

SHAMIR DEPLORES FAILURE OF EEC TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH SYRIA

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel deplored the failure of the European Economic Community (EEC) to follow Britain's lead in severing diplomatic relations with Syria because of that country's alleged involvement in terrorist acts.

In an interview published in *Le Figaro* Monday, Shamir said the only way to deal with terrorism is "to put an end to the backing which various governments give to terrorist organizations." He urged international cooperation toward that end.

"Experience has shown that terrorist organizations cannot attain important results without state backing," Shamir said. He repeated his praise of Britain for breaking with Syria after finding that the Syrian Embassy in London was implicated in the attempt by Jordanian national Nezar Hindawi to place a suitcase loaded with explosives aboard an El Al airliner at Heathrow Airport last April 17. Hindawi was sentenced last week by a British court to 45 years in prison.

Shamir asserted that the British reaction to Syria's collusion with Hindawi "is the only conceivable one to this very dangerous phenomenon." While criticizing the EEC, he did not refer specifically to France, one of the 12 Common Market countries that refused to take the tough stance toward Syria urged by Britain. Shamir indicated he thought France may have second thoughts on the matter.

President Francois Mitterrand has called for a serious study of the British evidence against Syria in the Hindawi case. The EEC Foreign Ministers are scheduled to meet again in London November 10 to re-examine Syria's connection with terrorism and the EEC's reaction to it.

RED CROSS MOVEMENT CONSIDERING PLO APPLICATIONS FOR OBSERVER STATUS BUT REFUSES TO ACCEPT MAGEN DAVID ADOM

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization has applied for observer status with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The request, by Dr. Fathi Arafat, brother of PLO chairman Yasir Arafat, followed last week's decision to incorporate the Red Crescent into the Movement. The Red Crescent is the Red Cross equivalent in Moslem countries.

A commission will examine the applications of the PLO and other groups that claim to be national liberation movements. According to observers here, all of the applications will probably be accepted.

But the quadrennial conference of the International Red Cross Movement, which ended here Saturday, refused to budge with respect to the long-standing request by the Magen David Adom for recognition as the Red Cross equivalent in Israel. It was rejected, as it has been since 1949, despite a vigorous challenge by the delegation of the American Red Cross.

ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS ARE RIFE IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Anti-Semitic sentiments are more prevalent in Quebec province, and in its largest city, Montreal, than elsewhere in Canada, according to a survey by B'nai B'rith. The lowest incidence is in British Columbia.

The B'nai B'rith 1985 Review, just published, reported that from 1983 to 1985, an average of 22.4 percent of Montreal residents felt Jews have too much power, compared to 16 percent in Toronto and 5 percent in Vancouver.

In Montreal, 14.2 percent of respondents to a poll said they would not vote for a Jew, compared to 7.1 percent in Toronto and 4.5 percent in Vancouver. On a province-wide basis, 19.6 percent of Quebec citizens would not vote for a Jewish candidate. The percentage was 7.1 in Ontario and only 2 percent in British Columbia.

Although there has been a decline in anti-Semitic incidents nationwide, 16.4 percent of Canadians in 1985 thought Jews have too much power compared to 12.7 percent in 1984 and 13.5 percent in 1983.

Prof. H. Taylor Buckner of Concordia University in Montreal, who analyzed the poll data, told a press conference that "lack of contact between Francophone Quebecers and the Jewish community" explains the greater prevalence of anti-Semitic attitudes in the province.

Buckner suggested that contributing factors were Quebec's history and the teachings of the Catholic Church. He noted that older and less educated persons tended to be more prejudiced than younger persons and those educated beyond high school. The 1985 poll was conducted among 2,059 adults.

On the plus side, anti-Semitic incidents such as vandalism, attacks on synagogues and on private Jewish property, fell from 126 in 1984 to 95 in 1985, a 24.6 percent drop.

