

JUN 4 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

Monday, June 2, 1986

No. 104

## FRENCH, ISRAEL NUKE TALKS ARE REPORTEDLY INTERRUPTED

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 1 (JTA) -- Talks between French and Israeli experts on the sale of two nuclear reactors to Israel have been interrupted, according to scientific sources in Paris. The talks had been going on for close to a year and had dealt with the sale of two French made reactors estimated at two billion French Francs or close to \$300 million.

French sources said Paris broke off the talks for a variety of reasons which went from Israel's apparent inability to pay even part of the cost of the two reactors, to Arab threats to break off trade relations with France should the sale go through. Israeli sources were not prepared to comment on this report.

The talks have been going on since December 1984 when Israeli Premier Shimon Peres paid an official visit to France. The negotiations "slowed down" a few months later and resumed after Peres' latest visit to France. According to these sources, the experts representing the French government-owned company Franatom have now been recalled from Israel where most of the talks were held.

The two reactors, which were to have been used for energy creating purposes, were to have been erected in the Negev by French and Israeli technicians.

## INVESTIGATION APPEARS LIKELY INTO 'SENIOR OFFICIAL' SCANDAL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 1 (JTA) -- An investigation appears inevitable into allegations that a "senior official" obstructed justice in the case of the unexplained deaths of two Arab terrorists who were captured alive by the Israel Defense Force after they hijacked a bus two years ago.

Sources here said over the weekend that Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir would begin his probe by launching a police investigation as soon as the Inspector General of Police, David Kraus, returns from a trip abroad later this week. Zamir is more determined than ever to press the case, the sources said. He received considerable support from Gen. (res.) Meir Zorea who headed the initial inquiry into the case.

Although not publicly identified, the "senior official" who Zamir contends suborned witnesses to perjury, fabricated evidence and introduced false testimony is generally acknowledged to be Avraham Shalom, head of Shabak, Israel's internal security and counter espionage service commonly known as Shin Bet.

## Shamir Refuses To Discuss Affair

The matter has the makings of a major government scandal because an investigation would have to determine, among other things, whether the Prime Minister had knowledge of the terrorists' mysterious deaths and subsequent alleged cover-up. At the time of the bus hijack, in April, 1984, Yitzhak Shamir, now Foreign Minister and a Deputy Premier, headed the Likud-led government.

Shamir has refused to discuss the affair which remains shrouded in official secrecy. "I can't go into details," he told reporters Friday. "I am prevented from doing so. I knew what a Premier ought to know and acted accordingly," he said. The head of Shabak is responsible directly to the Premier.

An investigation therefore would pose the questions: if the Premier had no knowledge of the alleged offense, why was he in the dark; and if he knew, why did he fail to act?

Incumbent Premier Shimon Peres who took office several months later would also be faced with the same questions of knowledgeability and failure to take action.

## Varied Interpretations Of The Law

According to the media, which has been the only source of public information since the affair broke a week ago, Peres, Shamir and almost all of the senior Cabinet ministers believe the matter should be dropped in the interests of national security and morale. But Zamir insists that the case represents a confrontation between those who believe in the rule of law and those who maintain that the law must be bent when national security is at stake.

Gen. Zorea upheld Zamir's position in a television interview last Thursday night. "The gravest danger to the security of the State is false reports in the security system," he said. "If lies penetrate the security services, in my view, this is the end of the State."

He added however that he did not feel he had been misled at the original inquiry because nothing has been proven yet. Nevertheless, he stressed, an investigation is necessary. He said it should be conducted in absolute secrecy but the results should be made public. "If the security services lie, then order should be introduced there," Zorea said. He called for the creation of a State commission of inquiry.

## SECRET UN FILE ON WALDHEIM MADE PUBLIC BY WJCONGRESS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- The United Nations War Crimes Commission said in 1948 that Austrian Presidential candidate Kurt Waldheim should stand trial for "murder" and "putting hostages to death" according to the secret file on the former United Nations Secretary General housed in the UN archives and released here.

