

## PERES HAILS BRITAIN'S DECISION TO CUT DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH SYRIA

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres distinguished between the Arab-Israeli conflict and the war against international terrorism Tuesday, but suggested that the latter will benefit the peace process in the Middle East.

Peres hailed as "courageous" and "correct" Britain's severance of diplomatic relations with Syria because of the alleged involvement of the Syrian Embassy in London in the attempt by Jordanian national Nezar Hindawi to plant a suitcase loaded with explosives aboard an El Al airliner at Heathrow Airport in London last April 17.

Peres said, in an Israel Radio interview, "In my opinion, we must distinguish and differentiate between the Arab-Israeli conflict and the war against international terrorism. The two should not be linked together."

But "in the final analysis, the fact that the war against international terrorism is developing now will also benefit the peace process in the Middle East." However, Peres stressed, "first of all, we must clip the wings of this horrible violence, which is of a Satanic nature."

He referred to the ruthlessness of Hindawi who gave the suitcase bomb to his unknown Irish woman friend, Anne-Marie Murphy, who was pregnant at the time with his child, to take aboard the aircraft which was about to leave for Tel Aviv with 375 passengers.

"I believe that the English decision is courageous, correct, and even though not many followed in its steps, I hope that it will mark the correct path in the war against terrorism," Peres said.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir praised the British government on Sunday for breaking with Syria.

## AUSTRIA TO RECALL ITS ENVOY IN ISRAEL

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Chancellor Franz Vranitzky announced Wednesday that Austria will recall its Ambassador in Israel, Otto Pleinert, for consultations over Israel's failure to name a replacement for its Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur, who has retired and left Vienna.

Vranitzky, speaking after a ministerial council meeting, said the move does not reflect ill-feeling between the two countries, but that Austria wants to know exactly what Israel's position is. He said Pleinert had approached the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem for an explanation and he is being called home to give a first hand report for evaluation.

Vranitzky would not rule out the envoy's return to Israel after reporting to the Foreign Ministry here. He did not say how Austria would react if Israel decided not to send a new Ambassador to Vienna.

An Austrian radio report from Jerusalem said Elizur was still considered there to be the Ambassador to Austria, although the Israel Embassy in Vienna is presently headed by the Charge d' Affaires, Gideon Yarden, on a temporary basis.

The report said Israel is interested in maintaining good relations with Austria but has still not decided one way or another about the future level of its diplomatic representation in Vienna.

Israel reacted bitterly to the election of Kurt Waldheim to the Presidency of Austria last summer after the exposure of his Nazi past. Yitzhak Shamir, who was Israel's Foreign Minister at the time, vowed that no Israeli envoy would ever present his credentials to Waldheim. Protocol requires an Ambassador to present credentials to the chief of state. A Charge d'Affaires does not.

## JEWISH DELEGATION PARTICIPATES IN PEACE PRAYER DAY IN ASSISI

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Delegations representing 12 of the world's major religions offered prayers for peace at Assisi Monday, each according to its own tradition and in a multiplicity of languages. They gathered in that medieval town at the invitation of Pope John Paul II for an unprecedented display of ecumenicity in the cause of peace, and though each group prayed separately, all were of a single voice.

The Jewish delegation, headed by Rome's Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff, was the most visible, not because of its numbers which were disappointingly small, but because it was the only faith that chose to pray outdoors.

About 60 men, women and children huddled together, sitting or standing around a long brown table in a cobblestoned alleyway, facing a building that housed a synagogue in the 14th century. The site was selected by Toaff, in order, he said, "to be close to the Jewish families who once lived here and from whom Francis of Assisi is said to have descended, and whose doctrine was closely related to and influenced by 11th-century German Judaism."

Toaff led a study session, reading excerpts from the Torah, Talmud and Mishneh relating to various aspects of peace. The Jewish group offered this prayer: "Our God in heaven, the Lord of Peace will have compassion and mercy upon us and upon all the peoples of the earth who implore his mercy and his compassion, asking for peace, seeking peace."

