



**ISRAELI HEALTH MINISTRY OFFICIAL  
 SAYS NUCLEAR DISASTER IN USSR DOES  
 NOT POSE HEALTH PROBLEM FOR ISRAEL**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 4 (JTA) -- Dan Michaeli, Director General of the Health Ministry, said over the weekend that the nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union does not seem to pose a health problem for Israel and there is no cause for concern.

The Environmental Health Institute has been monitoring reports of radioactive fallout over Europe since the disclosure last week of an apparent meltdown at a nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, near Kiev in the Ukraine. But if there is little danger to Israel from fallout, there are growing doubts about the safety of nuclear power plants in general.

Israel has only one, located near Dimona in the Negev. But the country has been planning to add to its nuclear power capacity. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last Friday that Israel should not jump to conclusions as a result of the Chernobyl tragedy. He said on a Voice of Israel Radio interview that the nuclear accident in the USSR is not likely to set back nuclear power in other countries.

"As for Israel, we have to judge nuclear power plants on their economic merits, to decide if we want them in order to be less dependent on oil or coal," Rabin said.

**WALDHEIM NARROWLY MISSES PRESIDENTIAL  
 WIN; FACES RUN-OFF ELECTION JUNE 8**

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, May 4 (JTA) -- Kurt Waldheim, whose alleged participation in Nazi war crimes provoked a bitter worldwide controversy, narrowly missed victory in Austria's Presidential elections Sunday and will face a run-off election on June 8.

The final returns broadcast by Vienna Radio gave Waldheim, the candidate of the conservative People's Party, 49.66 percent of the vote against 43.66 percent for his Socialist rival, Kurt Steyer. A vote of 50 percent or more is required to avoid a run-off.

Early projections had indicated that neither candidate would gain 50 percent of the vote. With more than three quarters of the ballots counted it appeared for a time that Waldheim would take the elections by a 51-42 percent margin. But officials refused to predict the outcome until the final count, noting that Waldheim's vote had oscillated by more than three points in the course of two hours after the polls closed.

Waldheim, who served as Secretary General of the United Nations from 1972-1981, had been a clear favorite according to public opinion polls during the past month, even as evidence continued to unfold that he may have been a participant in and certainly knew about the murders of Yugoslav partisans when he was a Wehrmacht intelligence officer in the Balkans during World War II, and about the deportation of Greek Jews from Salonika, Crete and Rhodes.

Waldheim flatly denied the charges but his explanations were less than unequivocal. He finally admitted knowledge of atrocities but insisted that he had no part in them.

The inconclusive results of Sunday's elections are attributable to the votes garnered by two minor candidates, Freda Meisner-Blau, an environmental activist, and rightwing nationalist Otto Scrinzi.

**CATHOLIC LAWMAKER URGES VATICAN TO  
 RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND ESTABLISH TIES**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 4 (JTA) -- Rep. Edward Feighan (D. Ohio) believes that if the Vatican establishes diplomatic relations with Israel it will help the Middle East peace process as well as improve Jewish-Catholic relations.

That is why Feighan, a Catholic, has introduced a resolution in the House urging the Vatican to officially recognize the State of Israel and establish diplomatic relations, according to a spokesperson for the Congressman. She said the resolution has 20 co-signers so far.

Feighan introduced the resolution in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's declaration "Nostra Aetate." He noted that during a recent celebration of the anniversary, Pope John Paul II urged "religious leaders to join together to help restore religious faith."

"A great step toward that goal would be the Vatican's recognition of the State of Israel," Feighan noted in a letter to his colleagues urging their support of the resolution. "As religious strife becomes a larger and more violent threat to international stability and peace, a formal recognition of Israel's right to exist by the Vatican could have dramatic impact."

The resolution notes that "the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the Vatican and the State of Israel would be a positive step toward peace and stability in the Middle East and would promote increased harmony between Christians and Jews throughout the world."

Feighan, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, is a "very staunch supporter of Israel," according to the spokesperson.

He also initiated a letter to Secretary of State George Shultz urging Shultz to bring up the issue of recognition when the Secretary met the Pope last Easter. Feighan's spokesperson said the Congressman has not heard from Shultz as to whether he did raise the issue.

Feighan was also among the 26 Representatives who signed a letter to the Pope last month urging him to announce recognition of Israel during his visit to Rome's main synagogue. The Pope, in the historic visit, denounced anti-Semitism, but did not mention Israel.

**SENATE RESOLUTION URGES JUSTICE  
 DEPARTMENT TO BAR WALDHEIM FROM U.S.**

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, May 4 (JTA) -- The Senate passed a resolution last Thursday calling on the

Justice Department to consider barring Austrian Presidential candidate Kurt Waldheim from the United States. The resolution, introduced last March by Sen. Pete Wilson (R. Calif.) after the World Jewish Congress publicized findings about Waldheim's activities as a Wehrmacht officer in World War II, was passed by a voice vote Thursday night.