The file, part of some 40,000 sealed files on accused war criminals, witnesses and others contained in the archives, was publicly released last Friday for the first time by the World Jewish Congress. The WJC said it obtained the UN dossier from non-governmental sources who requested anonymity. The seven page document represents the findings of the long defunct Commission that examined the evidence against Waldheim submitted to it by Yugoslavia in 1947.

On the basis of that examination, the UN Commission assigned Waldheim an "A" classification, meaning the evidence clearly justified his prosecution as a war criminal. The UN file states that from April 1944 to May 1945, Waldheim, as a German intelligence officer, was "responsible for the retaliation actions carried out by the Wehrmacht units in Yugoslavia." In this connection

tion, he is charged with "murder" and "putting hostages to death." The UN dossier notes that the evidence and "files concerning this charge are in the possession of the Yugoslav War Crimes Commission." The dossier also contains, according to the World Jewish Congress, extracts from the Yugoslav files. Parts of the Yugoslav file have been publicly released in Belgrade. It is reported to link Waldheim with atrocities committed during the war.

Waldheim, the frontrunner in the June 8 Austrian Presidential run-off election, has denied participating in atrocities against partisans and villagers. He has also denied involvement or knowledge in the mass deportation of Greek Jews while he was assigned as an intelligence officer to a unit which participated in the deportations. Waldheim, meanwhile, has accused the WJC and others of interfering in internal Austrian matters.

The UN file from the War Crimes Commission was compiled by the 17 members of the commission that operated in London from 1943 to 1948. In Waldheim's case, the Commission followed its standard practice of summarizing evidence against international legal norms and rendering a judgement about whether the case merited prosecution, the WJC said.

#### Urges U.S. Bar Waldheim

The WJC, in releasing the document, called it "the smoking gun." It said in a statement that "an independent international body examined the evidence and, unswayed by any political consideration, determined that Waldheim should face prosecution for war crimes." It noted that no person with such a UN commission listing had ever openly been allowed to enter the United States.

The Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations concluded in a recommendation to Attorney General Edwin Meese recently that Waldheim should be barred from entering the U.S. under the terms of the Holtzman Amendment which bars from the country those persons who participated in Nazi atrocities. The OSI's recommendation is currently before the Attorney General.

#### **SHULTZ SEEKS TO DAMPEN VIEW THAT HE IS PLANNING IMMINENT VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 1 (JTA) — Secretary of State George Shultz seemed to dampen speculation Sunday that he plans a trip to the Middle East sometime soon.

But in an appearance on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program, he implied that such a visit could come about if something constructive emerges when King Hussein of Jordan visits Washington June 9.

Shultz stressed that he is "always ready to go to the Middle East if there is something worthwhile that has at least some chance of being accomplished." He added that does not mean success has to be guaranteed. "I am willing to fail and try," he said.

Shultz noted that Abraham Sofaer, the State Department's legal advisor, has returned from a two-week unsuccessful attempt to help settle the dispute between Israel and Egypt over the Golan region.

"I work on the problem of the Middle East practically continuously and I don't intend to let up," Shultz said. "If we just move the ball along an inch, why I think it's worth it, it's worthwhile."

#### **SEVERAL HUNDRED PERSONS RALLY AGAINST AWARD TO REVISIONIST**

PARIS, June 1 (JTA) — Several hundred Jews and non-Jews demonstrated last week at the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr here to protest the award of an academic degree by Nantes University to the author of a thesis claiming that the Holocaust was "a figment of Jewish imagination."

In Nantes, in eastern France, the city council suspended a regular session to publicly condemn the university's acceptance of the doctoral thesis.

The matter was raised in the National Assembly where Georges Fontes, the minister in charge of war veterans affairs, denounced the "vice of denying contemporary history." Minister of Education Rene Maunoury promised a full scale investigation.

The thesis, claiming that the deadly gas found at Nazi death camps when they were liberated was for "sanitary purposes" was written by Henri Roques, 65, a retired agricultural engineer and amateur historian. It received the highest grades from the acceptance committee.

The demonstration in Paris drew former resistance fighters and concentration camp survivors as well as members of Jewish organizations.