Praying simultaneously in churches and buildings scattered around the town were delegations from the various Christian denominations, Hindus, Moslems, Buddhists, Jainists, Shintoists, Sikhs, Zoroastrians and Bahai; also Africans and American Indians.

The Jewish group was mainly from Rome and other Italian communities. There were 30 youths from Rome's Jewish high school, a couple from Florence, a Jew from Paris, and a few Israelis. The relatively small numbers of Jews from abroad was attributed to the Simchat Torah and Shemini Atzeret holidays that ended only Sunday night, during which observant Jews do not travel.

## Dearth Of Jewish Participation Decried

But some of those present complained to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency over the dearth of Jewish representation from the U.S., Europe and Israel. "They could have come sooner and celebra-

ted Simchat Torah with us in Rome," said Oscar Laufer, a high school student.

Miriam di Castro, a young member of WIZO, explained to the JTA why she joined the group. "I'm tired of politicized peace rallies. It's a relief to be able to join a Jewish group participating in a worldwide prayer for peace instead," she said.

The prayer sessions ended with the distribution of olive branches and plants by about 30 youths, including six Jewish youngsters wearing blue and white skull caps.

For "theological" and historic reasons stemming from Vatican Council II 20 years ago, the Jews were included in the "Christian" rather than the "non-Christian" delegations. Thus they found themselves in the forefront of the final procession to the Basilica.

"The warmth with which we were greeted on the way by the Assisi townspeople, was exceptional," Dr. Joseph Lichten, the Rome representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told the JTA.

In the piazza, an Italian Buddhist group broke out into the Hebrew song, "Hayveinu Shalom Aleichem" (We Welcome You).

## ISRAEL'S TWO LIVER TRANSPLANT PATIENTS SUFFER SERIOUS SETBACKS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Israel's two liver transplant patients have suffered serious setbacks and both have undergone surgery for a second time at Rambam Hospital in Haifa. According to a hospital spokesman, they are in critical condition.

Mira Schichmanter, 40, who underwent the first liver transplant operation on October 22, was operated on again Tuesday night after she began bleeding internally.

Eliahu Schreier, 59, was undergoing transplant surgery Monday morning when he developed severe stomach bleeding due to a clotting problem. The bleeding was stopped by medication and the interrupted surgery was completed at noon Tuesday.

Dr. Albert Settinger, acting director of Rambam Hospital said Wednesday that Schreier's transplanted liver appears to be functioning "but his general condition, meaning his cardio-vascular system, is still poor and he is in very poor condition."

Schichmanter, a mother of two, seemed to be making a slow but regular recovery eight days after her surgery when she suffered a hemorrhage that required emergency surgery to determine its cause. The condition was corrected.

Settinger said "Mrs. Schichmanter, who we thought to be out of danger yesterday (Tuesday) evening, had serious complications last night. She started to bleed from veins in the esophagus." He said that was a symptom of her original liver cirrhosis. "Most certainly, this is a serious setback. We are trying to stabilize her condition. She is awake and spoke a few words to her husband. In general, her condition is stable but it is most certainly critical," Settinger said.

Both liver transplants were performed by a surgical team headed by Dr. Yigal Kam who was trained in the procedure at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa.

## HOSPITAL CRISIS WORSENS AS NURSES STAGE WALK-OUTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Israel's hospital crisis worsened this week as nurses walked off their wards for 24 hours Tuesday and Wednesday and doctors, protesting that they can no longer bear the burden of doing nurses' work as well as their own, halted treatment at out-patient clinics and cancelled all but the most urgent surgery.

President Chaim Herzog appealed to the nurses to return to their jobs Wednesday after the second walkout began at 3 p.m. local time. The government, meanwhile, is considering issuing back to work orders supported by the full weight of the law. The nurses said they would walk out again Thursday.

