

**SHAMIR: U.S. HAS NOT REQUESTED ISRAEL TO RELEASE JAILED TERRORISTS IN EXCHANGE FOR HOSTAGES BUT WOULD CONSIDER SUCH REQUEST IF RECEIVED**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Tuesday that Israel has received no request from the U.S. to release imprisoned terrorists in exchange for the lives of hostages held by an extremist group in Lebanon. However, he said, "If such a request were received, it would be considered."

He did not indicate the possible outcome of such consideration but reiterated Israel's policy not to negotiate with terrorists. Shamir, who was interviewed on television, will be in Washington next week for meetings with President Reagan and top Administration officials.

A group calling itself the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) for the Liberation of Palestine has demanded that Israel free 400 Arab terrorists jailed in Israel or in the prison of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) in Ansar, south Lebanon.

According to a report from Beirut, the Islamic Jihad has given the International Red Cross a list of the prisoners it wants freed -- 310 Lebanese Shiites and 90 Palestinians. The latter include three terrorists serving life sentences for a grenade attack which killed an Israeli soldier near the Western Wall in Jerusalem five months ago.

The Islamic Jihad threatened Monday to kill four hostages -- three Americans and an Indian national who is a resident of the U.S. -- if the prisoners were not released within 24 hours. Reports from Beirut Tuesday said the deadline was extended for an unspecified period in order to allow time for negotiations and because of appeals by the hostages and their families and certain elements in Lebanon.

**CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REVISES PARTS OF REPORT ON WAR CRIMINALS IN CANADA TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF PERSONS INVESTIGATED**

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- The government has revised portions of the Deschenes Commission's report on Nazi war criminals in Canada in order to protect the privacy and civil rights of persons investigated, Justice Minister Ray Hnatyshyn disclosed to the House of Commons in Ottawa Monday.

He denied vigorously that the report is being purged for political reasons or as a result of pressure from East European ethnic groups which fear they may be branded as Nazi collaborators. Leading Canadian Jewish organizations have decided to withhold comment until the report is made public. According to knowledgeable sources, this will be "soon."

The only goal is to avoid publicly identifying people and making sure the innocent are protected, Hnatyshyn said. He said parts of the report will have to be reprinted but refused to say when it will be presented to the House of Commons. He also would not speculate on when the government will respond to any recommenda-

tions for action against suspected war criminals living in Canada.

The Commission, headed by Quebec Superior Court Justice Jules Deschenes spent 22 months investigating and compiling its report which fills 1,200 pages and was presented to the government of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last December 30.

**Elements Of The Report**

It is divided into two sections, a public portion which contains no names but enumerates case studies, and a private section which names persons against whom there may be grounds for action. The Commission examined about 30 cases in detail and came up with approximately 12 suspects against whom there is serious evidence.

During its nearly two years of investigation, the Commission did not have an opportunity to gather evidence in Eastern European countries.

Government sources reportedly fear that the public portion of the report, although it names no one, might offer clues to the identity of individuals investigated by mentioning such facts as their port of entry into Canada, their place of residence or their national origin. Ukrainian and Baltic groups in Canada have been especially sensitive to any suggestion of collective guilt for war crimes.

Several conservative back-benchers in Parliament support those groups, arguing against identifying suspects by nationality. The Minister of Justice rejected any suggestions that the government was re-writing the report because of such lobbying.

He did not say who did the actual revisions but said they were handled in consultation with Judge Deschenes who will comment on the matter when the report is made public.

**Proposal To Amend The Criminal Code**

Deschenes is believed to have recommended that the Criminal Code be amended to permit trials in Canada for war criminals whose crimes were committed elsewhere. That proposal was supported by all sides at public hearings by the Commission, despite the fact that the previous Liberal government expressed concern that such legislation might violate civil liberties by creating retroactive crimes.

The Canadian Jewish Congress and the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith have suggested other possibilities, including extradition for trial in West Germany or Israel, or simply stripping suspected war criminals of their Canadian citizenship and deporting them.

