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**DAILY NEWS BULLETIN**

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**RABIN: WOULD NOT OBJECT IN PRINCIPLE  
TO EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS FOR ISRAELI  
SOLDIERS HELD CAPTIVE IN LEBANON**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin indicated Monday that he would not "object in principle" to a prisoner exchange deal for Israeli soldiers held captive in Lebanon.

"IDF soldiers who are sent to attack the enemy should know that the State of Israel is behind them, not only in words, but also in deeds -- if there is no other military option," Rabin told reporters during a visit to Ashdod.

"I cannot say that I will object in principle to (such) deal. No government in Israel has ever objected," he said, noting that when there is no military option to release prisoners and kidnap victims, there is the option of "deals."

Israel has made clear, however, that it will not release 400 convicted prisoners as demanded by the Islamic Jihad, an extremist group in Lebanon, for the lives of three Americans and one Indian national kidnapped in Beirut last month. There were hints that Israel might negotiate for the freedom of an Israel Air Force navigator taken prisoner by the Shiite Amal militia after his plane was shot down over Lebanon last October.

In 1985, Israel freed 1,500 prisoners, including convicted terrorists, in exchange for three Israeli soldiers held captive in Lebanon.

**KNESSET PANEL VOTES TO REVOKE  
KAHANE'S MAILING PRIVILEGES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The Knesset House Committee voted unanimously Tuesday to revoke the franking privileges of Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach Party and its sole Knesset member.

The Committee acted on the request of Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein who cited many complaints that Kahane was using his free mailing privilege to disseminate racist propaganda and intimidate Israeli Arabs.

The decision has to be confirmed by the Knesset plenum. It is expected to be endorsed by an overwhelming majority. But Kahane told the Committee Monday that he would continue his mailings at Kach Party expense if his franking privilege was withdrawn.

A sample of Kahane's mail shown to the Committee was a warning to Arabs that "If you wish to remain in this country you must give up your Israeli citizenship and any hope of equality with Jews."

**REAGAN ADMINISTRATION WILL TRY  
TO PERSUADE SHAMIR TO CONSIDER AN  
INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration will try to persuade Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who arrived in Washington Tuesday, to consider an international conference if it would lead to direct negotiations.

"The United States believes it is important to explore all possible approaches to direct negotiations, to see whether any of these, including an international conference, would lead immediately to direct negotiations," a senior Administration official said Tuesday.

Shamir said last Thursday in Israel that he will try to dissuade the U.S. from considering an international conference, a position in which he differs with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres with whom he traded jobs last October as part of the national unity government agreement.

This is Shamir's first visit to Washington since becoming Premier, although he was here several times as Foreign Minister. His last visit as Premier under the old Likud government was in November 1983.

The Administration official, briefing reporters on the Shamir visit, called him an "old friend" who was here to renew his "already close personal relationship" with President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz.

**Topics Of Discussion**

Shamir met with Shultz shortly after his arrival and then held a second meeting with Shultz in the afternoon. He is scheduled to have a breakfast meeting with Shultz Wednesday before going to the White House for a meeting and working lunch with Reagan.

The U.S. official said topics of discussions during Shamir's three-day visit here include U.S.-Israel relations, the peace process, the Israeli economy, Soviet Jewry and international terrorism.

The Iran arms deal and the case of Jonathan Pollard, the former civilian Navy employee who has confessed to spying for Israel, are expected to come up, but neither will be "an important focus of the discussions," the official stressed.

He said the U.S. "understands" the positions of both Shamir and King Hussein of Jordan on an international conference. Hussein has said that he needs an international conference as an "umbrella" for talks with Israel.

Shamir charged last week that an international conference is an "Arab-Soviet idea" where Israel would be isolated and subject to demands that it return to its 1967 border.

**Views On An International Conference**

State Department deputy spokesman Phyllis Oakley said Friday that any international conference "would have to be agreed to by the parties themselves. Whatever the format it should lead immediately to direct negotiations and should not interfere with those negotiations."

This position was reaffirmed by the Administration official Tuesday. "We are convinced that face-to-face discussions on the hard issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict and proposals for their peaceful resolution is the only way to achieve a peace that will be lasting and fair to all the parties," he said.

Peres has argued that an international conference is the only way to bring Jordan into the negotiations. However, as for Hussein's demand that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council participate, Peres has stressed that the Soviet Union could not

participate in Mideast peace talks until it restores diplomatic relations with Israel and allows Soviet Jews to freely emigrate.

This is the same position taken by the U.S. and reconfirmed by the Administration official Tuesday.

