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**U.S. OFFICIAL IN SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY  
IN THE MIDEAST IN PREPARATION  
FOR PERES-MUBARAK SUMMIT MEETING**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy left here for Amman Tuesday morning in order to meet Jordan's King Hussein before he leaves on a private trip to Great Britain.

Murphy flew into Israel Monday evening and met late into the night with Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Murphy is due back here Wednesday for talks with Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other officials and is expected to shuttle to Cairo and perhaps again to Amman for further talks.

Murphy's visit is seen as preparatory to the anticipated meeting between Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, tentatively scheduled for next week.

Israeli and U.S. officials are not divulging substantive information on Murphy's mission, but informed observers believe he is seeking common ground between the three nations on terms for an international preparatory conference on the Middle East.

Such a conference, with protagonists and major outside powers participating, would lay ground rules for an eventual peace conference. This method was tried in Cairo in December 1977. Following President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, the U.S. and the UN sought to convene a preparatory conference designed to pave the way to a resumption of the short-lived 1973 Geneva peace conference. The meeting, however, was boycotted by all Arab parties save Egypt.

**Some Of The Issues Under Discussion**

Among the issues believed to be under discussion with Murphy is the decision-making process at such a conference. Israel insists that no decision be forced upon her by a majority vote, as the majority would be weighted against her.

Another unresolved issue is Palestinian representation. As for the past two years, the key lies with Hussein: Is he prepared to cooperate in the creation of a Jordanian-Palestinian representation not necessarily approved by the PLO?

Some observers in Israel believe Jordan's reinvigorated interest in West Bank Affairs reflects a determination to cultivate an alternative Palestinian leadership, following Hussein's open rift with PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat in February.

But there has been no sign on the diplomatic front that Jordan is finally prepared to enter the peace process --even in a preparatory forum--with Israel.

**Weizman Is Shuttleing In Europe**

Meanwhile, Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman is preparing to meet with Premier Bettino Craxi and other Italian figures on the second leg of a briefing mission in Europe on behalf of Peres. On Monday Weizman met for 90 minutes with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

While the Israeli envoy insisted to reporters in Bonn that his purpose was purely to familiarize Israel's friends with ongoing Mideast developments, some observers here believe Weizman is also seeking European financial support for economic projects in the Mideast which Peres believes would aid the prospects of political progress.

Jordan's five-year development plan for the West Bank is certainly one such project.

Shamir, speaking to reporters Monday night, said the prospects of a preparatory conference actually taking place were remote, as were other ideas that Peres had been floating.

Shamir said he was sure that Peres would not veer from the agreed coalition guidelines during his summit discussions with Mubarak.

As for Weizman's mission --which was apparently arranged without Foreign Ministry involvement-- Shamir was thickly sarcastic and disparaging, saying he knew nothing of the mission's purpose.

**NO DECISION YET ON POSSIBLE  
MIDDLE EAST TRIP FOR SHULTZ**  
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's unannounced departure for the Middle East over the weekend has once again led to speculation that Secretary of State George Shultz is preparing to visit the region. But State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman stressed Tuesday that "no decision has been taken."

He repeated Shultz's position on visiting the Mideast where the Secretary of State has not been since the Israel-Lebanon agreement he brokered in 1983 was abandoned by Lebanon. "The Secretary has consistently expressed his willingness to travel to the area whenever his presence would assist the parties," Redman said.

Murphy, who heads the State Department's Near Eastern and South Asian Bureau, was in Israel Monday and Jordan Tuesday. He was also expected to visit Egypt.

Shultz's decision on whether to go to the Mideast may depend on whether Israeli Premier Shimon Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak hold their expected summit meeting which Shultz would then attend. The meeting, tentatively scheduled for September 10-11 in Cairo, in turn depends on Egypt and Israel agreeing on the final details for the arbitration of their dispute over Tabá.

**Peres Might Visit Washington**

If all this goes as scheduled then it is expected that Peres will come to Washington September 15 for a meeting with President Reagan.

Redman would not confirm this meeting. But he noted that since President Reagan was not in Washington when Peres was here in April -- he met with Vice President George Bush instead-- the two governments have been seeking a date for a meeting. The Reagan Administration believes that the agreement on Tabá and the expected

return of the Egyptian Ambassador to Israel will be a spur to the entire peace process.

Thus if all the pieces fall into place in the next few days, a Shultz visit to the Mideast will try to use the improved Egyptian-Israeli relations to encourage King Hussein of Jordan and Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza to move toward negotiations with Israel.

The Administration would reportedly like to get the momentum started before Peres turns over the Premiership to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in October. But Redman stressed Tuesday that "it's first and foremost up to the parties involved to decide where they want to go (in moving toward peace). We stand ready to assist."

