

**SUPREME COURT TO CONSIDER KAHANE'S
APPEAL OF LOSS OF KNESSET PRIVILEGES**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court has agreed to consider an appeal by Kach Party leader Rabbi Meir Kahane against his loss of Knesset privileges for refusing to take the required oath of allegiance to the state.

Justice Menahem Elon decided Monday to refer the matter to a three-justice panel. No date was set for the hearing. At the same time, the high court rejected Kahane's application for an interim injunction against the stripping of privileges Monday by Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel.

Hillel ruled that Kahane and his staff may enter the Knesset building, but they will be barred from the plenary chamber and forbidden to participate in debates and committee sessions or to vote. Kahane will continue to receive his MK's salary.

Kahane mounted the podium Monday when summoned by Hillel to take the oath. He said the words, "I do so undertake," the standard response, but added, "to keep God's laws always and forever." Hillel ruled that he failed to make the requisite declaration and his status therefore is that of an elected MK who has not yet formally joined the House.

Several Mapam MKs petitioned Hillel to withdraw Kahane's status as a Knesset member because of his sworn testimony to a U.S. court that he never pledged loyalty to the State of Israel. Kahane gave that testimony to retain his American citizenship, which the U.S. authorities were seeking to revoke.

Kahane told reporters Monday that he was loyal to the state, but his loyalty to the Torah came first. He is considered unlikely, however, to gain much support from the Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox parties. Spokesmen for the religious parties pointed out that the votes he won in the 1984 elections were at the expense of Likud and Tehiya rather than the mainstream Orthodox factions.

**TOGO ANNOUNCES RESTORATION OF
DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 9 (JTA) -- Togo, a west African state, Tuesday restored diplomatic relations with Israel broken off since 1973. Togo is the fifth African country to renew diplomatic ties with Israel after Zaire, Liberia, Cameroon and the Ivory Coast.

The Togo official government party publication quoted President Gnassingbe Eyadema as having explained "such relations (with Israel) are now normal and natural after Egypt itself had restored them following the Camp David agreements. Togo, like the other African countries which severed ties with Israel, said at the time it did so out of "African solidarity with Egypt" and in order to protest Israel's occupation of African territory, the Sinai.

The official party statement said that the decision "conforms with our political principles based on dialogue, friendship and cooperation with

all the countries in the world." Togo, population three million, is one of the stablest and most prosperous African states. It renewed its economic ties with Israel several years ago and more than a dozen Israeli companies now run offices in its capital, Lome.

**BURG WANTS HIS DISSENT ADDED
TO KNESSET REPORT ON POLLARD**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 9 (JTA) -- The lone member of the Knesset intelligence subcommittee to dissent from its report criticizing the top political leadership for mishandling the Jonathan Pollard spy case has demanded that his conclusions be appended to the report submitted to the Knesset two weeks ago, Haaretz reported Tuesday.

Yosef Burg, of the National Religious Party, who was abroad during most of the seven-man subcommittee's deliberations, took issue with the majority view that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres bears most of the blame for the fiasco.

The subcommittee, chaired by Labor MK Abba Eban, singled out Peres because he was Prime Minister at the time Pollard was spying on the U.S. for Israel. Burg insists that ministerial responsibility must be equally divided.

"Whoever thinks differently is transforming (Premier Yitzhak) Shamir into a postal clerk who is not at liberty to change anything in the telegram he dispatches," Burg was quoted as saying by Haaretz. But he agreed with the subcommittee that the senior political echelons did not exercise adequate supervision and the lower echelons did not report properly.

Meanwhile, the management of Israel's educational television is reported to be ready to cancel this week's Bible commentary program which contains an allegorical reference to the government's responsibility in the Pollard affair.

The commentary was taped several days ago by Prof. Yeshayahu Liebowitz, an Orthodox Jewish philosopher with liberal views on politics and ethics. He claims that Moses was buried in the wilderness not because he sinned but because the nation had sinned. Moses took ministerial responsibility upon himself "as opposed to today's stupid and wicked leaders," Liebowitz said.

Educational television is expected to decide shortly whether the commentary will be aired this Friday.

KNESSET PANEL TO ENTER LAVI FRAY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 9 (JTA) -- The Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee will join the Cabinet debate over the future of the Lavi project, and a long joint session with the Finance Committee is also anticipated, Yediot Achronot reported Tuesday.

The Cabinet has already held three sessions devoted to the Lavi, Israel's second-generation jet fighter plane. Officials of the Defense Ministry and senior Israel Defense Force officers participated in the meeting last Sunday. The IDF has charged the Lavi is diverting funds from other advanced weapons systems urgently needed to

maintain Israel's qualitative edge in a future war. Yossi Sarid, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, was quoted by Yediot Achronot as saying it was his responsibility as a Knesset member to inform the public what weapons are not being developed and produced because of the Lavi.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who supported the project until now, was stunned by facts presented by the IDF and the Finance Ministry, the paper said. According to a classified document presented to the Premier, the final cost of the Lavi will be double that of the American-made F-16's.