Its passage coincided with the disclosure of new findings related to Waldheim's war-time activities. A war record written by Waldheim for his army unit in northwest Greece from July 19 to August 21, 1943, included an order by Hitler to kill captured partisans in Greece and send suspected resistance fighters to labor camps. The diary was maintained while Waldheim was assigned to the German general staff liaison attached to the Italian 11th Army. The documents were discovered in Washington's National Archives by Robert Herztein, professor of history at the University of South Carolina.

Waldheim has conceded that he was aware of atrocities against partisans but has consistently maintained that he had no part in them, and that he knew nothing about deportations of Jews from Salonika.

#### Time To Respond

The Senate resolution called on the Justice Department to "carefully and expeditiously review the documents brought forward by the World Jewish Congress concerning former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, to ascertain his role, if any, in Nazi war crimes, and treat appropriately."

Speaking on the resolution he had introduced, Wilson said it was time "to respond" to the "apparent deception" by Waldheim about his war-time activities, which he had earlier indicated came to an end in 1941, after he was wounded on the Eastern front.

"It is my intention to ensure that the American justice system is upheld with full and deliberate speed. It is imperative that the Attorney General act promptly on the question of barring Mr. Waldheim on the basis of the documented evidence which the (Justice Department's) Office of Special Investigations has already examined."

Passage of the resolution followed the disclosure a week earlier that Neal Sher, director of the Office of Special Investigations, had recommended that Waldheim be barred from the country under a 1978 law forbidding entry to aliens who took part in Nazi war crimes.

In a news conference last Monday, Attorney General Edwin Meese said it was unlikely that any decision on Waldheim's status would be reached before the Austrian Presidential elections on May 4.

Justice Department spokesman Patrick Korten told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on Friday that the issue had not yet reached the level of Assistant Attorney General and that he had no idea when it would.

"We are always interested in what members of Congress have to say about something that may be in our area of responsibility," Korten said of the Senate resolution.

"But ultimately, our responsibility is to the law, and we do not speed things up or slow things down in response to outside pressure of any sort."

#### SHAMIR: ISRAEL IS INTERESTED IN RENEWING AUTONOMY TALKS WITH EGYPT By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 4 (JTA) -- Israel is interested in renewing its talks with Egypt on autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to bring other participants into the negotiations, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said here Saturday at a special press briefing for Israeli correspondents. He said the other participants could include Jordan and Palestinian representatives who are not associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Shamir made a brief stopover in New York enroute to Central America for a four-day visit. "I believe that the most realistic approach to advance peace in the Middle East is by resuming negotiations in the framework of the Camp David accords," Shamir said in reply to a question by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

He added, "Camp David is the only tangible achievement for peace so far in the Middle East." He noted that Israel has invited Jordan to negotiate for peace without pre-conditions. "As far as we understand Jordan, she is reluctant to join in negotiations on her own. She seeks partners for those negotiations. Unfortunately, we can't provide partners," Shamir said.

He said, nevertheless, that he thinks the peace process is still alive in the Middle East because talks between Israel and Egypt are still taking place and there are, as well, "contacts with Jordan."

#### A Problem With Waldheim If Elected President

Shamir said in reply to questions that there will definitely be "a problem" if former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim is elected in Sunday's Presidential elections in Austria. Waldheim is accused of participation in atrocities as a Wehrmacht officer in the Balkans during World War II.

Shamir said there would be a problem with Israel's relations with Austria should Waldheim become that country's President. "We don't like to interfere in other countries' elections but when it comes to the Nazi problem, we as a Jewish State cannot be indifferent," he said. "It is clear that there will be a problem if Waldheim is elected but I don't want to say now what we will do. When the results are in, we will decide."

Shamir described the relationship between Israel and the U.S. as one of "trust and understanding and friendship." The Likud leader, who will replace Shimon Peres as Premier under the rotation of power agreement next October 14, said he did not anticipate any "meaningful changes" in Israel's foreign policy when he becomes Prime Minister.

He noted in that connection that he is bound by the coalition agreements and the basic guidelines of the unity government. He said he expects that the rotation of power will take place as planned.

#### Visit To Central America

Shamir's first stop on his Central America tour will be in Honduras where he will open the Israeli Embassy in Tegucigalpa. Until now, Israel was represented by a non-resident Ambassador. The new Embassy represents an upgrading of diplomatic relations between Israel and Honduras.

