

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
MODERATES ARE THE WINNERS
FROM ARAB SUMMIT IN AMMAN**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The three-day Arab summit meeting in Amman ended Wednesday in a clear-cut political victory for its host, King Hussein of Jordan.

The Hashemite monarch, who has never been accused of audacity in expressing moderate views among his peers, this time placed on the table his plans for an international peace conference as an instrumentality for negotiations with Israel.

And he won endorsement for it, even the grudging approval of President Hafez Assad of Syria, long a bitter foe of any approach to peace with Israel and until recently one of Hussein's severest critics.

The king was able to claim at the end of the summit that it had brought to the Arabs unity of "word, stand and goal." Indeed, the participants exhibited a skill rare in inter-Arab diplomacy of burying, or at least white-washing, their traditional differences. Even such arch-enemies as Assad and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq exchanged smiles.

Observers may have wondered beforehand why Hussein, ruler of a desert kingdom with serious economic difficulties, took the risk of holding a summit that may well have been a dismal failure, and of raising such delicate issues as an international peace conference. Had the gambit failed, his ability for diplomatic maneuvering would have been greatly restricted.

The answer apparently lies in the timing. The participants at the summit -- not all Arab countries attended -- were clearly far more concerned with the immediate dangers posed by Iran in its eight-year war with Iraq, than with their conflict with Israel, which has been simmering for 40 years.

Hussein's Stance Endorsed

The summit endorsed Hussein's basic line of policy -- total backing of Iraq in the Persian Gulf war. The move represents a sharp reversal of position by Assad who, with Col. Moammar Gadhafi of Libya, is the only Arab leader to have supported the regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Assad dutifully assented in the condemnation of Iran.

In that context, the international peace conference was a far less urgent matter. The Israel government remains sharply divided on the issue. Moreover, Hussein was forced to agree that the Palestine Liberation Organization must participate, which makes the prospects of a conference even more remote. But there was no mention of a Palestinian state in any of the resolutions adopted at the summit, a score in Hussein's favor.

Nevertheless, a Damascus radio commentary Thursday said the summit conference did not obscure, at least for Syria, "the real problem of the Arab world -- facing the Israeli enemy."

On the other hand, the success of the summit, from Israel's point of view, was underlined by the fact that it was condemned by only

two countries -- Iran and Libya -- and that it resulted in a significant rehabilitation of Egypt in the Arab world, without in the least compromising Israeli-Egyptian diplomatic relations.

Egypt Has Reason To Be Pleased

Egypt did not attend the Amman summit, but had good reason to be satisfied with its outcome. Officially, Egypt has been boycotted by the Arab League since it signed its peace treaty with Israel in March 1979. But at the summit this week, each Arab country was given permission to renew ties with Cairo in the name of "recruiting all resources to accomplish the ends of the Arab people."

Cairo radio welcomed on Thursday those Arab countries which "returned to Egypt." So far, the only one is the small Gulf state of Abu Dhabi, which renewed diplomatic relations with Egypt immediately after the summit.

But its foreign minister, Rashed Abdallah, said in Cairo Thursday that other Gulf states would soon follow suit. He said his country's decision was taken after consultations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain.

In Israel Thursday, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Hussein came out of the summit strengthened since the other Arab countries did not slam the peace door in his face. Premier Yitzhak Shamir was concerned however over summit resolutions that called for joint action against Israel.

**JACKSON SENDS PROMISED LETTER
ASKING SYRIA TO EXTRADITE NAZI**
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The Rev. Jesse Jackson has fulfilled his promise to Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld to write to President Hafez al-Assad of Syria, asking for the extradition to West Germany of alleged Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner.

Jackson made the promise last week to Klarsfeld, who for years has been seeking to bring Brunner to trial.

