

**SHULTZ TO MEET MIDEAST LEADERS
WITH HIS 'WORKABLE PROPOSAL'**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said upon his arrival in Israel Thursday evening that he had brought "a workable proposal" to reach a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"Recent events have underscored a clear and crucial fact -- the status quo in the region is not a stable option for any of the parties," Shultz said. He added, however, that "the status quo must not be changed in a way that would endanger Israel's security."

The secretary of state, accompanied by his wife Helena and a large entourage, has set up headquarters at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel, from where he will embark on shuttle diplomacy in neighboring Arab capitals over the next four days in an effort to sell his peace plan.

He will also make a strenuous effort to convince Premier Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the Likud faction, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader, to reach a unified position on the peace process and his specific proposals.

Peres alluded to the deadlock between the unity coalition partners when he told Shultz, on greeting him at Ben-Gurion Airport, "George, I am not sure you will find our land a land of complete agreement. But I feel your coming is accepted and welcomed by all of us."

Shultz is reported to have told American reporters accompanying him on his flight to Israel that he agreed with President Reagan that the unrest which has ravaged the West Bank and Gaza Strip for nearly three months was fomented by "outsiders."

However, the secretary also was critical of Israel's 20-year occupation, saying the Palestinians had no basic rights of self-government.

Reagan offered his explanation at a nationally televised White House news conference Wednesday night when he was asked why, while he has been "very eloquent on the subject of human rights in the Soviet Union and Nicaragua . . . you never condemned the treatment of the Palestinians in the occupied areas."

Cautious Optimism

Shultz told Peres at the airport that: "If we can work together with commitment and determination, we can make 1988 a year of peace in the region."

"We can make strides towards our goal of a comprehensive Middle East peace, if we all approach the situation with good will, open minds, and a realistic vision of what is possible. Now is the time to work for peace, and I am convinced I am bringing with me a workable proposal."

Shultz stressed that: "The friendship and ties between Israel and the United States have never been so strong. The time is ripe to move ahead. The time is ripe to together make decisions of historic importance. On behalf of President Reagan I assure you of America's unwavering commitment to Israel's security and prosperity."

Peres, in his welcoming remarks, said it was

acknowledged that the secretary of state came here "at a most demanding period in our lives, facing probably the most complicated issue of today."

The foreign minister said his U.S. counterpart was "coming equipped with friendship, experience, wisdom and determination, and one should not necessarily, because of the complexity of the situation, share the well-publicized skepticism because I am sure that Israel, as her Arab neighbors, as the Arabs who reside with us, are convinced that there is no better alternative than to make the first step in the long march to bring peace to our people and to our area."

Shultz had a grueling schedule planned. He was to spend Thursday evening consulting with his staff and officials of the U.S. Embassy. He has slated Friday meetings with Israeli leaders, beginning with breakfast at the residence of President Chaim Herzog. It will be attended by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering and Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to Washington.

Later, Shultz will meet separately with Shamir at his office and with Peres at the Foreign Ministry, to be followed by a working lunch with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Friday afternoon has been set aside for meetings with former Soviet Jewish refuseniks. On Saturday morning, Shultz will fly to Amman and then to Damascus, returning to Jerusalem in the evening.

He is due to fly to Cairo Sunday, again returning to Jerusalem. He will make a second visit to Amman Monday and spend the evening in Jerusalem.

He is due to leave Israel Tuesday, probably for Brussels to brief America's NATO allies on his Middle East mission.

Palestinian Meetings Unlikely

While Shultz reportedly has left a time slot open for meetings with key Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, they are unlikely to take place. The Palestine Liberation Organization has ruled out such contacts, and Palestinian leaders seem to have been intimidated.

Meanwhile, a leading Israeli commentator said Thursday that Shultz's "lightning" visit to the region and any that might follow are unlikely to achieve a significant breakthrough before the American presidential elections next November and Israel's Knesset elections in December.

According to Dan Patir, who was media adviser to former Premier Menachem Begin and currently directs the Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum, named for the former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Shultz's current trip has short-term objectives.

Writing in the newspaper Hadashot, Patir said those objectives were to:

- * Refute allegations that the United States is indifferent and reluctant to become involved in the Middle East conflict.

- * To demonstrate to the relevant parties-- Israel, Jordan, the Palestinians, Syria, Egypt and the Soviet Union -- that Washington is interested in keeping a close watch on events in the region.

- * To re-assure the pro-Western Arab states -- Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia -- that reliance on the United States pays off.

REAGAN, SHULTZ DESCRIBE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT CAUSES OF UNREST

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- President Reagan and his secretary of state, George Shultz, appeared to disagree slightly Thursday over the cause of the violence by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the last two-and-a-half months.

Reagan asserted during his nationally televised news conference Wednesday that the United States believes the violence is not "home-grown," but due to outside terrorists.

