

ISRAELI OFFICIALS DOWNPLAY ISSUE OF SHULTZ'S HOSTELRY PLANS WHILE VISITING ISRAEL LATER THIS MONTH

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 7 (JTA) -- Israeli officials dismissed reports Tuesday of widespread anger here over Secretary of State George Shultz's plans to stay at the U.S. Ambassador's residence in Herzliya instead of Jerusalem when he comes to Israel later this month.

Aides at both the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry sought to ease tensions surrounding Shultz's visit and that of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, due on November 1. Chirac reportedly declined to meet Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem at the City Hall, preferring the non-political venue of a local theater.

Shultz's plans were said to be tentative. One report Tuesday quoted State Department officials as saying he would stay in Jerusalem. In any event, Israeli officials insisted that the logistical arrangements for Shultz's visit had no political overtones but were made solely with his comfort and convenience in mind. Nevertheless, it was pointed out that Shultz and other ranking American officials on past visits to Israel stayed in Jerusalem, usually at the King David Hotel.

Much of the uproar was generated by Likud-Herut MK Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction, who charged Tuesday that Shultz's plan to stay at the Ambassador's residence was a deliberate slight against the status of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"If this is the way Shultz relates to Jerusalem, what can we expect from him concerning the Israeli stance on Jerusalem if negotiations take place in the framework of an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council? What can we expect from the Chinese, Soviets, French and English?" Kaufman asked.

Tension Over Chirac's Plans

With respect to Chirac, Kollek warned Tuesday that he would boycott the French leader's visit, the first by an incumbent Prime Minister of France. But the reports that Chirac would avoid Jerusalem's municipal headquarters were attributed to his aides. The Prime Minister himself made no decision to boycott the Jerusalem City Hall for political reasons, Israeli sources said. No such reluctance has been expressed by members of his advance party, they said.

The sources noted that President Richard von Weizsaecker of the West German Federal Republic and other European political figures had always called on Mayor Kollek at City Hall and they expect Chirac to do likewise.

Shultz is due in Israel on October 15 or 16, his first visit to the Middle East since 1985. Sources here said he may make a quick trip to Saudi Arabia on the Saturday after his arrival and return to Israel after the Sabbath. He is also expected to visit Jordan and Egypt.

SHEVARDNAZDE ASSURES URUGUAYAN JEWS OF USSR'S NEW EMIGRATION POLICY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 (JTA) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze mingled with and spoke to more than 1,000 Uruguayan Jews demonstrating outside the Soviet Embassy in Montevideo Monday demanding full rights for Jews in the USSR, it was reported here Tuesday from the Uruguayan capital.

Shevardnadze assured them that his country has adopted a more liberal policy toward Soviet Jews, including freer emigration. He also held a street dialogue for 15 minutes with the president of the Central Committee of Uruguayan Jews, Pedro Sclosky, according to Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith.

Reich commended the Jewish community in Montevideo for its strong demonstration of concern for Soviet Jewry. It apparently prompted the unusual response by Shevardnadze. Ranking Soviet officials rarely if ever have direct personal contact with human rights demonstrators.

According to Reich's report, Shevardnadze assured the crowd of his "firm resolve to solve the problem of Soviet Jewish emigration" and invited Uruguayan Jewish leaders to visit the Soviet Union to see for themselves.

He reportedly told Sclosky that exit visas would be granted to Jews except in cases where national security was involved. Sclosky replied that the security argument was invalid and pressed for the right of Jews to freely practice their religion and culture in the USSR.

The Jewish leader was quoted later as saying he hoped there was a genuine change in Soviet policy, but only time would tell. He said he expected a Jewish delegation would visit Moscow.

HOUSE APPROVES A 'HATE CRIMES' BILL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 (JTA) -- A "hate crimes" bill that would impose federal criminal penalties for damage to religious property and injury to persons in the free exercise of their religious beliefs was approved by the House on a voice vote Monday.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Dan Glickman (D.Kan), provides for fines up to \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for anyone who causes \$10,000 or more damage to a church, synagogue, religious cemetery or other religious real property or causes serious bodily injury to a person trying to exercise his religious beliefs.

The House passed a similar bill introduced by Glickman last year. But David Brody, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith who worked closely with the Congressional committees that drafted the legislation, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that several changes were made.

He said the earlier bill made any damage to a religious property a federal offense. But it was decided that the federal government should only be brought in for a major offense causing at least

\$10,000 in damages, rather than desecrations like daubing a swastika on synagogues which can be handled by local authorities. The current bill also makes it a federal crime to use a vehicle that could be used in interstate commerce, for commission of hate acts whether or not it crosses a state line, Brody said. He said he plans to work with Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio), who is scheduled to introduce a "hate crimes" bill in the Senate, in an effort to ensure his proposal would coincide with the bill adopted by the House.

