

WAITING FOR THE POPE

By Margie Olster

MIAMI, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Papal bumper stickers and pins reading "I Love Pope John Paul II" are the hottest items in town, and one local bar has invited papal enthusiasts to pose with a life-size cardboard cut-out picture of the Pontiff as Miami geared up for his first visit to this south Florida city on Thursday and Friday.

Virtually all major thoroughfares and arteries to downtown Miami will be closed Thursday and Friday for crowd control and security during the Pope's two-day visit which includes a meeting with some 200 Jewish leaders Friday morning.

Security is extremely tight in every venue the Pope will visit on his U.S. trip. But extraordinary security measures are planned in Miami for the Pope's meeting with President Reagan. Both the Pope and Reagan have been shot in assassination attempts. Reagan will greet the Pope at the airport when he arrives by jet Thursday at about 2 p.m.

But not only security will be heavy for the papal visit. Some 4,000 reporters have received credentials for the Pope's visit in Miami and the major networks will carry live coverage of most or all of the events. For the Pope's entire U.S. visit, about 20,000 reporters have requested credentials.

This is Pope John Paul II's first visit to Miami or the southeastern United States, presumably because the Miami Catholic community has grown significantly with the influx of Cuban and Latin American refugees. The Pope has strong ties to Latin American Catholics, a more conservative community than the largely liberal American Catholic population.

Highlight Of The Miami Visit

Among the highlights of the visit to Miami are: a meeting with President Reagan at Vizaya, an old Italian mansion with breathtaking gardens and fountains, at which the two are expected to discuss U.S. foreign policy and disarmament; several public masses; and a meeting with 196 Jewish leaders Friday at the Miami Fine Arts Center where the Pope will also view an exhibit of Judaica from the Vatican.

The Church in Miami has called on local Catholics to get out to see the Pope in person instead of simply viewing the visit on network television. One of the places people will have an opportunity to see the Pope is at the papal parade Thursday at 7:15 p.m. where police estimate a crowd of 250,000 will turn out. The Pope will ride in his popemobile, a Mercedes with a special bullet-proof bubble top, so the Pope can see and be seen.

(Two popemobiles have been brought over for the papal visit so that one can await him in every city. The secret service in Miami will not permit the press or even organizers of the papal visit to view the popemobile in advance and will not disclose its location.)

The popemobile will move slowly down Biscayne Boulevard in downtown Miami because the Pope wants to see the faces in the crowd, organizers said.

The meeting with American Jewish leaders Friday morning is also a first -- the first time a Pope has met with Jews in America. The meeting will consist of an address by Rabbi Gilbert Klapperman, president of the Synagogue Council of America, followed by a papal response.

Representatives of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and American rabbinical groups will be present at the meeting.

The exchange between the Pope and Jews will begin with the Pope's tour of the Judaica exhibit from the Vatican.

An even larger contingent of about 500 Jewish representatives will attend a reception and dinner Thursday night at the Omni Hotel with Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, and high-ranking Vatican officials and American Catholic leaders.

BANNER DAY FOR REFUSENIKS: PROMINENT AND LONG-TIME REFUSENIKS GIVEN PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Within three hours Monday, several prominent and very long-time refuseniks in the Soviet Union were told they had received permission to emigrate. The list includes Iosif Begun, Viktor Brailovsky, Vladimir Lifshitz, Arkady Mai, Lev Sud and Semyon Yanovsky, according to Israel Radio, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Begun, 55, a Moscow mathematician, lost his job when he first applied to emigrate in 1971. He is the best known of the group of clandestine teachers of Hebrew and served more than three years of a 12-year sentence on charges of anti-Soviet activities. He was released last February. Begun was recently refused permission once more to teach Hebrew. He is married to Inna and has a son, Boris.

In an interview with Israel Radio, Begun said he was elated but at the same time "suffering" over the fact that Ida Nudel and many other refuseniks were still trapped in the Soviet Union.