"We have had intimations that there have been certain people suspected of being terrorists, outsiders coming in, not only with weapons but stirring up and encouraging the trouble in those areas," Reagan said. He added that this was not "something you can go out and say we absolutely know."

But the president refused -- for reasons of security, he said -- to be more specific.

However, Shultz, who arrived in Israel Thursday, was quoted by reporters aboard his plane as stressing that the unrest was a result of Israel's 20-year occupation of the territories.

He added, however, that he agreed with the president's appraisal.

When asked for an explanation Thursday, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater maintained that the comments by Reagan and Shultz were "totally consistent as far as we are concerned."

"The problem here is the indigenous situation -- it has to be resolved through political negotiations, but at the same time there have been outside forces," Fitzwater said.

He said Reagan's comments were based on intelligence data.

At the State Department, spokesperson Phyllis Oakley said that Shultz had described the cause of the unrest as a "mixed picture." She explained that Shultz believes that the rioting began because of the "frustration" over the occupation, but "subsequently outside groups have been trying to exploit and gain control of the situation."

Unrest Partly Spurred Trip

Reagan said Wednesday night that Shultz's trip to the Middle East was in part because of the unrest in the territories. He said the United States has "spoken" to Israel about the lethal methods used to handle the unrest and also to "Palestinian leadership, because there's every evidence that these riots are not just spontaneous and home-grown."

The president said the United States was "pursuing" reports that Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat was now willing to accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which would in effect recognize Israel's right to exist.

Reagan stressed that "one of the blocking points" to the United States talking to the PLO was its refusal to recognize Israel. "How do you sit down and try to get into a talk about peace when someone says they have no right to exist? And I'm sure that the secretary of state is apprised of this fact, and we'll see what we can do there," Reagan said.

The president said that if peace could be achieved in the Middle East before he leaves office, it "would be one of the greatest achieve-

ments of this administration."

Reagan began his press conference with a statement that stressed his support for the Shultz mission "to see if practical and real progress can be made that provides a pathway to a comprehensive settlement" in the Mideast.

"It's time for all parties to rid themselves of old ideas and stances that cannot work and to begin a serious process of negotiation and reconciliation," the president said.

"Any process that is undertaken must meet Israel's security needs and satisfy the legitimate rights of the Palestinians," he added.

Asked why the United States does not demand an end to the Israeli occupation, Reagan replied, "I don't think it's up to us to dictate the settlement in the Middle East."

Reagan said the United States has used its "input" with Israel. But he said Shultz has gone to the Mideast so that "all who are represented in that situation on both sides should come together, when you stop to think that legally a state of war still exists there in the Middle East between the Arab nations and Israel."

(JTA Washington correspondent Howard Rosenberg contributed to this story.)

SHULTZES TO BE PAMPERED

By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Israelis seem to have spared no expense to make U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's four-day stay here comfortable.

His huge entourage has been allotted the top four floors of the posh Jerusalem Hilton Hotel. Shultz and his wife Helena will occupy the Royal Suite on the 20th floor, which offers such amenities as a private sauna and luxurious bathrooms.

There will be corsages of orchids for Helena and a masseuse for the secretary of state. The Hilton has flown in a master chef from West Germany to prepare fish to the Shultzes' taste.

Hotel maintenance workers spent five days cleaning and repairing the hotel's indoor pool. It was filled with fresh water Wednesday and heated to 77 F, the temperature Shultz prefers when he goes swimming.

The tennis court, however, is covered by light snow, which may prevent the secretary from enjoying his favorite game.

Shultz and his party were greeted in the Hilton lobby Thursday by a huge white dove with an olive branch in its beak, suspended from the ceiling. The peace symbol is made of wood and aluminum and has a four-yard wingspan.

About 100 Jerusalem police officers will be directly involved in security for Shultz and his party. The presence of many U.S. secret service and Israeli plainclothes security personnel can also be assumed.

More than 1,500 police officers, recruited from all parts of the country, will be deployed in East Jerusalem and adjacent Arab villages during Shultz's visit to make sure there are no disturbances.

The police have granted permits to various groups of different political persuasions to demonstrate either in favor of Premier Yitzhak Shamir's hard-line policies or the more moderate position of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The demonstrators will be kept at a considerable distance from Shultz's hotel as well as the routes he will travel to and from his meetings with Israeli leaders.

**IDF KILLS RIOTER; VILLAGERS
LYNCH ACCUSED COLLABORATOR**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- A West Bank Arab youth was killed in the Jenin refugee camp and another was seriously wounded Thursday when patrolling Israeli soldiers opened fire on Palestinians who were attacking with rocks and iron bars.

The soldiers reportedly were unable to disperse the mob by other means.