The crisis precipitated the first no-confidence motion in the Knesset since Yitzhak Shamir became Prime Minister last week. It was sponsored by Mapam and the Hadash (Communist) Party and was defeated by a large margin.

It is the first crisis as well for the new Health Minister, Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino. She has been involved since Tuesday in efforts to break the impasse which stems from the nurses' demands for higher pay and improved working conditions. The Health Ministry estimates that those demands could cost \$80 million which cannot be drawn from its operational budget.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim has already rejected the wage hikes which could throw the national budget askew. Efforts were underway Wednesday to arrange a meeting between Nissim and the nurses' representatives to end the crisis.

## FAVORITISM AND CRONYISM INFURIATES ISRAELI FOREIGN SERVICE PROFESSIONALS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 29 (JTA)-- Foreign service professionals are furious with Shimon Peres, who took office as Foreign Minister last week, for what they see as political appointments and preferential treatment for a selected few in his efforts to re-organize the Ministry.

They are also angry with Premier Yitzhak Shamir for alleged cronyism in last minute appointments and promotions he made before switching jobs with Peres under the Labor-Likud rotation of power agreement.

Peres ran into an increasingly bitter conflict with the Foreign Ministry Staff Committee which threatened Tuesday to lodge a complaint with the Supreme Court over his decision to divide the office of Foreign Ministry Director General.

The decision, approved by the Cabinet, was to appoint Avraham Tamir Director General and former Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin as Political Director General. Tamir, who served as Director General of the Prime Minister's Office under Peres, accepted the dual appointment reluctantly. It was necessary in order to create a senior Foreign Ministry post for Beilin, a close Labor Party associate of Peres, whose nomination to be Israel's next Ambassador to Washington was vetoed by Likud. Peres himself has not concealed his anger over the cool reception he received from career diplomats when he assumed his new

office. As a result, he is working mainly with his own political staff to the exclusion of Foreign Ministry professionals and this has further aroused the ire of the professionals.

They also balked at Peres' insistence that Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman and his aides be housed within the Foreign Ministry precincts. Weizman previously served under Peres in the Prime Ministers Office as liaison for Arab affairs.

The professionals are no less bitter over Shamir's reappointment for an additional two years of nine political Ambassadors, men from outside the foreign service who were installed in embassies abroad when Shamir was Prime Minister in the Likud-led government in 1984, before the national unity coalition was established.

They are uncomfortable with Shamir's decision to grant the personal rank of Ambassador to six Foreign Ministry officials widely seen as his personal friends, at the expense of more senior, experienced diplomats.

Peres himself is unhappy with Shamir's appointments. Some observers believe that his shared grievances with the professionals in those cases will eventually lead to a rapprochement between the new Foreign Minister and the Ministry staff.

#### U.S. OFFICIAL EXCORIATES USSR FOR VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS; CALLS ON SOVIETS TO TELL TRUTH ABOUT THE FATE OF WALLENBERG By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA)-- The United States Secretary of the Interior Donald Hodel, speaking at a ceremony to mark the 100th birthday of the Statue of Liberty here Tuesday, said freedom can only have meaning when "all of the spiritual brothers and sisters of the Yuri Orlovs and of the Anatoly Shcharanskys once again can know the God-given blessing of freedom."

Hodel delivered a scathing attack on human rights conditions in the Soviet Union on Liberty Island with the newly-refurbished Lady Liberty towering behind him from her perch in the New York harbor.

"He called on the Soviet Union to 'tell the world the truth about the fate of that courageous humanitarian, Raoul Wallenberg,' the Swedish diplomat credited with saving about 100,000 Hungarian Jews and who was arrested by the Soviets near the end of World War II.

To this day, rumors persist that Wallenberg may still be alive, imprisoned in the Soviet Union. Since 1957, the Soviet government has maintained that Wallenberg died in Lubyanka Prison in Moscow on July 17, 1947 of a heart attack. But others claimed to have sighted Wallenberg in prison after that date.