FATHER OF MISSING DIMONA NUCLEAR FACILITY TECHNICIAN DISOWNS HIS SON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Israeli officials continued to maintain complete silence on Mordechai Vanunu, the missing former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility. But his father, Shlomo Vanunu of Beersheba, was less reticent. He publicly disowned his son Monday.

"I'll have nothing to do with him. I don't recognize him as my son. Thank God I have seven other children," the elder Vanunu told reporters. His bitterness toward his son apparently stems from the latter's conversion to Christianity and the fact that he told British newspapers earlier this year that Israel has a substantial arsenal of nuclear weapons.

Vanunu was reported missing in London on October 1. According to The Rev. John McKnight, the Australian Anglican clergyman who converted him, he was kidnapped by Israeli agents and is presently confined to prison in Israel. Israeli officials have not confirmed or denied the allegation. But his father, who is described in the

gation. But his father, who is described in the press variously as a rabbi, a salesman and a vender of religious articles, said if his son is in jail he hopes he will receive a long sentence. The Vanunu family immigrated to Israel from Morocco in 1963.

People who knew the nuclear technician when he was a student of geology and philosophy at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer-Sheva have few flattering things to say about him. Some describe him as a "colorless personality." They say his only friends were Arabs and that he devoted much of his time to Communist- and Palestinian causes.

1,000 PEOPLE ATTEND FUNERAL OF MURDERED YESHIVA STUDENT

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Murdered yeshiva student Chaim Weiss was buried Sunday in Floral Park, New Jersey, just two weeks short of his 16th birthday. The 11th-grade student at Torah High School of Long Beach, Long Island, was brutally stabbed to death sometime Saturday morning while he slept in his third-floor dormitory room.

He appeared to have been killed "with" a heavy type of knife," according to police. There was a deep gash in his forehead, said faculty member Rabbi Chaim Zelikovitz. None of the other students heard any sounds, they told police who questioned them. Nothing was disturbed in Weiss's room, according to police, school administrator Rabbi Shlomo Lesin, and Zelikovitz, and there were no signs of forced entry.

Weiss was last seen alive at 1 a.m. Saturday by a fellow student with whom he had been studying. The murdered yeshiva student was found in his bed at 7:30 a.m. by a dormitory supervisor who went looking for him when he failed to show for morning services.

People in the community and faculty members were hesitant to describe the murder as an anti-Semitic act. Both Lesin and Zelikovitz said there had been no serious anti-Semitic activity in the neighborhood, a New York suburb heavily populated by religious Jews.

Lesin said there had been some graffiti on another dormitory some years ago, but juvenile-type slogans. "We don't have any problems with our neighbors or any anti-Semitism," Lesin told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He said there had been no fights within the dormitory.

Incident Described As 'Bizarre'

Zelikovitz described the incident as "bizarre," an anomaly in a normally peaceful neighborhood where people are accustomed to leaving open the doors of both their houses and their cars. He said people are grappling with how to explain the unusual incident.

Zelikovitz told JTA that the school will be closed until Tuesday morning, and that they hadn't decided yet what to do with or for the students. He said that each faculty member spoke to the students and that psychologists were brought in after Shabbat to speak to the students and parents, trying to decide whether it's better to stay or leave. Saturday night they left it up to the parents. Zelikovitz said that between one-half and two-thirds of the student body left for home or friends' houses. Many students do not live in the area.

Weiss was a Staten Island resident, the son of Pessy and Anton Weiss, and older brother to Menachem, 11, and Rachel, 7. His grandparents, all of whom are living, were refugees from Hitler's Europe, and his father was born in a displaced persons camp after World War II.

The victim's family was notified by police on Staten Island towards the end of Shabbat, and school personnel visited with the Weiss family immediately after Shabbat ended, Lesin said. The yeshiva high school, known as Mesivta Torah to students and faculty, is a branch of Beth Medrash Govoha in Lakewood, New Jersey, an affiliate of Agudath Israel of America.

