



KNESSET APPROVES EXCHANGE OF POSTS BETWEEN MODAI AND NISSIM

JERUSALEM, April 16 (JTA) -- Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai became Minister of Justice, and Justice Minister Moshe Nissim took over the Treasury, in a switch of Cabinet portfolios approved by the Knesset Wednesday. The exchange was agreed to last weekend to save the Labor-Likud unity coalition government from collapse over Premier Shimon Peres' decision to fire Modai for having criticized the government in recent press interviews.

With prior agreement between the coalition partners, Knesset approval was by acclamation. The key question that remains is whether Nissim will be able to handle the delicate task of running Israel's precarious economy. He has freely admitted having neither experience nor expertise in the field of economics.

Economic analysts here assume that under the guidance of a competent Director General of the Finance Ministry in the person of Dr. Emanuel Sharon, the ministry will run smoothly. Nissim will have to rely on the ministry's professional staff to a far greater degree than his predecessor. But in the long run, his performance in the unfamiliar post will depend on his working relations with Peres which in the past have been described as "very good."

Modai, for his part, helped save the coalition by accepting a relatively minor portfolio in exchange for one of the most powerful, prestigious and highly visible ministerial positions in which he had achieved some degree of success.

His alternative was to leave the government -- in which case his Likud colleagues would have had no choice but to follow him. Had Peres fired Modai or forced him to resign he would have violated the coalition agreement and Likud could not have maintained its partnership with Labor in those circumstances.

RESOLUTION IN CONGRESS CALLS ON USSR TO GRANT EMIGRATION VISA TO A REFUSENIK AND HIS CRITICALLY ILL WIFE
By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, April 16 (JTA) -- Members of the House and Senate introduced a sense-of-the-Congress resolution Tuesday calling on the Soviet Union to grant emigration visas to a 10-year refusenik and his critically ill wife.

At the same time, Sen. Paul Simon (D. Ill.) vowed he would continue a month-old Senate "vigil" until the couple -- Naum and Inna Meiman -- is permitted to leave the country. Beginning March 6, Simon has spoken on the Meiman case every day since the Senate has been in session. He follows in the footsteps of Sen. William Proxmire (D. Wisc.), who held a similar vigil for nearly 20 years in support of Senate ratification of the Genocide Convention. The convention was finally approved last February.

The introduction of the resolution was announced at a press conference at the Capitol Tuesday, coordinated by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry together with Simon and other

members of Congress, in order to call attention to the Meiman case. Sen. Gary Hart (D. Colo.) and Rep. Timothy Wirth (D. Colo.) said they were submitting the resolution Tuesday and called on their colleagues to join in sponsoring it.

Naum Meiman, a 74-year old physicist, first applied for a visa in 1975, and was turned down on the pretext that he knew state secrets, although his classified work actually ended in 1955. Soon after his first application, Meiman was fired from his job at the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics.

Inna Meiman, a refusenik since 1979 who has been married to Naum for four years, received her second refusal of an emigration visa on the grounds that she was privy to the classified information that her husband possessed.

For the past two years Inna Meiman, 54, has been battling cancer and has already undergone four operations for the removal of tumors from her neck. Doctors in Moscow have told her there is little more they can do for her, in spite of the appearance of a fifth tumor on her neck. She has already received invitations to undergo cancer treatment in Israel, the U.S. and Sweden.

'Time Is Running Short'

"Time is running short for Inna and Naum Meiman. Inna Meiman is dying of cancer. The climate is ripe for a humanitarian gesture from the Soviet Union," Hart declared. Hart, who like Wirth and Simon, has visited the Meimans in Moscow, said that he and his colleagues have pursued the couple's case with numerous Soviet officials here and in Moscow, but have received no indication that the Soviets are bending.

**First Of Its Kind:
UJA SIGNS ACCORD WITH POLISH GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FOR U.S. TOUR OF HOLOCAUST ARTIFACTS**

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal announced Wednesday that it has signed an agreement with the Polish government to provide for a two-year nationwide tour of Holocaust artifacts and other documents, under UJA auspices.