Hodel also dedicated an empty chair on the stage where dignitaries were sitting to those who could not share in this celebration of freedom. "This empty chair symbolizes the millions and millions of people throughout the world who yearn for freedom--for them the Statue of Liberty's torch is not lit." Hodel told the crowd of several hundred people.

#### The President's Agenda

He focussed on human rights violations in the Soviet Union in his speech and noted that the subject of human rights was at the top of Presi-

dent Reagan's agenda in Reykjavik although the controversy over arms control overshadowed the importance of that issue.

"Issues of good and evil aside, we also should understand that the Soviet government's disregard of human freedom of its own citizens directly affects American self-interest," Hodel said.

"As President Reagan so aptly states when he assured us and the masters of the Kremlin that we are going to continue to make an issue of the subject of human rights, 'a government that will break faith with its own people cannot be trusted to keep faith with foreign powers'."

Cantor Isaac Goodfriend of the Holocaust Memorial Council participated in the celebration of Lady Liberty's centennial, singing the French and American national anthems and several other patriotic songs. Representing the French government was Minister of Culture and Communication Francois Leotard, who also addressed the assembly.

#### BRANDEIS SELLS MORE STOCK IN SOUTH AFRICAN-RELATED COMPANIES

WALTHAM, Mass., Oct. 29 (JTA) -- For the second time in a month, Brandeis University has sold stock in South Africa-related companies found not to be in compliance with the university's investment policies.

The three companies whose stock sales were announced by Brandeis president Evelyn Handler are Exxon Corp., Chevron and Mobil Corp. The total value of the stocks is approximately \$500,000, nearly 20 percent of the university's holdings in companies doing business in South Africa.

This sale, coupled with last month's sale of about \$200,000 of investments in Reynolds and Reynolds Company, Schlumberger Ltd. and Union Camp Corp., brings Brandeis divestment actions to approximately \$700,000 within the past four weeks.

The remaining portfolio invested in American companies doing business in South Africa amounts to about \$2 million, approximately 1.5 percent of the university's \$130 million endowment.

"These companies, Exxon, Chevron, and Mobil, are highly rated regarding their compliance with the Sullivan Principles," Handler said in announcing the divestment action. "There is, however, a very high likelihood that they are not in compliance with another university investment policy concerning corporations or their subsidiaries that provide services to the South African government or its military."

In 1979 the Board of Trustees adopted a statement of principles to guide the university's decisions concerning holdings in corporations doing business in South Africa. In those principles, three categories of corporations were identified for monitoring or possible divestment.

One of those categories included corporations or their subsidiaries "that make products for or provide services to the military or police organizations or to any agency of the government of South Africa that are used in a substantial way to implement or enforce the apartheid system."

Brandeis vice president and treasurer Stanley Rumbaugh said that his office will contact other companies in which Brandeis has investments to determine their policies and practices in light of the South African Petroleum Products Act.

## CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM MOVEMENT URGES ALL BRANCHES OF JUDAISM TO JOIN NATIONAL CRUSADE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA)-- The United Synagogue of America (USA), the congregational branch of Conservative Judaism, has joined the national crusade against drug abuse and alcoholism.

Franklin Kreutzer, 46, international president of the two-million-member USA, called on all Conservative institutions and on the Orthodox, Reform and Reconstructionist synagogue movements to admit that the problem of drug abuse and alcoholism exists among Jews and to "open the synagogue to appropriate, recognized forms of counseling and information-sharing sessions."

Kreutzer was one of 150 selected guests from all walks of life and all religions invited to the White House Monday to attend President Reagan's ceremonial signing of the 1986 drug bill. Reagan said the bill, enacted by both Houses of Congress, "marks a victory in our crusade against drugs." He urged "all Americans" to be "strong in your intolerance" of the illegal use of drugs.