'He Had An Active, Creative Mind'

Zelikovitz, who was Weiss's teacher last year, described the boy as "a very bright youngster, very quick. When he was my student, he was able to field any problem without thinking, able to shoot back answers. He had an active, creative mind."

Zelikovitz said Weiss was "very well-liked, mild-mannered, wouldn't hurt a fly, always with a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye." The rabbi said Weiss was interested in sports, played basketball, was "a very well-rounded, talented youngster."

Zelikovitz said that perhaps over 1,000 people crowded into the Shomrei Hadas Funeral Chapel in Boro Park, Brooklyn, for Weiss's funeral service Sunday. He described the scene of neither sitting nor standing room.

"Every inch of space was occupied. In fact, there was no room for the coffin to be brought in. They had to make room. What really overwhelmed me was the number of cars and busloads of students that went to the cemetery. I myself saw representatives from every major yeshiva in the New York area and even some from outside," said Zelikovitz. "It was a tragedy that every yeshiva felt part of."

HERMAN EDELSBERG DEAD AT 77

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held Sunday for Herman Edelsberg, former director of international affairs for B'nai B'rith and a federal government official in the 1960's. He died last Thursday of cardiorespiratory arrest at George Washington University Hospital. He was 77 years old.

A resident of Washington, Edelsberg was born in New York City and graduated from the College of the City of New York and the Brooklyn Law School of St. Lawrence University.

Edelsberg was appointed director of B'nai B'rith's International Council in 1967 and was responsible for directing and coordinating B'nai B'rith affiliates in 41 countries outside the United States in such programs as the elimination of racial and religious discrimination, enhancement of human rights, and the promotion of peaceful international relations.

He retired in 1977 and recently finished writing his memoirs, entitled "Not For Myself Alone," which is to be published shortly by Link Press.

He served as executive director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and earlier he was director of the Washington office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and worked closely with Congress on the 1957, 1969, and 1964 Civil Rights Acts.

In 1945-46, Edelsberg was counsel and staff director of the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Trade and before that, counsel to the Senate Committee of War Contracts. An attorney by profession, he held important posts with the Foreign Economic Administration, the Board of Economic Warfare and the Office of Price Administration between 1941 and 1945.

HERZOG ON 18-DAY STATE VISIT TO AUSTRALASIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog left Sunday on an 18-day State visit to Australasia and Southeast Asia, undertaken, he said, to advance Israel's good image and promote its trade with that region.

In a radio interview prior to his departure aboard an Israel Air Force plane, Herzog said his trip is important politically because it will give Israel a high-profile public platform from which to combat anti-Israel propaganda.

Herzog, accompanied by his wife, Aura, will visit Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, the Philippines and Singapore. The President stressed Israel's efforts to broaden its trade with a region that has emerged in recent years as one of the world's major commercial centers.

He described Australia as an awakening giant. He noted that Singapore is an important conduit for economic contacts with the People's Republic of China. Singapore and the Philippines, with large Moslem populations, have been targets of Palestine Liberation Organization and Libyan propaganda.

JEWISH SCHOLARS URGE JEWRY TO END RELIGIOUS RIFTS IN THE COMMUNITY

SEATTLE, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- A noted Jewish scholar and community leader, deploring the acts of extremists on all sides of the religious rifts that have erupted among Jews in Israel, the United States, and elsewhere, urged all Jewry to strive to end the conflicts and not leave "the issues of Jewish survival to the theologians alone."

Striking a note of mingled hope and sadness, Rabbi David Polish also expressed dismay about "the many Jews who perceive any striving for reconciliation to be futile," while at the same time indicating that he did not agree with "this abandonment of hope."

Polish, who is rabbi emeritus of Beth Emet Synagogue in Evanston, Ill., and the author of several widely respected books on Jewish thought, spoke at a session of the American Jewish Committee's annual National Executive Council meeting, which concluded Saturday evening at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel.

The discord of which Polish spoke has included sometimes violent conflict between secular and religious Jews in Israel over such matters as public advertising that the religious faction finds obscene. It has also included bitter disagreement between Jews who hew to the traditional Jewish law that says that a person is a Jew only if was born to a Jewish mother or is a convert, and those who say that Jewishness can be transmitted through the father as well as the mother.

