JTA) — In the predominantly Jewish neighborhood Bom Retiro, the Mayor of Sao Paulo, Mario Covas, inaugurated the Moises Maimonides Square in memory of the great Jewish sage whose 850th birthday is being commemorated, the World Jewish Congress reported Thursday. The festive ceremony included wide public participation. A commemorative plaque was unveiled by Elias Salem, president of the Latin American Sephardi Federation. In Latin America, the Maimonides anniversary has been marked by Jewish communities, culminating in the massive scholarly conference in Buenos Aires under the auspices of President Raul Alfonsin.

## A VICTORY FOR FREEDOM

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (JTA) -- Political leaders and Soviet Jewry activists here have jubilantly chalked up a victory with the release of Soviet Jewish dissident Anatoly Shcharansky after a relentless nine-year struggle that had seemed often to be heading nowhere.

From every part of Washington -- the White House, Capitol Hill and the offices of major Jewish and Soviet Jewry organizations -- there were expressions of guarded hope that the Soviet move was a sign of more to come.

At a nationally televised news conference Tuesday night, President Reagan said he was encouraged by Shcharansky's release, although he could not be certain whether Moscow's move was merely a propaganda act or a precursor of a substantive change of policy on human rights and emigration.

## Statement By Reagan

"I don't have any way to determine what their motives are in doing this," the President said. "I know only that since the Geneva meeting (in November) there has been not only this but others released, more so than in a great many years."

Reagan apparently was referring to the granting of exit visas for a number of Russians with spouses in the West as well as to the Soviet government's recent agreement to permit some 25 long-standing refuseniks to emigrate. The refuseniks had appeared on a list submitted to the Soviets by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.), who was told of Moscow's decision on a visit there last week.

"I'm encouraged by this because I did talk at great length about the matter of human rights with the General Secretary (Mikhail Gorbachev) and all we can do is hope that this is a beginning, a sign of what is going to continue to take place," the President said.

Reagan added that he had "no way of judging" the Soviet claims that certain Russians seeking to emigrate, such as the celebrated dissident Andrei Sakharov, possessed state secrets -- a claim on which the Soviets often base their rejection of emigration requests. But Reagan stressed that the Soviet authorities have "made a start" and that he hoped "it is just a start and that they'll continue."

## Avoiding Unqualified Joy

Meanwhile, many here involved with Soviet Jewry and particularly with Shcharansky's case, appeared to be taking pains to avoid an appearance of unqualified joy over Shcharansky's release. They are clearly concerned about the possibility of effectively allowing Moscow far greater public relations mileage than they feel it deserved on the basis of this one move.

"Today marks the beginning of our renewed struggle on behalf of the other Prisoners of Conscience," said Alan Dershowitz, a professor of law at Harvard University who has worked on Shcharansky's behalf. In a statement distributed by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ), Dershowitz said, "We must take no more than one moment to celebrate and then get back to the struggle."

One figure who was intimately involved with the prisoner exchange plan, Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R. NY), expressed hope in a statement issued Tuesday that "just as Anatoly Shcharansky had become a symbol for freedom-seeking people everywhere," the Soviet decision to release him "will become a signal of a new

era in the attitude of the Soviet toward human rights and toward freedom and justice." Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.), in another statement released Tuesday, cautioned that "without a dramatic improvement in the human rights of millions of Soviet citizens, Anatoly Shcharansky's release after nine years of cruel and unjust imprisonment will be simply a footnote to a deplorable record of human rights abuse."

## 'Victory Has Many Fathers'

Father Robert Drinan, a former Massachusetts Congressman who had headed the International Committee for the Release of Anatoly Shcharansky, said at the UCSJ press conference that the Soviets "have now recognized, in part at least, the Helsinki (accords) commitment (to human rights)."

But, he added, "I think of all the refuseniks who are still there." Asked where he thought the credit for Shcharansky's release was due, Drinan said the "victory has many fathers and everybody is a father today."

Katy Lowry, wife of Rep. Bill Lowry (R. Calif.) and a member of the Congressional Spouses Committee of 21, a Soviet Jewry group, observed that "with the incredible commitment of other equally dedicated groups, something began to wear away at the intransigence of the Soviets. In a corner of my head," Lowry said, "I share a tiny bit of Anatoly's victory."

In New York, Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman, who had met Shcharansky when she visited the Soviet Union as a member of Congress, said that he was granted his freedom "because we, American Jews, refused to keep silent, because we demanded freedom for Soviet Jews, because we put pressure on the Soviet government." She said that Jews must "continue to speak out, to keep up the pressure .... to demand that Shcharansky's release be the start of a new flood of Jewish emigration."

## KLARSFELD APPEALS FOR RELEASE OF LEBANESE JEWS BEING HELD HOSTAGE

PARIS, Feb. 13 (JTA) -- Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld has launched an appeal for the immediate and unconditional release of the five Jewish hostages still held in Beirut. Klarsfeld returned to Paris Monday from a three-week stay in Beirut where she had offered to take the place of the hostages but failed to establish any direct contact with their kidnappers.

Seven Lebanese Jews were kidnapped in Beirut in the spring and summer of 1985. Their captors demanded the release of some 100 Lebanese prisoners held by the South Lebanon Army at Khyam, 60 miles south of Beirut, in exchange for their freedom. Two of the kidnapped Jews have since been murdered.

Klarsfeld said upon her return here, "This is a crime against humanity, similar to the Nazi crimes against the Jews." She called for world public opinion to help obtain the release of the five missing Jews.

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WASHINGTON (JTA) -- In the most recent in a series of Soviet Jewry protest trials, 22 students from across the country were convicted Monday of illegally demonstrating in front of the Soviet Embassy. Like most of those convicted since the series of trials began last December, the students received a 15-day suspended sentence, six months unsupervised probation and a \$50 fine.

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REMINDER: There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated February 17, Washington's Birthday.