The document, acquired by MK Dedi Tzaker, said new taxes would have to be imposed if the Lavi gets the green light from the government.

It estimates the cost of halting the project now would not exceed \$400 million, Yediot Achronot reported.

Hadashot meanwhile quoted a senior defense source as saying that the IDF General Staff is not making prudent use of U.S. military aid to Israel. According to the source, some \$300 million of the budget remains unused at the New York office of the Defense Ministry's procurement delegation.

The delegation has been waiting for months for instructions from the IDF while the funds remain in the "frozen assets" section of the budget, the paper claimed.

RULING EXPECTED WEDNESDAY ON WHETHER ISRAELIS CAN BE FORCED TO TESTIFY BEFORE A GRAND JURY ON ARMS SALE
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 9 (JTA) --A federal district court judge here is expected to rule Wednesday whether David Kimche, former Director General of the Israel Foreign Ministry, can be forced to testify before a grand jury investigating the Iran-Contra affair.

Judge Aubrey Robinson Jr. allowed Kimche to return to Israel last May 1 after he had received a subpoena from Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor in the Iran-Contra investigation.

Kimche, who was involved in the secret United States arms shipments to Iran, was served with the subpoena during a visit to New York. The Israel government immediately sought to quash the subpoena before Robinson, arguing that Kimche had diplomatic immunity and should not have to testify before the grand jury.

Israel also contends that three other Israelis, for whom Walsh issued subpoenas last week, should not have to testify before the grand jury since they were acting on behalf of the Israel government in their participation in the sale of arms to Iran.

One of the subpoenas was served in Tel Aviv last week to Al Schwimmer, a businessman who holds dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship. However, the subpoenas for the other two, Yaacov Nimrodi, an arms dealer, and Amiram Nir, a former counter-terrorism specialist in the Israeli government, can be served if they come to the U.S.

Israeli officials are angry over the subpoenas since they believe their issuance violates the agreement with Congress that no Israelis would be called to testify and in return Israel would provide requested information.

Walsh apparently believes that he is not bound by this agreement.

JEWISH SETTLEMENTS COUNCIL CONDEMNS SETTLERS' ATTACK ON REFUGEE CAMP
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- The Executive Council of Jewish Settlements in the West Bank added its voice Tuesday to the almost universal condemnation of Jewish settlers who made an armed attack on the Dafeisha refugee camp near Bethlehem Saturday night.

A resolution adopted by the Council stressed that the military authorities alone are responsible for security in the administered territories and any attempt by citizens to take the law into their own hands was contrary to the settlers' principles. However, the resolution demanded that the authorities take tougher security measures.

Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron held "a handful of extremists" responsible for the attack. Appearing before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Tuesday, Shomron reiterated his support for Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central sector, who had described the settlers' raid on the camp as "despicable."

One Dissent

All but one of the committee members agreed with him. The exception was Likud MK David Magen, who attacked Mitzna's politics. He claimed the general was the wrong choice for the central command because of his open criticism of the Lebanon war in 1982.

Tehiya Party leader Yuval Neeman continued his campaign against Mitzna. He asked Attorney General Yosef Harish to bring charges against the officer on grounds that his comments on the Dafeisha incident were in contempt of court because the matter was before a court.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir reiterated his condemnation of the attack Tuesday. But he disagreed with Israel Defense Force officers who want to confiscate the personal weapons of every man found to have participated in it. Shamir said it was important to prevent the misuse of weapons issued to the settlers for self-defense, but it would be careless to deprive the settlers of their weapons.

KNESSET PANEL'S TEMPLE MOUNT VISIT SPURS DEBATE ON MOSLEM CONSTRUCTION
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- A heavily protected visit to the Temple Mount by the Knesset Interior Committee Tuesday touched off an angry dispute between its chairman, Likud MK Dov Shilansky, and Laborite member Dov Ben-Meir over whether the Moslem religious authorities were altering the area in violation of the law.

Shilansky, an outspoken advocate of the right of Jews to worship on the Mount, which is the site of two of the holiest shrines of the Islamic faith, claimed he discovered that the Supreme Moslem Council and the Waqf -- the Moslem Religious Trust which is caretaker of the shrines -- were converting an underground area known as Solomon's Stables into a giant mosque with room for 100,000 worshippers.

He accused the Waqf of building unauthorized prayer platforms on the Mount and destroying archaeological evidence of the Jewish past. But the worst violation, he said, was the attempt

to build a new religious center for Moslems from all over the world in Solomon's Stables. "I don't understand why they need a mosque for 100,000 people. This is 10 times bigger than Al Aksa," Shilansky said.