### Urges A Unified Approach

Kreutzer urged a unified approach to the problem by all branches of Judaism in the U.S. He said that as a constituent member of the Synagogue Council of America, which represents all branches, the USA will press for creation of a task force to determine how individual synagogues all over North America can help Jewish individuals and families afflicted with substance abuse.

He also called on the established rabbinic organizations to involve themselves in helping families cope with the problem of drugs and alcoholism by participating in and opening their facilities to groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Al-Ateen and Families Anonymous.

Kreutzer said that the United Synagogue Youth (USY), which he described as the largest organized religious youth group in North America, will be urged to consider various proposals for incorporating drug informational projects into their various conferences, meetings and conventions.

He said the National Youth Commission of the USA will also be called on to consider proposals on an ongoing basis to keep the flow of information available to Conservative Jewish youths.

Kreutzer sent a message Tuesday to the Education Commission of the USA urging the development of family education programs to stem rampant substance abuse. He noted that this issue affects not only children and adults as individuals, but tears families asunder. The situation can be rectified only by fortifying total family structures with skills and intervention that can have an impact on each family member, he said.

## REPORT SHOWS THAT ADL-BASED ANTI-PARAMILITARY TRAINING LAWS HAVE DETERRED VIOLENCE-PRONE GROUPS

ATLANTA, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Anti-paramilitary training laws -- adopted in 14 states in the past six years -- have had a deterrent effect on violence-prone extremist hate groups and have resulted in successful prosecutions, according to a report issued by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The laws, which are based on an ADL model statute which bans paramilitary training aimed at provoking civil disorder, were enacted in four states this year -- Arkansas, Illinois, Michigan and Nebraska.

Michael Schultz, chairman of ADL's Civil Rights Committee, made the report public at a session of the agency's National Executive Committee meeting here at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. He listed the 10 other states which have passed similar statutes as California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

### Legal Actions In Four States

In Missouri, according to the report, the enactment of an anti-paramilitary training statute in 1984 has forced the Christian Patriots Defense League, an extremist survivalist group, to eliminate weapons training from its meetings. For several years the CPDL had offered instruction in fighting with guns and knives, demolition, camouflage and even anti-aircraft and anti-tank weaponry.

In Florida, the first jury convictions of violators of a state law banning paramilitary training were obtained this spring. Four members of the Ku Klux Klan were convicted of training with firearms for terrorist acts against minorities. Included in the charges brought against them was participation in instruction to make incendiary devices with intent to engage in civil disorder.

In North Carolina, Glenn Miller, the leader of the White Patriot Party, an armed racist group, was convicted earlier this year for violating a federal court order banning operation of an illegal paramilitary organization. The court order, handed down in 1985, prohibited the organization from taking actions that would violate North Carolina's 1981 anti-paramilitary training statute.

In Nebraska, passage of an anti-paramilitary training law came last March during the trial of members of a heavily armed cult-like group with links to the extremist paramilitary organization known as Posse Comitatus. The defendants were charged with murder and torture in the deaths of two persons. Last year a cache of arms was found on the group's compound in the southeastern Nebraska community of Rulo.

### Rationale Of Paramilitary Training Activities

The extremist groups' paramilitary training activities, according to the ADL report, have typically involved instruction in weapons handling, demolition and guerrilla warfare strategy with "combat" training interspersed with indoctrination of hatred and totalitarian ideology. The paramilitary training classes are conducted "in preparation for anticipated civil strife, the rationale being the visit of a coming race war," according to the ADL's report.

Operators of these paramilitary centers, the ADL pointed out, claim their activities are "defense" or "survival" training courses. "But regardless of the label applied," the report noted, "it is clear that armed racists, pathological enemies of Blacks, Jews, immigrants and other minority groups are engaged in paramilitary training for guerrilla warfare and against their purported adversaries."

The report was prepared by the Legal Affairs Department of the ADL's Civil Rights Division.