"We have to work together" for their release, he said in a live-broadcast phone conversation with Labor Member of Knesset Ora Namir, who recently visited him in Moscow when she was there as part of a delegation of Israeli women to a women's conference. He said he did not yet know when he would make aliya, but expected "to wind up my affairs in Moscow and leave soon."

Begun's cousin in Brooklyn, Chaim Tepper, said he didn't want these releases to be considered more than symbolic. "We want to see an ongoing continuous flow of refuseniks being allowed to leave the Soviet Union."

Viktor Brailovsky, 52, a Moscow cyberneticist, first applied for an exit visa in October 1972. His first refusal was in January 1973. He was arrested in November 1980, charged with defaming the Soviet state and sentenced to five years' internal exile. He was released in March

1984. His wife, Irina, will reportedly accompany him, along with their son, Leonid, 26, who is married to Elena. They have a two-month-old son, David.

Lev Sud, 30, and his wife Ala, 31, of Moscow, were first refused in August 1985. Ala is the sister of Yuri Shtern, spokesman of the Soviet Jewry Information and Education Center in Jerusalem. They have a daughter, Maryam, 7. They are observant Jews. Lev is a musician, Ala a computer programmer.

Vladimir Lifshitz of Leningrad, 46, was sentenced March 19, 1986 to three years in prison for anti-Soviet slander, based on letters he had written to friends in the West, as well as to then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, asking them to raise the question of "the repatriation of Jews from the USSR." His wife, Anya, son, Boris, and daughter, Maria, will reportedly join them. Boris, a 19-year-old engineering student, was offered a place and scholarship at Boston University last year.

Arkady Mai, 64, and his wife Helena Seidel, 59, of Moscow, are refuseniks since 1974, because of Mai's supposed knowledge of "state secrets." They told visiting Americans in May they didn't "think there were any possibilities for them to emigrate." They have a daughter, Naomi, 25. Mai is an electronics engineer, Seidel a linguist-lecturer who has spent whatever time she could translating. Mai reportedly contracted bronchial asthma during the World War II.

Semyon Yantovsky, 78, who recently did research on the conditions of synagogues in the Soviet Union, also got permission Monday. His wife, Erna Matlina, received her permission last week. Matlina's son is in Israel. Yantovsky's first refusal was in 1978. His profession was lecturer in religion. He speaks English and Hebrew.

Vladimir Lifshitz, 46, was notified Monday also, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Lifshitz was first refused January 1, 1981. A systems analyst and mathematician, he lost his job as head of the division of economic forecasting at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for the Jewelry Industry. He was arrested January 8, 1986, after staging several hunger strikes. He was a Hebrew teacher and cultural activist in Leningrad. He is married to Anna and has two children, Boris and Maria. Boris has been offered a place at Boston University and financial help.

Two POCs Expected To Be Released Soon

Only one Jewish Prisoner of Conscience reportedly remains in jail: Alexei Magaryk, who is expected to be released in a few days. Twenty-six former prisoners have not received exit visas, among them Ida Nudel.

According to Lynn Singer, LICSI executive director, at the Chautauqua, NY, human rights conference last week, Samuil Zivs, vice chairman of the Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee and of the Association of Soviet Lawyers, publicly said: "I can now give you two secrets: that Magaryk will be released by the 14th of September, and Joseph Zisels (a Prisoner of Conscience from Moscow) will be out in October." Zisels' wife and teen-age son have been living in Israel for five months. Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, said "It's not surprising that the Soviets chose this moment, eight days before the start of the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks, to make this announcement."

However, she said, "It's a tangible and dramatic indication that Soviet leaders are aware of the constant efforts in behalf of Soviet Jews that are undertaken by our government and leading human rights groups, such as the UCSJ; it's an indication that the pressure for movement forward has to be kept up."

The NCSJ said, "While we are gratified by the permissions granted to three former Prisoners of Conscience, and several long-term refuseniks, we can only hope that permissions will soon be granted to the thousands of other refuseniks who wish to exercise their basic human right of freedom of emigration."