#### **CANADIAN DESCHENES COMMISSION HITS SNAG IN EFFORTS TO GATHER INFORMATION ON WAR CRIMINALS**

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, June 1 (JTA) — The Deschenes Commission has run into another snag in its efforts to gather information behind the Iron Curtain on suspected Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

Yves Fortier, a lawyer for the commission, reported Saturday that an invitation extended by the Soviet Union had to be rejected because the Soviets failed to agree to allow Canadian investigators to interrogate witnesses in accordance with Canadian rules of evidence.

Fortier explained that the commission's investigators would not go to the Soviet Union and other East European countries unless the ground rules laid down by former Quebec Superior Court Chief Justice Jules Deschenes, who heads the commission, are agreed to by the host countries.

These are a promise to provide commission lawyers with access to original German documents; permit the use of independent interrogators; allow video-taping of all proceedings; and allow the examination of witnesses in accordance with Canadian rules of evidence.

The conditions were formulated to allow the evidence to stand up in Canadian courts, in the event that suspected war criminals are brought to court, free from suspicion that it was fabricated or in any way tainted.

#### **Demands Previously Endorsed**

Alexei Makarov, a Consular official at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa, said last week that Moscow had endorsed Deschenes' "main" demands and had invited the commission's representatives to travel to the Soviet Union any time after June 10. "As far as we are concerned, all the major requests have been complied with," the Soviet official said, adding, "Although I think the wording is not the same, the essence is."

Fortier disagreed. "What they have told us is that interrogation would be done within the framework of criminal procedure of the USSR. Canadian lawyers would be given the opportunity to clarify from witness-

es, questions of relevant interest. In other words, the examination would be conducted by the Office of the Procurator of the Soviet Union and that is not acceptable," Fortier said.

#### Soviet Agreement Is Essential

He noted that "Though the Soviet Union has accepted the essence of all other conditions, the commission will not go there unless its lawyers have the same rein there as they would have in Canadian courts." He said a letter to that effect was sent to the Procurator in Moscow through diplomatic channels.

However, according to Fortier, the commission would reconsider its response if the Soviets modify their position or advise that they had been misunderstood. The same applies to Poland which has advised the commission that the interrogation of witnesses would be by a Polish judge.

"But very simply, without their agreement to all the conditions, it will be impossible for the commission to consider travelling to examine witnesses within the framework which has been outlined," Fortier said.

Commission investigators have gathered evidence in West Germany, France, Holland, England and the U.S. to date. The deadline for the commission's work was to have expired on June 1. It was granted an extension of indeterminate length by the Justice Minister.

#### POPE MEETS RUMANIAN CHIEF RABBI

PARIS, June 1 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II conveyed his "best wishes" to Europe's Chief Rabbis during a 30-minute meeting in Rome Friday with Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen. Rosen is due to attend this week a meeting of European Chief Rabbis in the Swiss mountain village of Grindlenwald.

Vatican sources said the Pontiff, who took the initiative for the meeting, questioned Rosen on latest Jewish developments in West and Eastern Europe and expressed his "friendly interest" in all matters concerning Catholic-Jewish relations.

Rabbi Rosen thanked him for his visit to the Rome synagogue which, he said, marked a milestone in relations between the two faiths.

#### 'KAHANISM' DENOUNCED AT CJC CONGRESS PLENARY SESSION

TORONTO, June 1 (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress took strong stands on issues of Jewish and general concern at its 21st plenary session here last week. The 950 delegates from all over Canada voted to oppose moves to restore the death penalty, to condemn "Kahanism" as a perversion of Judaism and Zionism and to condemn apartheid in South Africa.

The resolution denouncing the ideology of Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach Party in Israel, declared that "Kahanism and other forms of extremist political activity challenge the historic Zionist mission of a Jewish State based on justice and democracy for all."

Kahanism, the resolution said, undermines the moral basis of Israel by "threats to expel Arabs, open defiance of legal norms and procedures and attempts to establish differential treatment of citizens based on race, ethnicity and religion."

The CJC entered the debate over capital punishment for the first time. Outgoing president Milton

Harris said it was the organization's responsibility to take a lead in public opinion within the Jewish community on this matter. Law professor Fred Zemans said it was in keeping with Jewish tradition to oppose the taking of life.