The Al Aksa mosque and the Dome of the Rock, also known as the Mosque of Omar, are located at the site where the Temple was destroyed by the Romans 2,000 years ago. The government bars Jews from praying there, a policy Shilansky is trying to reverse.

Ben-Meir, who is a Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, said the only evidence of change he saw on the tour of Solomon's Stables was the installation of electric lighting.

He charged that the visit by the Knesset committee was intended by the rightwing parties to show the Moslems that the Jews are "the boss" on the Temple Mount. He said it was an example of extremists on both sides joining to "put fuel on the fire."

Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem also questioned the wisdom of the visit. He called it "headline hunting." He said there was no evidence of any illegal construction on the Temple Mount.

Shilansky led a group of Knesset members and Orthodox Jewish activists on a visit to the Temple Mount several years ago. They were surrounded by a hostile crowd and had to be extricated by police. There were no incidents during Tuesday's visit. Police guards outnumbered the Knesset members.

A PEACE CONFERENCE REFERENDUM?

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- The issue of a national referendum on an international conference for Middle East peace has been raised in the ongoing debate between Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over the peace process.

Peres said legal experts are examining the idea and would announce their conclusions in a few days. Shamir said the approach is wrong because referenda are foreign to the Israeli political system.

Peres pressed his idea during a visit to the Hebrew University Tuesday. He said the government was unable to reach agreement on the issue of peace and therefore it should be taken to the people.

But Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), a strong supporter of the peace process, sided with Shamir. She said an international conference was too technical an issue to be decided on the basis of a national referendum.

GERMAN TOURISM TO ISRAEL BOOMING

BONN, June 9 (JTA) -- More than 50,000 West Germans visited Israel from January through the end of April 1987, a 30 percent increase over the same period last year, the Frankfurt-based Israel Tourist Office reported Monday. A record year is possible.

According to the Tourist Office, West Germany has been for several years the main European source of tourism to Israel. The great majority of visitors are non-Jewish. There are only 30,000 Jews in the Federal Republic compared to more than a half million each in France and Britain. The Germans benefit from their strong currency, which makes a visit to Israel inexpensive for them, the Tourist Office noted. But there are other reasons for the boom. The tourist

Office cited improved economic, cultural and political ties with Israel.

3,500 TO MULL ALIYA ON ISRAEL TRIPS

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- A pilot group of about 3,500 Jews will visit Israel this summer under the auspices of the Jewish Agency's Aliya Department to see if they want to settle here.

According to Haim Aharon, who heads the department, about 70 percent of the participants in past pilot visits eventually immigrated. The aliya promotion program includes lectures and seminars on Israeli society, tours of the country, meetings with Knesset members and other public figures and discussions of employment and housing opportunities.

CHILDREN'S DAY SEMINARS TAKE PLACE IN MOSCOW AS PHONES ARE BLOCKED

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- Four seminars involving refuseniks took place as planned last Monday in Moscow, although minus the international telephone connections for which they had asked. Soviet telephone operators told their American counterparts that lines to four apartments were "out of order."

Soviet Jewry activists had requested that people in the West show their solidarity with the refuseniks by calling them during the seminars on June 1, which was International Children's Day.

Leonard Terlitsky, a Soviet emigre living here, was among the many people unable to get through, but he spoke to his relatives in Moscow following the seminars, and was told about the gathering at the apartment of Viktoria and Andrei Lifshitz. The seminar topic was the problems of Jewish education and children's emotional stress.

Terlitsky said that 60-70 people attended-- "a large group for a Moscow apartment" -- where children performed Hebrew songs. A professional educator noted that children who grow up in religious families are often ostracized in Soviet schools and have difficulty studying because of the pressure.

"What they are taught at school leads to depression," said Terlitsky, an architect living in New York who emigrated alone in 1977, leaving behind his brother Mark, also an architect; their mother Fanya, now 70 and suffering from Alzheimer's Disease; Mark's wife Svetlana and their daughter Olga. Mark has been unable to work in his profession since 1976, when they applied to leave.

Recurrent Difficulties Reported

Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, which was promoting and placing phone calls to the apartments, said the phone connections were restored the following day but that she had continuous difficulties with those numbers and others in the Soviet Union, throughout the week. The calls were constantly interrupted, she said.

Singer brought the subject up Friday with Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin in the office of the mayor of Glen Cove, NY. Dubinin, who had come to present a replica of the original Sputnik to the Nassau County Cradle of Aviation Museum, was "charming and affable, even gallant," said Singer, although she admitted she was leery of his attitude. Singer said she discussed with Dubinin in their private 10-minute meeting the case

of Yakov Rabinovich, a Leningrad refusenik promised a visa at the Bern review of the Helsinki Accords in May 1986. She also told him of long-time refusenik Naum Rabinovich (not related), a World War II aviation hero whose son Vladimir lives in New York. She said, "His work certainly precedes the Sputnik era, so what kind of state secrets could he be holding?"