The agreement, which was a major goal of UJA national chairman Alex Grass, was achieved in association with the World Jewish Congress and provides for a tour of materials from the Auschwitz State Museum.

The exhibition is called, "Auschwitz: Crimes Against Mankind." It consists of 80 items such as suitcases, human hair, oven parts and 135 photographic panels. The exhibition was on display at the United Nations this winter in commemoration of Human Rights Day, and was seen by 70,000 persons.

The exhibition, which was organized in Poland by the Auschwitz State Museum and the International Auschwitz Committee, tells the tragic story of the Auschwitz death camp in Poland from 1940 until its liberation by Allied troops in 1945. The agreement, however, represents two further advances in the ongoing UJA

effort to ensure that the realities of the Holocaust are never forgotten so as to prevent the possibility of a recurrence. "Unlike the exhibition as displayed at the UN," Grass said, "the display from now on will be accompanied by a catalog completely revised for us in which the Polish government recognizes the centrality of the Jewish tragedy in the Holocaust. That is, the Polish government agrees that while others died in the Holocaust, it was an organized, methodical -- let me add, evil -- program to kill all the Jews in Europe. Six million Jews died including one million children only for the fact that they were Jewish.

"Second, this exhibition will be brought to communities across the U.S., and placed in museums and other public areas so that all Americans, Jews and non-Jews especially those too young to remember the Holocaust, will know it really happened, that it was horrific -- and that it could happen again."

"By sponsoring this exhibition," Grass added, "we are enabling people who cannot visit Yad Vashem in Jerusalem or the site of Auschwitz in Poland to directly experience the reality and impact of a concentration camp whose very name has become synonymous with Nazi crimes and Jewish suffering."

Negotiations that led to the agreement were supported by the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors, the New York Jewish Community Relations Council and other groups. The UN Center for Human Rights, which co-sponsored the exhibition earlier this year, will continue as sponsor while it is on tour.

UJA will provide, in addition to the fully revised catalog, educational and other materials to help Americans understand what Grass called "a fundamentally incomprehensible scheme to eliminate the Jewish people."

The exhibition will be made available by the UJA free of charge, Grass said. The display requires 3,150 square feet, or about two-thirds the size of a regulation basketball court. Further information may be obtained from Donna Lee Goldberg, Special Projects, United Jewish Appeal, 99 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016, (212) 818-9100, ext. 379.

N.Y.C. FIRM FINED OVER \$1 MILLION FOR MISLABELLING NON-KOSHER MEAT AS KOSHER

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- A Brooklyn firm has been fined over \$1 million for selling non-kosher meat products as kosher in violation of State law, Governor Mario Cuomo's office here announced Wednesday.

The State Department of Agriculture and Markets levied the record civil penalty of \$1,012,400 against Rachleff Kosher Provisions of 5378 Kings Highway in Brooklyn.

In a letter to the firm, Commissioner of Agriculture Joseph Gerace stated that "evidence has been offered by this bureau (legal bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Markets) indicating that during the year 1984 your establishment bought large quantities of non-kosher beef tongues, briskets and livers and sold the same as kosher meat products." There was no immediate comment available from the firm.

The investigation was initiated last year when the firm failed to pay a \$17,500 fine for possessing seven cartons of non-kosher boneless

beef briskets. After subpoenaing the records of suppliers, the investigators charged that the practice of mislabeling meat was one of long standing on the part of the firm.

The records indicated that more than 33,000 pounds of tongues from one supplier, more than 14,000 pounds of briskets from a second supplier and more than 1,000 pounds of brisket and livers from a third supplier -- all non-kosher -- were ordered by Rachleff and offered for sale as kosher. The firm was fined \$400 for each article of non-kosher food.

"It is imperative that we protect the more than one million consumers in New York State who purchase kosher food each day from those who might attempt to sell them; intentionally misleading, non-kosher food as kosher," the Governor's Office said. "As Passover approaches, consumers should be ensured that the kosher products they are buying are indeed kosher."

