



JUN 29 1986

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

© Contents copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement.

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

Vol. 64 - 69th Year

Thursday, June 19, 1986

No. 117

KNESSET APPROVES EIGHT WIDELY DIFFERING MOTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) — Eight agenda motions on South Africa were approved by the Knesset Wednesday and passed on to committee for consideration. All condemned apartheid, which is also the government's official position. But they differed widely between left and right over Israel's relations with South Africa.

Speaking for the leftist Mapam party, Victor Shem-Tov complained that the government's reaction to the worsening racial strife in South Africa was too equivocal. The government on Sunday strongly condemned the state of emergency declared by the Pretoria government to prevent the Black community from observing the 10th anniversary of the Soweto riots.

The government also joined the world-wide protest by closing the Israel Embassy in Pretoria for 24 hours Monday. But Shem-Tov argued that "the reaction was too weak ... as if following the reactions of others." He maintained that "Israel must express the strongest 'J'Accuse' against the racist government of South Africa."

Communications Between All Parts Encouraged

Other left-leaning MKs insisted that only moral values should inform Israel's position toward South Africa. But Likud MK Michael Eitan accused the left of introducing issues that had nothing to do with the situation in South Africa.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ronni Milo of Likud, who responded to the motions for the government, said relations between Israel and South Africa are based on the assumption that the citizens of South Africa must settle their problems among themselves.

"On the basis of that assumption, we encourage communications between all parts of the population in South Africa, while at the same time we strongly demand the immediate and total abolition of all racist laws," Milo said.

MURDER TRIAL OF AMERICAN TOURIST IS ADJOURNED AFTER TWO WEEKS OF CONTRADICTION TESTIMONY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 18 (JTA) — The trial of two Israeli women accused of murdering an American woman tourist for her money a year ago, adjourned Wednesday after two weeks of contradictory testimony by the defendants and by pathologists called to the witness stand by the prosecution and defense. It will resume next fall when the Tel Aviv District Court returns from summer recess.

The defendants, Hava Ya'ari and Aviva Granot, are accused of misappropriating \$50,000 in cash given to Ya'ari by Mala Melavsky for investment and then killing her when she called them to account. Melavsky's battered body was discovered on a north Tel Aviv beach.

Police believed initially that she was the victim of a hit-and-run driver. But further investigation spurred by Melavsky's family in the U.S., found a connection with Ya'ari who had been an investment counsellor. According to the prosecution, the two

women forged documents and deposited the money in their joint bank account. Ya'ari and Granot, once good friends, have apparently had a falling out. Ya'ari testified that she quarrelled with Melavsky while driving and that the latter fell out of the car and struck her head on a rock. According to Granot, Ya'ari threw Melavsky from the car and ran over her.

Pathologists on both sides of the case were unable to agree on whether the cause of death was a blow to the head or being run over by a car.

JWB OFFICIAL SAYS JEWISH CHAPLAINCY COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE DESPITE WITHDRAWAL OF ORTHODOX MEMBER

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, June 18 (JTA) — Officials of the Jewish Chaplaincy of the JWB, responding to the announcement Tuesday by the Orthodox Rabbinical Council of America that it was withdrawing from the Chaplaincy Commission, said Wednesday that the Commission was continuing to function. At issue was endorsement of a woman rabbi.

The RCA announcement was made Tuesday at the RCA's 50th anniversary convention in Baltimore by Rabbi Louis Bernstein, president of the Orthodox rabbinical agency.

The Chaplaincy Commission, representing the Orthodox, Reform and Conservative rabbinate, is responsible for endorsement of rabbis to serve as military chaplains.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the association of Reform rabbis, endorsed Rabbi Julie Schwartz, 26, of Cincinnati, who will be the first woman to act as an active duty Jewish chaplain to Jews in the armed forces.

Assurances Received On Services

Solomon Greenfield, JWB associate director, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he had been informed Wednesday that Rabbi David Lapp, director of the Chaplaincy Commission and of services to rabbinic chaplains, and Jews in the military forces and Veterans Hospitals, had been in close contact with the leadership of three rabbinic groups and had received assurances that Chaplaincy Commission's services would continue as heretofore.

Rabbi Harry Greene, of Short Hills, N.J., Chaplaincy Commission chairman, in a report on Monday to the JWB executive committee in New York, asserted that the three rabbinic groups — the third is the Rabbinical Assembly, the association of Conservative rabbis — would find a way of working together under JWB auspices as they had in the past to provide much needed services to its beneficiaries.

CCAR Action Attacked

Bernstein declared that "by bypassing the commission and endorsing a female for the chaplaincy in a letter to the Chief of Chaplains in the United States Defense Department, the CCAR for the first time acted without notifying the entire commission which, in the past, has endorsed chaplaincy applicants for the entire Jewish community."

Bernstein said that the RCA made it "very clear" 18 months ago that "a unilateral breach of procedures would mean the breakup of the commission." He said that negotiations were underway, "to retain connec-

tions with the JWB. He said Orthodox Jews "will not recognize a woman rabbi." Rabbi Joseph Glaser, CCAR executive vice president, told the JTA that he hoped some way "would be found to return the situation to the status" at which it had been operating for 39 years.

A rabbinical source told the JTA that the Armed Forces Chaplains Board, a subsidiary of the Defense Department, recognizes each of the three rabbinical groups as endorsing agents. Any one of the three may endorse a rabbinical candidate for the military chaplaincy.

Nominations Approved By Consensus

The source added that the custom has been that one rabbinical group will present a candidate for the military chaplaincy to representatives of the three rabbinical groups and that, absent dissent by any rabbinical representatives, the nomination is approved by consensus.

Solomon said that in recent years, the Chaplaincy Commission member of the group to which the chaplaincy applicant belonged was usually a member of the same group.

Glaser said also that it was his understanding that the CCAR member of the Chaplaincy Commission could endorse a Reform rabbi for the chaplaincy which had been the procedure followed with Rabbi Julie Schwartz.

NEW BANK OF ISRAEL GOVERNOR CAUTIONS ISRAEL THAT IT IS NOT YET OUT OF ECONOMIC WOODS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) -- Prof. Michael Bruno, a leading economist formally installed Wednesday as Governor of the Bank of Israel, cautioned at the swearing-in ceremonies that the country is not out of the economic woods despite the initial successes of the austerity economic program of which he was one of the principal authors.

"There is still much to do to stabilize the economy and one should create conditions for a resumption of economic growth," Bruno said after receiving the blessings of President Chaim Herzog who appointed him and of Premier Shimon Peres who supported his candidacy against that of a fellow Laborite, Deputy Finance Minister Adi Amori.

The Bank of Israel is Israel's central bank and has a role equivalent in some ways to that of the Federal Reserve Bank in the U.S. Bruno succeeds Moshe Mendelbaum who resigned.

Peres Cites Economic Achievements

Peres used the occasion of Bruno's installation to stress the achievements of the government's economic program, the most significant of which, to date, has been a dramatic reduction of the inflation rate. "The Americans have told us (that) what happened in the Israeli economy in the past year will go down in textbooks of economic history," Peres said.

He was referring to a meeting he had Tuesday with members of an American economic delegation headed by Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, Alan Willis. He quoted a member of the group, economist Herbert Stein, as saying that praise is due not only for those who gave the right advice on the economy but also to those who had the courage to take the necessary difficult decisions.

However, Finance Minister Moshe Nissim who attended the meeting, recalled that the Americans

had warned against the recent rise of private consumption in Israel and of imports. They said that to preserve the successes of the economic program, the government must guard the parameters of the budget and wages, Nissim pointed out. Bruno's views seem to coincide with those of the Americans.

Urges Implementing Commission's Recommendations

Bruno also spoke out during the ceremonies on the need to promptly implement the recommendations of the special commission of inquiry into the 1983 banks shares collapse, headed by Supreme Court Justice Chaim Beisky.

The commission's report, released on April 20, was scathing in its criticism of the heads of the country's five largest commercial banks. It recommended that they be made to resign within 60 days and should never again be appointed to positions of trust at Israeli banking institutions at home or abroad.

To date, all but one of the top bank executives have complied. The holdout is Rafael Recanatani who refuses to step down as chairman of the family-owned Israel Discount Bank. Aharon Meir resigned as chairman of the Bank Hamizrachi but continues to head the bank's overseas subsidiaries. Ernest Japhet, who resigned as chairman of the Bank Leumi, has been appointed to another key position at the bank.

Govt. Bailed Out Five Banks

The government feels it has the right to demand compliance with the Beisky commission's recommendations because it bailed out the five banks after investors panicked and dumped their grossly inflated shares, threatening the banks' liquidity. The Knesset's State Control Committee will introduce a bill next week to make compliance a matter of law.

Bruno said Wednesday that "One should remember that in an organized society, those who are found responsible for an act or a failure to act, must bear responsibility. It is true that carrying out the personal recommendations of an inquiry commission is difficult, but this is the basis for maintaining a social system."

Willis, meanwhile, warned Wednesday that U.S. economic aid to Israel might not continue on the same level as heretofore. He told Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir that there is still a danger that Israel's economic policy could collapse because the present low price of oil and the lower exchange rate of the Dollar could change at any time.

MAKING OF DOCUMENTARY 'SHOAH' WAS AIDED BY GRANT FROM ISRAEL GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) -- The film "Shoah" was aided in the making by a substantial Israeli government grant, decided upon personally by then-Premier Menachem Begin. This was disclosed in Jerusalem this week where the historic nine-hour film by Claude Lanzmann was recently shown before an invited audience and is now to be generally released.

Knesset member Elihu Ben-Elissar, who was Begin's first Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office, said the then-Premier made available to Lanzmann the sum of \$850,000 to help with the film's financing. This was because Begin had seen in "Shoah" a national Jewish interest, Ben-Elissar said, and because he had been impressed by the producer's presentations of his plans for making the film when he met him in 1977.

Thereafter, Begin took an interest in the film's progress and Ben-Elissar sought to raise further funding from other non-governmental sources. According

to the newspaper Davar, there is "surprise among certain circles" that the State of Israel's support for the film is not noted among the many other screened acknowledgements at the start of the film. (By David Landau)

JORDAN BOYCOTTS ARAB NEWSPAPERS IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) — Jordan boycotts most of the Arab newspapers in the administered territories and does not even allow quoting them in the Jordanian press, the East Jerusalem daily Al-Fajr reported.

According to the newspaper, the ban has been in effect by a directive of Mohammad Al-Hatib, Jordan's Minister of Information. The move has been seen here as a reaction to the negative approach taken by the local papers to the departure of Jordan from its cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Most local Arab newspapers support the PLO, and even such pro-Jordanian papers such as Al-Kuds have turned toward stronger support of the PLO. The editors of Al-Kuds and Al-Biader A-Siasi confirmed that the Jordanians banned their newspapers' entrance to the kingdom.

Jacque Hazmo, the editor of Al-Biader, a political weekly, said the significance of the move is that from now on the Jordanians will derive their information on events in the administered territories mostly from Israeli sources.

REAGAN NOTIFIES CONGRESS ON AWACS

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, June 18 (JTA) — President Reagan notified Congress Wednesday that conditions have been met for the delivery of five AWACS surveillance planes to Saudi Arabia.

Transfer of the planes, the first of which is now scheduled for delivery on June 30, appears unlikely to face any active opposition from Congress, which would have to enact specific legislation in order to block it.

In the aftermath of an impressive but ultimately unsuccessful attempt last month to prevent the sale of a proposed missile package to Saudi Arabia, there appears to be little inclination to campaign against the delivery of \$3.2 billion worth of aircraft and equipment already paid for by the Saudi government.

"The specter of Gramm-Rudman looms largely on the whole process and as a result members of Congress are reluctant to do anything," a source close to Capitol Hill observed, referring to the budget-cutting legislation passed at the end of last year.

Saudis Provide 'Substantial Assistance'

White House spokesman Larry Speakes announced that a letter certifying that conditions for delivery of the planes had been met would be forwarded to Congress Wednesday, in compliance with legislation enacted following a bitter campaign in Congress that nearly resulted in blocking the AWACS sale in 1981.

The conditions include provisions for preventing the sophisticated AWACS technology from falling into hostile hands or being used against Israel. They also involve assurances that delivery of the aircraft "enhances the atmosphere and prospects for peace" and that the Saudis have provided "substantial assistance" to achieving peace in the region.