The letter reportedly was sent Wednesday night to the charge d'affaires at the Syrian Embassy in Washington. A copy was sent to Jackson's friend, political analyst Anne Lewis in Washington, whose office made the text available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

In the one-page letter, Jackson refers to the good relations created between himself and the Syrian president in 1984, when Jackson secured the release of American reconnaissance pilot Robert Goodman, whose plane was shot down by Syrian troops in Lebanon.

At that time, Jackson writes in the letter, Assad showed "visionary leadership in demonstrating that this sign could be a first step in moving our nations in the direction of peace and negotiation rather than confrontation -- an art of humanity and statesmanship."

In 1984, Jackson recalls, he and Assad "talked candidly yet respectfully of the need for peace and better communication in the Mideast. And we discussed the role of the PLO in the region and of the State of Israel."

"I asked you to consider the long-term benefits of a policy of mutual recognition of a safe and secure homeland, both for the Palestinians and for the Israelis, of a policy of discussion and negotiation rather than war and confrontation, all as necessary steps toward a permanent peace in the region."

Brunner Unrepentant

Within that context, Jackson raised the issue of Brunner, and of the interview Brunner gave to his "home-town paper," The Chicago Sun-Times, on Nov. 1, in which he said he was unrepentant for having killed Jews and "would do it again."

Jackson refers in his letter to Syria's claim that Brunner was not in that country. "Despite denials, the reports persist," he writes. "The heinous acts against humanity of the Third Reich cry out even this day for justice."

"Wherever Mr. Brunner seeks sanctuary, it must be denied. Releasing him for extradition to Germany would be the morally correct action to take. It would send the signal of good intentions around the world."

Assad's help in this matter, notes Jackson, would be "another opportunity to make a difference. Please accept my respectful request that you investigate this matter with all due haste. I am confident that in the name of peace and morality you will then take the appropriate action."

REFUSENIK ENDS LONG HUNGER STRIKE; 24 COLLEAGUES FAST FOR A DAY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A Soviet Jewish refusenik ended her 24-day hunger strike Tuesday, three days after 30 Moscow Jews held a one-day fast to protest state-sponsored anti-Semitism.

Anna Kholmiansky of Moscow, 27, concluded her marathon fast after her father, Yakov Yerukhimovich, provided the long-sought consent to allow her to apply to emigrate, according to the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews.

Alan Pesky, coalition chairman, described the consent requirement as "symptomatic of a Soviet legal system that remains arbitrary and repressive."

Meanwhile, on Saturday, when the Soviets celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, the 30 Moscow Jews staged their own hunger strike.

Stephen Solender, executive vice president of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of New York, learned of the strike Sunday during a telephone conversation with refusenik Allya Zonis, whom he met last month in Moscow.

Consent Is At Issue

Zonis, a refusenik since 1985, lost her job as a computer programmer when she applied for a visa. She now works as a cleaning woman and heads a group of refuseniks who are unable to emigrate because of lack of consent by parents or other relatives.

The group issued a declaration of "a one-day hunger strike as a protest against discrimination against Jews in the Soviet Union. . . . We protest the violations in treatment of Jews awaiting repatriation to Israel. We demand the cessation of religious and cultural crushing of Jews. We demand a stop to the provocation (and) propaganda against us in the press and on television."

When Solender asked Zonis of the Soviet reaction to the declaration, she replied, "There was no reaction."

Anna Kholmiansky married Aleksander Kholmiansky two years ago. He had served 18 months in a labor camp on a charge of illegal weapons possession that Soviet Jewry activists say is false. They have a five-month-old daughter, Dora.

Aleksander, 37, a computer scientist, first applied to emigrate in 1978. Since then, he has worked as a janitor and has been one of Moscow's leading Jewish activists, as well as an unofficial Hebrew teacher. Jews from around the country have traveled to study under his intensive language instruction.

He was arrested for "hooliganism" in 1984 during a camping trip in Estonia, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. He was initially accused of tampering with a mailbox and trampling flowers, but his 10-day detention turned into six months while the prosecutor investigated him.

