

**PERES SAYS THE USSR HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS REGARDING SOVIET JEWS**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 22 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset Wednesday that the Soviet Union had agreed in principle to several significant concessions with respect to Soviet Jews demanded by Israel before it granted visas to the Soviet consular delegation which arrived here July 12.

Three senior members of the delegation left Israel for Cyprus Tuesday night, reportedly enroute to Moscow for consultations. But they will return, the head of the delegation, Yevgeny Antipov, said before his departure.

The delegation is the first official Soviet mission to Israel since Moscow broke off diplomatic relations 20 years ago. Its stated task is to inspect Soviet property in Israel and renew the passports of about 2,200 Soviet nationals here. The latter are functionaries of the Russian Orthodox Church and Russian women married to Israeli Arabs. The property is mostly Church property.

But the visit raised speculation here and abroad that the delegation could be the vanguard of a permanent Soviet diplomatic presence in Israel in the future. Peres said that in return for Israeli visas, the Soviets agreed to increase the number of exit visas granted to Soviet Jews, to release Prisoners of Zion and to expand religious freedom for Soviet Jews.

He told the Knesset there was an "improvement" in all of those areas. He expressed confidence that the Soviets eventually would allow a reciprocal visit to the USSR by an Israeli consular delegation, though Moscow has rejected this so far.

**Soviet Official Dismisses Speculation**

Antipov, who heads the consular division of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said before leaving that no other Foreign Ministry officials would be joining the delegation for the time being. He dismissed speculation that the delegation might be enlarged and authorized to discuss broader issues of bilateral relations when he returns.

Shortly after his arrival in Israel, Antipov told reporters that his delegation would return to the USSR before their 90-day visas expire but he was sure they will be replaced by "other officials" of "a consular nature."

Leaving with him Tuesday night were Alexei Chestnyakov, a Middle East affairs expert, and Vladimir Kruglyakov, First Secretary of the delegation. Another senior member of the delegation, Genryk Flachin, was a member of the Soviet group that met briefly with Israeli representatives in Helsinki last August.

The Soviet delegation is staying at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel. It rented a temporary office in Ramat Gan to conduct its business here. Its only known contact with Israeli officials was a short meeting July 14 with Yaacov Aviad, head of the Foreign Ministry's consular division. Aviad described their talks as "extremely positive" and a "good beginning" but did not elaborate. There was no other official comment here on the visit

until Peres' remarks in the Knesset Wednesday. Earlier, the Foreign Minister had urged that the visit "not be blown out of proportion."

Last week, Haaretz quoted the Foreign Ministry's Political Director General, Yossi Beilin, as suggesting that the Soviet delegation was sent to Israel to test Arab reaction to a possible improvement in Soviet-Israeli relations.

**SCIENTIST SAYS ARAB COUNTRIES ARE AHEAD OF ISRAEL IN LAUNCHING COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE INTO SPACE**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- A leading Israeli physicist says the Arab countries have gotten ahead of Israel in efforts to launch a communications satellite into space.

Haaretz Wednesday quoted Tel Aviv University Prof. Yuval Neeman as saying "this issue is still not getting the 'push' it deserves. He referred to the announcement that two Syrian cosmonauts will participate in an upcoming Soviet space mission. He said he hoped this "will stimulate the appropriate elements here to promote Israel's participation in space exploration."

Neeman, who heads the Tehiya Party, said Arab efforts to launch a communications satellite failed "due to a blunder on the part of its European manufacturers." But "they continue their efforts. We still do not have a communications satellite of our own, but we should already have one," Neeman said in an interview with Haaretz.

He noted that "according to an international convention, an area is reserved for us in space, over our region, for launching a communications satellite, but we are liable to lose it if we do not launch a satellite within four years."

Prof. David Abir, deputy head of the Israeli Space Agency, dismissed Syrian participation in the Soviet space mission as primarily propaganda, Maariv reported Wednesday. Abir said it is doubtful that the Soviets would place all their equipment and the data from aerial photographs at the disposal of the Syrians.