Also causing rancor has been the dissension between those who say that a conversion performed by any ordained rabbi is valid, and those

who say that only conversions performed by Orthodox rabbis are acceptable.

Calling the conflicts "a perilous fracture," Polish said that "the Jewish people, through its own leaders and institutions, has an obligation to intervene." Specifically, he said, "we must help raise the consciousness of mainline Orthodoxy to the perils confronting it by its retreat before the extremists."

Along parallel lines, he continued, "Reform and Conservative Jews have also ratified this abandonment of hope. Secular Jews in Israel have most recently joined the struggle by enraged acts of retribution upon Orthodox institutions, leaving us appalled by the ferocity of frustration that triggered these acts."

Casting those who question whether some Jews are "really Jewish," Polish exhorted: "Who may say that a Russian Jew who risks his life for his Jewishness, or an Ethiopian Jew who trudged into the Sudan, is disqualified from living as a free authentic Jew? Who may say that the Judaism of a non-Orthodox rabbi who jeopardizes himself by working among refuseniks is tainted?"

AJC Set Up A Task Force

At the same session, Yehuda Rosenman, director of AJC's Jewish Communal Affairs Department, noted that AJC had set up a year ago a task force organized specifically to deal with the problem of disunity in Jewish religious life. Chaired by AJC vice president Alfred Moses and comprising lay leaders of the major American Jewish religious movements, the task force, said Rosenman, had been meeting regularly and had recently issued recommendations for ameliorating the conflicts. Among these recommendations, he said, were these:

That there be "a return to civil discourse" among Jews; that the various Jewish religious movements "renew a commitment to joint action on a common Jewish agenda"; that "the educational programs of each movement stress not only the beliefs and practices of that movement but also the factors that unite all Jews and promote mutual respect"; and that American Jewry consider establishing a national beth din (Jewish religious court), with local branches, that could deal with certain religious issues in a way acceptable to all Jewish religious movements.

ONLY 104 JEWS LEFT USSR IN OCTOBER

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Only 104 Soviet Jews were permitted to leave the Soviet Union in October, according to the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews. This brings the 1986 Jewish emigration total so far to 735. In 1984, only 896 Soviet Jews were given permission to leave, and last year, 1,140 were granted exit visas. In 1979, 51,320 Jews were permitted to emigrate from the Soviet Union, which means the drop-off in emigration over the last seven years is more than 98 percent.

LATE NEWS BULLETIN

VIENNA, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- The family of Inessa and Viktor Flerov arrived here Monday. Inessa Flerova's brother, Michael Shirman, a leukemia victim in Ness Tziona, Israel, said he expects to see his sister and her family in Israel Wednesday. Shirman hopes to receive a bone-marrow transplant from his sister that may possibly save his life.

RACIST AND ANTI-SEMITIC GROUPS LOSING GROUND BUT BECOME MORE VIOLENT-PRONE

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Racist and anti-Semitic organizations have lost ground in the past few years but the movements in many cases have become highly sophisticated and in some cases increasingly violent, according to an American Jewish Committee report.

The AJCommittee released this report at its annual National Executive Council meeting in Seattle last week. The report, based on the Committee's extensive research, found that support for anti-Semitic organizations and racist groups has waned although their numbers are still rising slowly. The report also cited increased incidents of synagogue desecrations and similar anti-religious violence.

Leonard Zeskind, an expert on the activities of racist and anti-Semitic groups, provided examples of some of the more recently developed hate groups.

Zeskind, who is research director of the Center for Democratic Renewal which monitors extremist activity in this country, alerted the AJC to growing support for the Christian Identity movement, a violent, anti-Semitic group which he called "perhaps the most sinister" of the newly emerged extremist groups. The group attempts to spread its message of hate through a thinly veiled appeal to Christian values, Zeskind said. The report also characterized extremist groups as those which perpetrate "demonized" images of Jews and non-whites and those which advocate the overthrow of the federal government.