FIRM AGREES TO PAY JEWISH ENGINEER \$72,500 FOR TURNING HIM DOWN FOR A JOB IN SAUDI ARABIA

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- A Jewish engineer who charged the Ralph Parsons Company, a California-based international contracting firm, with religious discrimination for turning him down for a job in Saudi Arabia, has received a \$72,500 settlement from the company.

The complainant, Morris Hochberg, claimed in a U.S. District Court that although his professional qualifications were never questioned, he was rejected after a Parsons official asked him if he was Jewish and he answered in the affirmative. Hochberg was supported in his suit by the American Jewish Congress.

The engineer was working in Chicago in 1981 when he replied to an advertisement in the Chicago Tribune calling for a "principal project manager." After checking his qualifications, a Parsons official invited him by telephone to come to California at company expense for a series of interviews.

In California, he learned that the work location was in Yanbu, Saudi Arabia. Then, according to Hochberg, a Parsons executive told him that he would like to ask a "sensitive" question: "Are you Jewish?" When the engineer replied that he was, the official reportedly stated: "I wish I had asked you that question on the telephone while you were still in Chicago."

Hochberg was turned down for the job, although, he noted, his professional qualifications were never questioned or in dispute. He filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and won the commission's permission to bring suit in a U.S. District Court in California.

Hochberg was represented by the Chicago law firm of Altheimer & Gray. The Los Angeles firm of Gilbert, Cooke and Sackman served as local counsel. The plaintiff also received support and assistance from the legal staff of the Chicago division of the American Jewish Congress. His suit charged the Parsons company with violating Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on grounds of race or religion.

The company agreed to pay \$72,500 in damages as part of an out-of-court settlement. The Parsons company, without admitting guilt -- a customary practice in such agreements -- promised it would adhere in the future to a policy of

processing all applications and applicants for employment with Saudi Arabian employers "in a nondiscriminatory manner, without regard to the religion of any applicant." Parsons also declared that, in the future, it will enforce a company prohibition against any inquiry concerning an applicant's religion.

ISRAELI ENVOY AND FORMER U.S. OFFICIAL AGREE THAT SPONSORS OF TERRORISM CANNOT ESCAPE REPRISALS

LOS ANGELES, April 16 (JTA) -- Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations, Binyamin Netanyahu and a former senior Reagan Administration official agreed at a conference here that sponsors of international terrorism cannot remain immune from reprisals, which may include the use of military action like that used by the United States against Libya Monday.

"Unless the terrorists know there is really a cost to them for harming Americans, then terrorism is going to be cheap to them," Robert McFarlane, the President's former National Security Advisor, told some 400 persons attending an all-day conference here several days before the Libyan raid.

The United States, McFarlane continued, has a "legal and moral right to move preemptively against terrorists." He said Washington must work closely with its European allies in the battle against terrorism, a battle he said was not being won through the use of economic sanctions.

Netanyahu, also addressing the conference on international terrorism sponsored by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, said the war on terrorism should be waged by using diplomatic and economic sanctions against those who support terrorist activities.

But he conceded that these methods have not always proved successful. "Terrorism is an undeclared war," he stated. "Finding when, whom and what focus to apply is difficult, but terrorists are servants of the governments that launch them. Military force then becomes a legal response. A posture of weakness invites further aggression."

A Legitimate Object Of Military Response

According to Netanyahu, "if a government has harbored, trained and launched terrorists, it becomes a legitimate object of military response." Libya, for example, has 20 known terrorist training camps and "such a government forfeits any claim of immunity."

Also participating in the conference at the ballroom of the Sheraton Premier in Universal City was Brian Jenkins, a terrorism specialist with the Rand Corporation, and Joseph Joffe, foreign editor of the West German newspaper, Die Deutsche Zeitung.