Meanwhile, tests are being conducted at the Haifa Technion to improve the resistance of satellites, space craft and missiles to the intense heat generated by the return to earth's atmosphere from outer space, Haaretz reported Wednesday. The tests make use of a new hot air tunnel which produces temperatures of 10,000 degrees Celsius by means of a five-megawatt electric generator.

Haaretz said they are being carried out in cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the U.S. and other agencies.

**EGYPT SIGNALS ISRAEL THAT IT SUPPORTS PLO PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE MIDEAST PEACE TALKS**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 22 (JTA) -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid, unable to convince Premier Yitzhak Shamir to accept the idea of an international conference for Middle East peace, sent a strong signal on the last day

of his visit to Israel that Egypt strongly backs Palestine Liberation Organization participation in any future peace talks.

Meguid, who arrived here Monday, met Wednesday with 12 prominent Palestinians, all but two of whom are known supporters of the PLO. The meeting took place at the home of the Egyptian Ambassador, Mohammad Basyouni in Herzliya. The guests included Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem and former Mayor Rashad A-Shawa of Gaza, both considered pro-Jordanian.

Meguid briefed the group on recent contacts between Egypt, Jordan and the PLO on convening an international conference. He described the meeting afterwards as "very good." Other participants told reporters that Meguid did not ask them to pressure the PLO to accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which imply recognition of Israel. Egypt is on record as insisting that this be a condition for PLO participation in peace talks.

The Palestinians gave Meguid a memorandum in which they pledged their full support of the PLO as "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." They also called for stronger ties between Egypt and the Palestinians.

According to observers here, Meguid's meeting with the PLO supporters was a message to Israel that it cannot ignore the PLO in peace negotiations and that only the PLO can nominate Palestinian representatives to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in future peace talks with Israel.

#### Meguid Has Sharp Exchange With Shamir

Meguid, the highest level Egyptian diplomat to visit Israel since its invasion of Lebanon in 1982, reportedly had a sharp exchange with Shamir over an international peace conference at their meeting Tuesday. The Premier said later, "Unfortunately, I have not been able to convince the Egyptian Foreign Minister, but neither did he succeed to convince me."

At the meeting, Shamir quoted a letter the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat wrote to former Israeli Premier Menachem Begin in which he said the Palestinian problem should be solved within the framework of the Camp David accords. "Today you completely ignore this," Shamir told Meguid.

Meguid replied that conditions have changed and reverting to the Camp David accords would set the peace process back three years. Yediot Achronot reported Wednesday that "a third party" was attempting to arrange a meeting between Shamir and King Hussein of Jordan in the hope that it would soften Shamir's opposition to an international conference.

Although no basic political changes emerged from Meguid's visit, it had several results. Laborite Ministers Ezer Weizman and Moshe Shahal will visit Egypt in the next few weeks for a meeting with President Hosni Mubarak. Egypt will help expand contacts between Israel and the Soviet Union. Contacts on the Taba border dispute will continue.

Meguid also informed the Israelis that his government would set up a special tribunal to review the demands for financial compensation by the families of seven Israelis killed by a berserk Egyptian soldier at Ras Burka in Sinai in 1985.

#### **ISRAEL TO GET ADDITIONAL 1,500 FILES FROM UN ARCHIVE ON NAZI WAR CRIMINALS By Yitzhak Rabi**

UNITED NATIONS, July 22 (JTA) -- Israel will receive Thursday from the UN archive on Nazi war criminals copies of 1,500 files. This would bring the total number of files obtained by the Israeli government from the UN archive to 2,347.

The archive, which has about 40,000 files, was established by the former members of the United Nations War Crimes Commission after World War II. The archive is located in Manhattan. At present, only government members of the UN are allowed to inspect the files.