Israel Defense Force soldiers also destroyed two houses in Jenin that belonged to two known participants in the lynch killing Wednesday in nearby Kabatiya village of an Arab employee of the Israeli Civil Administration in the West Bank.

An angry mob of about 1,000 villagers had set fire to the house of the victim and killed him, hanging his body from an electric utility pole.

The victim, Muhammad Ayed A-Ragheb, 29, worked for the traffic department in Jenin and was licensed to carry a weapon. He opened fire on the attackers with a Uzi submachine gun, killing a young villager and wounding 13 others. The slain villager was described in conflicting reports as a 3-year-old girl, a 7-year-old-boy or a teenager.

Village Under Curfew

Kabatiya village was placed under curfew and 20 residents were detained for questioning. The shooting and apparent lynching was the worst incident of inter-Arab violence since disturbances began in the administered territories more than two months ago.

Arabs employed by the civil administration have been threatened in leaflets widely circulated in the territories and in broadcasts by the terrorist-operated "Free Jerusalem" radio station in Syria. Other Arabs suspected of collaborating with Israel have been murdered or attacked, but this lynching was the first reported.

A-Ragheb was assaulted by virtually the entire village. His house was reportedly besieged for five hours before he panicked and fired on the mob. It was not clear whether he was burned to death and then hanged or was hanged alive and electrocuted by contact with high tension wires. His body was mutilated.

When the wounded villagers were brought to a hospital in Jenin, rumors spread that Israel Defense Force soldiers had shot them. IDF troops surrounded Kabatiya but were not in the village at the time of the shooting.

The IDF troops refrain from entering Arab villages if possible to avoid friction with the local inhabitants. They used tear gas to break up riots that erupted in Jenin Thursday morning after residents of a nearby refugee camp stoned passing vehicles and burned tires on the road.

Six Others Injured

Disturbances were reported from other centers throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip Thursday. Five Arabs and a border policeman were injured in the unrest.

Otherwise, the streets in the administered territories were practically deserted in the second day of an Arab general strike called by the Palestine Liberation Organization in advance of the arrival of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Israel Thursday evening.

For the second consecutive day, only a handful of Arab laborers employed in Israel

showed up for their jobs. The buses and vans that usually carry them to work were blocked by barbed wire and nail-studded boards strewn across the roads to Israel.

Haaretz reported Thursday that Gen. Amram Mitzna has dismissed an IDF major who was involved in the shooting incident in Kfar Faur in which seven residents of the territories were wounded. The incident is still under military police investigation.

Al Hamishmar reported that, according to signed testimonies of eyewitnesses and death certificates, three Gaza Strip residents died as a result of severe blows inflicted by IDF soldiers after the dispersion of a demonstration in the area earlier this month.

The certificates were sent by Member of Knesset Dedi Zucker of the Citizens Rights Movement to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and chief military advocate Brig. Gen. Amnon Strachnow.

Zucker's report refers to two incidents, one involving two residents of the El-Bureij refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, allegedly beaten severely by IDF soldiers who entered their home after a demonstration earlier this month and who later took them to a field for further beatings.

In the second incident, a 68-year-old man was allegedly beaten when he attempted to keep soldiers from entering his house to search for a demonstrator who had taken refuge there.

MAGARIK, FAMILY & CELLO LAND IN ISRAEL
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Alexei Magarik, the last official prisoner of Zion to be released from Soviet prison, arrived in Israel Wednesday night with his wife, Natasha, their son, Haim, and his cello.

The 29-year-old musicologist and cellist was arrested in March 1986 for teaching Hebrew since 1976 and sentenced to three years in prison on charges of drug trafficking.

The sentence was based on six grams of hashish that searchers said they had found in his apartment. Magarik claimed the searchers had planted the substance.

Speaking fluent Hebrew, Magarik told a welcoming reception: "When I was released from labor camp I was told I was the last prisoner of Zion, but in the terrible country that is the Soviet Union you can never tell how many people are still being held." Magarik was released last September.

He said he hopes to join a musical ensemble, but the damage to his hands suffered in the labor camp may have made playing difficult.

DINITZ TO LEAVE KNESSET

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz, recently elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, announced Thursday that he will resign his Knesset seat next month.

Dinitz, a Laborite, is expected to be replaced by Yaacov Gil, who heads the list of Labor candidates who fell short of election to the Knesset in 1984.

But Gil is taking nothing for granted. "Let's wait and see," he told reporters.

Dinitz will be allowed to join the Labor Party's ministerial "Sarcinu" forum, which will increase in membership from 12 to 13.

THEOLOGIAN SIEGEL DEAD AT 61

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here Thursday for Rabbi Seymour Siegel, a theologian who brought a liberal approach to Conservative Judaism and a conservative approach to politics. Siegel died Wednesday at age 61 after a long illness.