Up to now, religiously-motivated violence was not subject to federal prosecution except in the cases of arson or where explosives were used. The defacing of property, which is one of the most common acts against synagogues and Black churches, was not a federal crime.

In addition, a major reason for the bill was that reports have indicated that incidents based on religious and racial bias are increasing and becoming more violent.

Meanwhile, Glickman and Rep. Barbara Kennelly (D. Conn.) plan to introduce a companion bill that would require the Justice Department to gather hate crime statistics for an annual report as it does with other crimes.

PROMINENT SOVIET REFUSENIKS URGE AUSTRALIAN P.M. TO CONTINUE HIS SUPPORT FOR THEIR EMIGRATION EFFORTS By Sam Lipski

MELBOURNE, Oct. 7 (JTA) — A group of prominent Soviet refuseniks have sent a personal appeal to Prime Minister Bob Hawke to continue his support for their efforts to leave the Soviet Union for Israel, particularly when he makes his official visit to Moscow scheduled for late November or early December.

But Prof. Aleksander Lerner, doyen of the Moscow refuseniks, who signed the letter on behalf of nine others who have been waiting 10-15 years or longer for permission to emigrate, seems at the moment to have good reason to hope that by the time Hawke arrives in Moscow, accompanied by his wife, Hazel Hawke, all or most of them will have their visas and may, in fact, be in Israel.

Those hopes were kindled by the report of Isi Leibler, an Australian Jewish leader who returned from a visit to Moscow last week. He said he was advised by senior Soviet officials that the Citizenship Commission of the Supreme Soviet has recommended positive action on all appeals it receives from applicants for exit visas.

Leibler said the numbers affected varied according to different officials from "a couple of dozen" to "in the tens, perhaps as many as 100." He said he was unable to explain the discrepancies but suggested the lower figures referred to heads of families while the higher numbers may include all family members.

According to Leibler, there are reasonable hopes that the information he was given is reliable. Leibler, who is chairman of the Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs and president of the Asia-Pacific Region of the World Jewish Congress, went to Moscow as the official guest of the Moscow Synagogue for Rosh Hashanah.

The Soviet officials who informed him of the recommendations to the Supreme Soviet were Yuri Reshatov, Deputy Director of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Humanitarian Affairs Department, Oleg Avramenko, Deputy Director of the Foreign Ministry's Consular Department, and Rudolf Kuz-

netsov, head of OVIR, the Interior Ministry's visa department.

Leibler said he was most encouraged by his meeting with Reshatov, who advised him of three developments. The first was an assurance that within a matter of days, a leading long-time refusenik whose name has been raised constantly in negotiations between the U.S. and the USSR would be permitted to leave.

Although Reshatov would not disclose the name, he was obviously referring to Ida Nudel, who was advised only last Friday that she would receive a visa to go to Israel.

The second assurance was that the Citizenship Commission's recommendations were awaiting ratification by the Supreme Soviet later this week and that no objections were expected. Since April, the Supreme Soviet has designated the commission as an appeals tribunal to which visa applicants rejected through normal bureaucratic channels could appeal for review. "In the circumstances, I am hopeful that the second assurance will prove equally accurate," Leibler said.

Issue Of Long-Time Refuseniks

But it was the third reference to the prospects of long-time refuseniks which will prove to be the critical test of the assurances Soviet leaders have given to a number of Jewish leaders and Western officials in recent months, Leibler said.

When asked whether the problem of the refuseniks who have been waiting for 10 years or longer would be solved positively, Reshatov replied that he did not expect "it would continue to be a problem after that."

Leibler noted that Reshatov spoke to him shortly after his return from Washington where he met with Richard Schifter, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights. Leibler said Reshatov referred to that meeting, noting that the joint communique issued after talks between Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last month indicated "constructive progress" in the human rights area.

Reshatov said he believed this was an indication that the U.S. now believes genuine efforts are under way in the Soviet Union to deal with the specific problems of long-term refuseniks as well as the more general issue of Jewish emigration, Leibler reported.

Nevertheless, Leibler stressed that "The mood of glasnost (openness) in Moscow had to be measured against the realities facing many of the refuseniks themselves." He said he met in Moscow with Lerner, Isif Begun, Vladimir Slepak and others. They shared his assessment that, in light of the probable summit meeting between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Reagan later this year, their prospects for receiving exit visas were better than at any time in recent years, Leibler said.

NAVON KICKS OFF ISRAEL 40 CELEBRATION By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Oct. 7 (JTA) — Israel's President Chaim Herzog will come to the United States on an official state visit at the beginning of next month as part of Israel's 40th anniversary celebration. Herzog will meet with President Reagan, high-ranking officials and Jewish leaders.