Although his friends had searched his apartment after his arrest to ensure that nothing the authorities would deem suspicious was found, the KGB claimed to have found a pistol and ammunition. He was sentenced to 18 months in labor camp for illegal weapons possession, and fined about \$120-for mailbox tampering. During his initial detention, Kholmiansky also staged a long hunger strike.

Her brother-in-law, Mikhail Kholmiansky, a former refusenik, arrived in Israel last summer. He will be in Washington on Dec. 6 to participate in the mobilization for Soviet Jewry at the time of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit conference.

VISITING ISRAELI OFFICIAL CLAIMS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IS DEAD By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The view of official Washington is that the idea of an international peace conference for the Middle East is presently dead, according to Moshe Katzav, Israel's minister of labor and social affairs.

Katzav is member of the Herut wing of the Likud bloc, whose leader, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, opposes the international peace conference idea, which has been chiefly advanced in Israel by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Labor Party.

Katzav was in Washington this week for a two-day visit that included a meeting at the State Department Monday with Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Katzav quoted Murphy as telling him that "for the time being, as far as the U.S. is concerned, the idea of an international peace conference is dead."

Furthermore, during the recent visit of Secretary of State George Shultz to Moscow, "the issue of an international peace conference was not discussed at all between Shultz and the Soviet leadership," Katzav pointed out.

"An international peace conference is not only useless but also dangerous to the future of the Mideast," Katzav asserted. He said that if such a conference took place, it would surely fail, and then the Arabs' only option would be to resort to war with Israel.

Katzav also contended that "all the talk about an international peace conference" just

makes it harder to discuss any other ideas to achieve peace, such as the idea of direct, face-to-face talks between Israel and Jordan the same as it was between Israel and Egypt nearly 10 years ago.

Asked if he found in Washington an indication that America's economic troubles and its large trade deficit will eventually result in a sharp cut in American aid to Israel, Katzav replied: "My general impression was that there is an understanding in Washington of Israel's economic needs and difficulties. The issue of America's economic problems was mentioned, but there was not any indication that aid to Israel will be affected.

"My impression was, at the end of my visit to Washington, that all of the American commitments to Israel, as far as aid is concerned, will be honored," he said.

LINES DRAWN IN BATTLE OVER DUTCH STAGING OF FASSBINDER PLAY By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A controversy is boiling in Holland over the scheduled opening of a play by the late Rainer Werner Fassbinder in which one of the principal characters, an exploiter, is known as "the rich Jew."

Opponents of the play, "Garbage, the City and Death" want it banned on grounds it is anti-Semitic. Supporters contend it is symbolic, not anti-Semitic, and argue that a ban would amount to censorship and an abridgement of basic rights guaranteed by the Dutch constitution.

As the play's Nov. 18 premier at Rotterdam's Lantern Theater approaches, the lines of debate have been drawn. On one side is virtually the entire Jewish community of the Netherlands, supported by many non-Jews, including the 40,000-member "Christians for Israel," a Protestant organization.

The Netherlands Ashkenazi Congregation, which is traditional, was joined this week by the Liberal Jewish Congregation of Rotterdam and the Anne Frank Foundation in protests against the play. Earlier, objections were raised by Stiba, the foundation for combatting anti-Semitism, and Cidi, the center for information and documentation on Israel, which also fights anti-Semitism.

They lodged protests with the Rotterdam Municipal Executive and the Lantern Theater management, so far to no avail. The municipal authorities have tried to be neutral, but Rotterdam's alderman for cultural affairs spoke out this week against "cultural censorship."

He was promptly taken to task by Rabbi Lody Van De Kamp of The Hague, who recalled that, within living memory, the failure to exercise "cultural censorship" resulted in the murder of millions of Jews.

Leading supporters of the play include the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy. A recent graduate, Johan Doesburg, is producing the Dutch version of the Fassbinder play as his graduate project. He acknowledges the fear that the work may "foster hatred against the Jewish community," but insists this does not justify a boycott.