#### FRENCH F.M., VISITING SAUDI ARABIA, REAFFIRMS HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION

By Ron Popeski

PARIS, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond restated that his government "firmly supports the right of the Palestinians to self-determination" during a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia this week. His remarks were reported by the French press on his arrival Sunday in Jeddah.

On Monday, he held talks with Prince Faisal during which he delivered a message from French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac to King Fahd before returning home. News reports said his talks with the Prince focused on the Persian Gulf war, the Palestinian question and bilateral cooperation.

The Foreign Minister's comments were viewed as a further bid to smooth ruffled Arab public opinion over comments made to an Israeli journalist by Chirac last month in which he said he did not believe in a Palestinian state.

Chirac and his Ministers subsequently backtracked on the comments, and in meetings with two senior PLO officials Raimond said France's two-pronged policy on the Middle East remained unchanged -- recognition of Israel's right to exist and support for Palestinian self-determination.

#### Aim Of The Visit

In his comments on Sunday, the Foreign Minister said his visit was aimed at "re-establishing in all their scope the friendship and confidence which must be the basis of relations between France and Saudi Arabia." Raimond called Saudi Arabia an "essential partner for France."

He stressed that his visit was the first to Saudi Arabia by a French Cabinet Minister since Chirac's government ousted the Socialists in last March's parliamentary elections and called it "an illustration of the esteem in which France holds Saudi Arabia."

#### ALLOCATION OF \$6.256 MILLION APPROVED FOR HOUSING FUTURE INDUSTRIES IN ADMINISTERED AREAS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- An allocation of \$6.256 million for erecting buildings to house future industries in the administered territories was approved Sunday by the Executive of the Commerce and Industry Ministry's Investment Center, despite objections by the Ministry of Economics and Planning. Most of the approved sum -- \$4.981 -- was designated for expanding existing constructions.

Moshe Dovrat, Director-General of the Ministry of Economics and Planning, charged that the approval was politically motivated. The Executive is headed by Yoram Belisovsky, Acting Director-General of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which is headed by Ariel Sharon of Likud.

Dovrat said the investment was disproportionate to the number of residents in the areas. Whereas other parts of the country lack buildings for industry and other assistance for troubled plants, he said, the government now pours money into the industry in the territories, which is essentially primitive.

"This is an artificial way of creating a supply of buildings in the territories, thus promoting the transfer of Jewish industries from Israel proper to the West Bank, and indirectly encouraging Jewish settlements in the territories," Dovrat charged.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade said the allocations approved were only a small part of an overall \$28 million allocated to support the industries all over the country.

#### Labor Party Officials Concerned

Haaretz reported Monday that senior officials of the Labor Party were concerned over the attempt of "the heads of the Likud to create facts, before the transfer of the Premiership to Yitzhak Shamir" next month.

Haaretz reported that Premier Shimon Peres was enraged when he heard that Shamir intended to appoint, after the rotation, Minister-Without-Portfolio Yosef Shapira of Morasha as Minister in charge of diaspora Jewry and Jewish settlements in Eretz Yisrael. Otniel Schneller, the secretary of the Council of Jewish Settlements in the Territories, is reportedly to be appointed as Shamir's advisor on settlements.

The paper quoted senior Ministers in the Labor Party that any additional functions in the government must be approved by the coalition partners.

Regarding the Schneller appointment, the Labor sources said it was quite clear to the Likud partners that the issue of settlements would remain under the responsibility of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"Shamir's ideas amount to an attempt to turn the National unity government after October 15 into a Likud government," the Ministers said, according to Haaretz.

#### FINI LEITERSDORF DEAD AT 82

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Fini Leitersdorf, the doyenne of Israel's fashion designers, died Sunday at the age of 82. She drowned while swimming in the garden pool at the home of her architect son, Toni, in Savyon. The funeral was held in Kfar Shmaryahu Tuesday. The Hungarian-born Leitersdorf was the widow of artist Yohanan Simon. She began working in Tel Aviv in 1940 and designed theater costumes, dresses, men's wear, shoes, jewelry and even buttons. An exhibition of her designs was held in the Tel Aviv Museum two years ago.

Leitersdorf's best-known work is probably the desert coat she designed for the Maskit folk art shops 30 years ago and which has remained a steady seller ever since.

## UJA PRIME MINISTER'S MISSION RAISES \$22.1 MILLION PLUS \$2.3 MILLION FOR PROJECT RENEWAL

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Over 100 Jewish leaders from more than 30 communities throughout the United States raised \$22.1 million to kick-off the 1987 UJA/Federation Campaign, plus an additional \$2.3 million in new money for Project Renewal, on the three-day 1987 United Jewish Appeal Prime Minister's Mission.