As Ralph Simon professor of ethics and theology at the Jewish Theological Seminary and as chairman of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly, both Conservative institutions, Siegel was guided in his interpretations of Torah law by an adherence to ethical standards.

The committee ruled in 1973 that women could be counted in a minyan, the ten-person quorum required for communal prayer, and in 1985 to allow women to be ordained as Conservative rabbis.

Siegel also was an authority on Jewish medical ethics and had been preparing a book on the topic.

"Without ever being aggressive or militant, he reflected the dignity of Jewish tradition," said Rabbi Gerson Cohen, chancellor emeritus of the seminary and a long-time associate of Siegel.

As a leading rabbinical figure in the "neo-conservative" movement, which drew a number of Jewish intellectuals dissatisfied with political liberalism, Siegel maintained close ties with both the Nixon and Reagan administrations.

He served on the President's Commission on Ethics in Medicine and Biomedical Research and on the Advisory Council of the Republican National Committee. For two years he served as the executive director of the United States Holocaust Council.

Norman Podhoretz, editor of Commentary magazine and a major neo-conservative thinker, praised Siegel's thinking.

"Siegel was a man of extraordinary political courage because he took unpopular positions and stood by them. He believed the world out there had changed in a way Jews were reluctant to recognize, and Jewish interests were no longer served by the old political alliances in the liberal community," he said.

TWO LEADING RABBIS AGREE ISRAEL SHOULD TRADE TERRITORY FOR PEACE

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Leaders of two U.S. rabbinic organizations agreed Tuesday that Israel should be willing to trade territory for peace with the Arab states.

Rabbi Binyamin Walfish, executive director of the Rabbinical Council of America (Orthodox), said that he no longer disagrees with the Israeli Peace Now movement's call for territorial compromise. He was referring to a statement of support by Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive director of the Rabbinical Assembly (Conservative).

They, along with Rabbi Joseph Glazer, executive director of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), were discussing relations between the three branches of Judaism as well as other Jewish issues at a forum sponsored by the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York.

They responded to audience questions of their choosing.

"We should give up territory for the sake of peace and for the sake of Jewish lives," said

Walfish, adding that he and Kelman did not necessarily agree on how much land Israel should relinquish.

Kelman said the Conservative movement's dominant mood "would be pro-negotiations to the 1948 borders. Remember, there were debates then. The majority of the Jews accepted the partition plan and would accept it again."

But, added Kelman, "I don't feel outrage at the Israel Defense Force. . . They were the defenders, not the initiators" of the violence in the Israeli-administered territories.

Problem With Illegitimacy

The most problematic issue raised was that of "mamzerut," the condition of illegitimate children under traditional Jewish law because the mother received a civil, but not a traditional Jewish, divorce. The condition lasts nine generations.

Glazer conceded that Reform rabbis have not pressed their congregants on the issue. "I quite agree that any rabbi ought to see to it that wherever there is a question. . . every step is taken to obtain a get (Jewish divorce), because I feel that the happiness of children is more important," he explained.

Walfish admitted to "no halachic (Jewish legal) solution. But I see no problem. A mamzer is a full Jew, not a second-class citizen. The only problem is that a mamzer cannot marry a 'bat Yisrael' (Jewish woman)," he said.

Glazer disagreed. "You don't think this is a problem?" he asked, his voice raised. "If people fall deeply in love, and they can't have it, this is nothing? I would say this is a central disability and a crucial one."

Walfish noted that such a situation brought about the institution of "shiduchim" (arranged marriages).

Glazer contended that "the Reform movement doesn't oppose the 'get.' It only said 100 years ago it wasn't necessary because civil marriage now accomplishes the same thing as religious. But this is not a closing of the door on the issue."

The Reform leader acknowledged that his movement has "come to the conclusion that we have been lax. . . We must call for standards. . . of learning and practice. We now are. . . telling our rabbis, 'You're going to have to become a practicing Jew.' We've come a long way."

The rabbis also discussed the controversial issue of patrilineal descent, in which the Reform movement swerved from Jewish tradition to say that Jewish lineage can be transmitted either through the father or mother.

Glazer said the issue derived from "equality now between the sexes," which is why he opposes it, and does not even agree with the term. "It's lineal descent, because mothers and fathers are equal now," he said.

He rejected the contention that "lineal descent" raised irrevocable barriers. "The person whose Jewishness is brought into doubt can always convert," he said.

Walfish said he was certain these three Jewish branches would not reach agreement "in our time" on most of the religious issues. For him, then, the question was, "how will we be able to live together as a Jewish community?"

Walfish said none of the branches of Judaism was conceding any points to the others. "Seeking solutions is not a concession. We don't concede to each other. We ask for understanding," he said.