Doesburg recently contended in an interview with the Dutch Jewish weekly NIW that the protests were unfair. "In this play, not only Jews are presented, but also dwarfs, pimps and whores, but of all these groups, only the Jews have reacted hysterically," he said.

Doesburg's drama teacher, Louk Zonneveld, has stressed that an artist must be free to give expression to controversies in society and said "we must not allow ourselves to evade discussion of these problems." Other supporters have suggested that the play could be the source of discussion of anti-Semitism.

On Wednesday night, the Evangelical Broadcasting Co. allowed the Christians for Israel organization to explain why it objects to the play. It also opened its telephones to listeners. There were opinions pro and con, with two callers expressing anti-Semitic feelings.

One woman claimed Fassbinder, a West German, was a Jew and intended his play to be a warning to his fellow Jews of what would happen if they did not mend their ways. Another listener said the world should protest the actions of Israel, not Fassbinder's play.

The play has a stormy history. Its original premier on Oct. 31, 1985 was cancelled after members of the local Jewish community occupied the stage of Frankfurt's Kammerspiel Theater and held up banners charging anti-Semitism. The play was then withdrawn by its German impresario after a private staging for critics.

It remained in limbo until performed in New York last year. That opened the way for a scheduled tour of Holland following a premier at the Frascati theater in Amsterdam. But it was dropped by Frascati because of protests, to be reinstated by the Lantern Theater in Rotterdam.

SHOULD HAVE CHECKED ON WALDHEIM, SAYS AUSTRIAN WHO NOMINATED HIM

VIENNA, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria has admitted he erred when he proposed Kurt Waldheim for the office of United Nations secretary general in the early 1970s.

The World Jewish Congress reports that Kreisky told a packed lecture audience at a Vienna concert hall that he had failed to gather detailed information about Waldheim's Nazi past.

Kreisky, a leader of the Austrian Socialist Party and a non-practicing Jew, served as chancellor from 1970-83. Waldheim was elected president of Austria in July 1986, having served as U.N. secretary general from 1972-82.

"I proposed and supported the candidacy of an official of the Foreign Ministry (Waldheim) for the job of U.N. secretary general who quite obviously had not told the truth about himself," Kreisky said.

He hinted that the United States and the Soviet Union, which both supported Waldheim for secretary general, knew more about his past than he had.

Waldheim concealed for 40 years the fact that he had been an intelligence officer with the German army in the Balkans during World War II. His unit was involved in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities against partisans and civilians in Yugoslavia. Its commanding general was hanged as a war criminal in 1947.

Waldheim's connection was exposed during his presidential election campaign, largely through the efforts of the World Jewish Congress. He won a landslide victory. It emerged later that Waldheim's name is in the files of the Allied War Crimes Commission, among some 25,000 Class A suspects on whom there is sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution.

The files of the long defunct commission were turned over to the United Nations when its investigations were completed, and are now kept at the U.N. archives in midtown Manhattan.

Until a week ago they were accessible only to governments of member states. But after persistent appeals by Israel, the 17 former members of the war crimes commission agreed to open the files containing dossiers on more than 40,000 Nazi war criminals, to scholars, researchers, historians and journalists.

Waldheim has been placed on the "watch list" of the U.S. Department of Justice as an alien to be denied admission to the U.S.

SPLITS EMERGE IN GREEN PARTY OVER ITS POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The opposition Green Party is embroiled in a bitter internal conflict over its policy toward Israel, which, according to political observers here, could result in a fatal split.

The conflict is essentially between the moderates or "realists" in the party's parliamentary faction, and the extremists, known as "fundamentalists." While the Greens as a whole have always tilted toward the Arab cause in the Middle East, the moderates have been more even-handed, drawing the wrath of the fundamentalists who seem totally committed to Arab goals.