The resolution against apartheid, passed after some debate, also pledged to consider how the South African Jewish community could be helped.

#### PRIZE FOR FRENCH WRITER

PARIS, June 1 (JTA) -- The Foundation for French Judaism has awarded its annual prize to Alain Fienkelkraut, a writer and lecturer who is the author of eight books, most of which deal with Jewish matters. Fienkelkraut, 37, is also a visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley. The Foundation, chaired by David De Rothschild, awards its prize each year for outstanding achievements in the fields of literature, arts and science.

The jury is headed by Nobel laureate mathematician Andre Lwoff. Its members include Prof. Leon Schwartzberg, a leading French cancer researcher, and Robert Badinter, former Minister of Justice, who heads the Constitutional Council, one of France's highest courts.

#### COURT ACTS AGAINST ALLEGED NAZI

WASHINGTON, June 1 (JTA) -- Justice Department officials are expected to begin shortly deportation proceedings against an accused Nazi death camp guard, following a Supreme Court decision last week.

The high court turned down a citizenship appeal by Luidas Kairys, 61, accused by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), of concealing his war-time activities as a guard at the Treblinka death camp in Poland when he entered the U.S. in 1949.

Kairys maintains his innocence, saying that he was a farmer in Lithuania from 1940 to 1942 and that he was later captured by the Nazis.

The Supreme Court let stand a lower court ruling revoking Kairys' U.S. citizenship. The Court action cleared the way for deportation proceedings, although the Justice Department said it was unsure at this time which country would seek him for trial.

#### RABBI NISSON ALPERT DEAD AT 58

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held this week at four locations, in New York and Israel, for Rabbi Nisson Alpert, a leading scholar at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of the Yeshiva University, who died of cancer Monday. He was 58 years old and a resident of Queens.

Born in Polonka, Lithuania, the son of a rabbi, Alpert came here in 1940 and studied with and was ordained by Rabbi Moshe Feinstein at Mesivta Tiseret Jerusalem, a Lower East Side yeshiva.

Alpert, an author and scholar who was with Yeshiva University since 1967, had been rabbi of Congregation Chevra Achim Bechurim B'nai Menashe Ahavas Achim on the Lower East Side for 27 years. For the last five years, Alpert had been spiritual head of the Congregation Agudath Israel in Far Rockaway, Queens.

#### LATE NEWS BULLETIN

JERUSALEM, June 1 (JTA) -- The Cabinet announced Sunday the appointment of Yosef Harish, a 62-year-old Tel Aviv District Court Judge, to the office of Attorney General, replacing the incumbent, Yitzhak Zamir, effective on Wednesday.

## FATE OF SEPHARDIC COMMUNITY DURING HOLOCAUST DETAILED IN NEW BOOK By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 1 (JTA) — Educators and sociologists in Israel have been seriously concerned by the apparently widespread belief among members of the Sephardic (Oriental) community — which constitutes the majority of Israel's population — that the Holocaust, the murder of six million Jews during World War II, affected only Ashkenazic Jews, the Western Jewish community.

To dispel this erroneous view of history and make clear that all Jews, whatever their ethnic or cultural background, shared the same fate, the Education Ministry commissioned Arye Barnea, a Jerusalem lawyer and Holocaust researcher, to write a textbook on the subject for Israeli schools.

The book, "One Fate — The Ladino-Speaking Jews and the Jews of Islamic Countries During the Holocaust," has just been published by the Defense Ministry Press. It is intended to fill the information gap on Nazi atrocities to Oriental and North African Jews. It is an education not only for Sephardic Israelis but for the Ashkenazic community as well.

Ladino, a blend of Spanish, Arabic and Hebrew, is the language spoken by Jews from the Balkan and other countries along the Mediterranean littoral. In a way, it is the counterpart of Yiddish, the universal language of Eastern European Jewry.