He will meet there with President Jose Ascona Hoyo. Shamir will then visit Guatemala for a discussion of economic cooperation with President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo and other officials. His final stop will be in Costa Rica, to attend the inauguration of President Oscar Arias Sanchez. Israel has always had close relations with Costa Rica which is one of the few countries that moved its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

**THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE COMMEMORATE THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING**

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 4 (JTA) -- Several thousand persons gathered here Sunday in solemn remembrance of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising 43 years ago, and to reaffirm the commitment to never forget the martyrdom of the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

"The first appeal of the dead to the living is remembrance," Abba Eban told the gathering at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum. "Commemorate, transmit, explain, recount, portray; for if man has any hope of redemption, it lies in the will and implacable understanding of himself."

But at the same time, there was clearly an undercurrent of concern expressed by various speakers at the annual commemorative event sponsored by the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization (WAGRO) of recent developments in Austria regarding Presidential candidate Kurt Waldheim, who has been accused of concealing his war-time activities as an officer in the Wehrmacht.

In addition, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Binyamin Netanyahu, told the gathering that Israel will seek justice for the victims of the Holocaust. He said Israel will continue to seek broad access to all documents contained in the UN War Crimes Commission archives.

"There are 25,500 files listed of accused war criminals that nobody has ever heard of," Netanyahu declared. "No one has touched those files for 40 years." He said also that he has been asked why Israel wants the files. "We have six million reasons why we want those files," he said.

**Urges Waldheim Be Barred From The U.S.**

Benjamin Meed, president of WAGRO and of the American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, released the text of a letter he sent to Attorney General Edwin Meese, asking that Waldheim be barred from the United States because of his past war-time activities.

"For forty years, Kurt Waldheim deceived the world about his three years of military service as a Nazi officer of a special unit in the Balkans known for its brutality," Meed said. "Therefore, we request that the name of Kurt Waldheim be placed on the 'watch list' to deny him entry to the United States pursuant to the Holtzman Amendment which prevents former Nazis or those who aided Nazis from entering the United States."

The ceremony Sunday included the lighting of six symbolic candles in memory of the six million Jews killed by the Nazis. Each candle was lit by a Holocaust survivor who was accompanied by a member of the Second Generation. Misha Raitzin, a concentration camp survivor and member of the Metropolitan Opera Company, chanted the traditional prayer for the dead, El Mole Rachamin.

**The Need To Remember**

Elie Wiesel, chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, spoke movingly of the Holocaust and the need to remember. "Were so many memories to be forgotten, it would be the killers ultimate victory," he declared. "Remember that every killer kills twice -- the second time by erasing his crimes. We could not save the victims from their first death. But we can save them ... from being killed again. This is our responsibility."

Messages of greetings were also received from President Reagan, who is in Tokyo at the economic summit, and from Israeli President Chaim Herzog. Reagan said the "purpose of remembrance is very constructive indeed: to keep the torch of vigilance burning bright. In the brightness of that light, let us pray, no such dark evil will ever take place again."

Herzog, in his telegram read to those gathered here, said, "I express for myself and for Israel's people our sense of participation in your commemorative assembly and our determination that remembrance will be ensured and new life continue to be built on the ruins of the old."

Mayor Edward Koch read a proclamation declaring Sunday Warsaw Ghetto Commemoration Day in New York City, and urging all residents to remember the events surrounding the Uprising. Some 50,000 persons died in the Uprising of April 19-May 16, 1943.

**TWO BOMBS EXPLODE IN JERUSALEM; NO CASUALTIES IN EITHER BLAST**

JERUSALEM, May 4 (JTA) -- Two bombs exploded here Sunday, but there were no casualties. The explosions marred an otherwise peaceful Passover aftermath. Jerusalem police called on the public to be on the alert for other possible bombings. At the same time, police increased their own search in places where terrorists might seek to place bombs.

The first bomb Sunday exploded at approximately 6:30 a.m. at the Kiryat Moshe neighborhood in Jerusalem. Two parked cars were slightly damaged. Several suspects were detained and released after being questioned.

The second bomb exploded at Gihon Street in the Abu-Tor neighborhood. No arrests were immediately made. Police are investigating whether both bombs were planted by the same terrorists.

**ISRAELI IMPLICATED IN ARMS DEALS APPEALS TO ISRAEL FOR AID, SUPPORT**

TEL AVIV, May 4 (JTA) -- Israel Eisenberg, one of the six Israelis presently detained in Bermuda in connection with plans to sell U.S. arms to Iran, is quoted in Sunday's Maariv as arms to Iran, is quoted in Sunday's Maariv as appealing to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem via his lawyer, Reuven Rivlin -- for Israeli government aid and support.