**FOCUS ON ISSUES****TRYING TO ASSESS CHANGES IN USSR POLICY ON EMIGRATION AND DISSIDENTS**

By David Friedman (Washington) and William Saphire (New York)

Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Soviet Jewry activists trying to assess recent changes in Soviet policy on emigration rights and dissidents in general, have welcomed the unexpected release of political prisoners, including Jewish Prisoners of Conscience but remain strongly skeptical as to

whether these moves indicate a genuine change of direction by the Soviet leadership or are merely a cosmetic device for propaganda purposes.

The consensus is that while the self-proclaimed Soviet policy of "glasnost" (openness) gives rise to hope, much more has to be done to prove Moscow's good faith, particularly with respect to Soviet Jewry. Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry observed Monday that "it is imperative to separate fact from fantasy."

He noted that while the Soviet Union enacted what it calls a liberal new emigration decree and Soviet Foreign Minister Gennady Gerasimov spoke of a massive acceleration of Jewish emigration, "only 98 Jews were granted exit visas in January, up from 77 in December, hardly a massive acceleration."

#### Reagan Administration View

The Reagan Administration has taken a similar view. It urged Monday that the release of the 42 prisoners be followed by the release of all political prisoners and POCs, as well as permission to emigrate to all Soviet Jews who want to do so.

"As we have consistently made clear to the Soviet government, we attach the greatest importance to improvements in the field of human rights, including the right to emigrate," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

"We hope the recent statements by Soviet officials, that large numbers of Soviet Jews are being granted exit permission, will be followed by steps to allow the departure of all those who wish to exercise the right to leave," Redman said.

He was apparently referring to a statement in Moscow by Samuil Ziv, chairman of the Soviet anti-Zionist Committee, that 500 Jews were granted exit visas in January. Fewer than a thousand were allowed to emigrate in all of 1986.

Redman urged that all prisoners and POCs in "confinement and exile" be freed and that they should not be required to "recant their past activities or limit future activities." He stressed that the U.S. will be keeping a close watch on Soviet actions in the human rights area which "will have a positive impact on the climate of U.S.-Soviet relations."

#### Gap Between Promise And Performance

Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, responded Monday to the unexpected release from a labor camp of POC Roald (Alex) Zelichonok. "We are pleased by the announcement of Zelichonok's release, but our joy is tempered with the knowledge that nearly a dozen other Soviet Jews remain in prison in labor camps," she said.

"I call upon the Soviet leadership to move expeditiously in releasing the remaining Prisoners of Conscience and in processing the emigration applications of thousands of Soviet Jews who wish to leave the USSR," Cohen stated.

Abram stressed in his statement the wide gap between Soviet promises and performance. "Soviet officials are guilty, not only of massive human rights violations, but of speaking out of both sides of their mouths," he said, 'glasnost' from one side, and grievous misstatements from the other. These Janus-like utterances have the effect of throwing sand in the eyes of Soviet Jews and human rights activists everywhere."

Abram said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev must be asked "why did the Soviet Union begin its repression of the Jewish minority in the first

place? And why, in the light of current representations of 'glasnost' are Jews still denied their human rights? Why are there still Prisoners of Conscience?"

#### Unusual Occurrence In Moscow

The Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry reported an unusual occurrence in Moscow Monday where about 15 people demonstrated in front of the Palace of Culture on behalf of POC Iosif Begun. They included Begun's wife, Inna and his son, Boris. The demonstrators held signs and posters in support of Begun's right to be allowed to emigrate to go to Israel, the LICSJ reported.

They were not interfered with by the authorities and while some passersby shouted anti-Semitic epithets, others showed support by signing their names on the posters. According to the LICSJ, the demonstrations are continuing daily, joined by well known refuseniks.

Begun, 54, was sentenced in 1983 to 12 years in prison and internal exile. An electronics engineer, he was fired from his scientific research job after applying for an exit visa. At the time of his arrest in 1982, he had been giving Hebrew lessons which are banned in the Soviet Union.