Herzog's upcoming visit was announced at a news conference here Wednesday, where Yitzhak

Navon, Israel's Education Minister, who is chairman of Israel's committee on the 40th anniversary, and Howard Squadron, chairman of the U.S. committee for Israel's 40th anniversary, launched the year-long celebrations of Israel's 40th year of statehood.

Navon and Squadron described the celebration, which begins this month and continues through December 1988, as "unprecedented in scope." It will include thousands of events and performances in Israel and the United States, involving tens of thousands of people and reaching audiences of millions in both countries.

Navon, who is Israel's former president, said that the major theme of the celebrations in Israel will be Israel's Declaration of Independence of May 14, 1948. He said that hundreds of educational, cultural and sports events will take place in the country, many of them designed to make Israel one of the world's outstanding tourist attractions next year. Among the major events, Navon said, will be international festivals of theater, film, dance, music and art. A major jazz festival in the Negev is expected to attract some 150,000 people, and a major exhibition in Tel Aviv's exhibition park will display Israel's achievements during the last 40 years, the Minister said. Navon said that the Israeli government has allocated a budget of about \$10 million for the celebrations in Israel. Squadron said that Israel's 40th anniversary will be observed and celebrated in thousands of communities across the U.S. Among the events, he said, will be television specials, a special U.S. Postal Service cancellation, cultural and student exchanges, parades and contests.

"We are pleased because we have so much to celebrate," Squadron declared. "We will celebrate the unprecedented depth of friendship between Israel and the U.S. We will celebrate the important role American Jewry and the American people have played in the development of Israel, and the special relationship that Israel enjoys with our country and with the Jewish community."

In a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations prior to the news conference, the National Committee for Israel's 40th Anniversary released a 25-page guide to events and resources reflecting the involvement of thousands of communities and groups in the celebration in the U.S. The National Committee also unveiled at the meeting the special symbol of the 40th anniversary. The logo, which was designed in Israel, features a menorah positioned between the numerals 4 and 0 above the word "Israel" in Hebrew and English.

The National Committee is coordinated by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

WALLENBERG REMEMBERED

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 (JTA) -- Gordon Zachs, a national Jewish leader from Ohio, said Tuesday night that he was "outraged" that it was not until 1981 that he learned about Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat, who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during World War II and then was imprisoned by the Soviet Union. "I have been active all of my life in behalf of the Jewish people" and had read all

of the Holocaust literature, but "I never heard the name Raoul Wallenberg," he said at a Capitol Hill reception.

The reception, sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and the American Jewish Committee, marked the sixth anniversary of the signing by President Reagan of legislation making Wallenberg an honorary citizen of the United States.

Zachs and others praised Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.) and his wife, Annette, for bringing Wallenberg's name to national and international attention. The couple as teenagers were among the Hungarian Jews saved by Wallenberg.

It was Annette Lantos who began the effort to learn whether Wallenberg is still alive in a Soviet prison, as many believe, and seek his freedom.

Lantos, who introduced the legislation making Wallenberg an honorary citizen, noted that parks, streets, museums and schools have been named for Wallenberg throughout the world.

He said that in Hungary, where a statue to Wallenberg was stolen 40 years ago just before it was to be unveiled, a new monument to Wallenberg was erected in Budapest through the efforts of Nicholas Slago, the U.S. Ambassador to the Hungary at the time. Slago said the statue was not a monument to Wallenberg's memory but to keep his memory alive.

Legislation To Erect Wallenberg Statue

Lantos, who is co-chairman of the Human Rights Caucus, announced that legislation is being introduced in the House to erect a similar statue on the National Mall here, near the planned U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The street in front of the museum has already been named Raoul Wallenberg Place.

Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Humanitarian Affairs, said he raised the issue of Wallenberg's whereabouts during his recent visit to Moscow and received the official Soviet answer that Wallenberg died in 1947.

The Soviet Union "owes the world a full explanation of what happened to one of the true heroes of our time," Schifter said. He pledged to continue raising the issue with the Soviets.

Lantos stressed that "we are strong as ever" in the determination that Wallenberg be set free if he is alive, or that "the Soviet authorities tell us what happened" to him.

The AJCommittee was honored at the reception for being the first Jewish organization to back the effort in behalf of Wallenberg. The AJCommittee sponsored a press conference in 1979 which announced the formations of a Free Wallenberg Committee by Sens. Claiborne Pell (D. RI), Daniel Moynihan (D. NY) Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) and the late Frank Church (D. Idaho).

Theodore Ellenoff, AJCommittee president, called Wallenberg a "true hero of our time" who proved that "one person can make an extraordinary difference in history."

Schifter noted that Wallenberg's efforts proved right those who argue that the U.S. and its allies could have done more to save the victims of the Holocaust.

Also honored at the reception was Rabbi Frederick Werbell, a Swedish author who wrote "The Last Hero: The Mystery of Raoul Wallenberg."

