

**HERUT UNANIMOUSLY REELECTS SHAMIR, BUT OTHER PARTY LEADERS TO BE CHALLENGED**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir was unanimously re-elected leader of Herut at the party's convention here Sunday. There was no opposition. The proceedings were conducted in good order, in sharp contrast to the scene a year ago when the convention broke up in chaos before any ballots were cast and Shamir, then Foreign Minister, had to be escorted from the hall under a police guard for his own protection.

But rivalries continue to simmer and may become apparent when ballots for other key party posts are counted by early Monday morning. Shamir appealed to the 2,000 delegates to vote for the three incumbents, all Cabinet Ministers, and to spurn the Knesset members challenging them. The party has been fermenting since Menachem Begin resigned from political life in 1983.

Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy is seeking re-election as deputy chairman of Herut. He was opposed by Herut MK Meir Cohen-Avidov. Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon was opposed for the office of Central Committee chairman by MK Eli Ovadia who also is Mayor of Afula. MK Yoram Aridor challenged Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens for the post of chairman of the party Secretariat.

**No Negotiations With PLO**

Shamir, in a brief, impassioned speech, vowed that the administered territories would belong to Israel forever. He denounced any form of international conference for Middle East peace and reiterated that Israel would never, under any circumstances, negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Although Shamir seems firmly ensconced as party leader, the consensus among observers is that he will be challenged again whenever new Knesset elections are announced.

**HERZOG RAPPED FOR REDUCING SENTENCES OF 3 MEMBERS OF JEWISH UNDERGROUND**

JERUSALEM, March 29 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog came under fire from both the Israeli left and right Sunday after commuting the life sentences of three members of a Jewish underground to a maximum of 24 years in prison.

Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction, said that while he welcomed the President's move on Friday, the three should be pardoned immediately. The Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), at the opposite side of the political spectrum, said it would fight against pardons for members of the underground by every legal, parliamentary and public means.

The three prisoners, Menahem Livni, Shaul Nir an Uzi Sharabaf, were sentenced to life terms for the machinegun attack on the Islamic College in Hebron seven years ago in which three students were killed.

Former President Ephraim Katzir was critical of his successor. In an interview published in Haaretz Sunday, Katzir expressed concern that

some people might misinterpret the President's decision as forgiveness of Israelis who commit crimes against Arabs. The President should not have dealt with the prisoners' thoughts or motives but rather with the terrible results of their deeds, Katzir said.

**ISRAELI SUPREME COURT WON'T DELAY SCHOLAR'S TESTIMONY IN 'IVAN' TRIAL**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- The defense of alleged war criminal John Demjanjuk suffered a setback Sunday when the Supreme Court rejected an appeal to delay presentation of evidence by historian Wolfgang Scheffler.

The motion by defense counsel Mark O'Connor had been denied earlier by the three-judge panel hearing the case in Jerusalem district court. O'Connor argued that the defense needed more time to study the testimony Scheffler will present.

But the high court ruled that it could not intervene. The Supreme Court has yet to decide on another appeal by O'Connor calling on the district court judges to disqualify themselves because of alleged bias against the defendant and his attorneys.

Israel Radio reported Sunday that O'Connor expects to receive evidence from the U.S. that will disprove the authenticity of the so-called Trawniki document, the SS identification card issued at the Trawniki camp where Ukrainians were trained for duties at the Treblinka death camp.

The card, bearing the photograph and physical details of Demjanjuk, was obtained from the Soviet Union. According to the defense, it is a forgery. Demjanjuk is alleged to be the sadistic Treblinka guard known to inmates as "Ivan the Terrible." He claims he was a German POW during the war and never set foot near Treblinka.

**CARTER REBUKES ISRAEL FOR OCCUPATION OF TERRITORIES, PUSHES INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE INCLUDING SYRIA**  
By Gili Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 29 (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter spent his weekend meeting Palestinians, touring the West Bank and rebuking Israelis for their continued occupation of the territories. He spoke out strongly for an international conference on Middle East peace and insisted that Syria would be willing to participate.

He said he would recommend to the Reagan Administration that it support an international conference and that it talk to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Carter arrived here Thursday across the Allenby Bridge from Jordan, on the final leg of his Middle East tour. Earlier he had conferred with Egyptian officials in Cairo, Syrian President Hafez Assad in Damascus and King Hussein in Amman. The former President stressed repeatedly that he was travelling in private capacity and spoke for no one but himself.

Carter expressed his views at a closed meeting with Israeli academicians and newspaper editors at Tel Aviv University Sunday. Several of

those who attended said later he was outspokenly critical of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and more sanguine than most Israelis of Arab willingness to come to the peace table. Some of his questioners said he seemed much too optimistic about Assad's readiness to negotiate with Israel.

