

VOL. 65 - 70th YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1987

NO. 52

# **PERES: GOVERNMENT WILL ABIDE BY RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET PANEL EXAMINING THE POLLARD SPY CASE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the government would abide by the recommendations of the Cabinet-appointed committee examining the Jonathan Pollard spy case, even though it is not legally bound to do so.

Peres made the pledge in an address to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Hadassah here. He was referring to the two-man committee of inquiry into the government's involvement in the Pollard affair which began its work Tuesday. The panel consists of Yehoshua Rotenstreich, a prominent lawyer, and Gen. (Res.) Zvi Tsur, a former Chief of Staff.

Peres said he was confident that after they questioned the political echelon they would reach the conclusion that "we were in complete ignorance" of Pollard's activities.

He acknowledged that "unbearable mistakes" were made. It was a mistake, he said, to appoint former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation, and to give Air Force Col. Aviem Sella command of one of Israel's largest air bases. Peres was referring to the two senior Israeli officials most closely linked to Pollard's operations.

"We don't want American Jews to spy for Israel, so why create an impression that we are for it?" Peres asked. He stressed however that "there is nothing criminal to support Israel or to sympathize with Israel, whether you are Jewish or non-Jewish." But spying on a friendly country is a mistake, he added.

## **U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS U.S-ISRAEL MILITARY COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THE POLLARD CASE**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- U.S. Secretary of the Army John Marsh affirmed here Tuesday that the bonds of friendship and military cooperation between the U.S. and Israel are unaffected by the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

That affair should be seen "in the right perspective." It was "a small element compared to the overall strength of our alliance," Marsh told reporters after a meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He said that contrary to some reports, his visit to Israel at this time had nothing to do with the Pollard affair. "It is part of the continuing interest and effort of my country toward our commitment to this country," he said.

The main purpose of his visit, Marsh explained, is to study several matters of military interest, notably Israel's quick mobilization process which he called "very impressive" with lessons for the National Guard and the military reserves in the U.S.

Meanwhile, a visiting American Jewish leader said here Tuesday he was convinced the problems arising from the Pollard affair would "go away."

Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told reporters after meetings with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that he was encouraged by the appointment of two panels, one by the Cabinet and the other by the Knesset, to examine the matter.

Abram was critical of the advancement of two Israelis closely linked to Pollard's espionage activities -- Air Force Col. Aviem Sella and former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan. "I think that placing Col. Sella in command of that (Tel Nof) air base was a serious, and I might add, irresponsible, act. I also say that the Eitan act was damaging. . . It remains for the commissions to decide what ultimately should be done," Abram said.

He was referring to the appointment of Eitan to the chairmanship of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. However, Abram said he was sure the government would honor its pledge to hold those responsible "accountable." He said he was assured by Shamir that no government Minister knew of the Pollard spy operation.

Abram stressed that he was not here to tell the government what to do, nor were his remarks to be taken as a reflection of fear by the American Jewish community of fall-out from the Pollard affair. American Jewish leaders simply want to ensure that the close ties between Israel and the U.S. continue, he said.

The Pollard affair, "although a serious problem, is a blip that does not reflect the mainstream of American-Israeli relations," Abram said.

## **COSTA RICAN COURT ORDER WAR CRIMINAL EXTRADITED TO THE USSR**

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, March 17 (JTA) -- A superior court has cleared the way for the extradition to the Soviet Union of Bohdan Koziy, a native of the Ukraine who fled the United States for Costa Rica after being accused of war crimes, the World Jewish Congress reported.

Koziy was stripped of his American citizenship in 1982 following a trial in Florida in which eyewitness testimony described his murdering a Jewish family -- including the point-blank shooting of a four-year-old Jewish girl -- while a member of the Ukrainian police which operated under the Nazi occupation forces.

In June 1984, the U.S. Justice Department obtained a court order of deportation against Koziy, but he escaped to Costa Rica where the Soviets asked for his extradition to stand trial. A lower court had previously rejected the Soviet request, but the Superior Penal Tribunal of Alajuela reversed that decision and has ordered Koziy's extradition.

The WJC Congress released Justice Department documents -- obtained under the Freedom of Information Act -- showing that West Germany refused an American request that it ask for Koziy's extradition to stand trial.

The German diplomatic note conceded Koziy's participation in the killing but it refused to initiate extradition proceedings because it characterized the crimes as "manslaughter" rather

than murder because the killings could not be shown to have involved "cruelty, inequity, lust for murder, and base motives."

In San Jose, Public Prosecutor Roberto Steiner said the superior court's ruling could not be appealed. He added, however, that Koziy may not be handed over to the Soviets unless Moscow pledged that he would not be executed if convicted.