Developing Political Sophistication

Zeskind said the extremist groups had "grown exponentially" from 1978 to 1982 and since then the growth rate has diminished but remained steady. Nevertheless, since 1982, the groups have developed a political savvy which has worked to increase their influence, according to Zeskind.

The groups have learned to take advantage of modern technology, using videotapes, cable TV, and computer bulletin boards, Zeskind said. They have also been successful in attracting a broad social spectrum of adherents, he said.

Several speakers at the convention observed that rightwing, extremist and racist movements are particularly targeting the economically depressed of the country, such as Midwestern farmers. The people in these areas, facing monumental economic and personal crises daily, look to the extremists to provide scapegoats for their problems, speakers noted.

Established groups like the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party cooperate with the newer groups, Aryan Nations and Posse Comitatus, to promote their doctrines in the depressed areas, according to the report.

The extremist organizations have also carved out a place for themselves in the political process by disguising their ideologies. Such are the tactics used by Lyndon LaRouche and his followers who have won, among others, the democratic nominations for Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State of Illinois.

The report urged legislative and educational activity to curb the rise of extremist movements. It noted that all but six states now outlaw racial and religious violence and some 17 states have

laws prohibiting activities associated with groups like the Klan such as wearing masks or burning crosses. But no federal statute prohibits paramilitary training, a measure advocated by several Jewish organizations to limit the violence stemming from extremist groups.

The report also recommended educational programming to inform youth about democratic values, pluralism and tolerance.

GOLDFARB TO UNDERGO SURGERY FOR LUNG CANCER; APPEALS FROM HIS HOSPITAL BED TO GORBACHEV TO LET HIS FAMILY GO

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Former refugee David Goldfarb has been diagnosed as having lung cancer and will undergo surgery for it Wednesday at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center here, where he has been a patient since his arrival October 16 aboard industrialist Armand Hammer's private jet.

Goldfarb, who sought to emigrate with his family since 1979, issued a plea from his hospital bed Sunday for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to allow his daughter Olga, her husband Lev, and their two daughters, Katya, 10, and Nadia, 4, to join him in the West. They first applied to emigrate in 1979.

In his letter to Gorbachev, Goldfarb asked that his daughter and family be permitted to join him as a humanitarian gesture.

"I cannot offer any justification for giving this privilege to my daughter except perhaps for the fact that 45 years ago I made a contribution to the Soviet state on the battlefield of Stalingrad ... Your recent reform in other areas makes me believe that change is possible" in the Soviet policy on emigration, he wrote. The letter was drafted into English by his son, Alex Goldfarb.

David Goldfarb, 67, a retired geneticist, was released suddenly from his Moscow hospital bed last month upon the personal intervention of Hammer with Soviet leaders, and immediately flown to the United States with his wife Cecilia. His release followed a long campaign for his freedom by Alex, 39, a microbiologist at Columbia-Presbyterian who immigrated to Israel in 1975. Alex has been on the Columbia staff since 1982.

David Goldfarb has been suffering from severe complications of diabetes, including partial amputation of his foot. Goldfarb lost his other leg as a Soviet war hero in the Battle of Stalingrad during World War II. He also suffers from heart disease.

David Goldfarb's cancer diagnosis was made last Wednesday by Dr. Kenneth Prager, attending physician and a colleague of Alex Goldfarb. Alex Goldfarb indicated that his father's prognosis was uncertain.

Goldfarb's case became front-page news when his son went public with the information that David Goldfarb had refused a request by the KGB to help frame his friend, American reporter Nicholas Daniloff, in 1984. During Daniloff's month-long incarceration following his August 30 arrest for alleged espionage, Goldfarb offered to testify in his behalf.

Alex Goldfarb feared for his father's life and appealed to world leaders and the American media for his father's release, including a trip to Iceland during the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting to push for his father's freedom.