A spokesman for the Israel UN Mission told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Wednesday that three files among those to be given to Israel Thursday are those of Dr. Ludwig Fischer, the governor of Warsaw during the war, who deported tens of thousands of Jews to concentration death camps. He was sentenced to death by a Polish court and executed in 1947; Dr. Erich Gruen, who conducted medical experiments on Jewish prisoners in the Maidanek concentration camp and murdered Jewish and non-Jewish inmates, his whereabouts are not known; Dr. Alfred Meyer, the governor of North Westphalia in Germany during the war, who was responsible for the robbery and confiscation of Jewish art treasures. He committed suicide in 1945. The Israeli UN Mission will hold a press conference Thursday at the UN with Nobel Laureate Eli Wiesel to announce that it received the 1,500 new files.

Meanwhile, Poland joined 13 other former members of the War Crimes Commission who now favor opening the UN files to the public. Only three of the 17 former members of the Commission are still opposed. They are France, Czechoslovakia and India.

#### **REPORT SYRIA TO GET SOVIET MIGs By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- Foreign diplomatic sources quoted by Maariv Wednesday said Syria will soon receive Soviet MIG-29 aircraft. According to the paper, this will change the balance of air power between Israel and Syria.

Experts here said the arrival of MIG-29s in the region would return the situation to what it was in 1967 when Israel's French-built Mirage jets were opposed by Egyptian MIG-21s from the Soviet Union. Both aircraft had equal capabilities and Israel's superiority in the air was determined by the higher quality of its pilots, they said.

The MIG-29 is considered the equal of the American F-15s, the Mirage 2000s in the Israel Air Force, and in certain aspects, their superior. None of the Warsaw Pact countries have received MIG-29s. They have been supplied to India and may go to other Middle East countries in the future, including Iraq.

#### **SHARON GETS OFFICIAL PERMISSION TO TELL HIS SIDE OF LEBANON WAR By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- Ariel Sharon has received official permission to make public his

version of the Lebanon war in an address to a forum of senior Israel Defense Force officers and Defense establishment figures next month, Al Hamishmar reported Monday.

Sharon, who was Defense Minister during the war and is now Minister of Commerce and Industry, intends to answer criticism voiced by Generals Avigdor Ben-Gal and Amir Drori. They spoke at a seminar at Tel Aviv University's Center for Strategic Studies six weeks ago on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Lebanon War.

Sharon has been accused by many of engineering the IDF's invasion of Lebanon in June 1982 without informing Premier Menachem Begin and the rest of the Cabinet of his full objectives. Last year, he won a libel suit in the U.S. against Time magazine which had reported that Sharon encouraged the family of Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel to avenge his assassination. According to Time, that resulted in the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps by members of the Christian Phalangist militia.

While the American court found the story false, it did not rule it libelous and did not award Sharon punitive damages. The controversial general is now considering a libel suit against Israeli journalist David Halevy who presently lives in the United States, Hadashot reported Monday.

Halevy and an American co-author have written a book about Lt. Col. Oliver North who was fired from the National Security Council last year. According to extracts from the book, published in Maariv Friday, North visited Sharon at his ranch in June 1982 and the then Defense Minister "described to (him) the details of the Israeli military plan in Lebanon" including plans for the IDF to attack the Syrian army.

Sharon denied vigorously that he was ever visited by North at his ranch, Yediot Achronot reported Sunday.

Davar reported Monday that Labor MK David Libai, chairman of the Knesset's Public Audit Committee, and MK Ran Cohen of the Citizens Rights Movement plan to ask Attorney General Yosef Harish to investigate possible criminal charges against Meshulam Riklis, the multi-millionaire businessman living in the U.S. who allegedly financed Sharon's suit against Time.

Davar quoted a book on the time case, co-authored by Sharon's associate Uri Dan, which referred to Riklis' financial assistance.

An unrelated report in Maariv Monday said that Maj. Gen. Moshe Bar-Kochba has asked permission to write an article critical of the IDF in Al Hamishmar, organ of the Mapam Party. This would be unprecedented for an active-duty IDF officer.

According to Maariv, Bar-Kochba's article is entitled "Is the IDF Senior Command Prepared for Future Challenges?" Maariv said Bar-Kochba believes the IDF has not learned the proper lessons from the Lebanon War and therefore is not prepared for future wars.

