



DEC 10 1987

**ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTS DINITZ  
 CHAIRMAN OF WZO EXECUTIVE**  
 By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and a former ambassador to the United States, was elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive by a substantial margin at the 31st World Zionist Congress here Monday.

He defeated his Likud challenger, Science and Industry Minister Gideon Patt, by a vote of 310-220. The election was by secret ballot.

In his victory speech, Dinitz urged President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to put human rights at the center of their agenda for the summit that begins Tuesday in Washington.

He also pledged to reduce waste and duplication in the WZO and Jewish Agency departments he will be administering. Dinitz is virtually certain to be selected for the parallel post of Jewish Agency Executive chairman. He received the unanimous endorsement last week of the powerful overseas Jewish philanthropists on the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

His promise to improve the workings of the WZO-Jewish Agency bureaucracy seemed to be in direct response to President Chaim Herzog of Israel, who called for a radical "soul searching" on the part of the WZO in his speech at the festive opening of the congress Sunday night at the Binyanei Haooma convention hall here. Herzog spoke critically of "duplication, narrow interests, and inefficiency" in the WZO.

The outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency chairman, Leon (Arye) Dulzin of Likud's Liberal party wing, also appeared to tailor his valedictory address to the theme sounded by Herzog.

**Agency Should Not Handle Absorption**

Dulzin urged that the Israeli government take over operative responsibility for immigrant absorption in its entirety, instead of the present blurred responsibilities between the Jewish Agency and the Absorption Ministry. He said the WZO-Jewish Agency should confine itself to encouraging and facilitating aliyah.

Dinitz's relatively easy win over the Likud candidate was expected. He was supported by a powerful coalition the Labor Party put together with the Confederation of General Zionists, in which Hadassah is dominant; the Conservative Zionist movement, Mercaz; and the Reform Zionist movement, ARZA.

The Conservative and Reform Zionists had indicated they could not support Patt because, among other things, he voted in the Knesset in favor of the Orthodox-inspired amendment to the Law of Return, which would invalidate conversions performed by non-Orthodox rabbis.

Dulzin also called on Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leaders of Likud and the Labor Party respectively, to agree between themselves before next year's Knesset elections that the Law of Return will not be changed. "We in Israel ought not to take an internal political action whose ramifications affect the entire Jewish community," he said.

Peres, who attended the opening session of the congress, pledged that the Labor Party would oppose any change and would support the removal of that divisive issue from the national agenda for the next 10 years.

Dinitz's election did not end the politicking at the congress. The other members of the WZO Executive have to be chosen, each of whom will head a department. Traditionally, the key post of treasurer goes to the party of the losing candidate for chairman.

Some observers here believe that Labor will make an effort to relegate Likud to relatively minor portfolios. But it is unclear from the election results whether Labor can in fact muster the necessary strength to exclude Likud.

**Kaplan Takes Stand On Aliyah**

Mendel Kaplan of South Africa, the recently elected chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, emphasized aliyah in his address to the congress Sunday night. He urged every Zionist leader to set a personal example in that regard.

"Either you make aliyah, or you are no leader," Kaplan declared. He has a home in Israel, but spends part of the year in Johannesburg. He vowed that as head of the Board of Governors he would work closely with the WZO and strive for full cooperation.

Akiva Lewinsky, the outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency treasurer, told the congress Monday that the Jewish Agency debt has been reduced by \$185 million and stands now at \$200 million. He said without that achievement, there could have been no absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants and no massive aide to agricultural settlements in recent years.

Lewinsky had been the Labor Party's original candidate for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. He dropped out of the race after the diaspora Jewish philanthropists announced in October that they wanted new blood and would not support him.

In his report to the congress, Lewinsky said that the WZO-Jewish Agency work force has been cut 26 percent over the last 10 years and that some of the salaries are well below the national average.

