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**DAILY NEWS BULLETIN**

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**ARENS SUBMITS HIS RESIGNATION TO PROTEST CABINET DECISION ON THE LAVI**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Likud Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens (Herut) handed his resignation to Premier Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday night after a Likud ministerial caucus on the Lavi issue.

Even though the Likud Ministers resolved to "fight" last Sunday's Cabinet decision scrapping the Lavi project, Arens went ahead with his threatened resignation. He is understood to believe that the Likud Ministers' resolution was largely declarative and would not in fact lead to a re-vote in the Cabinet.

Labor Ministers, meanwhile, meeting separately, came out firmly against any attempt to procure a Cabinet re-vote. Labor sources said the party would resist any such effort by insisting that the issue go to the Inner Cabinet -- where, with Likud's Moshe Nissim, Minister of Finance, voting against the plan, the Lavi would once again be defeated.

Nissim did not attend the Likud ministerial caucus Wednesday evening at Shamir's home -- a clear indication of the strains between himself and his colleagues, all of whom voted against Sunday's Cabinet decision.

Sources close to Nissim repeated Wednesday that he would instantly resign his post if the Prime Minister sought to put pressure on him to change his position on the Lavi. Nissim himself has refused to address in public the possibility of his being pressured, or even dismissed, by Shamir. But he has continued spiritedly to defend his stance against the Lavi project, on both economic and defense-related grounds.

**Reactions With The Likud**

The Likud Ministers, in their resolution, claimed that the proposal put forward Sunday by Vice Premier Shimon Peres, which received a 13-12 vote in the Cabinet, had been "inadequately prepared."

Privately, Likud sources have attacked Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for "feeding the Cabinet misleading information." This has been said in reaction to Rabin's impassioned defense, on television Monday night, of the Cabinet decision to stop the Lavi project and devote the same U.S. aid funds to other vital Israel Defense Force proposed projects.

Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon told reporters after the Likud Ministers' caucus that their resolution would mean "finding ways of delaying implementation of the Cabinet decision . . . We can now see that the Cabinet decision was not based on firm grounds."

Sharon and Arens reportedly demanded at the caucus that Shamir dismiss Nissim and possibly "go to the country" over the Lavi issue. The Premier, however, is said to be firmly against early elections, and insiders say he is also opposed to trying to obtain a Cabinet re-vote on the Lavi, since success for the Likud would be unlikely.

**SHAMIR: THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO CREATE A MECHANISM INVOLVING ALL STRAMS OF JUDAISM TO EASE TENSIONS OVER WHO IS A JEW ISSUE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir disclosed here Tuesday that the government is trying to create a "consulting mechanism" involving the various streams in Judaism, as a means of mitigating tensions over who is a Jew.

In a speech to the Seventh International Congress of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, being held in Jerusalem, the Premier said this approach would not necessarily prevent further efforts to amend the Law of Return, but he hoped it could help underscore the factors that unite the Jewish people rather than the disputes and conflicts that divide them.

Aides to Shamir told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was especially interested that his words reach a broad Jewish audience in the diaspora. Excerpts from his speech follow.

**Seeks Basis Of Cooperation**

My hope as a Prime Minister is to find a basis of cooperation between all elements in Israel -- the Orthodox and the non-Orthodox.

A profound misunderstanding has emerged in respect to the conversion problem. Therefore, let me state clearly that nobody has ever questioned the validity of any Jew -- be he Orthodox, Conservative or Reform. There is simply no basis for the allegation that there are attempts to delegitimize any section of our people as a group or as individuals. Jews who are members of the Conservative movement or of the Reform movement and their children are warmly welcome in this country.

Questions have been raised -- and they are not uncharacteristic of Jewish history -- on the validity of some conversions. In my view, there has been considerable exaggeration on this point, and many of us would, for the time being, prefer not to have this subject raised at all.

Nevertheless, it is a fact that the Law of Return has, for 17 years, included a definition which in the view of part of our society needs clarification. This is the source of the legislative efforts by some parties in the Knesset.