#### SEMI-OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN GROUP OFFERS TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND HUNGARY

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- A semi-official organization, the World Federation of Hungarians, has offered to act as intermediary between Hungary and Israel in the absence of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries, it was reported here Monday.

According to the report, Janos Rande, secretary general of the Federation who is visiting Israel as guest of the Foreign Ministry, made the offer to Yossi Beilin, Political Director General of the Foreign Ministry.

#### Commercial Ties With Hungary

Hungary, along with the Soviet Union and all other Eastern bloc nations except Rumania, broke diplomatic ties with Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War. But Israel maintains commercial relations with Hungary, more so than with any other Eastern bloc country, and these have expanded in recent years.

The World Federation of Hungarians, with the backing of the Budapest government, seeks to maintain ties with Hungarian emigrants all over the world. There are about 100,000 Jews of Hungarian origin in Israel. The Jewish population of Hungary numbers an estimated 62,000, the largest in Eastern Europe outside the Soviet Union.

Rande, a former Ambassador, will meet with Knesset members during his visit.

#### MAJOR CHANGE SEEN IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TOWARD JEWS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 17 (JTA) -- The introduction of modern Jewish history to the curriculum of candidates for the priesthood at the Vatican's Pontificia Universita Gregoriana reflects a major change in Church attitudes toward the Jews, according to the Israeli scholar who helped plan the courses.

Daniel Carpi, a professor of Jewish history at Tel Aviv University, was invited to inaugurate the new center of modern Judaic studies at the Gregoriana, the Vatican's major institution of higher learning. He spent time there as a visiting professor, preparing two course outlines, one in Jewish history of the 16th and 17th centuries and another on 19th and 20th century Jewish history.

The latter will include the *haskala* (Enlightenment), the Zionist movement, anti-Semitism and the evolution of Church attitudes toward the Jews during the past two decades.

Carpi noted that this was made possible in 1985 when the Vatican's committee on non-Christian faiths, headed by Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, decided to erase the notion that modern Jewish history was a non-subject.

Until then, Jewish studies at Gregoriana were limited to the Biblical period. Jews of later periods were perceived as being punished for not accepting the divinity of Jesus and therefore the history of those periods was not considered legitimate subject.

#### POLICE PROBING PETITION ON CONVERSION By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- The police are investigating a petition prepared by several *dayanim* (religious court judges) which challenges the right of the Supreme Court to rule on the registration of converts as Jews.

The petition, initiated by Rabbi Yosef Axelrod, refers to the case of Shoshana Miller, an American immigrant to Israel who was converted to Judaism by a Reform rabbi. It holds that the high court had no right to order the Interior Ministry to register Miller as a Jew because the case is of a purely religious nature.

Attorney General Yosef Harish ordered the police investigation to determine whether Axelrod could be charged with contempt of court.

#### Ruling Pending In Another Case

In another case involving the religious establishment, the Supreme Court has been asked to rule on the complaint of Leah Shakdiel, whose appointment to the Religious Council in the town of Yeroham was rejected by the Chief Rabbinate Council earlier this month on grounds that a woman cannot serve on such bodies. Her appointment has been held up for more than a year. Shakdiel appealed to the Supreme Court to order the Religious Affairs Minister to make the appointment.

#### ISRAEL DEFEATS CZECHS IN DAVIS CUP; WILL PLAY INDIA IN QUARTERFINAL

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- Israel's tennis fantasy continued to come true this weekend with its national team's 3-2 victory over the favored and highly rated Czech team in Hradec, Czechoslovakia, in Davis Cup international competition.

Israel has thus qualified for the quarterfinals for the 1987 cup, and will play India in July. Before this year's match with the Czechs, Israel had never before made the final round of 16 teams.

Israel's rising young tennis star Amos Mansdorf won both his singles matches. Last Friday, he surprised Miroslav Mecir, one of the world's five best players, 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. In the final and deciding match on Sunday he overcame Karel Novacek, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.

Israeli tennis veteran Shlomo Glickstein defeated Milan Srejber 7-5, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 3-2 (retired) on Friday. Israel's previous team victory, over Switzerland, also included a default, rare in Davis Cup competition. Glickstein lost to Mecir on Sunday 3-6, 1-6, 2-6.

Glickstein and Mansdorf lost in doubles on Friday to Mecir and Tomas Smid, 2-6, 6-4, 6-8, 6-8.

India has been designated the home team for its match with Israel, with the site of the match to be determined in about a month. India recently refused to allow an Israeli team to participate in an international table-tennis competition.

## MEMORIES IN A HOLOCAUST HOURGLASS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- The issue of whether Holocaust survivors, traumatized by the tragedy, can remember what really happened has become a focal point in the trial of John Demjanjuk in Jerusalem. His defense attorney, Mark O'Connor, is trying to pry the minutiae of their lives to show confusion, amnesia and marred recollections. He is pinning his hopes of exonerating Demjanjuk on memory lapses and inability to remember.