Dubinín discussed nothing about these cases, but gave his word that her letter of requests would be forwarded to Moscow. When she discussed the telephone interference, she said, "He simply listened to that and let me know that everything that we discussed would be forwarded."

Singer described his affability as "funny, because he told me he noted a deep sense of sincerity in my voice."

Said 799 Cases Under Review

Dubinín told her that he wanted her to know that 799 emigration cases were being reviewed by "the new commission" and that "now there were two meanings to the word refusenik: those who were refused based on prior government decisions and those who were given permission to go to Israel and who refused."

Dubinín told Singer that he has a list of 100 people who were given permission to go to Israel but refused, she said. She said she had no time to ask if they were dissident prisoners who were non-Jews. Singer claimed that Dubinín said he would continue the dialogue with her in Washington at her request, and he told her that he would inform his consuls that she was to be admitted to the Soviet Embassy.

AUSTRIAN-JEWISH CONFERENCE ENDORSED

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- A conference on Austrian-Jewish Relations scheduled to be held in Vienna in January 1988 has been endorsed by Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock -- who said he would participate personally -- in a message to the American Jewish Committee.

The conference on "Austrian-Jewish Relations -- Past, Present and Future" is co-sponsored by the AJCommittee and the Austrian Society for Foreign Policy and International Relations. Dr. Karl Vak, president of the Society, will be chairman.

Mock's message was sent to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of international relations of the AJCommittee. It expressed hope the conference would lead to "a further improvement of our mutual relations."

World Jewish relations with Austria were severely strained by the election of Kurt Waldheim to the Presidency of Austria last year despite exposure of his complicity in Nazi atrocities when he served as an officer in the German army in the Balkans during World War II. Mock is leader of the conservative People's Party that sponsored Waldheim's candidacy.

REICH RIPS WALDHEIM NOMINATION

WASHINGTON, June 9 (JTA) -- The nomination of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim for the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize was denounced by B'nai B'rith Friday. In a statement released here, Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai

B'rith, said, "The idea of a Peace prize for an unrepentant Nazi like Kurt Waldheim mocks the very concept of the Nobel awards."

Waldheim is accused of complicity in Nazi atrocities when he was an army officer in the Balkans during World War II. One of 90 persons nominated for the 1987 prize, he was proposed by Prof. Hans Koechler of Innsbruck University.

"A man who continues to deny his own past is not an effective proponent of peace," Reich stated. "To declare that he is worthy of the Nobel award is to destroy the true meaning of Nobel."

Waldheim was placed on the U.S. Justice Department's "watch list" two months ago as an undesirable not to be granted admission to the United States in private capacity. President Reagan has said he would not invite Waldheim as Austrian chief of state.

REPARATIONS EXPANSION URGED

BONN, June 9 (JTA) -- The Bundestag has come under pressure to adopt legislation to force the government to extend reparations payments to groups of Nazi victims who have received little or no compensation. They include former slave laborers including many Jews, Gypsies, members of German groups opposed to Hitler and the families of euthanasia victims.

The pressure is coming mainly from the opposition Green Party and from a Frankfurt-based anti-fascist organization known as the VVN. Both issued statements saying these groups were denied reparations for lack of legal framework.

GERMANY PROBES 81 FOR NAZI CRIMES

BONN, June 9 (JTA) -- Preliminary investigations are pending in the cases of 81 individuals suspected of Nazi atrocities during World War II, and more than 1,000 cases have come to court this year or were turned over to state prosecutors, the Federal Office for the prosecution of Nazi Criminals in Ludwigsburg reported.

But according to legal experts, only a small percentage of the suspects will be tried and even fewer are likely to be sentenced. That is because as time passes it has become more difficult to prove an individual's involvement in Nazi atrocities, the experts said.

ISRAELI HOOPSTERS FALTER AT TOURNEY
By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, June 9 (JTA) -- After losing four consecutive games at the 12-team European basketball championships, the Israeli national team was fighting for ninth place Tuesday as it played France.

The Israelis fell apart completely on Sunday, losing to the weak Polish team, 83-77. Italy, one of Europe's best teams, beat Israel Saturday, 99-79. On Friday, Israel lost to West Germany in overtime, 112-107, in a game that seemed to crush the Israelis' morale.

Israel lost Thursday to Holland, 61-60, although Holland failed to score for more than 11 minutes in the second half. Israel's lone tournament victory was its opening game last Wednesday against Czechoslovakia, 99-83.