#### Full Schedule

Carter visited the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron Saturday and told reporters afterwards that the fact Jews and Arabs lived together in that West Bank town was no indication of possible co-existence in the entire territory. He noted the presence of armed Israeli soldiers at the Tomb, a shrine sacred to Jews and Moslems. "It is obvious that they (the Palestinians) are living in very unpleasant circumstances," he said.

Carter gave a reception Friday night in honor of 19 Palestinian leaders at the American Consulate in Jerusalem. He was later the dinner guest at the home of Dr. Yasser Obeid in Ramallah, the Jordanian official in charge of health services in the West Bank.

Carter lunched Saturday with Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem and on Sunday he visited the Agricultural Research Institution at Beit-Daggon and paid a call at the home of Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman in Caesaria.

On Sunday night he was the guest of Abdul Wahab Darawshe, an Arab Labor MK, at his home in Iskal village near Nazareth. Carter will receive an honorary degree from Haifa University Monday.

Last Friday, the former President was joined by his wife Rosalynn, who had spent an extra day in Jordan. Together they placed a wreath on the grave of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister.

#### CARTER REITERATES STAND THAT MIDEAST PEACE NEEDS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 29 (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter stressed Sunday that an international conference is the only way to move the peace process forward in the Middle East.

Carter, interviewed from Tel Aviv on NBC TV's "Meet the Press" at the conclusion of his Middle East visit, said there has been a "very significant move forward" in the area since his last visit there four years ago. He said Syrian President Hafez Assad told him he would negotiate with Israel in the context of an international conference, something he has previously rejected.

In addition, the Palestinians on the West Bank, Gaza and "perhaps" Yasir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization also have indicated a willingness to participate in such a conference, Carter said.

"I certainly understand the animosity that exists, the mistrust that exists between the Palestinian people and the Israelis," he said. "This is a matter that can only be overcome, in my judgment, by a comprehensive approach which is now possible, in my judgment, through an international peace conference."

Carter did not say whether such a conference should include the Soviet Union and the four other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, as King Hussein of Jordan has demanded. Both the Reagan Administration and Israel have rejected Soviet participation as long as the USSR does not have diplomatic relations

with Israel. Carter indicated a belief that Arafat is moving toward approval of Palestinians who are not leaders of the PLO to represent the Palestinians at an international conference.

"I've never met with Arafat and I don't know him," the former President said. "My understanding is that in the format of a peace process that is definitive in nature, that he is willing to do these things in order to be accepted as a spokesman for the Palestinians, or even so he can designate someone to represent him as a spokesman."

Carter was referring to the U.S. conditions that the PLO recognize Israel's right to exist and accept UN Security Council resolution 242 before the U.S. would recognize or negotiate with the PLO.

As President, Carter said he was "constrained" by these conditions which were first made as a commitment to Israel by President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Carter noted that the PLO has not yet met the conditions, but "when they do so in order to participate fully in an international peace conference" the U.S. should have "a meeting with the PLO leadership."

The former President defended his criticism of the Reagan Administration during his Mideast visit, noting he has been "much more reticent overseas than I have at home."

He explained that he did not disagree with the Administration's Mideast policy as expressed by President Reagan in his September 1, 1982 speech. But he criticized the Administration for its failure "to put Middle East peace as one of its high priorities."

#### Shows Understanding Of Israel

Carter rejected a suggestion that Israel has "abused its relationship" with the U.S. by the Iran arms deal and the Pollard spy case. He said he has talked with the people carrying out the government and Knesset investigations of the Pollard case in Israel and has been assured the probes will be thorough.

"I have urged the Israeli leaders to make the information public once the investigations are complete" to assure acceptance of the results in the U.S., Carter said.

The former President seemed to indicate understanding of Israel's effort on behalf of the U.S. in the Iran affair. "I certainly don't blame Israel for nurturing this alliance" with the U.S., he said.

#### REPRESENTATIVES OF ISRAEL, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC MEET AT UN, BUT NO BREAKTHROUGH SEEN IN RELATIONS

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- A spokesperson for Israel's Mission to the United Nations confirmed Sunday that a meeting took place at the UN between an Israeli senior official and a diplomat of the People's Republic of China.

The spokesman, Eyal Arad, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the meeting Friday between Avraham Tamir, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Li Luye, China's permanent representative to the UN, was held within "a UN context and not as a bilateral meeting between the two countries."

The meeting was reported in Beijing Saturday in a dispatch from the official New China News Agency. But Arad played down any special significance. "Beyond the fact that it's really

important that we meet, there is nothing extraordinary to this meeting," he said.

He stressed that Tamir and Li, who was President of the Security Council in February, held their talk within the framework of ongoing discussions in the Security Council on the Middle East peace process. No details were revealed.