### Waldheim Case Sparked Interest

Barnea's book is the first of its kind. Its appearance coincides with the growing body of evidence that Austrian Presidential candidate and former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, was implicated in war crimes in the Balkans as an intelligence officer in the Wehrmacht. The Waldheim case has already aroused awareness in the Sephardic community of the fate of Sephardic Jews in Greece and Yugoslavia under the Nazi occupation.

According to authorities on the subject, 85 percent of Greek Jews and 80 percent of Yugoslavian Jewry were murdered by the Nazis, along with about 20 percent of the Bulgarian Jewish population.

Barnea's book goes into detail on this aspect of the Holocaust. It points out that the Sephardic communities in France, Italy and Holland went to the death camps along with their Ashkenazic brothers and sisters. All told, some 100,000 Ladino-speaking Jews perished. And it was only by sheerest chance and the fortunes of war, that hundreds of thousands more, including the Arabic-speaking Jews of North Africa did not join them in the death camps.

### Secret Letter Disclosed

Some did. Of the 300 Libyan Jews deported to Italy when it entered the war on the side of Hitler, 200 died at Bergen-Belsen, Auschwitz and other European death camps. Yet, as Barnea points out, Libyan Jews are not thought of as Holocaust survivors whereas Danish Jews are — although only 52 Danish Jews died. The majority of the 8,000-member Jewish community in Denmark was saved by the Danes who helped them escape to Sweden.

German plans for the Jews of Libya, an Italian colony before the war, were contained in a secret letter from the German Consul in Tripoli to the German Ambassador in Rome. The Consul informed the Ambassador that the majority of Jews in Cyrenaica, eastern Libya, were in concentration camps. Plans to

deport the Jews of Tripolitania, western Libya, to Italy, were deferred temporarily, but would be carried out, the Consul said.

Barnea stressed that the Germans included the Jews of the Islamic countries in their "Final Solution," adopted at the Wannsee meeting of top Nazis in January, 1942. The Jews of Yemen, Iran, Egypt and Turkey — countries in which there were strong pro-Nazi elements — escaped because those countries never came under German control.

The Jews of Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Syria and Lebanon, ruled by the collaborationist Vichy government, were slated for destruction.

### French 'Style' Nuremberg Laws

The Jews of Syria and Lebanon, then a single country under French Mandate, were saved because British forces conquered the region in June, 1941. But Jews in Morocco and Algeria did not fare as well.

The Vichy government introduced "Nuremberg Laws" French style. Jewish students were expelled from schools. Jewish officials were fired from government jobs and restrictions were imposed on all Jews.

In Morocco and Algeria, Jewish community leaders were detained in desert prison camps and the food ration for Jews was reduced below that of the rest of the population. The Military Governor of Morocco signed an order establishing concentration camps for Jews.

### Hitler Did Not Differentiate Between Jews

In Algeria, a Jewish council or Judenrat, was established to assist in the implementation of the Nazi plan. Adolf Eichmann's envoy to France, Theodor Danker, drafted plans to transport Jews to Marseilles by sea and then by train to Auschwitz. The Allied invasion of North Africa on November 8, 1942, saved the Jews there from annihilation.

But Jews were killed by the Nazis or their collaborators in Tunisia and also in Iraq, though their communities were not destroyed.

President Chaim Herzog of Israel summed up this history in his address at the opening ceremonies of Holocaust Memorial Day in Jerusalem on May 5. He said: "Hitler did not differentiate between Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jews as he did not between Orthodox, observant and secular Jews, or between men and women, the young and the aged."

### WORLD LABOR BODY REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN GAZA, WEST BANK By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 1 (JTA) — The most recent report of the International Labor Organization (ILO) commission on labor conditions in Israel's occupied territories cited an alarmingly high unemployment rate among highly-educated youth and noted the persistence of a large black-market labor force. The commission will present the report for discussion at the annual ILO conference beginning June 4 in Geneva.

The report concluded that unemployment rates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip remained fairly constant since 1985. But the commission expressed concern about the roughly one third of high school and university graduates who are among the jobless.

Many of the unemployed architects, engineers and doctors leave the region and go abroad to find work, according to the commission. The report recommended a plan of economical development to create the need for the young university graduates in the West Bank economy.