But it is this very inability to remember that is the product of the Holocaust's trauma, according to Eva Fogelman, a psychotherapist who works with Holocaust survivors and is research associate and board member of the Sands Point, New York, Jerome Riker International Study of the Organized Persecution of Children, which studies child survivors, plumbing the depths of hidden memories.

Fogelman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "the very act of giving testimony for some survivors is a traumatic experience in itself, and needs a supportive atmosphere with which to alleviate some of the pain and the horror. The court situation is by no means a supportive environment in which people can remember and recount traumatic experiences where they were dehumanized." To ensure accurate recall, she suggested that witnesses be seen privately by trained interviewers over several weeks before giving public testimony.

O'Connor has been chipping away at inconsistencies in the sworn testimony given by witnesses in the movie-theater-turned-courtroom in which more people than there is seating capacity turn out daily to wait to watch the trial, in person and on closed-screen television in an adjacent room. Radios in Israel are tuned in to the court proceedings wherever one goes, and witnesses are surely aware that their testimony is being heard by hundreds of thousands of people, and read about by millions throughout the world.

### Repression And Recollection

Fogelman, who has interviewed hundreds of survivors, said that "most survivors can begin to recount their experiences, and while they may not always remember specific chronology of events, the emotions and the memories, after several sessions, begin to make a coherent sequence of events. While it is true that in a one-time session there may be discrepancies between a survivor's recall of one event or another, over several sessions a survivor begins to feel and remember what had actually happened.

"One of the ways in which the survivors have coped over the years is by suppressing some of the painful experiences that they had. When they are asked to bear witness on a witness stand, for many of them, this is the first time that they are piecing it together. It is difficult under such a stressful environment, given the trauma that they have been trying to repress all these years, and it is understandable that in trying to recall it, there will initially be discrepancies in what they recall, because it has served them in a way of coping and adapting with their life after the Holocaust."

Thus, it is this very memory loss, subject of O'Connor's barbs, that has protected the survivors and enabled them to get on with their lives despite their degrading experiences.

Fogelman, who made a documentary film several years ago about children of Holocaust survivors, "Breaking the Silence," explained that "Blurring out the names of those killed makes them real again. It would be blasphemous to say that this is the reality of the survivor's memory if that memory has failed or if it doesn't come out right the first time, or if places are forgotten," she said. "It is not their actual memory.

"Memory has to do with emotions. It is not separated from that. Survivors should not be brought to the trial if this is the first time that they bear witness. Every recall evokes in the survivor intense feelings, whether they be anger or helplessness, or guilt that they were unable to do enough."

### Ways To Help The Witnesses

Milton and Dr. Judith Kestenberg, cofounders of the Riker Study, had much to say about the way in which witnesses could be helped immeasurably to positively identify Demjanjuk.

Milton Kestenberg, a researcher and also a lawyer, said, "As an attorney, I would bring in nine other Ukrainians in a lineup and I would ask the witness to observe them in the following way: I would ask them to say something, let's say in German or in Ukrainian, which would be tantamount to the curses or crude orders which this defendant allegedly made while in the concentration camp.

"Your memory is based on sounds, on movements of people, their facial expressions, and the total of it gives us the identity of a person, the way a person talks, the way a person gets mad, etc. Because without a lineup, the impressions might be misleading. But I would definitely require them to behave in such way as the witnesses remember the way the defendant allegedly behaved in the camp.

"There are two kinds of movement in a person," Kestenberg continued. "One is a gesture movement, which is typical for people from a certain background. A Ukrainian may move around differently than a Turk, for example. In addition, gesture movements are controllable. In other words, the defendant can deliberately move differently to mislead the witness.

"However, if there are posture movements-- a movement where the whole body is involved in the service of a certain pattern, for example -- if you show strength, if you use the strength easily in a gesture, in a posture it is very difficult to control it. It comes more naturally. The subject cannot be in full control of his postural movement, even if he would want to. And that's one way how you can recognize it."

### Recognizing The Subject

Dr. Judith Kestenberg, a psychoanalyst, said, "You can get up from a chair in a certain way; or you walk in a certain manner." Regarding the tone of voice, she observed, "There are two aspects of the way you talk: When you talk in your native language, there is a certain melody of speech that of course is native to its own language.

"But beyond this, you have an individuality, like a voice print, and that is very difficult to lose, even when you get older."

The Kestenbergs noted that a person can be recognized by his choice of words. But in Demjanjuk's case, Milton Kestenberg said, "It's probably not likely, because Demjanjuk is careful in his choice of words." They both emphasized the

fact that Demjanjuk has spoken in Hebrew, not his native Ukrainian, to greet the witnesses, and most particularly when he was angry.