Arad said he saw no direct connection between the UN talks and developments last week at the Asian-Jewish colloquium in Hong Kong, where it was revealed that hints had been dropped by the People's Republic that it would like its academicians to study Hebrew and Zionism at Western universities.

"We don't need to look at such meetings as unusual; they're becoming the norm," Arad said, explaining that they were "part of the normalization of Israel's position in international affairs. This normalization is something we have sought since the creation of the State."

Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel acknowledged on a radio interview in Jerusalem Friday that Israel was making efforts to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic. He said it was not on the verge of a breakthrough, but rather that there was "a breakthrough of paving the way."

Sources in Israel said the meeting between Tamir and Li was the first openly acknowledged contact between the two countries, although previous unpublicized meetings have taken place.

#### SELLA, MAJOR FIGURE IN POLLARD AFFAIR, RESIGNS COMMAND OF ISRAELI AIR BASE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- Col. Aviem Sella, one of two senior Israeli officials linked to the Jonathan Pollard spy case, announced Sunday his resignation as commander of the Tel Nof air base, a post to which he was appointed only a few weeks ago. It is Israel's second largest air base.

Sella stated in a letter to Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Amos Lapidot that he was relinquishing his command with regret in order to help preserve good relations between the governments of Israel and the United States and not to harm relations with the American Jewish community.

Anger in Washington and a storm of criticism by many in Israel greeted Sella's appointment to head the air base. It was announced only a day before Pollard was sentenced to life imprisonment for spying for Israel. Pollard confessed he was recruited by Sella, who gave him his espionage assignments.

Sella's letter of resignation was ratified by Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy and sent to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for final acceptance. Sella, a much decorated war hero, remains in the Air Force but his future assignment is unknown.

In addition to Sella's advancement, the U.S. was deeply disturbed by the appointment of former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan to the chairmanship of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. Eitan, former director of the Defense Ministry's scientific relations department, headed Pollard's spy unit, known as LEKEM, which has since been disbanded.

#### TWO JEWISH LEADERS OPTIMISTIC AFTER 3-DAY VISIT TO MOSCOW

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- Two American Jewish leaders returned Sunday from a three-day visit to Moscow during which they met with high government and Communist Party officials for what they described as a "candid discussion on the subject of Soviet Jews in all of its aspects." They said they were optimistic.

Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, also met with leaders and members of the local Jewish community before concluding their stay in Moscow Friday.

They stated that while they were satisfied with the mood in the streets, and tone of their discussions, "it would not be productive at this time to go into details." They agreed that "events of the next few months will tell whether the optimistic mood in which we returned is justified."

#### NETHERLANDS SUPPORTS OPENING OF UN WAR CRIMES ARCHIVES, SPOKESMAN SAYS

AMSTERDAM, March 29 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said Friday that The Netherlands supports the opening of the United Nations archives on war criminals to all member states of the UN and to private individuals and institutions engaged in serious research.

The archives were compiled between 1943-47 by the now defunct United Nations War Crimes Commission, Israel's request for access was denied last week by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on grounds that all but one of the Commission's 17 member states wanted them closed. The only dissenting country was Australia.

#### TERRORIST LINKED TO ROME AIRPORT BOMBING SENTENCED IN GREECE

ATHENS, March 29 (JTA) -- A Palestinian terrorist linked to the October 1982 bombing of the main synagogue in Rome was sentenced here to two years' imprisonment Friday, shortly after completing 19 months of a 20-month sentence for smuggling explosives into Greece.

Zomar Osana was convicted on charges of carrying an illegal weapon in jail while awaiting trial, attempting to escape and resisting a prison guard. But his sentence was seen by many here as another move by the government to avoid extraditing Osana to Italy where he would face possible life imprisonment if convicted of the synagogue attack which killed a two-year-old child.

His extradition was ordered by two appeals courts in 1984 and upheld by the Supreme Court in a unanimous decision. In March 1985, the Minister of Justice signed the extradition order. But three days later it was rescinded on grounds that Osana was under investigation for an attempted terrorist attack at Athens airport, notwithstanding that he was in jail at the time. A grand jury refused to indict him.

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AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- Donations from various sources allowed restoration work to begin on the dilapidated house in Rijnsburg, near Leyden, where Jewish philosopher Baruch Spinoza lived.

# NEW YORK UJA-FEDERATION WILL URGE JEWISH AGENCY REFORMS, AS AGENCY RAISES ALLOCATIONS TO NON-ORTHODOX By Andrew Machlin

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) — A committee of the UJA-Federation of New York has approved in principle a report that will commit the agency to work for the depoliticization and modernization of the primary beneficiary of its funds, the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Thus the largest fund-raising body of any single Jewish community will ask the Israeli quasi-governmental social service instrument to open its allocation procedures to allow for greater input from diaspora Jewry and increased funding for programs of the Conservative and Reform movements in Israel.

