m 1000

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY 165 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK, NY 10036-2574 (212) 575-9370

VOL. 66 - 71st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1988

NO. 41

SHULTZ MEETS WITH KING HUSSEIN: OUTLOOK FOR MORE TALKS UNCERTAIN By Edwin Eytan

BRUSSELS, March 1 (JTA) -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz conferred for three hours in London Tuesday with King Hussein of Jordan and was due to arrive here Tuesday evening.

An American spokesman said Shultz will make a detailed report to President Reagan Wednesday morning on his Middle East peace mission to date. He and Reagan, who is also expected in Brussels late Tuesday, will attend the NATO summit meeting here.

Shultz is expected to indicate Wednesday whether he plans to return to the Middle East later in the week to continue his shuttle diplomacy, begun last Friday, Shultz left Israel Tuesday morning.

An American spokesman in London said Tuesday that Shultz's decision will be made only after his meeting with the president. The Americans refused to comment on Shultz's discussions with Hussein.

The Jordanian ruler was in London officially for "dental treatment." He was absent from his capital, Amman, during Shultz's two visits there, Saturday and Monday.

The future of Shultz's mission was said to hinge on whether Jordan gave the Americans a green light to continue on the basis of Shultz's proposals or avoided making a definite commitment. Some reports Tuesday said Hussein rejected the American package.

In London, the U.S. spokesman told reporters, "We are actually where we started," which could mean that nothing has been gained by

Shultz's efforts.

In Brussels, Egyptian sources were more optimistic. They said Tuesday night it was "practically certain" that the secretary of state will resume his peace mission at the end of the week and might meet in Cairo with a 15-member Palestinian delegation.

During his four days in Israel, key Palestinian figures from the West Bank and Gaza Strip declined to meet with Shultz, apparently because of threats by the Palestine Liberation Organization

But sources who refused to be identified, said the Cairo meeting between Shultz and Palestinians was arranged by President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. They said the delegation will not include members of the PLO, but Palestinian personalities close to it.

SHULTZ DEPARTS THE MIDDLE EAST WITH FEW GAINS, BUT MORE HOPE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz admitted before leaving Israel Tuesday morning that he has been less than successful winning support for American peace - proposals during his four days of shuttling between Jerusalem and Arab capitals.

But he is not giving up.

"If I had to describe the situation, I would say that no one has signed up to our proposals, but everybody wants us to keep working, so we

will keep working," Shultz told reporters. "We are in the middle of a work process," he stressed.

The Inner Cabinet, the government's top policy-making body, convened immediately after Shultz's departure, but remained deadlocked over the American plan and the peace process in general.

The five Labor Party and five Likud senior ministers were unable to forge a unified position when they last met on Feb. 24, in advance of Shultz's arrival, and were not expected to make any progress in the wake of his visit.

According to Israeli observers, Shultz appears to have won over Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to his package approach, while Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Syrian President Hafez Assad remain opposed to it. This left Hussein, in effect, to cast the decisive vote on how to proceed.

The Shultz package has been made known to the public only in barest outline. It calls for an "interim arrangement" -- some form of limited autonomy -- for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, to be followed by an international conference that would open direct talks among the parties concerned to determine the final status of the territories. Shultz has insisted the package must be accepted in its entirety.

Shamir Opposed To Plan

Shamir is reported to have told Shultz at their final meeting in Jerusalem Monday night that he is firmly opposed to the accelerated timetable presented by the secretary of state and especially the "interlocking" principle by which talks on the final status of the territories would begin next December regardless of progress or lack of it on the interim arrangements.

While the Americans are proposing that all five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council participate in what they are now calling the "international event," Shamir proposes that only the United States and the Soviet Union

take part. He apparently believes the two superpowers would cancel each other out, leaving Israel to face its Arab adversaries, free from outside pressure. The United States is Israel's most important ally, while the Soviet Union, which has no diplomatic relations with Israel, has long been championing the Palestinian cause.

Furthermore, Shamir is said to reason, if negotiations over the final status of the territories break down, they would remain under Israel's control.

But these speculations are moot considering the apparently irreconcilable split between Labor and Likud over the future of the territories and the nature of a peace settlement. Most observers here believe a new government will have to be elected before Israel offers its own formula, which would reflect the outcome of the elections.

Voters Will Decide

Elections are mandated by law to be held no later than November, when the term of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government expires. They may well take place before that deadline. Whenever the voters go to the polls, the overriding issue will be "peace or territories," political observers say.