According to Jenkins, who serves as a consultant to a number of U.S. government agencies, there were 480 incidents of international terrorism in 1985 with 854 deaths and 1,268 injuries. Jenkins said that he does not believe there is a solution to the problem, but added that a "defensive posture does not rule out using force."

In addition to the panel discussion, those attending the conference unanimously approved a resolution calling for "governments of the United States, European allies and all friendly nations to revoke landing rights at all international airports of any nation supporting terrorists."

ANTI-ISRAEL FILMS PRODUCED BY THE PLO ARE FLOODING THE U.S.

CLEVELAND, April 16 (JTA) -- Anti-Israel films produced by the PLO -- some of them using themes and footage from Nazi anti-Semitic films -- are flooding college campuses, private clubs and church groups across the United States, a leading Israeli expert on propaganda said Tuesday.

More than 400 of the films, offered as documentaries and entertainment, have been produced and distributed by the PLO since 1972, reported Baruch Gitlis, director of the Harry Karren Institute for Propaganda Analysis and senior lecturer in the "psychology of propaganda" at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan, Israel.

Gitlis showed and analyzed a number of PLO films and excerpts from others at public seminars here at the conclusion of a six-city tour sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America. The seminars -- at Cleveland State University, the Sheraton Hotel in Beachwood and at Case Western Reserve University -- are designed to teach participants how to counter anti-Israel, anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist propaganda.

The PLO films, which run from five to 45 minutes, include some that incorporate Nazi-produced footage. One, for example, makes use of clips from "The Eternal Jew," an infamous anti-Semitic film made during the Hitler era. Gitlis recently conducted a four-day international conference on Nazi propaganda films at Bar-Ilan University, and is showing excerpts from some of them on his current tour.

Some Films Use Nazi Clips

The U.S. seminars include showings of the 1982 "Memories and Fire," a catchy five-minute salute to the PLO made expressly for American audiences, and "The Making of a Revolutionary," which runs 11 minutes and consists only of music and image, thus eliminating the need for multi-language narration or subtitles.

"The PLO films are sophisticated and of good technical quality," Gitlis said, "and they are extremely effective among audiences that don't know the true historical facts." Although some films use Nazi film clips, the propaganda line employed by the PLO is a product of the Kremlin.

Critical Of American TV Coverage Of Israel

At the ZOA seminars, Gitlis also discussed the image of Israel projected by American TV networks. He declared:

"Most Americans form their opinions about nations, people, issues and events from what they see and hear on television, so it is not surprising that millions of U.S. citizens consider Israel a belligerent, racist, cruel and oppressive state. This distorted and unwarranted view is largely the result of the presentation of Israel, in words and pictures, that viewers derive from watching the major networks."

Gitlis observed that the view of Israel as a "swaggering tough guy with little concern for the rights and feelings of Arabs living under its thumb" has been especially evident since the war in Lebanon. He says, however, that the anti-Israel picture projected by the networks began nearly 20 years ago, "when TV stepped up its coverage of the Middle East and decided that it would give 'both sides of the story'."

ACTION ON SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- The American Jewish community's efforts to mount an intensive public campaign in behalf of Soviet Jewry this year, when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev visits the United States, were discussed at meetings in Detroit on Sunday and Hartford on Monday.

They were part of a series of regional conferences on Soviet Jewry and Summit II sponsored by local groups, with the cooperation of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC) and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ).

The conferences are a component of a national campaign for Soviet Jewry, coordinated by the NCSJ, which is intended to ensure that the issue is in the forefront of the agenda when President Reagan meets with Gorbachev at the White House. The national effort is headed by honorary chairman Elie Wiesel.

A Plea By Alexander Slepak

The Hartford gathering, organized by the Greater Hartford Jewish Federation Community Relations Committee, featured an appearance by Alexander Slepak, the son of long-time Soviet Jewish refuseniks Vladimir and Masha Slepak of Moscow. Slepak, who is studying medicine at Temple University in Philadelphia, spoke soon after seeing his father appear in a film clip used in a new videotape on Soviet Jewry dedicated to Anatoly Shcharansky.