GOLDA'S DENVER HOUSE MAY FINALLY HAVE A SAVIOR

By Chris Leppik
Intermountain Jewish News

DENVER, Oct. 7 (JTA) — After more than a year of legal battles to save Golda Meir's dilapidated former home from demolition here, a philanthropic foundation has indicated its willingness to move, repair and utilize the structure.

By a unanimous vote Oct. 1, the foundation of the Auraria Higher Education Center declared support for placing the duplex permanently on the grounds of the center and committed itself to raising the funds necessary for the building's renovation or restoration.

The foundation is the fundraising arm of the center, the central campus authority for the large downtown site which includes Metropolitan State College, the University of Colorado at Denver and Community College of Denver.

Foundation chairman Larry Hamilton also directed a letter to Denver Mayor Federico Pena urging the city to refrain from demolishing the late Israeli Premier's house, currently situated in a city park, in order to allow Auraria staff time to plan for the house's siting, funding and use.

In addition, GMMA filed suit on Oct. 2 in Denver District Court seeking an injunction to prevent the demolition. Under a previous court stipulation, the city was legally free to destroy the building by midnight October 3. Mel Cohen of GMMA said the suit was primarily a precaution since city officials had stated their desire to hold off the demolition.

The Auraria plan still depends on a vote by the center's board of directors, headed by former mayoral candidate Don Bain. Such a decision will probably be made within the next few weeks, according to center development director Larry Ambrose.

Options Will Be Examined

Meantime, Auraria staffers will examine options relating to a permanent site, funding and suggested uses for the building. Those uses could include "anything from campus offices to a museum to classrooms to the idea of a living memorial," Ambrose said. "It would be nice if it had some relationship to higher education and the values that Golda Meir exemplified."

A consideration may be to use the structure in a "revenue producing" capacity, he added.

In order to comply with the wishes of the city, Ambrose noted, it may also be necessary for the center to remove the building from park property, place it at its permanent site on the campus and board it up until funds are raised to restore the house to a usable state.

The House That Won't Give Up

The building has been unoccupied since 1981, when it was narrowly saved from bulldozers at its original location in west Denver. Since then, the small brick structure has been moved to two city parks, was partially burned by arsonists, defaced with anti-Semitic symbols and has been the subject of numerous and varied disputes over how it should be utilized and where it should be located.

Initial support from the city waned as restoration funds proved difficult to obtain; the organized Jewish community has not made a financial commitment to the project.

GMMA, headed by Mel and Esther Cohen, has been the only advocate of preserving the house for several years, although it has been able more than once to attract national press attention to the project.

The house was occupied by Meir in 1913 and 1914. Then Golda Mabovitch, she was a student at North High School and lived with her sister and brother-in-law, who ran a dry-cleaning business and were Zionist activists. In her memoirs, Meir wrote that her interest in Zionism and Israel was sparked during her Denver stay.

INCIDENT IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 7 (JTA) — The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has lodged a strong protest with the Israeli Army over the fatal shooting of a wounded Nepalese soldier Sunday by units of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Although the Israel Defense Force was not implicated in the incident, UNIFIL holds it responsible because it arms, supplies and trains the SLA. Maj. Gen. Yossi Peled, commander of the northern sector, promised that the IDF-SLA liaison group would conduct a thorough investigation.

According to UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel, the soldier, a member of the Nepalese contingent of UNIFIL, was wounded when an SLA tank and half-track attempted to pass through a check post staffed by Nepalese soldiers. The SLA unit withdrew some 200 meters and then opened fire on the UNIFIL post wounding the soldier who was inside the white-painted building bearing the United Nations emblem.

The soldier was rushed to a hospital in an ambulance bearing the UNIFIL and Red Cross insignia when it came under heavy machinegun fire from a hilltop outpost of the SLA. The wounded man was struck in the neck and pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

He was the eighth Nepalese soldier killed on duty with UNIFIL and the 150th UNIFIL fatality since the international peacekeeping force began its duties in south Lebanon in 1978.

SOME \$100 MILLION SOUGHT FOR A U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 (JTA) — Eight persons have been appointed to the Honorary Campaign to Remember Committee which is seeking to raise more than \$100 million for a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to be built near the National Mall here.

The eight, named by Harvey Meyerhoff, chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, are: Walter Annenberg, publisher and former U.S. Ambassador to Britain; former Chief Justice Warren Burger; A. Bartlett Giamatti, president of the Baseball National League and former president of Yale University; Billy Graham, the evangelist; the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, former president of Notre Dame University; Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO; Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and Sol Linowitz, former special ambassador for the Panama Canal treaties and Middle East negotiations.

President Reagan is honorary chairman of the committee. Earlier, Leonard Strelitz, of Virginia Beach, Va., was named as chairman of the fund-raising effort.