It is my sincere desire to achieve on this question -- as in so many other national questions -- a consensus that will encompass Jews in our country and Jews living abroad. I can only hope that this will be possible.

That is why we established in January of this year a special ministerial committee, which is chaired by me and includes the Vice Premier, the Minister of Religious Affairs and Ministers representing the other parties in the coalition. The mandate of the commission is to examine the question of the conversion abroad of persons who come here on Aliya.

The commission was charged with the task of communicating with knowledgeable persons, both in Israel and in world Jewry.

As an interim report I can say that until now the committee and, in particular, a special sub-committee have met a great number of times and have conferred with scores of experts from many aspects of Jewish life.

In addition, we have held informal discussions with many personalities here and abroad. On my last visit to the United States I held a meeting with leaders of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform communities.

The ministerial committee consulted leaders of various organizations, academic personalities, legal experts from the United States, Europe and Israel. In the last month or two I received the leaders of the major Jewish organizations who came specially to present the views and sentiments of their communities.

"The committee has before it some suggestions that are legislative in nature. We have proposals either for the amendment of the Law of Return, or the Law of Registration. We have proposals to amend the law relating to the power of the Chief Rabbinate. There are proposals to preserve the existing status quo which, in itself, is somewhat vague, and we also have proposals for administrative procedures.

From the material studied by the committee, it seems that the differences between the extremes are rather big and even the more moderate views do not, as yet, offer the possibility of a solution that would satisfy all sides. Jewish history has shown that, in matters of religion, very few people would change their entrenched ideas.

#### Possibility Of A 'Consulting Mechanism'

Therefore, we are now looking into the possibility of creating some agreed consulting mechanism that would be widely recognized and supported. We realize, of course, that this will not, of itself, prevent some parties or individuals in the Knesset from continuing their legislative efforts to secure a Knesset majority for their viewpoint.

However, we shall go on with our work together with all individuals and Jewish organizations who are interested in finding an agreed approach and solution. I realize this may not be easy, but we will not give up hope.

I firmly believe that, despite the things that divide our people, there is much more that unites us and that, if we persevere and show tolerance for each other's viewpoints, we will find an appropriate answer.

We are conscious of the fact that our present efforts -- no matter how difficult and painful -- will lay the foundation for a more united, a more understanding and more tolerant Jewish nation for the generations to come.

#### **SHARANSKY BEGINS U.S. TOUR SAYING GLASNOST A BUST FOR JEWS By Yitzhak Rabi**

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Former Prisoner of Conscience Natan Sharansky began a three-week private U.S. campaign on behalf of Soviet Jews by saying Wednesday that "the oppression of Jews remains a firm policy of the Soviet Union."

Sharansky told a news conference Wednesday from steps named in his honor opposite the UN that Soviet domestic liberalization is a "sleeping pill aimed at squelching the Soviet Jewry issue."

Sharansky told the JTA that during his visit he will meet with American Jewish leaders to

warn against complacency in the face of the Soviet liberalization known as "glasnost." He has warned in recent months that the principle goal of Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost campaign is to lull the West into believing that Jews have the same rights as others in the USSR.

He further contended that the Gorbachev regime makes occasional gestures of good will by freeing prominent Jewish dissidents, but that the denial of emigration rights for Jews remains unchanged. About 700-800 have emigrated per month in 1987.

Sharansky, who arrived from his Jerusalem home with his wife Avital and their nine-month-old daughter Rachel, said that his stop in Washington, D.C., would include meetings with State Department officials and members of Congress. He said he would stress to them the importance of continuing the pressure on the Soviet Union to open the gates for Soviet Jews.

#### A Crucial Period Ahead

"The fate of those Jews who remain in the USSR will be determined during" the upcoming months, he said, which he called a crucial period in East-West relations.

The former POC disclosed that he spoke by phone, before leaving Israel, with refusenik Lev Ovsischer, who said he was granted permission to emigrate. Ovsischer, a Minsk native who has been recently living in Moscow, was denied an exit visa for many years because he is a former pilot in the Soviet Army.