The immediate cause of the latest crisis is a case in point. A delegation of moderates visited Israel last month, headed by Otto Schilly, a prominent member of the Green Bundestag faction. The visit was a success from Israel's standpoint. While some members of the delegation, including Schilly, were critical of certain Israeli policies, the overall impression was a high degree of sympathy for the Jewish state.

Two weeks ago, the party's leadership body condemned the delegation for alleged failure to accurately represent the Green position while in Israel. Fundamentalists, notably Juergen Reents of Hamburg, accused Schilly and others of expressing "racist" and "colonialist" positions on their tour.

Schilly and others in the Bundestag faction wanted that condemnation reversed. But they failed, after an angry debate, by a vote of 13-12. The situation was a reversal of three years ago, when a fundamentalist delegation headed by Reents visited Israel and was condemned by the moderates for demonstrating anti-Semitic bias.

The success of the fundamentalists in the latest confrontation prompted Schilly to remark Wednesday that he would think about its "consequences." His statement prompted speculation that the realist wing would break away from the party.

Hubert Kleinar, the Green "whip" in the Bundestag, said in a radio interview Thursday that if Schilly decided to leave, he wouldn't be alone.

The Green Party, from its inception early in the decade as a coalition of ecologists, pacifists and anti-nuclear activists, has projected a schizoid image toward Jews and Israel. It has expelled at least a dozen members over the years for espousing neo-Nazi ideas and blatant anti-Semitism. But it has regularly opposed economic aid to Israel, maintaining that the funds should go to the Palestinian victims of Israeli "aggression." The Green Party was first elected to the Bundestag in 1983 and presently holds 28 seats in the 498-member body. It has remained independent

nationally, though on occasion entered into coalitions with the larger established party on the state level. The most notable was an alliance in 1985 with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) in Hesse.

Political observers here believe the schism within the party is more deeply rooted than the row over Israel and stems from issues far removed from the Middle East conflict. Nevertheless, according to the observers, the party has never been closer than now to breaking apart.

JAPAN SENDS HIGH-LEVEL TRADE DELEGATION TO ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A high-level Japanese trade delegation arrived here Wednesday for wide-ranging talks on commercial relations and international economic conditions. According to observers, this may be a further signal that Japan is ending its long-standing tilt toward compliance with the Arab League boycott of Israel.

The delegation, which met with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Thursday morning, is headed by Nihichiro Hanamura, chairman of an umbrella organization of Japanese businesses. Israel's ambassador to Japan, Yaacov Cohen, who flew in from Tokyo for the talks, noted that this is the 15th official delegation from Japan to visit Israel since 1985.

Prior to that year there were none. Cohen pointed out that cultural relations between the two countries have improved immensely over the past two years and predicted that trade relations will do as well.

Israel is something of an anomaly among Japan's trading partners. According to the Japanese, it is the only country with which Japan has an unfavorable trade balance. Last year Japan imported \$322.4 million worth of goods from Israel, but sold Israel only \$274.6 million.

Ambassador Cohen said Wednesday that Israel hopes to double its exports to Japan in the next two years.

Trade experts observe, however, that Israel's trade balance with Japan may not be as impressive as the statistics show. Two-thirds of Israel's exports to Japan are polished diamonds, the income from which must be balanced against the high cost of Israel's purchase of rough stones. Therefore, the net figures may still be in Japan's favor, the experts say.

Reluctance to Do Business

Part of the trade imbalance may be due to the reluctance of giant Japanese firms to do business with Israel. Japan is especially vulnerable to Arab pressure, because the country is heavily dependent upon Middle East oil. This has been said to account for the fact that leading Japanese automobile manufacturers, such as Honda, Toyota and Mitsubishi, do not sell their vehicles in Israel.

Cohen said Israel recently changed its tactics with respect to exports to Japan. Instead of seeking its markets among the largest Japanese corporations, which have heavy investments in the Arab world and fear the consequences of non-compliance with the boycott, Israeli businesses are now being encouraged to enter into partnerships with medium-sized firms that are less concerned with the boycott.