Begun was one of several prominent POCs referred to by Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, at a press conference in Geneva Monday after her return from a visit to Moscow. She noted that he was imprisoned for teaching Hebrew and confined to a punishment cell for wearing a yarmulke.

The Soviet Union, she said, will have to give serious reconsideration to the problem of refuseniks denied the right to emigrate, denied religious expression and, in some cases, imprisoned and suffering malnutrition and lacking desperately needed medical care.

#### Some Hope Seen On 'Glasnost' Policy

Nevertheless, Kirkpatrick, whose militant anti-Communism was a hallmark of her tenure at the UN, said the new "glasnost" policy gives new hope for separated spouses, refuseniks and others who want to emigrate.

Later, addressing a session of the 43-member United Nation Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Kirkpatrick said she heard from high level Soviet officials some extremely interesting accounts of changes planned and changes already underway in the USSR. She said they spoke of new thinking and of democratization, though democratization Soviet style in a one-party system.

Kirkpatrick visited Moscow last week as part of a private delegation that included two former U.S. Secretaries of State, Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance. They had a three hour meeting with Gorbachev.

#### **SPECIAL TO THE JTA ONE ODYSSEY ENDS, ANOTHER BEGINS**

**By Mark Dodick  
Staff Writer, Canadian Jewish News**

TORONTO, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- One odyssey has ended for Leah Maryasin, her husband Alexander, and daughter Faina, and another has just begun. After 15 years of refusal, the Maryasins were finally allowed to leave the Soviet Union and arrived in Montreal late last week. Early this week the family was reunited with relatives in Toronto who fought for their release.

Leah Maryasin from Riga, who suffers from multiple myeloma, was admitted to Toronto General Hospital for treatment of her cancer. Bundled in a pink bathrobe and slippers, with two intravenous tubes attached to her body, Leah, 61, appeared with Alexander and Faina at a press conference convened by B'nai B'rith Canada in the hospital's main lecture hall.

Though obviously tired from their trip from the Soviet Union --which included a last-minute bureaucratic foul-up overcome by Canada's Ambassador to the USSR, Vernon Turner --the Maryasins exuded joy at their official welcome here.

"I am very glad that I am in a free country," Leah said in English, sitting in a wheelchair. "You must know what it is to be in Russia to understand what it means to be in a free country." But, she added, "I am very sad to leave behind my sick friends (other refusenik cancer victims). My heart aches to be in such a position."

Alexander, 62, said his family was "overwhelmed" by their experiences in the USSR during the 16-year visa struggle and "the kind treatment which we are not used to." He thanked Leah's sister Mara Katz and brother-in-law Eugene Katz of Toronto for their unwavering support during the dark years in the USSR. "If not for them, it would be much more difficult. I would never have been able to survive." Alexander also thanked others who were instrumental in helping the Maryasins obtain their freedom.

#### A Story Of Love And Courage

B'nai B'rith Canada executive vice president Frank Dimant and president-elect Ralph Snow described the Maryasins' story as one of love and courage. "Today we see what happens when we work for the impossible," said Snow.

Dr. Gerald Batist, the Montreal oncologist who founded the International Cancer Patients Solidarity Committee and has kept on top of Leah Maryasin's case as well as that of all refusenik cancer patients, said: "Today is the celebration of a victory of hope over despair, of caring over callous indifference. These cancer patients are the litmus test. The whole world will watch in shock if the Soviet Union continues to toy with them."

Dr. Michael Baker, head of the hospital's cancer treatment and research program, said Leah would probably be in the hospital for 10 days for tests and to begin chemotherapy. He said she had multiple tumors in her skin and possibly her bones and is being treated with heparin for a blood clot in her leg. Baker noted that Alexander, who is also ill, has refused treatment deferring all attention in favor of his wife.

Eugene Katz said about the Maryasins, "It was a 15-year struggle but then the most important thing was not to give in to the nogooodniks." Mara Katz asked if she was angry that it took so long to free her sister, answered, "I'm overwhelmed with anger. Why did they keep them? What kind of criminals were they that they kept them?"