In a moving reference to his father, Alexander said, "I want him out. I want him next to Shcharansky. They started their struggle together, they have to finish together." The videotape, entitled, "Shcharansky: The Struggle Continues," was produced by the United Jewish Appeal for the NCSJ, and was given its first public viewing at the conference.

Slepak noted that gatherings like these bring hope to Soviet Jews in his homeland. "I am free now because you fought for so long, and brought up our case at international meetings. Please keep working for the Slepak family and the thousands of other refuseniks."

Soviet Interests Assessed

The reasons the Soviets might find it in their interest to free Soviet Jewry were explored by keynote speaker Dr. Robert Freedman, dean of the Graduate School of Baltimore Hebrew College. He noted that last year the Soviets sent signals about the possible resumption of diplomatic ties with Israel and the possible renewal of the Jewish emigration movement, when they feared success for the Middle East peace process. Now, however, Middle East peace is on hold and U.S.-Soviet relations are more important.

"And now that they want trade and technology from the United States we have leverage again for Soviet Jewry before the Summit," Freedman said. "President Reagan must be able to point through the window of the White House during the Summit and say 'the American people do care about Soviet Jewry.'"

Meetings With Gorbachev

The conference in Detroit featured appearances by two Michigan Congressmen, both of whom had visited the Soviet Union. Rep. Sander Levin (D.), who met with refuseniks during a trip to the Soviet Union last year, read from a letter to him

by Lev Shapiro of Leningrad asking for his help in emigrating. The letter was brought out by his colleague Rep. William Broomfield (R.), who had just returned from a trip to the Soviet Union last week.

Broomfield met with Gorbachev and said he believed that "we may be close to a breakthrough on the question of freedom for Soviet Jew." Broomfield, the ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, travelled to the Soviet Union with the committee's chairman, Florida Democrat Dante Fascell.

Broomfield described a meeting he and Fascell had with Gorbachev, noting that the Soviet officials at first refused to allow U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hartman to join them. "This shows the relationship between our two countries is very strained," the Congressman said, adding, "Gorbachev is trying to put leverage on the Reagan Administration through members of Congress."

The Detroit meeting was sponsored by the Soviet Jewry Committee of the Detroit Jewish Community Council.

The Hartford and Detroit meetings followed a midwest conference in Cincinnati on March 31. Similar meetings are planned for Baltimore on April 20, and in Houston and California as the Summit draws closer.

45 MOSCOW REFUSENIKS APPEAL TO HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE IN BERN TO HELP THEM IN THEIR RIGHT TO LEAVE THE USSR

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- Forty-five Moscow refuseniks, protesting Soviet violations of human rights, sent a letter to an international human rights conference in Bern, Switzerland, appealing to the participants "to help us in realizing our legitimate right to leave the USSR, the right that has been guaranteed in particular by the Helsinki Accords."

The refuseniks, all of whom have been waiting for years to go to Israel, warned that "if no solution of such a simple problem as Jewish emigration from the USSR is soon found, the other issues of the Helsinki Accords more difficult to resolve and control may be in danger of being indefinitely shelved."

The conference in Bern, which opened Tuesday, includes experts from 35 countries which signed the Helsinki Accords in 1975. The six-week meeting will deal with issues of human contacts, including telecommunications, tourism, and family reunifications.

According to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, the signers of the letter included Inna Begun, Alexander Lerner, Mikhail Kholmiansky, Lev Ovsishcher, Sergei Ruzer, Leonid Ozerov, and Alexander, Rosa and Olga Ioffe.

The National Conference also said it had learned that Jewish activists inside the Soviet Union have asked that the subject of Jewish emigration from the USSR be given "top priority" by Western Jewish communities. They point out that only 47 Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union last month.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Mark O'Connor, an American lawyer, received permission from Justice Minister Moshe Nissim Wednesday to plead in Israeli courts on behalf of his client, alleged Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk.