

BUSH IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT MIDEAST PEACE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Vice President George Bush said Thursday that he has returned from his 10-day trip to the Middle East with a "more optimistic feeling" about the prospects for peace in the region.

Bush said this feeling was based on the talks he had in Israel, Jordan and Egypt; on the agreement by the leaders of those three countries to a statement of five common goals for negotiations, and what he called Israeli Premier Shimon Peres' "historic and courageous" trip to Morocco for a meeting with King Hassan II.

The Vice President discussed his Mideast trip at a press conference with seven American Jewish and Israeli journalists in his White House office.

Although Bush was accompanied in Israel by a video camera crew to film his visit for use in his upcoming campaign for the Presidency, he denied that his Mideast trip was political. He maintained he went to the Mideast to advance United States foreign policy. "Anything I do domestically" or in foreign affairs "is put in an '88 context," he said. He added that if the trip helps his political prospects, then "great."

Encouraged By Talks With Peres

Bush spoke glowingly of his meetings with Peres. "I am just more convinced than ever of his determination to try to move the peace process forward," the Vice President said. He said he did not feel this would change when Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir becomes Premier in October. "I felt convinced when he (Shamir) told me he really wanted things to move forward," Bush said.

However, Bush added that there were domestic problems in Israel which he saw when he met with the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and witnessed the differences between Labor and Likud. He did not elaborate.

Bush said the statement of common goals, which he read before leaving Cairo Wednesday, was first brought up in Jordan and then agreed to by Israel and Egypt after negotiating changes. Peres, King Hussein of Jordan and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak all agreed to the five points listed.

The first goal is that "a just and lasting peace is essential, urgent and can only be reached through negotiations." The second goal is that "negotiations should produce peace treaties between the parties based on the recognition of the right of all states and peoples in the region to a life of peace and security."

The third goal said that "Negotiations must take into account the security needs of Israel, the security needs of all other states in the region and the aspirations of the Palestinian people." Negotiations to resolve the Palestinian problem within "the context of a relationship between Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza" was the fourth goal.

The fifth point is that the U.S. believes "in the importance of face-to-face negotiations. We recognize that direct negotiations may involve the framework of an international conference or forum structured

in such a way that permits progress and not paralysis, agreement, not dictates."

Bush conceded that none of the principles were new. But, "the fact that you get three Middle Eastern leaders agreeing on significant points regarding the Middle East peace process is more than useful, it's quite good," he said.

Says Hussein Seeks A Solution

The Vice President said he was also encouraged by his talks with Hussein, who he said "wants to see a solution. I feel it more now." He said Hussein was "discouraged" by the U.S. failure to go through with a promised arms deal. Bush indicated that his reception was warmer in Jordan than it might have been six months ago when Congress blocked the arms sale.

Bush said it was a "good thing" for Hussein to see Peres' visit to Morocco and see that "the sky did not fall" in the Arab world. The Arab reaction "was not all negative, except for (Syrian President) Hafez Assad," Bush said. "Before the landing gear was fully underneath the Prime Minister's plane, he dumped all over the meeting. But he was alone."

However, Bush stressed that Hussein still feels he needs Palestinian participation and an "international umbrella" in order to begin negotiations. Bush said the U.S. supports providing this "not as a substitute for direct negotiations" but as a "catalyst" to get things going.

In this, Bush said the U.S. would support Hussein's requirement that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council be included. He denied that this was in variance with the Reagan Administration policy to keep the Soviet Union out of the Mideast peace process. "We would be very wary of the Soviets having a major role," he added.

Less Optimistic About Palestinians

The Vice President was less optimistic about the Palestinians with whom he met in Jerusalem. He said some still continue to support Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat while others agree with Hussein that Arafat was responsible for the failure of Hussein's efforts to get a joint Palestinian - Jordanian delegation for negotiations with Israel.

He said he could not get a good "reading" of the Palestinians since they argued with each other as well as with the Americans.

Bush said the U.S. welcomes the upcoming talks between Israel and the Soviet Union on restoring diplomatic relations. "I hope it will lead to the exit of more Soviet Jews," he said.

He said the only "disappointment" of his trip was that the dispute over Tabá was not settled. He said while the Tabá dispute had not been a goal of his visit, he believes his visit to Israel and Egypt may have moved it closer to settlement.

Bush said he was "delighted" that eight American Jewish leaders accompanied him from Washington to Israel. He said they called themselves "the gang of eight" and he was surprised how well they knew the Israeli leaders. He said they attended many of his

meetings in Israel. He said they "enriched my understanding" of the places he visited in Israel and the talks he had there. "I wish we could have had 80," he said.

The eight, who paid their own way for a trip to Israel and did not accompany Bush to Jordan and to Egypt, were: Gordon Zacks, Jacob Stein, Ivan Novick, Paul Berman, Joseph Gildenhorn, Barbara Gold, Richard Goldman and Jay Kislak. All were people Bush consulted in planning his trip to Israel, and all are members of the National Jewish Coalition.

Looking Ahead To 1988 Elections

Bush conceded that he could have the same problem in his Presidential campaign that President Reagan had with Jewish voters over his support of issues backed by the Christian right.

"I would like to end up in the same position the President ends up in terms of support for Israel," he added. He said that Israeli leaders, including Peres and Shamir, "say they have never had a better friend in the White House."

Bush said he knows that Jews do not vote on the issue of Israel alone and that any Republican because of domestic issues and traditional voting patterns would find it "very hard to overcome" the usual majority vote for Democratic Presidential candidates.

Respects The Power Of The Jewish Lobby

Asked about criticism of the power of the Jewish lobby as demonstrated by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Bush replied, "We are respectful of that power as we are about textiles as we are about tax reform" and other issues.

Noting the credit AIPAC has been given in blocking the Jordanian arms sale, Bush said, "That does not mean we are not going to keep on doing what is right for peace in the Middle East. Sometimes we will succeed and sometimes we will have the overwhelming support of the Jewish community" and other times they will oppose the Administration.

Asked about Jerusalem, Bush said he would "encourage negotiations that will resolve the issue." But, he quickly added, "I, for one, don't want to see Jerusalem divided."

POLICE BEGIN QUESTIONING PEOPLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE KILLINGS OF TWO PALESTINIAN HIJACKERS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Police began Thursday to summon for questioning people allegedly connected to the April 1984 killing of two Palestinian bus-hijackers in the custody of Shin Bet intelligence agents.

This follows the Wednesday ruling by the Supreme Court upholding President Chaim Herzog's pardon of the head of Shin Bet, Avraham Shalom, and three aides accused of, but never charged with, complicity in the killings.

The special investigations team, headed by police Inspector General David Kraus, will question army officers, Shin Bet officials and politicians, according to local press reports.

The probe is expected to be brief, with findings handed soon to Attorney General Yosef Harish, who will decide whether to take legal action.

Shalom and his three aides are immune from such action. Eight other Shin Bet officials are expected also to appeal for Presidential pardons. The Attorney General may decide not to take any action and order the case file closed.

Prime Purpose Of The Probe

According to police sources, the prime purpose of the investigation is "to clarify the picture" concerning the events of the bus hijacking and the beating deaths of the two captured terrorists.

The sources described the purpose of the investigation as allowing those responsible in the political echelons and Shin Bet leadership to "draw the necessary conclusions" to avert "similar incidents in the future."

Both Premier Shimon Peres and Police Minister Haim Barlev stressed Wednesday that the police would conduct a thorough investigation including, if necessary, "the political echelon." An expected focus is the meaning of the statement by Shalom in his request for a pardon that he had acted "with permission and authority." Deputy Premier Yitzhak Shamir was Premier at the time of the killings.

TURNING A DUMB BOMB INTO A 'SMART' ONE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The Elbit Computer Co. in Haifa says that it has field-tested a sophisticated kit which turns an ordinary bomb into a "smart bomb," one that accurately pinpoints a target.

Kit project director Avi Getzler told The Jerusalem Post Thursday that the kit uses an infra-red device to guide the bomb by sensing heat.

The kit costs \$35,000, about one-fifth the price of a "smart bomb." In field tests held in June, the dumb bomb fitted with the kit, called "Ofer," scored direct hits on a tank and a simulated tank.

Elbit claims the kit will allow ordinary bombs to make direct hits during battles against tanks, armored vehicles, naval craft and anti-aircraft missile sites. Getzler says that Elbit has launched an aggressive worldwide marketing drive.

JEWISH TELEVISION MAGAZINE AIRS PROGRAM ON ANNE FRANK

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- "Jewish Television Magazine," the monthly magazine-format program produced by the Council of Jewish Federations, will begin its second season in September with a program devoted entirely to "The World of Anne Frank." This special edition of "Jewish Television Magazine" was produced by WJUF, an affiliate of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. The story of Anne Frank has inspired people and captured their imaginations ever since her remarkable diary was first published in 1947.

The TV program is based on an exhibition of photographs of Anne Frank and the world in which she lived, including some never before seen, which has been touring the U.S. While the exhibition was shown at Spertus College of Judaica in Chicago, WJUF decided to create a documentary including many of these rare and moving photographs.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF VACATION

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) — Some Jewish youngsters go to summer camp. Others go to work camps and spend six weeks of their summer vacation repairing houses on Indian reservations — and for fun, they catch a sun dance or a pow wow.

The American Jewish Society for Service (AJSS) recruits and sponsors the teenagers who attend this unusual summer camp. This summer, one group of 14 and another of 15 high school juniors and seniors are spending six weeks working on a Yankton Sioux Indian reservation in South Dakota and in low-income neighborhoods in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Wherever the AJSS work camps take the teenagers, they become involved with the surrounding culture. "Our program calls for complete immersion in the area in which they are located," said AJSS Chairman Henry Kohn.

On the Yankton Sioux Indian reservation, the volunteers prepared the pow wow grounds, fixed a fence and repaired grandstands for the annual Yankton Sioux pow wow held the first weekend of August.

Another project involved repairing the individual homes on the reservation, painting, roofing and renovating.

The group lives in the Marty Indian school on the reservation and has also undertaken to paint one of the dormitories in that complex. In their spare time, Kohn said, the teenagers attended pow wows and traditional Indian ceremonies including a sun dance and piercing ritual.

The volunteers hear talks about the alcohol and drug problems of the Indians and even had the opportunity to visit the Yankton-Sioux spiritual leader's sweathouse. The program has Jewish content with Friday night services, Kohn said.

The second group of volunteers this year lives in a Chabad House run by Lubavitchers in Cincinnati.

The local hosts supply the building materials, tools and technical supervision and the AJSS supplies the manpower and food to feed them.

In 36 years, the AJSS has sponsored 85 summer work camps and volunteers assisted disadvantaged groups including blacks, whites, migrant workers, minority groups and the elderly.

CHINA TO SEND LEADING SCHOLAR TO THE U.S. TO STUDY JEWISH HISTORY

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) — The People's Republic of China has agreed to send one of their prominent scholars on Christianity and Judaism to the United States early next year to study modern Jewish history.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an interfaith group, who just returned from a visit to China, told a press conference at the Overseas Press Club here Thursday that the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has accepted an invitation by the Foundation to send Prof. Gao Wangzhi to undertake this task. The professor is China's leading authority on Christianity and Judaism, Schneier said.

Schneier, who led an interfaith delegation to China which included the Rev. Vincent O'Keefe, former president of Fordham University, and Dr. David Randolph, senior minister of Christ Church United

Methodist in Manhattan, also reported that the Institute of History of the Academy of Social Sciences in Shanghai has agreed to undertake a research study into the history of the 25,000 European Jews who found refuge in Shanghai from Nazi persecution during World War II.

Schneier, who is also the spiritual leader of Park East Synagogue in Manhattan, said that the Chinese Academy of Sciences will be sent books on the history and philosophy of major religious denominations in the U.S., and also on the Nazi Holocaust.

"A dramatic and positive shift" in the Beijing government's attitude toward organized religion is under way, Schneier asserted. He said that the American delegation met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian in Beijing as well as other officials.

According to Schneier, there are no Jews in today's China nor any "functioning synagogues."

WEST POINT JEWISH CHAPEL RECEIVES DEFENSE DEPT. AWARD

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (JTA) — The West Point Jewish Chapel has received a significant honor, the United States Department of Defense's "1986 Award for Design Excellence."

The Chapel's architect, Max Abramovitz, internationally acclaimed for such buildings as the United Nations and Lincoln Center, accepted the award from William Howard Taft IV, the Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Also accepting the award last month was Rabbi Marc Abramowitz, rabbi of the Chapel, the first Jewish military chaplain ever assigned to West Point, and Stanley Fafinski, chief, engineering division of the New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

A panel of architects from the American Institute of Architects, engineers from the American Consulting Engineers Council and landscape architects from the American Society of Landscape Architects selected the \$7.5 million Chapel for this highly distinguished honor.

The Chapel is faced with rough-hewn granite, providing a powerful, monumental presence, while also in keeping with the traditional military Gothic architecture of West Point.

The building also provides a clear religious presence. The Tablets, made of bronze and etched with the symbols of the Twelve Tribes, adorn the facade of the towering sanctuary. With more than three million visitors to West Point annually, the Jewish Chapel is becoming one of the nation's highest attended Jewish sites.

The 15,000-square-foot Chapel was designed to serve a multiple of functions. Foremost, the 250-seat sanctuary provides a place of worship for the Jewish cadets, officers and other members of the West Point community.

The Chapel also contains a gallery-museum which is presenting an ongoing series of exhibitions employing both art and artifacts that portray Jewish participation and contributions to America.

The Chapel's library and classrooms, kitchen, hall and administrative offices are also incorporated into one functional, inspired building. Today, an enormous number of activities are held in the building that were previously unfeasible and thus unavailable.

The construction of the Chapel was financed by private contributions from thousands of individuals of all faiths throughout the nation.

THE GREAT DICTIONARY OF THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE IS TAKING SHAPE

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Scholars and computer scientists at Columbia University and at Hebrew University in Jerusalem are working together to help the Great Dictionary of the Yiddish language take shape. It will be the first comprehensive, scholarly dictionary of the language spoken by millions of Ashkenazic Jews for nearly 1,000 years.

Four volumes of a proposed 12 have been published; volumes five and six are nearing completion.

"It is an all-embracing work, the Yiddish parallel to the Oxford English Dictionary," says Marvin Herzog, Atrani Professor of Yiddish at Columbia and editor in chief of the dictionary. "It is a kind of national memory, containing the totality of the language through history and from region to region."

Herzog described the dictionary as a "tool of scholarship. Because Yiddish is a fusion of several languages, the dictionary will be a resource for scholars of Yiddish and other languages as well -- German, for instance, and the Slavic languages."

The first four volumes, published independently and now distributed by the Magnes Press of Jerusalem, are entirely in Yiddish. Beginning with the fifth volume, the dictionary's entries will have, in addition, English and Hebrew glosses and Latin-letter transcriptions of every Yiddish entry word.

Most entries will include not only Yiddish definitions, but the various meanings of each word through the years as reflected in citations from Yiddish literature and speech.

The History Of An Idea

The idea for the dictionary goes back at least to the turn of the century, when Alfred Landau, a Viennese philologist, set to work on a comprehensive Yiddish dictionary. But Landau's scholarly standards were so exacting and his resources so meager that when he died in 1935 his work was incomplete. A parallel project was begun by a team of Soviet scholars in the 1920's, but both the scholars and their work fell victim to Hitler and Stalin.

In the early 1950's, the renowned Yiddish linguist Yudel Mark was commissioned to begin work on a comprehensive scholarly dictionary by the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research.

The institute, founded in Vilna in Poland, had been the repository of Landau's painstakingly compiled resources and notes, most of which were lost before YIVO was relocated in New York during World War II. The Institute for Yiddish Lexicology at the City University of New York was created to support the project and Prof. Nathan Susskind of CUNY was appointed its director.

Agonizingly Slow Pace

The pace of the work was agonizingly but necessarily slow. As with the Oxford English Dictionary, which took 40 years to finish, the Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language was built by the patient labor of dozens of volunteer readers, who copied out millions of citation slips by hand.

Mark died in 1975 and Herzog became the project's editor in chief. The editorial work is now centered at Columbia and at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, with scholars from both institutions and from other universities serving on the editorial board.

The work has been made easier and faster recently by computers at Columbia and in Jerusalem. The computers not only speed up the lexicographical work, but also make it possible for the two teams to communicate with each other efficiently as they work. Satellite communication allows discussions of policy to flow back and forth between Israeli and American computers within hours. Textual material is also sent by satellite.

Project Supported by NEH Grants

The project has been supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and individual donors since 1967. The National Endowment has awarded three grants to Columbia since 1981, when the dictionary became formally based at the University. Its most recent grants, for July 1985 through June 1987, include \$250,000 outright and \$290,000 in dollar-for-dollar matching funds, bringing the total possible NEH funding for the period to \$540,000, the largest award in the nation in its funding category.

With the addition of the \$290,000 in matching private gifts to be raised, the total funding for the dictionary for the two-year period would rise to \$830,000.

Scholars at other institutions in the United States and Europe also contribute their talent and time. At the University of Trier in West Germany, scholars have provided both materials and expertise in the Yiddish of the 13th through the 16th centuries, and the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw has provided etymological material.

The editorial board includes scholars from City and Brooklyn Colleges, Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, the University of Texas and Yale University.

JAPANESE RECALL TWO HOLOCAUSTS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- On August 6, 1945, at 8:15 a.m., the Japanese city of Hiroshima was destroyed by an atomic bomb. At 8:15 a.m. Wednesday, 41 years later, a group of 18 Japanese from Hiroshima stood in silent prayer at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial here.

They said afterwards that they prayed not only for the victims of their own holocaust but for the Jewish victims of the Nazi Holocaust as well. Fumikatsu Innoway, who had organized the group's visit to Israel, said the group would build a museum in Japan of the Jewish Holocaust. "No more Hiroshimas and never again Auschwitz," he declared.

FIVE KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- A woman tourist from Canada was among five relatives killed in an auto accident on the Negev road to Eilat Wednesday evening.

She was identified as Leanne Ochiyon, but further details, including her home town and age, were not immediately available. Also killed in the accident were her aunt, Ita Ochiyon, 38, and her cousins Sagit, 14, Ariella, 12, and Shani, 5, all of Beersheva.

Her uncle, Albert Ochiyon, 40, who was driving the car at the time of the accident, was injured and is in the hospital. Police said the car appeared to have swerved off the road, hit the side of a culvert and fallen some 10 feet into a ditch, where it burst into flames.