It will be the first time since Israel captured the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights in the 1967 Six-Day War that the electorate will be confronted with the choice.

Labor Knesset member Abba Eban, who chairs the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, has challenged Shamir's contention that United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 does not necessarily apply to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The resolution calls for "withdrawal from territories," without further specification.

Eban, quoted Tuesday in the Jerusalem Post, cited a speech by Menachem Begin to the Knesset on Aug. 4, 1970, when Begin was the Herut member of a short-lived coalition government

from which he was about to resign.

He said, according to Eban: "From our point of view... what do the words withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 conflict mean? When our signature is affixed to a document alongside that of His Majesty the King (Hussein of Jordan), it means relinquishing Judea and Samaria. Not all of Judea and Samaria, but most of it. Any other definition (of 242) is an illusion. It is inconceivable that we would sign such a document."

WITH SHULTZ GONE, QUIET REIGNS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- Unfamiliar quiet reigned in the West Bank and Gaza Strip Tuesday. In contrast to the almost daily violence of the past 12 weeks, there were no reports of riots or attacks on Israeli security Forces, and only a few minor incidents of tire-burning.

The calm that descended after a particularly bloody week was attributed by observers to the departure of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz from Israel Tuesday morning, and with him the concentrated media attention that accompanied his four-day visit.

Another reason given is the fact that five refugee camps, the worst trouble spots in the territories, remain under tight curfew. But most Israelis consider the lull temporary and are far from believing the disturbances have ended.

Leaflets were distributed in the territories Tuesday exhorting Palestinians to prepare for more strikes and demonstrations next week.

Meanwhile, the Israel Defense Force continued to blockade Kabatiya village, near Jenin, where a local Palestinian employed by the West Bank civil administration was lynched by a mob on Feb. 24 for collaboratins with the Israelis.

The victim was Muhammad Ayed A-Ragheb, 9, whose mutilated body was hanged from an electric power pylon. The IDF demolished the pylon, leaving the village without electricity. No one is allowed to enter or leave Kabatiya.

Debate Over Barring Press

Debate continued, meanwhile, over barring the news media from the territories, a move demanded by right-wing and nationalistic elements, who blame press and television coverage of the disturbances for Israel's badly tarnished image abroad.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Monday that he favored a media ban under certain circumstances. But an IDF spokesman, Brig. Gen. Ephraim Lapid, told an audience of high school students in Ramat Hasharon Tuesday that it would be a bad move. Lapid admitted that the presence of televisions cameras encourages rioters. But without media coverage, rumors would flourish that would make the situation appear worse than it is, he said. He also noted that it was impossible to close off every road in the territories and that enterprising reporters would find their way in.

Nevertheless, the daily television newscasts of armed soldiers battling stone-throwing Palestinians are doing Israel considerable harm all over the world. Denmark, which until recently was regarded as the most pro-Israel of the 12 member states of the European Community, is a case in point.

A major Danish consumer marketing cooperative and the Irma retail chain in Denmark, major importers of Israeli agricultural products, have announced they will curtail their purchases of Israeli fruit and vegetables because of events in the Israeli-administered territories.

The two marketing groups, which account for 75 percent of Israeli farm exports to Denmark, said their customers no longer will buy Israeli products.

LEADERS PONDER U.S. JEWISH UNITY WHEN ISRAEL ITSELF IS DIVIDED By Andrew Silow Carroll

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA) -- U.S. Jewish leaders, who renewed the discussion in recent weeks of whether public criticism of Israeli leaders and policies erodes U.S. legislative and popular support, are debating a related issue here.

Following their first-hand exposure to Israeli politics, some have been heard asking if American Jews can speak in one voice about Israel when Israel itself is divided over the political future of the administered territories.

The question was brought to the forefront during the second day of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations' mission to Israel. The conference seeks to coordinate the activities of 42 national Jewish organizations on issues of Israel and diaspora Jewry.

In a panel discussion on U.S.-Israeli relations, Yossi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Nimrod Novick, policy adviser to the minister of foreign affairs, noted just how far apart Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres are on the terms of the current U.S. peace initiative.

Shamir rejects and Peres supports the concepts of an international "opening" leading to Israeli-Arab negotiations and of trading territory for promises of peace.

Their disagreement prompted Albert Vorspan, vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, to ask, "If there is a schizophrenia on the highest level in Israel, what expectations can we have from the Presidents Conference?"

"It is a terrible belief that we can impose conformity through a Presidents Conference or through any other vehicle," added Vorspan, whose organization was one of three Reform groups to take public stands critical of Israel's "iron fist" beatings policy in the territories.

Vorspan disputed the contention that "disagreement is a form of disloyalty in Jewish life, and that we can paper over (with) unity where no

unity exists."

The opposite view was taken by Rabbi Ephraim Sturm, executive director of the National Council of Young Israel, an Orthodox organiza-

"We should be more circumspect in our public utterances. Press releases commending Israel for any positive things are usually relegated to the 'circular file' while anything that easts some minute criticism of Israel will be exploited," he said

The rabbi said non-citizens of Israel "have no right to back" the ideologies of its political parties.

'Don't Mean To Stifle Opinion'

"I don't mean to stifle opinion. By all means, if you have new ideas and new approaches, let Israel benefit," he said, recommending "going privately to Peres and not the press, to Shamir and not TV stations."

Israeli political consultant Avi Rafieh agreed with Vorspan in urging American Jewish leaders

to speak out.

"As partners, you should express your views, your concerns and do it when it is necessary. When we are in a crisis, do it forcefully. Our partnership is a two-way street," the Young Israel leader said.

He insisted during the discussion that the Palestinian problem is a "time bomb" that Israel "should defuse" while the Reagan administration

is scrving.

He told the organization leaders that "Israel has reached an unprecedented low point in its

standing in the U.S. Congress."

"Our best friends are alarmed and worried," said Rafich, referring to members of Congress he met during a visit to Washington last week. "Some of them are for the first time disillusioned with Israel. We are. . fast losing our moral ground."

If Israel is seen as obstructing the peace process due to political gridlock, Rafich continued, then U.S. lawmakers may begin to see the country as "incapable, even incompetent, in resolving one of its most fundamental problems."

Conference Chairman Morris Abram ended what he called "possibly the central session" of the mission by reading from a statement "of unity and identification" released Feb. 4 by 51 U.S. Jewish organizations under the conference umbrella.

"We believe we speak for the overwhelming majority of Jews across the country and around the world in this expression of unity and identification with the embattled nation of Israel," read Abram.

Delegates were scheduled to meet with Israeli President Chaim Herzog Tuesday night, before a reception hosted by Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-Jewish Agency Executive.

CBS FILM SPARKS PROTEST IN AMSTERDAM By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, March 1 (JTA) -- A noisy anti-Israel protest march through downtown Amsterdam Saturday, which at one point verged on violence, was the outcome of a CBS News film broadcast at great length on Dutch television the night before.

The film, also screened in Israel, showed four Israel Defense Force soldiers kicking and beating two handcuffed Palestinians under interrogation at a military prison near Nablus in the West Bank.

TWO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON PLO MISSION INTRODUCED IN U.N. By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, March 1 (JTA) - Two draft resolutions were submitted to the General Assembly Tuesday, both aimed at thwarting the American order to close the Palestine Liberation Organization's observer mission to the United Nations in New York, effective March 21.

The American order stems from legislation passed by Congress and signed by President Reagan on Dec. 22. The United Nations maintains that it violates the 1947 Headquarters Agreement between the United Nations and its host country, the United States, and is seeking to take the matter to arbitration.

The General Assembly opened a special session Monday to debate the issues and is expected to vote on the resolutions Wednesday. They are sponsored by more than a score of Arab, Third World and Communist bloc countries.

The two drafts differ in their technical approach to the problem. One would ask the General Assembly to seek an advisory opinion from the World Court in The Hague as to whether the United States, as a party to the Headquarters Agreement, is obliged under international law to enter into arbitration.

The other wants the General Assembly to call on the United States "to abide by its treaty obligations and to provide assurances that no actions will be taken that would infringe on the current arrangement for the official functions of the Permanent Observer Mission of the PLO to the U.N. in New York."

It does not mention the World Court. According to diplomatic sources here, some countries, though supportive of the PLO, may have reservations about involving the World Court, which could explain why the sponsors decided to submit two resolutions.

U.S. Against Arbitration

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar reported to the General Assembly that efforts to resolve the dispute amicably were deadlocked and that he had invoked the arbitration procedure under the Headquarters Agreement. But he noted that the United States is not in a position to enter into arbitration.

Vernon Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said Monday that he has not received "any specific instructions". From Washington and that the United States has not reached a decision yet on how to proceed.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said Monday that the General Assembly session is "ill-timed and premature," since the U.S. government has until March 21 to decide whether to enforce congressional legislation closing the PLO mission.

The United States was not among the 40 ormore countries that have registered to speak in the debate and it is not certain whether it will address the General Assembly on the issue.