"We are loyal citizens of the State, we have committed no crime and we have done no wrong. All we are guilty of is entering Bermuda without a permit," he is quoted as saying. "We have done nothing in violation of Israeli law or the country's interests. Please, do not abandon us in time of trouble and do not let us be extradited to the United States."

**DOLE SUGGESTS EXAMINING A MORE 'EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVE' TO J/V AMENDMENT TO HELP INCREASE JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 4 (JTA) -- Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R. Kans.) has suggested examining whether a more "effective alternative" to the Jackson-Vanik Amendment can be found to help bring about increased Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

But in a recent speech to the American Committee on East-West Accord, which seeks to promote U.S.-Soviet trade, Dole stressed that neither he nor any other Senator would propose a new policy unless it has bipartisan support and was backed by the Reagan Administration and Jewish groups.

The amendment, named for the late Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) and former Rep. Charles Vanik (D. Ohio), has been in force since 1974. It links most-favored-nation trade status for the Soviet Union with increased emigration.

**Amendment Has Met With Mixed Results**

"I think it is fair to say it has met with mixed results," Dole said in his address. "The Soviets are offended by the fact that we try to impose restrictions and try to say unless you do this, we are not going to trade with you."

The U.S. is "concerned about human rights," he stressed. "And the very basic human right is the right to emigrate, even if it happens in the Soviet Union."

Dole said that among the suggestions being made is to "suspend" Jackson-Vanik for a year. "If the Soviets loosen up on emigration, extend the suspension for another year, and so forth," he explained.

He noted that the problem could also be solved in one of the forthcoming summits between President Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Dole explained his remarks in a letter to Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ), released to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency May 2.

**Need To Search For New Ways**

"As I have stated on a number of occasions, I firmly believe that we need to search for new and better ways to increase Jewish emigration and to improve human rights behind the Iron Curtain," Dole said. He noted that only 72 Jews were allowed to emigrate in April.

"I have no intention of proposing or supporting any new policy unless I am sure it has broad, bipartisan support and the desired effect on Soviet behavior," Dole said. "I am encouraged by signs that some Jewish leaders may be willing to take another look at Jackson-Vanik," he added.

The NCSJ and other Jewish groups have indicated that if there were a substantial increase in emigration they would be willing to see some changes made.

In his letter to Abram, Dole repeated the suggestion of a "temporary, experimental easing of Jackson-Vanik restrictions," while noting that others have urged a "tougher" stand toward the Soviets.

"Above all, we must search for more effective alternatives," Dole said. "Despite the well-publicized release of a few of the better known

refuseniks, for most Soviet Jews wishing to emigrate, matters are only getting worse."

**72 JEWS LEFT USSR IN APRIL**

NEW YORK, May 4 (JTA) -- The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported that 72 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union in April, 25 more than were allowed to emigrate in March. Of the 72 April emigrants, 18 went to Israel. From October 1968 to April 1986, 265,939 persons left the USSR with Israeli visas and some 163,620 of them went to Israel, according to Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference.

**THATCHER TO VISIT ISRAEL MAY 24-27**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 4 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain is tentatively scheduled to visit Israel May 24-27. It will be the first visit ever by a British Prime Minister to Israel. Thatcher will hold talks with Premier Shimon Peres and other officials.

Peres, meanwhile, received the President of Uruguay, Dr. Julio Maria Sanguinetti, who arrived here from Cairo Thursday accompanied by his wife and a large party of Uruguayan Cabinet ministers and members of parliament. Mrs. Sanguinetti heads the Uruguay-Israel Friendship Society.

The South American leader, here on a five day State visit, conferred with Peres Friday. He and his wife were guests at a dinner given in their honor by President Chaim Herzog Thursday night. Sanguinetti observed on that occasion that there is no prospect for peace in the Middle East as long as the parties directly involved deny Israel's right to exist and its right to a secure, recognized borders.

**REPORT MANY OF THE TERRORISTS RELEASED IN POW EXCHANGE HAVE RETURNED TO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 4 (JTA) -- Many of the terrorists who were released in the POW deal last year -- among the 1,150 terrorists freed in exchange for three IDF soldiers -- have returned to terrorist activities and have been involved in serious acts of sabotage, according to a security source quoted by Davar Sunday.

The source noted that some 600 of these terrorists reside in East Jerusalem and Judea-Samaria. They organized while they were still in prison.

The source was critical of the deal by which they were released, saying that anyone who thinks it's possible to keep tabs on 600 released terrorists is deceiving the public, since such terrorist activity can't be detected in advance. However, the source said, the security forces know about this activity and are dealing with it.

Some of the released terrorists have been arrested for taking part in terrorist activity, and a few have been deported. The security source said that the involvement of the released terrorists had been discussed at the highest political echelons, and it was those echelons that decided on when to make public the episodes in which these terrorists were involved, Davar said.