"The money raised for the Regular Campaign represented a 21 percent increase by the same donors over the previous year and is the largest amount ever raised by any UJA Prime Minister's Mission in history," said UJA national chairman Martin Stein. He also presented a special award to UJA Board of Trustees chairman Alex Grass for his idea in conceiving of the trip and his assistance in making it so successful.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, at a meeting with the Jewish leaders, thanked the Mission participants for their extraordinary achievements. "You should feel proud about your outstanding work in Project Renewal," he said.

Peres said that Israel's goals included the struggle for peace, sacrifices for a stable economy, the development of the Negev, the population of the Galilee, and a continuation of Project Renewal. He asked the American Jewish community to help Israel meet the challenges of the future.

At a special memorial service at Yad Vashem, Labor MK Abba Eban called on American Jewry to send one percent of its people to help build the Jewish State.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES DRUG ABUSE IN ISRAELI PRISONS By Marlene Goldman

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Drug abuse in Israeli prisons is at a higher proportion than in the general population, according to Raphael Suissa, the Commissioner of Israel Prison Services. About 1,200 of some 9,000 inmates in Israeli prisons are currently using drugs, he said.

Of the 9,000 inmates, 3,000 are Arab terrorists, and 6,000 are Israelis, 1,000 of whom are Israeli Arabs. Most of the prisoners involved with drugs are non-terrorists and Israeli Arabs between the ages of 17 to 25, Suissa said. The terrorists are too disciplined and organized to get addicted to drugs, he added.

About 89 percent of the criminals involved with drugs are from Sephardic families, according to Suissa, the former mayor of Mazkeret Batya near Haifa.

"In the Jewish faith, the family is something central," he explained. "The family in Arabic countries is strong -- the father is like a king. Most of those who immigrated to Israel in 1949-50 were old and their children learned the language quickly while the parents couldn't understand daily life. They relied on the kids and the children became independent and grew up on the streets. They became active in crime."

The Ashkenazim, on the other hand, had smaller families, Suissa said, and the children immigrated alone to the kibbutzim. "The parents were also more educated than the Sephardic parents," Suissa noted, "and they quickly found work and continued the strong family."

Suissa, who became commissioner 1 1/2 years ago, believes there is a need to improve the

rehabilitation system for the Israeli inmates. He recently travelled to the United States to observe American prisons and at the rehabilitation programs and to meet officials at prisons and with prison officials and the headquarters of the Federal Prison Service in Washington.

"I like to see every inmate as a human," Suissa told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, speaking through an interpreter, Gen. Joshua Caspi, a representative to the U.S. of Israeli police and prisons. "I'd like to make life in prison more comfortable," he continued.

Presently, in Israel, the budget allows for the treatment of only 200 prisoners. In order to treat all 1,200 drug users, Suissa said the prisons would need \$1 million annually but are now receiving about one-sixth of that amount.

## Two-Pronged War Against Drugs

The fight in Israel against drugs is two-pronged. Israeli police are trying to stop drug trafficking which is prevalent around the Lebanon border where hashish is sold. "Hashish is used in Egypt to our south," Suissa said, "and we are in the middle, so part arrives in our area."

Since the 1973 Yom Kippur War, the drug problem in Israel has continued to escalate, he noted. For the past 10 years the most accessible drugs have been marijuana, hashish and heroin, Suissa said.

"Cocaine and crack haven't arrived in Israel yet," according to Suissa, but he noted that Israel is always at least 5 or 6 years behind the U.S. and "unfortunately in a few years I think we'll face the same problem."

A second front in the attack against the drug problem is the prison service, which attempts to rehabilitate those users who end up in prison. "A lot of those users are victims of society," Suissa observed, "and friends who bring them to the use of drugs."

Suissa insisted that with proper treatment, many of the users can solve their addiction problem. The prison program includes a withdrawal process and psychological treatment.

## Israel And U.S. Contrasted

Suissa, on his first visit to prisons outside Israel, found U.S. prisons to be organized, large, clean and comfortable as compared to prisons in Israel. "Our prisons are old. We got them from the British when they left in 1948 and the old buildings are not suitable," he explained.

While in the U.S., Suissa visited local prisons in New York, Pennsylvania and San Francisco and federal facilities in Danbury, Conn., and Holtsville, Ala. He was most impressed by a rehabilitation center in San Francisco. The Delancey Street Foundation, run by Dr. Mimi Silbert.