On Sunday, Hadassah President Ruth Popkin was elected to the prestigious post of chairman of the congress, defeating Raya Jaglom, president of WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization. The vote, by a show of hands, represented a victory of the Labor coalition over the Likud bloc.

**ORGANIZERS OF 'FREEDOM SUNDAY'  
 SAY ITS SUCCESS DEPENDS ON SUMMIT**  
 By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The organizers of Sunday's demonstration for Soviet Jewry on the National Mall expressed satisfaction Monday at the large turnout, but stressed that the real test of whether the Washington Mobilization was a success will come at the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Hereafter the Soviets can never say that

this is a small movement or is a movement confined only to Jews," Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jews, the organizing agency for the demonstration, said at a news conference here.

"It is a national movement" and the crowd Sunday included Americans and Canadians of all races and religion," Abram said.

Gorbachev arrived in Washington late Monday afternoon and begin three days of talks with Reagan on Tuesday. The first major event is expected to be the signing of the INF treaty eliminating intermediate range nuclear forces.

Abram stressed that most American Jews support the treaty, but declared "the summit will fail" if it "does not make significant headway" on other issues, including human rights, as Gorbachev and Reagan said they would when they announced the summit date.

### Only Modest Gains

Secretary of State George Shultz said Monday that the United States expects only modest gains in the areas of human rights and regional issues. "We will make progress, but it won't be enough," Shultz said in a television interview on NBC's "Today" show.

Abram stressed that in addition to emigration, the Soviets must also allow Jews to practice their religion freely, teach Hebrew and form communal organizations. He also urged an end to the jamming of Voice of Israel broadcasts.

Abram, who also serves as chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, received a cable Monday from Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel, praising Sunday's rally.

"The great demonstration that you and your colleagues held in Washington is a testimonial of the strength and the moral weight of American Jewry and of the unity of the Jewish people," Shamir wrote.

"Your moving cry, 'Let My People Go,' echoed throughout the corners of the world," Shamir said.

"It brought home to many governments and peoples the resounding message that the Jewish people will not stand by and permit their brethren in the Soviet Union to be cut off from their people and from the land of their forefathers," he added.

Jacqueline Levine, chairperson of the Washington Mobilization, said at the Monday news conference here that the rally is "a remarkable demonstration of the unity of our community and tells us that on significant and crisis issues, we are indeed one."

### Gorbachev Remarks Drew Crowd

Levine said that until last week, the organizers had only expected about 75,000 people to participate. But she noted that about 250,000 were there Sunday, which she credited to Gorbachev's Nov. 30 interview on NBC-TV in which he took a hard line on emigration.

"Gorbachev's interview aroused people's ire and the desire to be part of something that could possibly change the course of history," she said.

The Voice of America broadcasted the demonstration to the Soviet Union. Yuli Edelshtein, a former refusenik, said he spoke to people in Moscow who expressed their appreciation for the turnout.

Another former refusenik, Ida Nudel, said she would never have believed that there could be

such a large number of demonstrators for Soviet Jewry.

### Soviet's Reaction Noncommittal

One of the first official Soviet reactions was a noncommittal one Monday from Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, who shared a briefing with White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

"I don't think it was an anti-Soviet demonstration," Gerasimov said when he was asked for his view. "It was a demonstration on one issue, on the issue of Jewish emigration. As I understood it, those who took part in the demonstration wanted to make the point and I think they did."

But Tass, the official Soviet news agency, denounced the freedom rally. Speeches accusing Moscow of anti-Semitism are "monstrous for their unfairness" and grossly distorted reality, the news agency said Monday.

The Arab League also protested. "For the United States to inject this issue at this time will further add fuel to the already explosive situation in the Mideast," Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League representative in the United States, said in a statement released here.

Several participants at Monday's news conference expressed concern that the summit could result in a new trade agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, particularly since Commerce Secretary C. William Verity has arranged for Gorbachev to meet with 60 American business leaders on Thursday.