Sharansky's press conference was sponsored by the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews and attended by members of American groups working on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Alan Pesky, chairman of the Coalition, told reporters that while improved relations and easing of tension between the U.S. and USSR would be a welcome development, "the issue of Jewish emigration and human rights must not be sacrificed on the altar of superpower diplomacy."

He emphasized that glasnost is an attempt by Gorbachev to portray life for Jews in the Soviet Union "as akin to paradise on earth."

#### **KAHANE, SIX FOLLOWERS PROTEST ISRAELI MOSLEM CONSUL IN ATLANTA By Richard Bono**

The Atlanta Jewish Times

ATLANTA, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Kach Party member of Knesset, led six local Kach supporters here Tuesday in a demonstration in front of the Israel Consulate for the Southeast, calling new Consul General Mohamed Massarwa "anti-Zionist."

Massarwa, who arrived here August 24, is the first Moslem to serve as an Israeli diplomat abroad. He was welcomed by Atlanta Jewish leaders, who praised the appointment as representative of Israel's democratic ideals.

Kahane, with a large contingent of local journalists in tow, got as far as the intercom system outside the Consulate's locked security door. He spoke in Hebrew through the intercom for several minutes, but was refused entry.

At a press conference earlier that morning, Kahane maintained that Massarwa's appointment -- though representative of Western democracy -- is inconsistent with Zionism when carried through to its "logical end."

"I want to know if Massarwa can fulfill his major role of 'aliyah' -- getting Jews to emigrate to Israel," Kahane said, "Does he really want to see more Jews in Israel? Of course not. He is an anti-Zionist, as well he should be. If any Arab is a Zionist, then he is a traitor to his own people because Zionism calls for a Jewish state."

Israel suffers from schizophrenia, according to Kahane. "It doesn't know if it's a Western democracy or a Jewish state," he said. "It can't be both. And Massarwa's appointment raises this issue."

#### Kahane's Appearance Condemned

Local Jewish leaders called a press conference later in the day to condemn Kahane's appearance and reaffirm their support for Massarwa.

A joint statement issued by 11 Jewish organizations said: "Kahane is not representative of Israelis. He is not representative of American Jewry. His words and actions are alien to Judaism; they are an anathema to traditional Torah teachings. We reject this affront to our people, to our tradition and beliefs, and to our abiding commitment to brotherhood and peace."

Speaking for the Jewish community were: Gerald Cohen, immediate past president of the Atlanta Jewish Federation; Rabbi Arnold Goodman, president of the Atlanta Rabbinical Association; Stephen Selig, president of the Atlanta chapter of the American Jewish Committee; and Dr. James Kaufman, chairman of the Southeastern office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

After his rebuff by the consulate, Kahane told reporters: "I knew quite well Massarwa would not meet with me . . . What you've seen here is a refusal to face up to the essential question: Is Israel a Jewish state or a Western democracy? But we (the local Kach Party) will not allow this man to appear in public without being constantly questioned about this . . . We won't let this man alone."

He said the purpose of his being here was to garner media coverage of the questions he raised. "I don't think this has been a waste of time, far from it," Kahane said.

#### **EDUCATORS BECOME STUDENTS AT CONFERENCE; CAJE TO CHANGE NAME**

By Andrew B. Adler  
The Atlanta Jewish Times

CARROLLTON, Ga., Sept. 2 (JTA) -- The 12th annual conference of the Coalition for Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE) will be remembered for administrators and teachers becoming enlightened pupils at West Georgia College here August 23-27.

The conference attracted more than 1,650 Jewish educators from the United States, Canada, Israel and 13 other countries who participated in upwards of 600 learning sessions that focused on diverse subjects such as Talmud, current events, Jewish mysticism, computers, creative arts and teaching Hebrew.

Along with the coalition, this year's CAJE conference was co-sponsored by the Atlanta Bureau of Jewish Education, and assisted by a grant from the Atlanta Jewish Federation.