However, he stressed that a Jordanian delegation to negotiations with Israel would have to include Palestinians. He noted that the makeup of the Palestinian representatives is one of the issues being discussed. Israel has made it clear it will not talk to members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The official noted that Shamir, as have previous Israeli leaders, is expected to urge the Administration to make it mandatory that Soviet Jewish emigrants go directly to Israel and not be free to immigrate to the U.S. But the official said the U.S. still supports the position of "freedom of choice."

The official confirmed that Israel, like Japan and Australia, has been given the status of "official major non-NATO ally." This will allow Israel to bid on Defense Department research and development contracts. Given Israel's "high technological capabilities" it should be in a "good position to compete" for these contracts, the official said.

#### DEMJANJUK TRIAL CONTINUES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- An historian of the Holocaust, Dr. Yitzhak Arad, presented a detailed description of the "death factory" at Treblinka Tuesday, the second day of the trial of John Demjanjuk, the alleged Treblinka guard accused of war crimes.

Arad, the director of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, told the Jerusalem District Court how nearly 900,000 Jews were put to death in the gas chambers. At the height of the operation, some 15,000 victims were killed at Treblinka every day.

At one point, Arad said, the three gas chambers at the extermination camp were unable to cope with the load and many victims died of exposure and other causes while they were kept waiting in packed railroad freight cars.

The three-judge court overruled an objection by Demjanjuk's American attorney, Mark O'Connor, that the history of the Holocaust should not be presented at the trial. But the case hinges on the positive identification of Demjanjuk, a Ukrainian-born former automobile worker in Cleveland, Ohio, as the Treblinka guard known to inmates as "Ivan the Terrible" because of his brutality.

O'Connor contends that the accused is not the Treblinka Ivan and in fact never was in Treblinka. According to the defense, Demjanjuk became a German prisoner of war in 1942 and "at no time during the war was he at any concentration or extermination camp."

#### Not Much Interest In The Proceedings

The trial opened Monday in a converted movie house, but the 300-seat hall was not full, Haim Guri, Israel's national poet, reported in Davar Tuesday. He noted that this was in stark contrast to the trial here in 1961 of Adolf Eichmann, the principal organizer of the "Final Solution," the mass murder of European Jews.

Guri suggested in his commentary that Israel may be too involved with itself and its current problems to bear the pain of re-living the Holocaust. Labor MK Shevah Weiss, a Holocaust survivor and, like the defendant, born in the Ukraine, attended the opening of the trial. "I was in shock. I imagined him (Demjanjuk) killing, butchering, strangling," he told reporters afterwards, recalling his childhood ordeal hidden away with his immediate family by "Righteous Gentiles" while other relatives were murdered.

But Weiss admitted to doubts as to whether the man in the prisoner's dock was indeed "Ivan the Terrible." Whereas "there was no uncertainty" about Eichmann's guilt, "now the uncertainty eats away at me," he said.

#### BEVERLY MINKOFF DEAD AT 60

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held Monday for Beverly Minkoff, the immediate past president of Women's American ORT and a vice president of the World ORT Union. She died Sunday after a long illness. She was 60 years old.

Minkoff joined American Women's ORT in the early 1950's and became president of the Long Island region in 1965. In 1967 she was named to the national executive committee of the organization and from 1979 through 1983 she served as its national president.

A native of New York, Minkoff was a graduate of Ohio University where she earned a B.S. in education. Her undergraduate work and interest in world history led to her initial interest in the ORT programs.

During her long career in the Jewish community, Minkoff was vice chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, a member of the Board of Trustees of Bramson ORT Technical Institute, an executive committee member of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, immediate past president of the Leadership Conference of Major Jewish Women's Organizations, and the Women's American ORT delegate to Non-Governmental Operations of the United Nations.

#### TWO HISTORIC MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Two major international Jewish organizations will hold their executive committee meetings in Budapest within a month of each other, spokespersons for the World Jewish Congress and the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture reported here. They noted that this was unprecedented, marking the first such gatherings in a Communist country in Eastern Europe. The WJC meeting is May 6 to May 9. The Memorial Foundation meeting is June 30 to July 2.

Israel Singer, WJC secretary-general, who with executive director Elan Steinberg just returned from Budapest, said the Hungarian government had agreed to the meeting and to participation of all members of the WJC executive, including those from Israel.

"Senior members of the World Zionist Organization, as members of the WJC executive, will participate in the meetings, as will representatives of Jewish communities from around the world," Singer said. "This agreement represents a significant breakthrough which we expect can have an impact not only on Jewish relations with the

Eastern bloc, but on the general state of East-West relations as well."

Jerry Hochbaum, executive director of the Memorial Foundation, said the Hungarian government agreed to the meeting of his organization following correspondence by Philip Klutznick, Foundation president, with Imre Miklos, Rumanian Minister of Cults.