Milton Kestenberg said it helps "if one can get him angry enough to respond in his own language. When Eliahu Rosenberg identified him as Ivan the Terrible, why did Demjanjuk call him a liar in Hebrew? Maybe he didn't want to say that in his own language," because that would have lent credence to the witness.

Dr. Kestenberg said she was "struck that when a person gets angry he should express it in an entirely foreign language, so it seems that he (Demjanjuk) may have done it for effect. Or maybe he was premeditatively doing something," mused Dr. Kestenberg.

When he spoke to another witness, said Milton Kestenberg, "He said 'Shalom' in Hebrew. Why?" Dr. Kestenberg said, "It looks like he's trying to show that he's friendly to Jews. He learns their language."

#### **A First In Connecticut's History: RABBI APPOINTED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION**

HARTFORD, March 17 (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of the State of Connecticut, a rabbi has been appointed to serve as a member of the prestigious seven-member State Ethics Commission which administers the code of ethics for all public officials, state employees and their families, candidates for public office, and lobbyists at the state level.

Rabbi Michael Menitoff, spiritual leader of 930-family-member Congregation B'nai Jacob in Woodbridge and Fellow of Ezra Stiles College of Yale University, was sworn in last week at the State House in Hartford following hearings of the Joint Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Highly regarded for his general and Jewish scholarship, the Conservative rabbi is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College, holds an M.A. from Columbia University, Bachelor of Jewish Education cum laude and Master of Hebrew Letters from Boston Hebrew College, Master of Hebrew Literature and rabbinic ordination from The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and a Ph.D. from UCLA.

Menitoff's career of public service includes work in a Harlem settlement house, volunteer Hebrew teaching of immigrants to Israel, the development and implementation of an educational enrichment program for the children of the Chippewa Indian Tribe in Northern Wisconsin, and the 1985 Columbus House Emergency Night Shelter Volunteer Service Award "for enabling homeless men and women to receive shelter, food, and companionship necessary to protect their lives and preserve their dignity."

He is perhaps best known in his former habitat of Southern California where he spent the first 15 years of his rabbinate as host of KABC-TV's popular weekly series "Rap with Rabbi Mike."

#### **INTERFAITH MEETING ON THE MEANING OF THE HOLOCAUST TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON NEXT DECEMBER 14-16**

ROME, March 17 (JTA) -- A mixed commission of Catholic and Jewish experts will hold a public seminar on the religious and existential

meaning of the Holocaust for Christians and Jews, to take place in Washington, D.C. next December 14-16, it was announced here Sunday. The mixed commission meets periodically under the auspices of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with Jews. The seminar will be the first of its kind since the mixed commission was founded in 1970. Its purpose is to counter claims by anti-Semites and neo-Nazis in Europe and America that the Holocaust never occurred.

The decision to hold the seminar was taken at a recent meeting of the Steering Committee comprising experts from the Vatican and the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC). The latter includes representatives of the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith, Israel Interfaith Association, the Synagogue Council of America and the World Jewish Congress.

#### **BORIS BEGUN NABBED AGAIN By Susan Birnbaum**

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- Boris Begun, son of freed Prisoner of Conscience Iosif Begun, was nabbed by Soviet police Monday after demonstrating in downtown Moscow for the freedom of other refuseniks, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ). Begun was detained along with Ella and Theodore Finkel, brother and sister refuseniks.

Boris Begun was threatened with a 15-day jail sentence last month for demonstrating on behalf of his father, who was then in prison. At the last minute, the Soviet authorities changed their tactics and refrained from incarcerating the younger Begun, and freed Iosif Begun from Chistopol Prison.

Their demonstration Monday was the first in a series this week of protests in the Soviet capital against the denial of exit visas. Others who have publicly declared that they will demonstrate this week are Michael Fuchs-Rabinovitch and Leonid Yusefovitch of Moscow, and Michael Baizer of Leningrad, who will go to Moscow to protest.

Meanwhile, a hunger strike continues in Moscow by former POC Lev Elbert of Kiev, who began his action March 5.

Women will demonstrate in Moscow at the national OVIR office on March 27 and 29, including many of the women who last week were on a hunger strike. The women's demonstrations are planned to coincide with the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

#### **UNUSUAL DISPLAY OF USSR-ISRAEL AMITY**

GENEVA, March 17 (JTA) -- An unusual display of amity between the Soviet Union and Israel occurred here Monday when Tass correspondent Vladislav Chichlo proposed Sari Rauber, correspondent for the Israeli newspaper Maariv, for membership in the committee of journalists accredited to the United Nations here.

Rauber returned the compliment by proposing Chichlo for membership. Both were elected unanimously to spontaneous cheers of delegates to the annual meeting of the United Nations Press Association.

Rauber is also Swiss correspondent for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, under the by-line Tamar Levy.