The military authorities have been considering his request for two weeks without reaching a decision, Maariv reported.

#### JEWISH PHILOSOPHER AWARDED GERMAN BOOKSELLERS PRIZE

NEW YORK, July 22 (JTA) -- An elderly German-born Jewish philosopher who has taught at the Hebrew University and in Canada and the United States has been awarded the 1987 German

Booksellers Association Prize. Hans Jonas, 84, a resident of New Rochelle, NY, is slated to receive the award in October in Frankfurt. A jury of 11 women and one man selected Jonas for the prize.

The selection of Jonas is "timely," according to an English translation in The German Tribune of an article in the Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt of Hamburg. The book for which he was awarded his prize, Das Prinzip Verantwortung (The Principle of Answering), is described as a singular volume, after the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, "that addresses itself effectively to the search for an ethical system in our technological civilization."

Jonas, who has lived in the U.S. since 1955, was born in Monchengladbach, and was a student of such outstanding philosophers as Martin Heidegger and Edmund Husserl. His graduating thesis was on mystical knowledge -- gnosis.

He received a Ph.D. summa cum laude from the University of Marburg at the age of 25. He has honorary doctorates from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and the New School for Social Research in New York, as well as an honorary Doctor of Theology from his alma mater at Marburg, bestowed in 1976. Jonas was chairman of the New School's philosophy department from 1957-73. He has taught widely at major American universities.

#### Fled Advent Of Nazis

Jonas left Germany in 1933 with the advent of the Nazis, going to Palestine via Britain. He served with the Royal British Artillery from 1940-45, and fought in Israel's War of Independence from 1948-49. His mother died in Auschwitz.

Jonas, who has authored eight books and many scholarly papers, has returned to his mother tongue for the first time in 50 years with "The Principle of Answering." He wrote the book in German as "a sober appraisal of his later years," according to the German newspaper article.

In the book, he wrote, "Prometheus Chained, to whom science attributes unknown powers and to economics untiring effort, cries out for a system of ethics that, with voluntary restraints, holds back the powers of man from being a disaster." The book is dedicated to his children Ayalah, Jonathan and Gabrielle. But, says the German newspaper article, "He dedicated it in essence to us all."

#### COURT REJECTS ARAB'S BID TO BUY TWO BANKRUPT FACTORIES IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, July 22 (JTA) -- A Tel Aviv magistrates court flatly rejected a bid by an Arab businessman from Gaza to purchase two bankrupt factories in Kiryat Gat in Israel. They will be sold instead to a Haifa-based company and to one in Switzerland, Judge Yishai Levit said Wednesday.

Levit ruled out the transaction sought by Arab entrepreneur Abed El Diks on several grounds: He said he could not buy a plant in Israel without special permission of the Defense Ministry, which is the sovereign power in the administered territories, and permission from the civil administration in the Gaza district.

In addition, El Diks cannot own plants which have the Israeli defense industries among their customers, the judge said.

The court ruling calmed tempers in the development town of Kiryat Gat in southern Israel.

# SPECIAL INTERVIEW **FOXMAN, NEW ADL DIRECTOR, EPITOMIZES THE ORGANIZATION** By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, July 22 (JTA) -- Whenever the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith honors a Righteous Gentile -- someone who rescued Jews during the Holocaust -- Abe Foxman goes over to the rescuer and, tears welling up in his eyes, clasps him or her in a giant bear hug. In that embrace, Foxman is once again holding a very special person in his life, for each time this happens he is remembering the woman who saved his life when he was a baby.

When he was a year old, Foxman's parents, Joseph and Helen, seeing the Nazi pincers close around the Jews of Poland, entrusted him to the care of his Catholic nursemaid, Bronislawa Kurpi, who raised him as her own son in Vilna, where they fled from their home in Baranovicz.

For his, and her family's protection, she baptized him as a Catholic and brought him up in that religion with the name Henryk Stanislaw Kurpi.

In 1946, when Foxman was six years old, his parents, who had survived the war through different means -- his father in a series of camps in Latvia and Estonia; his mother, an escapee from the Vilna ghetto, with Aryan papers and a job that supported the nursemaid and boy -- reclaimed their son, and brought him up as a Jew.