### No Relaxation of Jackson-Vanik

Abram stressed that the Jewish community is united in opposing any relaxation of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, which links most-favored-nation benefits for the USSR with increased emigration, unless the Soviets allow at least 50,000 Jews a year to emigrate as it did in 1979. The Reagan administration is on record as opposed to any softening of the legislation.

But Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, stressed that the concern was over providing the Soviets benefits not covered by Jackson-Vanik, such as untied bank loans.

Cohen called for "linkage" between human rights advances and improved relations. She urged Reagan to tell Gorbachev that the Soviets must "earn the economic, trade, cultural and technical advantages which they desire so badly and they will earn them by demonstrating a willingness to change and not by simply denying their need to change."

Taking a similar line was Helene Drobenare, Soviet Jewry chairperson for the North American Jewish Students Network. She said that if Reagan agrees to increased trade without such linkage "Dec. 7 will be once again a day that will live in infamy."

Edelshtein said that the Soviets have themselves raised the linkage issue. He explained that refuseniks have been told in Moscow that if agreements are reached with the United States they might be allowed to emigrate sooner.

Martin Stein, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, pledged that the struggle will continue until "every Jew who lives in the Soviet Union is permitted to live freely as a Jew or to leave freely" for Israel.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel also contributed to this report.)

## EAST BERLIN PROSECUTOR PROTESTS LIGHT SENTENCES FOR NEO-NAZIS

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The state prosecutor in East Berlin has appealed against the relatively light sentences given by a district court there to four neo-Nazi thugs convicted of acts of violence last week.

The prosecutor contended that the one- to two-year prison terms were not consistent with the nature of their offenses.

The four, members of a "skinhead" group, broke into the Zion Church in East Berlin on Oct. 17, shouting "Jewish pigs" and "send the Jews to the gas chambers." They injured several congregants, some seriously, and damaged property.

The Zion Church, a Protestant denomination, is friendly to East Berlin's tiny Jewish community with which it maintains a running dialogue. The prosecution had demanded sentences of up to four years.

The trial was unusual inasmuch as it was the first public admission by the East German authorities that neo-Nazis are active in the Communist Democratic Republic of Germany. They still maintain, in conversations with Western reporters, that the right-wing extremists were influenced by "subversive elements" in West Germany.

The "skinheads," youthful roughnecks who wear Nazi-like uniforms, are a phenomenon that has surfaced recently in Western countries, including the United States. Most of them are aggressively anti-Semitic.

So far, the Jewish community in East Berlin has not been disturbed, but it is apprehensive. It sent observers to the trial of the four thugs.

## SEARCH UNDER WAY FOR KIDNAPPERS OF DUTCH JEWISH ACTOR AND ACTIVIST

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- A search is underway in Holland and Belgium for three Dutch neo-Nazis who allegedly kidnapped a Dutch Jewish actor, Jules Croiset, in the Belgian city of Brugge (Bruges) last Wednesday.

Croiset, 49, escaped his captors on Thursday. He described them as two men and a woman between the ages of 20 and 30, both of Dutch nationality. He said he was held in an abandoned factory near Charleroi, south of Brussels, subjected to anti-Semitic epithets and forced to swallow sleeping pills.

Croiset had been particularly active in the campaign by Dutch Jews and non-Jews to prevent the performance in Holland of a reputedly anti-Semitic play by the late West German playwright Rainer Werner Fassbinder. The play, "Garbage, the City and Death," was withdrawn by its sponsors, the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy, last month as a result of the widespread protests.

Since then, many Dutch Jewish families have received threatening telephone calls. Following the kidnapping of Croiset, Justice Minister Frits Korthals Altes of the Netherlands ordered police protection for members of the Jewish community.

A previously unheard of group calling itself the Netherlands Fascist Youth Organization has claimed credit for the kidnapping.

Croiset said his abductors did not speak of the Fassbinder play. He said they tore a Star of David from his neck and painted a swastika on his chest.