In his letter to Congress, Reagan maintained that the Saudis have provided that assistance and that the planes would contribute to regional stability.

"I also believe that significant progress toward peaceful resolution of disputes in the region has been accomplished with the substantial assistance of Saudi Arabia," the letter reads.

Reagan Refers To Fahd Plan

Specifically, the President referred to the Fahd Plan of 1981 and the subsequent Fez communique of 1982, both of which are said to implicitly recognize Israel's existence, but fail to mention the Jewish State by name.

In addition, he maintained that the Saudis have supported Egypt's return to the Organization of Islamic Countries and Jordan's efforts toward peace negotiations with Israel. He also cited Saudi efforts to mediate peace in Lebanon and in the Iran-Iraq war.

The President's arguments in defense of the Saudi record were more or less the same as those advanced in the Administration's lobbying for the recently passed missile sale to the Saudi kingdom.

At the White House briefing Wednesday, spokesman Larry Speakes also stressed what he said was the role of AWACS in helping "vital American interests in a strategically important area." He cited specifically the free flow of oil, restraint of the spread of extremism, the prevention of "Soviet intrusion" and "the strengthening of the security of moderate Arab friends."

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee was expected to decide Wednesday whether it would mount a campaign for legislation to block delivery of the aircraft. But in light of the mood in Congress, observers here were fairly confident AIPAC would avoid a battle that would almost inevitably meet with failure.

ORTHODOX BURY OBJECTS DESECRATED IN ANTI-RELIGIOUS ATTACK ON YESHIVA

TEL AVIV, June 18 (JTA) — Thousands of black-garbed observant Jews, mostly members of the Hassidic Gur Sect, attended a memorial service Tuesday for the prayer books and other holy objects desecrated by unknown persons, presumably anti-religious secular Jews, at a Gur yeshiva in the Ramat Hehaya quarter of Tel Aviv last week.

The crowd, estimated at about 10,000, then marched from the yeshiva to the Kiryat Shaul cemetery where the remains of the torn objects, packed in clay jars, were buried in accordance with traditional rites.

Police presume that the attack on the Gur yeshiva and the arson at another synagogue in the Tel Aviv area, as well as anti-religious slogans painted on walls, were carried out by secular Jews in response to the defacing of posters and the burning of bus shelters by observant Jews protesting at what they term obscene pictures of scantily-clad women advertising beachwear.

PARIS (JTA) — Six presidents of universities in the French region of Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur recently signed an agreement to create an inter-university institute for Jewish studies and culture, according to the French newspaper Le Monde. The accord brings to fruition six years of work by a team of academics and researchers affiliated with the three universities of Aix-Marseille.

GENEVA (JTA) — A European Medical Congress, organized by the medical faculty of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the department of Jewish Education in the Diaspora of the World Zionist Organization, was held recently in the northern Swiss city of Basel.

MASS SOVIET JEWISH REMARRIAGE CEREMONY SLATED FOR JUNE 22 WILL INCLUDE 20 COUPLES, 20 CHUPPAHS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 18 (JTA) — Hirsch Tzvi and Shaina Freydenson were supposed to have been married in a traditional Jewish wedding ceremony in their native Riga, Latvia, in August 1941. Instead, they had to settle for a quick civil ceremony in Irkutsk, Siberia, where they had fled as invading Germans occupied their homeland.

Arkady Banar, of Kishinev, Moldavia, and his bride, Emilia, of Odessa, in Russia, also postponed their Jewish wedding because of the war and were likewise married in Siberia, in Orsk, in 1944, in a non-religious ceremony.

On Sunday, June 22, in Teaneck, New Jersey, 20 Soviet Jewish couples will be remarried in a traditional Jewish ceremony, the largest mass remarriage of Soviet Jewish couples ever to be held in America. On that day, under 20 chuppahs, 20 grooms will turn to their brides simultaneously and recite "Harei at mikudeshet li" — "Behold, thou art consecrated to me" — before 600 invited guests.

Background For Unusual Ceremony

The idea for the unusual ceremony was initiated by a New Jersey organization, Bris Avrohom, a Lubavitch affiliate that has been instrumental the last seven years in providing an extensive range of services for Soviet Jewish immigrant families, from the location of housing to adult education classes in English and Jewish studies. Bris Avrohom is headquartered in Jersey City, with activity centers also in the Bergen County, N.J., cities of Teaneck, Passaic and Elizabeth.