Here, according to Suissa, people enter the center on their own will, live there and receive treatment, run their own lives, and work. "They become new human beings," Suissa observed.

He said he plans to propose such a system in Israel, but its approval will depend on the budget. There is now a group in Israel, the Voluntary Organization for the Benefit of Israeli Inmates, which helps prisons with programs and donations. The organization, chaired by Chaoul Ben Simhoni of Histadrut, comprises private personalities who do fund-raising and then allocate the money for specific programs requested by Suissa.

# **Higher Education In Israel: NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY GRADUATES DOUBLED BETWEEN 1974 AND 1984**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- The number of university graduates in Israel more than doubled in the decade between 1974 and 1984, and the over 200,000 holders of university degrees now account for some eight percent of the population over the age of 20, according to a recent survey.

The Central Bureau of Statistics, which published the findings of a special review, said that in 1984 there were some 206,000 university graduates in Israel. This figure is 2.1 times that recorded for 1974. The graduates accounted for in the most recent survey include some 130,000 persons with a degree equivalent to a B.A., 64,000 persons with a degree equivalent to an M.A., and some 11,000 holders of a Ph.D.

Among university graduates, some 197,000 are Jewish and some 9,000 non-Jewish. Some 85,000 university graduates -- 41 percent of the total -- are women, the survey showed. Half of the Jewish university graduates in Israel in 1984 were less than 40 years old, and 44 percent were born in Israel.

The percentage of those originating from Asia and Africa, including those Israeli-born individuals whose parents were born on those continents, reached about 15 percent (slightly more - some 19 percent - among B.A. holders).

## Based On Preliminary Results

The Central Bureau of Statistics said the figures were based on the preliminary results of the survey of college and university graduates, conducted by the Bureau between September 1984 and May 1985. The survey covered a representative sample of 15,000 persons selected according to the information obtained during the population and housing census of June 1983.

The percentage of university graduates among adult Jews of African and Asian origin, aged 20 and older, increased from 1.1 percent in 1974 to three percent in 1984. Among Jews of European and American origin, the increase was from 8.3 percent to 14.8 percent. The percentage of women university graduates increased from 25 percent in 1961 to 37 percent in 1974, and to 41 percent in 1984.

## A Striking Change

A striking change took place in the breakdown of university graduates according to fields of studies: the total of humanities, social sciences, business and administration increased from some 12 percent for each of these fields in 1961 to some 25 percent for each of them in 1984. The total of university graduates who received a degree in mathematics and sciences increased from eight to 13 percent.

In contrast, the total of university graduates who received a degree in law, medicine or engineering decreased significantly. Changes in these fields took place mainly between 1961 and 1974, and to a lesser extent in the following decade, the Bureau said.

# **ARAB EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN ISRAEL SAID TO HAVE REACHED A NEW LOW**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- A team of Arab educators warned Sunday -- a day before the beginning of the new school year -- that the situation in the Arab educational system in Israel has reached a new low.

At a Tel Aviv press conference, the educators said an Arab child is two years behind a Jewish child of the same age in reading comprehension. The speakers said this was the result of a persistent gap in infrastructure, school classes, teachers and books.

Thousands of teachers would be needed to upgrade the level of education of Arab children to that of Jewish pupils, said Majed el-Hajj, a sociology professor at Haifa University and the head of an educational committee set up by the National Committee of Arab Municipalities.

Only 60 percent of Arab pupils complete elementary school, and only 50 percent graduate high school, the educators said.

The speakers also proposed that the Arab school system devote more time and space for issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict. "It is better that the Arab student hear about those issues at school than elsewhere," they said.

# **COURT ORDERS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TO ALLOW BOYS AND GIRLS IN SAME CLASSES**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Girls and boys may sit together, after all, on the benches of a religious school in the Ramot neighborhood in Jerusalem -- despite a Ministry of Education directive to separate the sexes -- the High Court of Justice has ruled.

The court issued over the weekend an "order nisi," which obliges the Ministry and the principal of the school to explain within 15 days why they should not reverse their decision to separate the sexes at the request of parents who opposed the separation.

The separation order was issued at the end of the last school year, following the holding of a referendum among the parents. But the appellants argued that the decision was made as a result of growing radicalism within the national religious public, and of an unauthorized statement by the Parents Committee that many of the parents backed the separation.

The appellants argued that the referendum was conducted hastily, with only half of the parents receiving it. Moreover, the parents maintained, because the school has always had mixed education, any changes in its character required a vote by an absolute majority. A matter of such importance, said the parents, should be decided in a secret ballot, without the intervention of the Education Ministry or the school principal.