Outside his wife's hospital room Alexander Maryasin told the Canadian Jewish News "It is very important for future generations to learn about the USSR. It's very important for people to go there." He added that he was very concerned about the Jewish community he left behind in Riga whose cultural activities he coordinated.

#### SENTENCING OF POLLARD POSTPONED

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Sentencing of Jonathan Pollard, a former U.S. Navy civilian intelligence analyst who has pleaded guilty to spying for Israel, which was to have taken place Tuesday has been postponed until March 4.

The delay was at the request of the lawyers for Pollard, who could be sentenced to a maximum of life imprisonment. Also to be sentenced is his wife, Anne Henderson Pollard, who has pleaded guilty to conspiring to receive embezzled government property and faces up to 10 years in prison.

Both Pollards entered their pleas last June before Chief Judge Aubrey Robinson Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Pollard has been in federal prison in Petersburg, Va., while his wife has been free on bail.

While Pollard has admitted to receiving \$2,500 a month for his espionage activities, he has maintained in interviews and a letter to a Boston doctor that he is a "loyal son" of Israel and acted when he discovered that a "new generation of ultra-sophisticated military equipment" was going to the Arab countries without Israel being told about this new danger in its security.

Meanwhile, it was reported Tuesday that the Justice Department may move against four Israelis implicated in the Pollard espionage case which Israel has officially called a "renegade" operation.

The Justice Department has reportedly told Avi Sella, a senior Israel Air Force commander, who was identified as Pollard's first "handler," that he may be indicted.

The Justice Department is also planning to revoke the diplomatic immunity of three other Israelis involved with Pollard--Rafael Eitan, a former terrorism advisor to Israeli Premiers; Joseph Yagur, a former science consul at the Israel Consulate in New York, and Irit Erb, a former secretary at the Israel Embassy here.

None are expected to stand trial. But if they return to the U.S. they would be subject to arrest.

#### BUDGET DISPUTE CONTINUES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Tuesday that the dispute between Labor and Likud over budgetary allocations to kibbutzim, development towns and Jewish settlements in the West Bank was delaying the government's presentation of its 33 billion Shekel (\$23.8 billion) national budget to the Knesset.

The budget, approved by the Cabinet, was to have gone to the Knesset for a vote last week. But the Labor Party said it would not support the budget unless Likud members of the Knesset Finance Committee supported a Treasury-approved plan to ease the 266 million Shekel (\$193 million) debt burden of the Labor-affiliated United Kibbutz Movement.

Likud countered with demands that the same concessions be applied to development towns and West Bank settlements. This triggered demands from other parties such as the Agudat Israel and Shas which want 30 million Shekels (\$22 million) for their affiliated yeshivas. The West Bank settlers are asking for an immediate infusion of 47.5 million Shekels (\$35 million) and more later.

**INNA MEIMAN DEAD AT 54**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Inna Meiman of Moscow, who was allowed to go abroad last month for treatment of a tumor on her neck, died Monday in the Lombardi Cancer Research Center of Georgetown University Hospital. She was 54 years old. She had refused to leave the Soviet Union earlier because her husband, Naum, a refusenik since 1975, was not allowed to accompany her.

Meiman was admitted to the hospital on January 20 and was undergoing tests for the start of chemotherapy. When she applied to go abroad, she said she wanted to undergo specialized radiation treatment, her only hope for survival. The Soviets granted Meiman a temporary visa for one year's stay.

The Soviets would not allow her husband to come with her and had turned down his visa request on grounds of knowing "state secrets." He is also characterized as a dissident by dint of his membership in the now disbanded Moscow Helsinki monitoring group.

Dr. Gerald Batist of Montreal, a research oncologist and founder of the International Cancer Patients Solidarity Committee, said at the time Inna and Naum were both seeking to leave the USSR together that it was extremely important that the couple remain together in face of Inna's critical medical condition.