The educators reflected every shade of the Jewish theological spectrum, from Orthodox to secular Jews; and every level of educator; from Sunday school teachers to heads of Jewish studies departments at major universities, directors of boards of Jewish education, noted rabbis, scholars

and many others involved in or concerned about Jewish education. CAJE presented a forum in which "we shared ideas, solved problems and developed friendships," said Betsy Dolgin Katz of Highland Park, Ill., CAJE's national chairperson. "We also increased our knowledge and developed new skills. What we learned during these four days affected our commitment to teaching and our pride in our profession."

#### New Name Announced

Dr. Eliot Spack, national director of CAJE, professed a change in the coalition's direction. Started as a collecting board for alternatives in Jewish education 12 years ago, "we are now an active force in Jewish communities," said Spack, "and we have achieved a higher degree of prominence; therefore, CAJE will officially stand for the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education as of Rosh Hashanah, September 24.

"We are no longer an alternative to the establishment. In the '70s, we were only a conference; in the '80s, we have made major strides to become a smorgasbord of Jewish creativity for our 3,500 members."

Rabbi Maurice Lamm, president of the National Institute of Jewish Hospices and professor at Yeshiva University in New York, joined Rabbi Edwin Friedman of Bethesda, Md., and Dr. Sol Gordon, professor emeritus of child and family studies at Syracuse University, on an inspirational panel that spoke before CAJE members in the Education Center.

"Who cares? We care," stated Lamm. "The Jewish community is doing very well, but with more assistance we will do even better." Throwing his arms into the air, Gordon exclaimed that "life is opportunity," that we all have a "mission and role in life" and "mistakes are turned into lessons." Friedman shared a case study about an ancient biblical family in modern-age terms called "Raising Cain."

"Our Caring Community," the only plenary session of the conference, was followed by workshops. The session featured several scholars, teachers and authors who discussed Jewish attitudes toward major problems in contemporary society -- drug and alcohol addiction, suicide, teenage sex, child abuse, single parents, surrogate mothers, AIDS, aging, poverty and cults.

Evening programs were filled with music, drama, dancing, arts and crafts, storytelling and other entertainment. Additional programs included a pre-conference for high school students who want to become Jewish educators and an hour-long session on women's rituals.

The 13th annual conference for the Advancement for Jewish Education is scheduled for Jerusalem.

In addition, the 18-page education booklet "Terrorism: A Discussion Guide" was released at the conference. It was prepared by Michael Myers, supervisor at the Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago and an instructor of Tanach at the Ida Crown Jewish Academy there. It is designed for young adults and adults. For more information, Call CAJE, (212) 696-0740.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The World Zionist Organization now has 720 shlichim (emissaries) around the world, according to updated figures issued here. Of the total, 420 are teachers, 200 youth and halutz shlichim, 60 are aliya shlichim and 40 are sent by other WZO departments.

**JEWISH-THEME FILMS AT MONTREAL FILM FEST INCLUDE ITALIAN FILM ON REFUSENIKS, WITH LIV ULLMAN AS NUDEL CHARACTER**  
 By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- At a press conference Sunday at the 11th World Film Festival here, Norwegian actress Liv Ullman, who plays a character named "Ida" loosely based on Soviet refusenik Ida Nudel in an Italian production, "Farewell to Moscow," said that what she calls a "pivotal" scene was mysteriously cut from the film, which was not the one she was promised to be shown. The film's producer, Enrico Roscoe, pleaded innocent to the charge and dissociated himself from the clipped version.

In Italy, the film was shown in a fuller version. There, Ullman won a Donatelli Award for Best Actress for the role. Ullman said she told the producer she would not promote the film if it were not the complete version, and he reportedly promised her the Montreal version would not be cut. (However, observers pointed out that it is common to cut films for the North American market, and that Roscoe's disclaimer of responsibility might possibly have been a publicity stunt to attract media attention.)

At the Montreal festival, the film won an award from the Ecumenical Jury, which said of the film that "in spite of certain difficulties, (it) pleads eloquently in favor of individual rights through the recall of an actual case."

The seven-year-long production of the film included many changes of scriptwriters and directors. Based on a story by Roscoe and Marcello Andrei, the film's final version boasted a screenplay by five writers: Niccolo Badalucco, Lucia Drudy Demby, Robert Balchus, Eric Bercovici and Mauro Bolognini, who was the last of about three directors.