LAVI WORKERS STAGE PEACEFUL PROTEST By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- About 15,000 employees of Israel Aviation Industries (IAI) demonstrated peacefully but noisily outside the Prime Minister's Office Sunday to protest the Cabinet's decision to scrap the Lavi, Israel's jet fighter-plane project.

They marched around the building seven times, blowing horns in a reprise of Joshua's phalanx before the walls of Jericho. They carried placards reading "Zionism Kaput," "Scrapping the Lavi Means Dependence Forever," and "Lavi, C'est La Vie." Some chanted "Peres Go Home." The marchers followed an eight-foot model of the Lavi which would have been the second-generation combat aircraft designed and built in Israel.

Police armed with clubs and shields were on the scene and troops with machine guns were deployed on rooftops. But the anti-riot precautions proved unnecessary. The demonstrators observed the conditions laid down by the Premier's Office -- that they observe law and order and not interfere with Ministers entering the building to attend the weekly Cabinet session.

The Lavi decision split the Cabinet along party lines. Labor voted to abandon the project. Likud stood firmly behind it and might have carried the day had not Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, a Likud Liberal, sided with Labor.

The issue is far from dead. The Herut Central Committee, meeting in Ariel in the West Bank Sunday, resolved to "make every effort to re-examine the decision." Premier Yitzhak Shamir insisted, however, that as long as the Cabinet majority decision stands, it must be respected.

Generals Come Under Fire

But Shamir sharply criticized the top-ranking Israel Defense Force officers, including the new Chief of Staff, Gen. Dan Shomron, and Air Force Commander Gen. Avihu Bin Nun who had lobbied vigorously against the Lavi. They argued that the hugely expensive project would rob the IDF and particularly the Air Force of more vital new weaponry. They contended that the American F-16C jet fighter was as good as the Lavi and much less costly.

Shamir, however, blasted the generals. He said the IDF's involvement in the Lavi debate was "a dangerous precedent which I hope will never be repeated." Herut denounced Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for their opposition to the plane. But observers noted that the resolution adopted by Herut to try to reverse the decision was moderate compared to the sharp rhetoric of Shamir, Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, Housing Minister David

Levy and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens who last week resigned from the Cabinet to protest abandonment of the Lavi.

The immediate effect of the Cabinet's action may be large-scale dismissals by the government-owned IAI, one of the largest single employers in the country. Rabin ordered the top management of IAI Sunday night to lay off 3,000 employees. He said 2,000 other Lavi workers could be employed on other IDF-backed weapons projects.

Nissim said earlier that the number of dismissals will not be determined immediately and he hoped additional aid from the U.S. would reduce the number of lay-offs. Some IAI employees may find jobs with the Israel Electric Corp.

Nissim Going To Washington Next Week

Nissim will go to Washington next week on a trip planned before the Lavi decision, he told Israel Radio Friday that he would ask the Americans to quickly implement their promises to help Israel cushion the dislocations resulting from cancellation of the Lavi.

He said he would also investigate ways of utilizing American defense orders in Israel that would be most helpful to Israel's defense industries in general and IAI in particular.

Shultz Reaffirms U.S. Support

Secretary of State George Shultz sent a message Friday to Shamir reaffirming the American commitment to support Israel's economy and security. He told Shamir he understood the difficulty of the decision to scrap the Lavi but promised that cooperation from now on would strengthen both countries.

On Thursday Shultz telephoned Arens, a former Israel Ambassador to the U.S. who is highly respected in Washington. He urged him to withdraw his resignation. But Arens replied that while he was moved by Shultz's plea, he could not bear the responsibility for the Lavi decision and therefore left the Cabinet.

Meanwhile, Peres told the Foreign Ministry Executive Friday that Israel's main goal now is to strengthen economic ties with the U.S. and Japan, including technological and industrial projects.

ABA DELEGATION IN USSR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINARS WITH SOVIET LAWYERS By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Twenty U.S. lawyers are in the Soviet Union as delegates of the American Bar Association (ABA) to meet with members of the Association of Soviet Lawyers (ASL) and other Soviet teachers and legal experts for in-depth seminars and a tour of the Soviet Union to include observation of courtrooms and other institutions.

The scope of this particular exchange is unprecedented, says Eugene Thomas, immediate past president of the ABA who was instrumental in hammering out the details of the seminar.

The arrangement arose from the much disputed "declaration of cooperation" entered into by the two lawyers' groups in 1985. Many Soviet Jewry activists in the U.S. have raised loud voices against the agreement, arguing that the Soviet lawyers work directly for the Soviet state and that within the group are individuals responsible for anti-Semitic propaganda.

However, a number of attorneys personally involved in the struggle for human rights in general and Soviet Jewish rights in particular

have expressed cautious optimism for the accord, viewing it as a possibility to work, albeit guardedly, with the Soviet system.

The ABA, at its annual convention last month in San Francisco, resolved by voice vote that any agenda drawn up between the American and Soviet lawyers must include the issue of human rights. This will include permission to monitor trials, release of political prisoners, an end to punitive psychiatric hospitalization and adherence to the Helsinki Accords.

The resolution was urged by those generally opposed to the ABA-ASL agreement who, in light of the 156-32 person vote at this past convention, saw some slim possibilities in including a special resolution that would focus ABA attention on human rights and the special cases of Soviet Jews and dissident prisoners.

Agenda Of The Seminars

The agenda of the initial two-day seminar, held in Moscow, encompassed methodical interchanges on the two nations' legal approaches to the issue of individual freedoms, including: the concept of human rights; human rights provisions in the constitutions of both countries; international pacts on human rights and their implementation in the law of the country; social, economic, political and legal guarantees of the enforcement of human rights (housing, education, health care, employment).

Also, political rights and freedoms of citizens; procedural guarantees of justice and of the rights of an individual (due process); guarantees of inviolability of persons and their homes (search and seizure); social and economic rights of citizens; rights of women in society; rights of national, racial and ethnic minorities in society; available remedies to protect rights of individuals against encroachments by officials or government agencies; and the role of the judiciary in protection of the rights of an individual.

The two days of seminars were held September 3 and 4. In addition, court visits and other meetings were planned for the American and Soviet lawyers in Moscow and Leningrad.

The delegation is led by Robert MacCrate, ABA president, and the organization's president-elect, Robert Raven, the two of them acting as official ABA representatives.

Although there have been previous exchanges between the two lawyers' groups which have placed human rights as a priority concern, the current seminar in the USSR focuses on the issue exclusively.

Last September, the American and Soviet lawyers met at Dartmouth College. This past June, the Soviet lawyers attended a meeting of the ABA board of governors in Boston, and then were invited to attend the annual meeting of the National Association of Attorneys General in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where they discussed human rights issues. The Attorneys General also decided to send a delegation to the USSR, slated for October.

The Soviet lawyers then went to Boise, Idaho, at the invitation of Thomas, who is now in private practice there. In Boise, they discussed trade and business relations with the USSR with a panel of general counsel of Pacific Northwest businesses interested in international trade.

"Please note," Thomas told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, referring to the Moscow seminars, "that this is different in that there is an added quality of expertise in the field of human

rights and Soviet law generally." He explained that five lawyers addressing the issues are specialists, steeped in Soviet law, culture and language. The ABA delegates were briefed by the State Department and Soviet Jewry groups, Thomas said.

The concord between the American and Soviet lawyers was adamantly opposed at the ABA's annual convention last month in San Francisco by former Soviet dissidents who were Prisoners of Conscience in labor camps and psychiatric hospitals. They see this agreement as a ploy, a deceit perpetrated by the Soviets under the new policy of glasnost.

ABA advocates of the human rights resolution claim that if the Soviet lawyers are members of the Soviet state system, one has to deal with them as such, without illusions, and bring this awareness to the discussion table.

An Anticipated Accomplishment

Neil Kritz, who drafted the resolution, was among those who briefed the ABA delegation that is now in the USSR. Kritz told JTA he thinks "this is very worthwhile. I think the ABA is a potentially very important ally in the Soviet Jewry movement." Kritz believes one of the most significant accomplishments to come from the ABA-ASL agreement will be the successful placement of prison observers.

At present, the ABA and ASL have agreed to a court trial observer arrangement in both countries, "which if it works is an enormous step," said Kritz, a Soviet Jewry activist himself who works in the ABA's Washington office as coordinator of immigration law implementation projects.

Thomas said that at the June meetings in Boston, ASL visitors "admitted they had to be able to enforce the agreement. They agreed that the Soviet standards of justice weren't high enough, that KGB practices were wrong."

The agreement to trial and prison observers was not easy to realize, said Thomas, explaining at length the background to the agreement. The accord did not come about in Washington, or New York, or even in Boston. Rather, it was pushed over late night coffee in his living room in Boise. There, he worked over the agreement's specifics with ASL president Alexander Sukharev, who is also Justice Minister of Russia.

Thomas said he had tried to include in the agenda administrative proceedings in addition to criminal and civil judicial proceedings. Sukharev, he said, agreed to support the criminal and civil observer requests and would sign an agreement at a later time, but Thomas said he told him that the partial agreement "wasn't good enough."

Therefore, said Thomas, Sukharev promised to fight for the rights of lawyers or appropriate government officials to visit each others' countries to observe trials or civil and criminal proceedings. Thomas and Sukharev then secured board ratification of the presidential agreement. In San Francisco, this agreement was formalized.

"We've set this up so that other relevant people in the U.S. should go to the USSR as observers in trials," Thomas said. "What you do is you press and you press. But you've got to get these people to change what they do. This is a business for very cynical people," Thomas conceded.

A STORMY WEEKEND IN JERUSALEM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- A small and relatively quiet demonstration of Haredim (ultra-Orthodox) outside the United Nations building at the Mandelbaum Gate former crossing point in Jerusalem Sunday provided a bizarre addendum to one of the stormiest weekends this city has known in recent years.

Nearly 30 Haredim and one non-Orthodox here were arrested during Saturday demonstrations by the ultra-Orthodox in more than 20 locations around the city.

The night before, six film-shows took place, one of them in a commercial cinema, and all were sold out in an exhibition by non-Orthodox Jerusalemites of solidarity with the secularist activists pressing for a more variegated cultural life in the capital on weekends.

The Haredim mounted several demonstrations close to Haredi areas on Friday night, but these were small and nonviolent. The action turned nasty Saturday afternoon, when, on orders issued before Shabbat by the Beit Din of the Eda Haredit, ultra-Orthodox activists led Shabbes demonstrations at key intersections throughout the city.

The Main FlashPoints

The main flashpoints were the junction of Mea Shearim street and Shivtei Yisrael Street, and Bar-Ilan street, the main artery from the northern suburbs to the western exit of the city towards Tel Aviv. In both these places, police were massed in force, and they used tear-gas, high-pressure water-cannon, mounted cavalry charges-- and liberal swinging of their night-sticks -- to keep the roads clear for traffic.

On the whole, they succeeded in this mission, though one woman driver was hurt by a flying stone that hit her car, and a policeman was also injured by a projectile. Police sources said more than 600 extra men had been brought into the capital over Shabbat. The commercial cinema that screened a film Friday evening, the Orna, had formally rented its premises to a non-profit organization, and preceded the showing with a lecture by well-known author David Grossman.

At Beit Agron, a municipality-aided cultural center in downtown Jerusalem, religious and secular citizens engaged in heated sidewalk arguments while in the hall a film was screened, preceded by a brief lecture in order to qualify as a cultural event. Meanwhile, the Jerusalem municipality announced Sunday that it would prosecute both the commercial cinema that screened a film on Friday night and the company running Beit Agron.

Mayor Teddy Kollek's spokesman Rafi Devara said the Mayor distinguished between programs which were genuinely cultural and other ventures that were mainly commercial. Devara's implication was that Kollek would defend film-shows at bona fide cultural centers but would not allow a creeping spread of films to commercial halls.

President Chaim Herzog came out Sunday against films in Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Israel Television quoted him as explaining that the special character of the city should be preserved.