Hochbaum noted that the Foundation has been active in Budapest since 1965. It has supported the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest -- the only one of its kind in Eastern Europe -- and has helped train more than 30 rabbis and five cantors. These rabbis and cantors now serve Jewish communities throughout Hungary, as well as Riga, Moscow, East Berlin, Leningrad and Prague. The Foundation also supports the Gymnasium, a Jewish high school in Budapest, and the Yeshiva Ketana there.

Klutznick pointed out that the Foundation "has a deep, historic connection with Jewish communities in Eastern Europe in the countries where we are permitted to work." The Foundation has supported educational, cultural and religious programs in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia, he said. The largest and most varied of these programs is currently in Hungary.

At its meeting, the Foundation will join with the Hungarian Jewish community in an examination of the impact of the Foundation's help and will discuss new initiatives in the area of Jewish education in the country, Hochbaum said.

The WJC Congress, at its meeting, will consider Jewish concerns ranging from the issues of anti-Semitism to interfaith relations, according to Edgar Bronfman, WJC president. The organization's leadership is scheduled to hold discussions with government officials on matters of mutual concern, he added.

The Central Board of Hungarian Jews, which will receive the WJC leaders for the three-day meeting, has been a member of the WJC since 1980 when it was granted permission by the government to affiliate.

#### INNA MEIMAN REMEMBERED FOR HER STRENGTH AND VITALITY

By Judith Colp

CHEVY CHASE, Md., Feb. 17 (JTA) --Soviet refusenik Inna Meiman was remembered for her strength and vitality as friends and admirers gathered for her funeral Tuesday in Chevy Chase, just outside Washington. Meiman, who had been allowed to go abroad for treatment of a tumor on her neck, died February 19.

Meiman's son, Lev Kitrosski, was permitted to leave the Soviet Union on a temporary basis to attend his mother's funeral. He missed the services but arrived in time to lead the procession to the gravesite. Meiman's step-daughter, Olga Plum, of Boulder, Colorado, also attended the services.

Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, told the audience that Meiman was a "very special person whose kindness and cheer even under adversity were infectious."

Ann Garrels, an NBC State Department correspondent who was formerly in Moscow, remembered Meiman, an English teacher, as a woman who "wrestled with giants . . . and refused to become a nonperson."

"She loved to teach her ever growing circle of friends, and although her prognosis was grim, she wouldn't give up," Garrels said. "And she never expected anyone to do it for her."

Meiman refused to leave the Soviet Union earlier because her husband, Naum, a refusenik since 1975, had not been allowed to accompany her.

"We gather together to remember the destruction of that one woman and her family will never be what it might have become," said Jerry Goodman, Executive Director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Also attending Meiman's funeral were Sens. Paul Simon (D. Ill.) and Timothy Wirth, (D. Colo.) Former Sen. Gary Hart (D. Col.), who had intervened on Meiman's behalf during a visit to the Soviet Union in December, did not attend the funeral but sent remarks that although Meiman had lost a personal battle to cancer she had won many more battles than she lost."

#### BRONFMAN LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO EASE POLARIZATION IN ISRAEL AND DIASPORA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Canadian Jewish industrialist Charles Bronfman believes that imaginative cultural approaches can ease the polarizations which plague Jewish life in Israel and the diaspora and has put up a substantial sum of money to prove it.

At a press conference here Tuesday, Bronfman launched the CRB Foundation to finance theatrical groups, festivals and mass communications events aimed at bridging the religious-secular, Sephardic-Ashkenazic and Israel-diaspora gaps. Close to five million Shekels will be available for the first year's projects and "if we do the job, that amount will grow," he said.

The foundation's Hebrew name is "Karev," an acronym of the donor's initials which spells the Hebrew word "to draw close" and thus expresses its theme. Bronfman said the fund should serve as a catalyst to spur individuals to come up with novel ideas. He stressed the need to reach out to the younger generation.

The initial projects to be advanced by CRB include theater in development towns, sponsored by Tel Aviv's Tzedek Theater; street theater competitions run in coordination with the Israeli Festival; an institute for the study of Israeli economic policy in coordination with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University; and a Jewish culture festival to mark Israel's 40th anniversary in 1988.

#### VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN THE GAZA STRIP

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- An Israeli policeman wounded a 16-year-old Palestinian girl in the leg when he opened fire on a crowd after his vehicle was stoned in the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis Tuesday. The policeman said he fired into the air to disperse the stone-throwers and then fired at their feet.

The incident was the latest in the wave of unrest that has swept the Gaza Strip and West Bank since last Thursday.

A passenger in an Egged bus was injured by rocks thrown at the vehicle south of Hebron Tuesday. Stones were thrown and tires were burned in roadways throughout the administered territories.