**A Moving Case History**

The film includes a highly fictional portrayal of the well-known Soviet dissident, including a story of a marriage and a lover unknown to those familiar with Nudel, despite the fact that Nudel's sister in Israel, Elana Fridman, reportedly went to Rome to consult on the film.

"This is a film I really care about," Ullman told reporters. "Not only does it have all the emotions and range an actress dreams about, but it is telling a very important story. On one level, it is a moving case history of an actual refusenik; and on a greater level, it's telling the story of repression in a totalitarian regime."

In the scene cut, which appeared at the end in the original version, Ida expresses her feelings about how the Soviets restrict her physical movements, but "will never be able to control her thoughts," said the Oscar-winning Ullman, a non-Jewish activist on behalf of Soviet Jewry and human rights who serves as assistant secretary general of the United Nations for the protection of children. Ullman said that for her, Nudel is the victim "of an ideology, and not of the Russian people."

Ullman said that several scene sequences toward the film's end appear abnormal, particularly when Ida returns from Siberia "looking for her husband and her lover." The film says that Ida was divorced. While Ullman never met Nudel, she says she got her inspiration from Nudel's courage in face of years of suffering despite her innocence. Nudel, who asked Soviet authorities for permission to emigrate to Israel to join her sister,

was imprisoned and then exiled to Siberia. She lives in exile in the Moldavian city of Bendery, harassed and followed.

Roscoe said he believes pro-Soviet opinion in Europe has caused the film to be boycotted and delayed in the last seven years of production. He also suggested that the Cannes Film Festival rejected an earlier version of the film on political grounds.

Roscoe said, "The unfortunate Nudel has had bad luck, even in the movie about her life."

"Farewell to Moscow" opens in New York in November. Whether the original version or the censored one will be shown, nobody can answer.

Some 20 Jewish-theme and Israeli films were presented at the film festival. The films include "Rock and Roll Rabbi" by Alexander Goldstein, a young Toronto filmmaker, and "Mending the World," a touching story of the Holocaust by Harry Rasky, told in paintings and sculptures intermingled with the thoughts of philosophy professor Emil Fackenheim.

Among the films, outstanding are "Berlin-Tel Aviv" by Tzippy Prope, an Israeli-born director, telling the story of a young Berlin Jew who made his escape to Palestine during the war and did not find peace of mind until he forced a Jewish kapo, guilty of selling Jewish lives to prolong his own, to commit suicide.

A big attraction was the Israeli-made movie "Late Summer Blues," dealing with Israeli youths during the War of Attrition, waiting to be drafted into the army in the summer between their matriculation examinations and the army call-up. When the news of the first boy killed at the Suez Canal reaches them, they ask themselves whether "to die for one's country" is the answer.

"The Testament," a French film drawn from Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel's novel of the same title, has packed full theaters during the festival. So has "Weddings in Galilee," a Belgian production dealing with the conflict between Jewish military authorities and local Arabs during an Arab wedding. This is the first time in memory that so many films with Jewish themes have been shown at the World Film Festival, which ran from August 20 through September 1.

**WHICH GULF IS IT?**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- The United States has been challenged on its stated policy of neutrality since the start of the Iran-Iraq War, but now Washington is being put to a new test -- is it the Persian or Arabian Gulf? Historically, it has been called the Persian Gulf; Iran, as everybody knows, was formerly Persia.

But there are seven Arab countries bordering the Gulf, and the Arabs have long referred to the now troubled body of water as the Arabian Gulf.

Some officials in the Pentagon have been tilting toward the Arab feelings of late and referring to the Arabian Gulf, while others continue to use the historic name.

When State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley was asked about this Tuesday, she replied that "in keeping with our traditional stuffy image we stick with the Persian Gulf."

She noted that on occasion, Department spokesmen simply say "the Gulf." Oakley added that the Department has a geographer who decides on usage based on international custom.

Next question -- is it the Gulf in the Near East or Middle East?