Two people were chiefly responsible for this joyous event: Rabbi Mordechai Kanelsky, executive director of Bris Avrohom, a Lubavitcher rabbi who is himself a native of Moscow, and Mrs. Shirley Gralla, chairperson of Friends of Bris Avrohom, the sponsoring and organizing group that put the wheels in motion for the wedding. Astonishingly, the two of them had the same idea, they said, at the same time and were trying for some weeks to contact each other.

Both Kanelsky and Gralla pegged the wedding festivities to the upcoming Liberty Weekend celebrating the centennial of the Statue of Liberty. "We hope our good news will be a small appetizer for that most happy occasion, because of the great affection our people share for the symbol of liberty," they concurred. They are therefore calling the event a "Celebration of Religious Freedom."

'A Celebration Of Religious Freedom'

The sponsoring committee for the wedding includes high government figures in New Jersey, several of whom are expected to attend the ceremony. Among them are U.S. Senators Bill Bradley and Frank Lautenberg, both New Jersey Democrats, and Gov. Tom Kean, a Republican, who have agreed to be honorary chairmen. Also active in organizing the wedding is Teaneck Mayor Bernard Brooks.

But, stressed spokesperson Susan Black, "This is not a political event at all. It is truly a celebration of religious freedom. The fact that we'll have dignitaries there shows support for the wonderful freedoms that we have in America. Hopefully," said Black, "this will become an annual event."

The couples range in age from 19 to 80, some of whom have been in the country several years, some recent arrivals, including a young transcontinental couple of which the bride has been living in Los Angeles and the groom in Brooklyn. They, and three other couples, will be wed for the first time in the religious ceremony. The majority, 16 couples, will be remarried before their children and grandchildren.

"These people were denied having this religious wedding, the religious freedom in Russia," said Kanelsky. "Even if they wanted to have such a chuppah, they could not."

The Freydensons and Banars, present at a press conference, said "We're not doing this for ourselves. We're doing this for our children." Kanelsky added that they were learning English, for example, to both help their children and to be independent of them.

The wedding will be held at the Loew's Glenpointe Hotel in Teaneck, a gesture of support from Loew's for the event.

The selection of the date, June 22, is significant, particularly to Mr. Freydenson. "I remember June 22 very well." That was the date the war began in Russia, he recalled. Thus a negative, sad date in the Russian's collective memory will be transformed on that day into a positive and joyous occasion.

YADIN LIBRARY ACQUIRED BY HUC-JIR

NEW YORK, June 18 (JTA) — The Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion has acquired about 7,000 books and several thousand journals and documents from the personal library of the late Israeli archaeologist Yigael Yadin.

Yadin's library will be housed in the College's Jerusalem branch in Israel. Yadin himself wrote several classic books on archaeology, including "The Message of the Scrolls, Hazor" (Yadin directed excavations at Hazor in the 1950s), "The Finds from the Cave of Bar Kochba," and "Masada-Herod's Fortress and the Zealot's Last Stand."

Yadin's father, Prof. Eleazar Sukenik, was also a renowned archaeologist who interpreted the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The library contains specialized books on archaeology and history of the ancient Near East, the study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the archaeology and history of the Second Temple period. Many of the books collected by Yadin and his father are now considered rare.

President of the College-Institute, Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, said Yadin's library would prove invaluable to the College's Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology in Jerusalem.

The College has plans for a major new building to hold Yadin's library which will be constructed in Jerusalem in the near future.

THREE SOVIET JEWS REQUEST VISAS

NEW YORK, June 18 (JTA) — Three Soviet Jewish refuseniks, all suffering from various forms of cancer, held a news conference last week in Moscow demanding their right to leave the Soviet Union for medical treatment in the West, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The three refuseniks are Benjamin Charney who has melanoma, or skin cancer; Inna Meiman, who has sarcoma, or tumor of the bones; and Tanya Bogomolny, who suffers from breast cancer.

The refuseniks said in a letter distributed at the news conference and addressed to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that they are "cancer patients, living in the Soviet Union who have all been told that there is no hope and that further treatment will be useless."