## NJCRCAC LEADER SAYS VIEW OF U.S. JEWISH COMMUNITY AS A SINGLE-ISSUE COMMUNITY IS A 'MISPERCEPTION'

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Feb. 17 (JTA)-- Calling characterizations of the American Jewish community as a single-issue community a "misperception," Michael Pelavin, chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRCAC), charged that members of Congress "doubt whether Jewish community relations agencies are prepared to press vigorously on the other gut issues of concern to the Jewish community."

Addressing a session of the NJCRCAC plenum at the Bonaventure Hotel, attended by more than 500 delegates, Pelavin faulted political action committees and other single-issue organizations for contributing to the misconception, but also asserted that the Jewish community relations field leadership has not forcefully advocated their full agenda.

"The American Jewish community relations field does not limit itself to a single issue," he said. "The issue is not whether we advocate a single-issue agenda; the issue is the forcefulness of our advocacy of that total agenda."

Pelavin asserted that "No one would deny, or even wish to deny, the primacy of Israel for the Jewish community relations field and the American Jewish community." Yet, so far as Congress, the White House, and the media are concerned, "American Jewry has only one button -- and that is Israel," he declared.

When the "litmus test" for Jewish support is perceived by political candidates as restricted to Israel, Pelavin said, "it significantly undermines our effectiveness in acting on the other gut issues of the Jewish community."

### Role Of The PACs

He stated that PACs "enhance the influence and leverage of the Jewish community if used properly." Recognizing that "PACs must, by their very nature, concentrate on those core issues that bring together the largest number of contributors in a common cause," Pelavin criticized PACs for limiting themselves solely to the issue of Israel, while ignoring the other gut issues of the Jewish community.

"I do not believe that the overwhelming majority of the Jewish community would condone PACs giving support to any member of Congress who showed the slightest taint of anti-Semitism, no matter how vigorously that Senator or Congressman supported Israel," he said.

"But I also suggest that the great majority of the Jewish community would question whether it is in the best interests of the Jewish community for PACs to support those Senators or Congressmen who would undermine the separation of church and state or, more broadly, the bill of rights, notwithstanding their position on Israel."

He contended that, at a minimum, PACs also should respond to threats to Soviet Jewry, threats of anti-Semitism, threats to the separation of church and state, and threats to the Bill of Rights.

Pelavin called upon Jewish community relations leaders "to play a much more active role in educating the leaders of the 70 or more Jewish PACs" to evaluate a candidate's stance regarding

these issues, in addition to Israel, "in determining whom they should support."

Pelavin also urged Plenum delegates to encourage "the active involvement of Jews as individuals in the mainstream of American life." By doing so, he said, "the Jewish community also will be responsive to the total agenda of American society."

## MARYASIN'S CONDITION IS BETTER THAN FIRST BELIEVED

By Mark Dodick

Staff Writer, Canadian Jewish News

TORONTO, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The condition of recently released long-time refusenik Leah Maryasin is much better than doctors here first believed. Physicians at Toronto General Hospital originally feared that Maryasin, 61, was suffering from multiple myeloma upon being admitted last week. However, Dr. Michael Baker, head of the hospital's cancer treatment and research program, said that original diagnosis has been changed.

Baker told The Canadian Jewish News that Maryasin is suffering from skin plasmacytomas, a much more common variant of the disease. She can be treated with oral medication, and is expected to enjoy several years of good health, he said. Baker added that Maryasin, who could not walk when she came to the hospital because of a blood clot in her leg, is responding to treatment and is now beginning to take a few steps.

Maryasin's brother-in-law, Eugene Katz, said the family expected her to be released from the hospital this week. Her husband, Alexander, 62, and daughter, Faina, are beginning to adjust to their new life here, though the process would take time, Katz said. After 15 years of refusal, the Maryasins were finally allowed to leave the Soviet Union and arrived in Montreal two weeks ago. Last week, the family was reunited with relatives in Toronto, Eugene Katz and his wife Mara who fought for their release.

## U.S. NAVAL OFFICER GETS JNF AWARD

By Susan Birnbaum

HAIFA, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Rear Admiral Grant Sharp, commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet whose flagship, the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy, was anchored at Haifa last week, received a plaque from the Jewish National Fund of America and a promise by the JNF to plant 100 trees in honor of the Sixth Fleet in the American Independence Forest outside Jerusalem.

Grant reciprocated by presenting a plaque to the JNF expressing thanks for its support of the U.S. Navy. It was accepted by Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, JNF national president, on behalf of the delegates attending the JNF's Third National Assembly in Israel. The Admiral also invited the delegates to tour the giant carrier.

The JNF group was plainly delighted. "How proud we are to see our flag flying in Haifa Bay," Sternstein said. "How proud we are of our country, and to be able to see the U.S. Navy in our homeland."

Sharp said in response, "It's been inspiring to see you all here and that you appreciate what we're doing. We are on a mission of peace. It is essential that our fellow Americans appreciate and understand our service."