**'I Haven't Come . . . To Die'**

When she arrived in Washington last month, Inna Meiman described her own prognosis as "very grim." But, she added, "I haven't come to America to die; I have come to recover and to help others to get out of the Soviet Union."

Admitting that she had left the USSR, and her husband, with mixed emotions, Meiman said she was "delighted" to help others to leave and to prove "We are not slaves but people with rights." She added that she was also dismayed that her husband, her son and his family were not permitted to join her. "My arriving alone shows how bad things are in the Soviet Union. People are just desperate. If I had been allowed to come three years ago, my chances would be better."

Last December, Sen. Gary Hart (D. Colo.) met in Moscow with top Soviet officials, including Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and raised the issue of about 12 people who wanted to emigrate, among them cancer patients with relatives in the West. High on the Senator's list was Inna Meiman, whose husband's daughter, Olga Plum, lives in Boulder, Colo.

Shortly afterwards, the Soviet Foreign Ministry confirmed to U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hartman that Inna would be permitted to leave but had no comment about Naum being allowed to accompany her. Inna, a teacher of English, was married to Naum, a mathematician, in 1981.

**'Lived And Died In Great Dignity'**

Commenting on the tragedy of Inna's plight and death, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry said Tuesday:

"We remember Inna Meiman, a brave friend, with sadness and great anger. For over three years, Soviet authorities repeatedly and cruelly denied her a medical visa to seek treatment abroad for cancer. Permission was granted deliberately only at the very end, three weeks before she expired. Her long-suffering husband himself

refused emigration for 12 years, now is forcibly separated from his beloved wife even in death. The true, inhumane anti-Jewish policy of the Kremlin is again revealed."

Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said that for years, friends in the United States, Israel and other Western countries "implored the Soviet authorities to allow Meiman permission to travel outside the USSR for medical treatment. Unfortunately, permission was granted when her condition became untreatable. Meiman's death is all the more poignant in the knowledge that she died thousands of miles away from her husband. Inna Meiman lived and died in great dignity. To the last, her thoughts were with her husband and all her fellow Jews in the Soviet Union who struggle for freedom."

**SHARANSKY NAMED GOLDA MEIR FELLOW**

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Natan Sharansky (who has changed the spelling of his last name from Shcharansky) was one of 35 scientists and scholars from throughout the world and Israel recently named Golda Meir Fellows at the Hebrew University. Sharansky received the fellowship award at the recent third annual Golda Meir Fellowship Awards Assembly.

Speaking on behalf of all of the award recipients, Sharansky described the great difference between scientists in the Soviet Union, who must sacrifice their own convictions, and scientists in democratic countries like Israel, with freedom of expression.

Sharansky, a mathematician and computer scientist, will devote the year of his fellowship to his research and to work on his memoirs. The resources of the university's Marjorie Mayrock Center for Soviet and East European Research will be made available to him for his work.

The Golda Meir Fellowship program was created as a living memorial to the late Israeli Prime Minister as a way of attracting outstanding university graduates and postgraduates from throughout the world to pursue research and study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

More than 80 Golda Meir Fellowships have been awarded since the program was inaugurated three years ago, with the Fellowships going to lecturers, post-doctoral scholars and graduate students from some 15 countries and Israel.

**BASKETBALL FANS LEFT IN THE DARK AFTER TV TECHNICIANS GO ON STRIKE**

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10 (JTA) -- Insult was heaped on injury for Israel's hundreds of thousands of basketball fans, and other viewers, when striking technicians blacked out television Tuesday night after cutting short the live, via satellite, transmission of the National Basketball Association All-Star game from the U.S. in the wee hours of Tuesday morning.

The technicians said their wildcat strike was to protest the earlier suspension of Zion Swiri, chairman of their workers committee, for "pulling the plug" on the basketball match. Swiri said he was simply abiding by Histadrut's agreement with the Broadcast Authority management stipulating the maximum number of hours the technical staff should work.

Israel television normally goes off the air at midnight. The basketball game ran into overtime.