The report, drafted by a Jewishly heterogeneous ad hoc committee led by Rabbi Saul Tepitz of Congregation Sons of Israel in Woodmere, N.Y., also directs the UJA-Federation to strengthen its own Jewish Agency Committee and consider the committee's work to be "of highest priority."

That committee unanimously approved the thrust of the report Wednesday, and a subcommittee will be appointed to examine suggested modifications, none substantive, according to UJA-Federation executive vice-president Ernest Michel. He expects the report to be ready for the consideration, and approval, of the full UJA-Federation board in May.

## About \$70 Million

The UJA-Federation sends about 70 percent of the money it raises annually, after expenses, through the United Jewish Appeal and then the United Israel Appeal to the Jewish Agency, which disperses it to a variety of social service and educational programs in Israel. Last year that was about \$70 million, according to Michel. That sum is nearly 20 percent of the Jewish Agency's budget.

But the report contended that the variety of recipients was too narrow. "(T)he Jewish Agency allocates more to institutions and programs affiliated with various Orthodox groups than to those affiliated with Conservative and Reform groups," the report said. The latter two movements have been heatedly arguing that very point for several years.

The report found no "evidence of an overt policy of discrimination against any of the three religious movements by the Jewish Agency. However, the perception of inequity is not unfounded."

This disparity reflects Israeli society, according to the report, specifically that: one percent of the Israeli population is Conservative or Reform; the Orthodox-dominated "state-established religious system ... does not recognize the legitimacy of Conservative or Reform Judaism"; and that those movements don't have the power of the Orthodox political parties to influence Jewish Agency decisions.

The report committee, comprising six principal members of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform organizations, interviewed 46 leading Israelis from throughout the religious and political spectra from February 1-5.

The committee concluded that the Jewish Agency "functions in the world of a generation ago" and is most concerned with protecting the status quo. That old reality, the report asserted, was created "at a time when there was little

active participation in Israeli society by apolitical religious movements."

New requests for funds are lost in the Jewish Agency's bureaucratic shuffle or delayed "indefinitely for insufficient reasons," the report charged.

The 66-year-old Jewish Agency has undergone several reforms since 1971, when it formally separated its functions from those of the World Zionist Organization, the representative body of Zionist groups and a liaison between Israel and the diaspora.

WZO representatives continue to sit on Jewish Agency policy-making bodies, but the diaspora Jewry fund-raisers and program-planners are demanding and receiving improved fiscal accountability and a greater say. This was made official with the 1981 Caesaria Process.

## More Funds To Non-Orthodox

These reforms may explain a breakthrough of sorts for the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel. The Jewish Agency plans to allocate about \$2.5 million to their programs this year, Jewish Agency treasurer Akiva Lewinsky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Jerusalem Thursday.

That's more than five times what they received last year. Still, the programs of the Israeli Orthodox are to receive a reported \$30 million. Meanwhile, programs of American Orthodox institutions will receive a reported \$600,000.

Of the diaspora protesters, the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation (JCF) could be considered the loudest. Claiming the Jewish Agency isn't addressing JCF members' concerns, the JCF has taken the unique step of planning to donate \$100,000 directly to programs in Israel that stress intergroup and intragroup relations, bypassing the Jewish Agency. But JCF will continue to send more than \$8 million annually to the Jewish Agency.

Michel of the UJA-Federation stressed to the JTA that the San Francisco action had no bearing on his agency's report, that his agency has taken no official position on the action and that he and probably a majority of the UJA-Federation leadership disapprove of it.

Once ratified, the UJA-Federation report will be relayed to the Jewish Agency, where Michel anticipates a good reception. "They welcome a greater involvement," he said.

The report noted that the Jewish Agency "has the ability to change and to prepare for the years ahead" as demonstrated by the "initial positive response to requests from the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform movements."

## FORMER REFUSENIK MAGARIK CAMPAIGNING FOR RELEASE OF SON FROM SOVIET PRISON

AMSTERDAM, March 29 (JTA) — Vladimir Magarik, who left the Soviet Union for Israel in 1982, is visiting here this week to arouse public opinion to the plight of his son, Aleksei Magarik, now serving a three-year sentence in a Soviet labor camp for alleged possession of illegal drugs.

The younger Magarik, who had been teaching Hebrew clandestinely since 1978, was arrested last year at the airport at Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, and charged with carrying more than three grams of hashish. His imminent release was recently proclaimed by Samuil Zivs, a Soviet spokesman on Jewish affairs. But according to the older Magarik, his son continues to be imprisoned on false charges and is confined to an isolation cell.