Croiset said he has been the target of

threatening phone calls before and after his kidnapping. One anonymous caller told him, "All Jews must die," the actor said in a television interview here.

The police said they have received about 200 tips as to the identity and whereabouts of the kidnappers. So far, the only clue is a metallic-colored Citroen D.S. car.

While the withdrawal of the controversial play was considered a victory for Dutch Jews and the many non-Jews who supported them, there has been a strong backlash in Holland. It has come from highly respected members of Dutch society and prominent journalists, who have accused the Jewish community of blocking freedom of expression and "cultural censorship."

Jewish groups who attended a private performance of the Fassbinder play said it may not be anti-Semitic, but could encourage anti-Semitism. One of the principal characters, a slumlord and exploiter, is portrayed as "the rich Jew."

Richard Stein, chairman of "Stiba," the Foundation for Combatting Anti-Semitism in Holland, expressed doubt that Croiset's kidnappers belong to the extreme right wing. Such extremists rarely refer to themselves as "fascist," he noted. He also thought it strange that neo-Nazis would demand a performance of a Fassbinder play. The playwright was an outspoken anti-fascist.

The Anne Frank Foundation here has urged the minister of justice to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate anti-Semitism in Holland and take legal actions where appropriate.

(Brussels correspondent Yossi Lempkowitz also contributed to this report.)

## RABIN SAYS ONE WAR CANNOT END TERRORISM OR RESOLVE CONFLICT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Israeli youths Monday against the "illusion" that one powerful blow could solve the Middle East conflict or eradicate terrorism.

Addressing high school students in Ramat Gan, Rabin said, "We have never had a war which ended all wars, and we can never have such a war. There can be no single war or operational battle which can eradicate terrorism."

He added, "I know it's nice to think so, to create expectations. But that's not the truth. There has been no one war to end all wars."

Rabin may have been referring indirectly to Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, which was supposed to clear Palestinian terrorists out of that country and establish peace with the Beirut government. Neither objective was achieved.

The defense minister referred to the fatal stabbing of an Israeli, Shlomo Takal, in the central square of Gaza on Sunday as a serious example of terrorism in the administered territories, carried out for nationalistic or religious reasons. He said, however, that despite the difficulties of combatting terrorism, some 80 percent of all serious terrorist attacks have resulted in the arrest and punishment of the assailants.

Rabin said that at least two Arab countries -- Syria and Iraq -- are capable of waging chemical warfare. He said there was a third country, as well, which he declined to name.

But every Arab country and Arab ruler should know that the use of chemical weapons against Israel would bring devastating retaliation, Rabin said.

# BEHIND THE HEADLINES: TERRORIST ATTACK SEEN AS SYRIAN MOVE TO RE-ESTABLISH CREDIBILITY By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The recent terrorist attack by a lone assailant who crossed the Israel-Lebanon border on a hang-glider and killed six Israeli soldiers is an attempt by Syria to rebuild its credibility in the Arab world, an expert on terrorism asserted in an interview here last week.

According to Lt. Col. Raanan Gissin, former deputy spokesman of the Israel Defense Force and the senior liaison officer with the foreign press in Israel from 1982 to 1986, Syria wanted to demonstrate with this terrorist attack that it is "the leading force in the armed struggle against Israel."

Syria, Gissin explained, came out as a "total loser" from last month's Arab summit meeting in Amman, Jordan. Not only did King Hussein of Jordan receive "a green light" by the end of the summit to continue with the efforts to reach a settlement with Israel, but Syria also found itself with only Libya opposing the resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt, Gissin noted.

"Syria found herself after the summit almost isolated in the Arab world. In addition to the other factors, Syrian isolation in the Arab world was magnified by its support of Iran in the Iran-Iraq war.

"Syria needed something to demonstrate a semblance of leadership in the Arab world," Gissin continued. "This is why President Hafez Assad (of Syria) allowed the terrorists of Ahmed Jabril, who heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, which is headquartered in Syria, to launch the attack against Israel," he said.