"My father was very wise. He knew how to substitute one religion for the other without forcing," Foxman recalled with a smile. But the enormity of the Catholic woman's favor stayed with him.

In 1950, the Foxmans came to America, where they settled in Brooklyn. There, he attended Yeshiva of Flatbush.

## The Duality Of Backgrounds

This duality of backgrounds -- a profound understanding of two different religions and cultures and an overwhelming gratitude to a Christian woman who had risked her own life to allow him his -- never left Foxman. Rather, he has made use of this depth of feelings and compassion in his everyday life.

Since 1965, Foxman has worked for the ADL, beginning as assistant in its law department, then, from 1968-73, as head of the Middle Eastern Affairs department, and in 1973 as head of ADL's International Affairs department, and closely affiliated with the ADL International Center for Holocaust Studies.

On Monday, Abraham Foxman was appointed ADL national director, succeeding the late Nathan Perlmutter, who died July 12 after a long bout with cancer. Perlmutter -- who always said "Call me Nate" -- continued working throughout the duration of his illness, writing and talking about it, drawing people close to him as he reached out to them. Foxman was certainly one of his closest associates during his trying times.

Foxman's accession to the directorship is "bittersweet," he told JTA. "Nate's passing leaves me very sad." Foxman plans to continue at the helm of ADL in the footsteps of his predecessor.

As a lawyer -- Foxman received his law degree from New York University School of Law after graduating from the City College of New

York -- he has applied his legal acumen to the problem of anti-Semitism. As a Holocaust survivor, Foxman has been constantly active as a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, the advisory council to the New York City Holocaust Memorial Commission and the New Jersey Advisory Council on Holocaust Education. His children attend Hebrew day school in New Jersey. Foxman is also vice president of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

## A Disease Without A Vaccine

Foxman perceives anti-Semitism as "a disease" for which the vaccine has not yet been developed. "We've conquered time and space. We've reached the moon. We've developed a vaccine for smallpox. And yet, unfortunately, we have not yet come up with a vaccine against this disease. One would have hoped that after Auschwitz and Treblinka were laid bare for the world to see, that all the powers of the world, all the scientists, all the thinkers, would have concentrated all their efforts to eradicating this evil. Unfortunately, they haven't, and anti-Semitism is here, it continues.

"People say to me, what are you going to do? Unfortunately, the agenda is outlined. We don't have a slow season in our business. What we deal with is words. We've learned that words have the power to kill, that words unchallenged, left in silence, words of bigotry, are part of our tradition. But words also have the ability to bring about good. And in those places where people spoke out and challenged, they offset the evil. "We've also learned that the power of the word to speak out has brought about the freedom of 270,000 Soviet Jews. That the power to speak out can dampen anti-Semitism, bigotry and prejudice when the powers that be, those who set the moral standard, speak out. When they're silent, that only encourages."

## 'Something In The Wind'

Foxman speaks easily, swiftly, with tremendous humor, peppering his words with Hebrew phrases. His ability to communicate is a cornerstone of his work, and is enhanced by his fluency in Polish, Russian, German, Hebrew and Yiddish.

Foxman senses "something in the wind" regarding cooperation between human rights groups of different special interests. "I don't know what it is yet, but I welcome it." But, he said, "This is a new generation, and we have to reeducate."

In response to a question, he said, "What am I going to be dealing with? That's what I'm going to be dealing with. Am I an optimist? Yes. Otherwise, you can't face the day. If I didn't believe that you could change people's minds, that one can influence their irrational behavior, I wouldn't be here. But I believe you can."

One of Foxman's first and most cherished projects at ADL as director will be the opening September 15 of the Foundation to Sustain Righteous Christians, founded by Encino, Calif., Rabbi Harold Schulweis, and directed out of New York by psychologist Eva Fogelman, and administered by Frank Reiss.

Foxman considers the foundation "part of what the ADL is all about. And it's a way to say thank you to compensate for all that these people did."