## No Hermetic Seal On Border

In Gissin's view, the terrorist suicide mission proves that Israel cannot seal its border with Lebanon hermetically. He contended, however, that the perpetrator, who sailed over the electrified fences of the Lebanon-Israel border in a hang-glider powered by a small bicycle motor, succeeded in his mission "by a fluke," because he was actually spotted by the IDF radar. Only a failure of the guards to heed the warning that was issued enabled the terrorist to kill six soldiers and wound seven others.

Gissin disclosed that in the last six months, more than 150 terrorists have been killed in the Israeli-controlled security zone in southern Lebanon and on the Israel-Lebanon border by the IDF and the South Lebanon Army, which is backed by Israel.

In addition, various terrorist organizations in Lebanon have attempted 35 attacks on IDF and SLA targets in southern Lebanon in the last 12 months, Gissin said, pointing out that the SLA lost more than 40 troops since September 1986 in clashes with terrorists.

Asked about the possibility of a war between Israel and Syria in the near future, Gissin replied: "Syria is interested in bolstering its image as a leading force in the rejectionist front against Israel, but at the same time she does not want to escalate the confrontation to a full war."

Syria, the former IDF spokesman asserted, knows that as long as the Iran-Iraq war is continuing, the Arab world is not ready to join ranks against Israel, and Syria alone, which is having

severe economic difficulties, will not go to war with the Jewish state under such circumstances.

But Syria, Gissin said, remains "the No. 1 military danger" against Israel. He said that Syrian military might includes 4,100 modern tanks, more than 650 MiG jet fighters, including the sophisticated and new MiG-29, some 150 missiles and chemical weapons that Syria manufactures itself. Syria, he added, has 400,000 regular troops in its army.

Gissin could not give information about the size of the Israeli military. But according to the London Institute on Strategic Studies, the IDF has 3,800 tanks, 600 airplanes and 500,000 soldiers in time of full mobilization of all the troops in reserve.

Gissin predicted that terrorist incidents against Israel will increase with any attempt to reach a peace settlement between Israel and Jordan.

But he noted, at the same time, that in the last year, there has been a marked decline in hard-core terrorist activity within Israel proper and the territories administered by Israel since the 1967 Six Day War. He said that from January to August 1987, there were 274 terrorist incidents in Israel and the territories, compared with 448 terrorists incidents in the same period in 1986.

## ARAB-OWNED ELECTRIC COMPANY LOSES CLIENTS IN JERUSALEM By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Thirteen Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem that have received their electric power from the Arab-owned Jerusalem District Electric Co. for the past 20 years, have been linked to the Israel Electric Corporation's national power grid.

The switch, which began at 11 p.m. Sunday and was to be completed by Monday evening, went smoothly despite the Arab utility's refusal to cooperate. More than 300 IEC employees carried out the carefully planned operation, watched by some 1,000 border police who were mobilized for the occasion.

The Jewish neighborhoods were built since the 1967 Six-Day War. They received their power from the Arab company under a 60-year-old concession dating from the British Mandate.

The concession, which permits the Arab company to serve other communities, expires at the end of this month. The Knesset just voted to extend the concession for 12 years on condition that the Arab company reduce its number of clients to overcome its \$25 million debt. The money is owed mainly to the IEC, from which it buys 95 percent of its power.

The Arab-owned company will continue to supply some 70,000 households in Jerusalem's Arab suburbs. Power to West Bank settlements, military bases in the territory and Jewish neighborhoods in the Old City, will be switched to the IEC grid at a later date.

The Arab electric company is the largest public institution in the West Bank. It had been receiving generous financial assistance from the joint development fund operated by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization until two years ago, when a rift developed between the two partners.

The financial assistance enabled the company to expand beyond its needs. Its financial difficulties are attributed to poor management and obsolete equipment.