But speaker after speaker so far has taken the position that the closure order against the PLO office would be in violation of the Headquarters Agreement.

Israel, which had been scheduled to address the General Assembly Tuesday, postponed its appearance until Wednesday, just before a vote is taken. Most observers here believe the U.N.-PLO position will win overwhelming support.



U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM TO EXCHANGE MATERIALS, SERVICES WITH YAD VASHEM By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA) -- The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council and Yad Vashem, the world's only two national Holocaust institutions, last month agreed to their first official exchange of materials and services.

The agreement comes less than a year after the council's agreement with the Polish government archives to exchange materials. Sam Eskenazi, council spokesman, said negotiations are under way to sign agreements with other countries, but he would not disclose any names.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is scheduled to open here in 1990 near the Washington Monument, with preliminary construction beginning as early as the first weeks of this month, Eskenazi said.

Under the Feb. 15 agreement, which has to be ratified by the boards of both parties, the two institutions will exchange exhibits and consider donating duplicate materials to each other. In addition, they agreed to co-publish books in English on the Holocaust and provide assistance to each other's scholars and researchers.

Yad Vashem also has agreed to participate in the council's automated inventory of Holocaust-

related documents worldwide.

William Lowenberg, vice chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial, said the agreement will lead to an "ever greater illumination of the truth of the Holocaust as the most evil event in human history."

SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION UP SLIGHTLY DURING FEBRUARY By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA) -- Soviet Jewish emigration figures for February totaled 730, a slight rise from the January total of 722, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Tucsday.

The NCSJ and the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry also reported an apparent relaxation in the first-degree relative requirement for emigrating, according to accounts from refuseniks in

Moscow, Leningrad and Riga. It is not clear yet, however, if this is connected with an assurance Soviet officials gave to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz last

week that this law would be suspended.

At the same time, however, Soviet authoritics have been targeting for the draft young men whose families have applied to leave the Soviet Union, the two groups and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry all reported. Families with sons over age 16 and a half are not being allowed to apply unless the sons get permission from the militia.

The Soviet Jewry groups also said there is an indication that people with emigration applications dated prior to Jan. 1, 1988, are being told to reapply even though their prior applications are still valid.

Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island group, reported that only two of more than 100 refuseniks who had attended a five-hour hearing on their emigration status Tuesday at the administration department of the Communist Party Central Committee in Moscow have been told they have permission to leave. The two who received permission were Vladimir Dashevsky and Lev

Sheiba.

The information came from one of the hearing's participants, Inna Ouspensky, who did not receive permission. Ouspensky said that a list of 25 persons with permission was read out, but that of that list, 23 either already had been informed of their permission or had left the Soviet Union.

Dashevsky is an Orthodox Jewish activist and Moscow teacher whose mother-in-law had refused to sign a waiver of financial obligation. Dashevsky's daughter, Irina Dashevsky Kara-Ivanov, who now lives in Jerusalem, testified before Congress during the time of the Washington summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in December.

Sheiba, a Leningrad acoustical engineer whose wife, Vera, has a brother in Israel, first applied to emigrate in April 1980. He initially was refused on the grounds of possessing state se-

crets, a status removed three years later.

The Long Island Committee also reported that Boris Nadgorny, 30, son of refusenik Eduard Nadgorny, a prominent physicist, departed from Moscow Tuesday, leaving cautious optimism that his father and mother, Nina, long-time refuseniks, may follow.

SHARANSKY INDUCTED INTO ISRAELI ARMY By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- Former refusenik Natan Sharansky was inducted into the Israel Defense Force Monday, little more than two years since his arrival in Israel, after spending nearly a decade in Soviet prisons and labor camps.

Sharansky spent his first day in the army learning how to dismantle a rifle. The 40-year-old Soviet Jewry activist will undergo a shortened basic training period and then be posted to the

reserves. Dressed in ill-fitting fatigues, Sharansky told a television interviewer Monday night that he would not shirk military duty, even though he has been offered a job as a lecturer in the IDF education corps.

Sharansky, probably the most famous refusenik and advocate of Jewish emigration rights, served nine years in the Soviet Gulag on charges of spying for the United States. He was released in February 1986 in a U.S.-Soviet spy exchange.

KNESSET MEMBER EN ROUTE TO CHINA By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- Knesset member Elazar Granot, secretary general of the Mapam party, was due to enter China from Hong Kong Tuesday for a 10-day official visit.

He is the first member of a Zionist party to be invited by the People's Republic of China. He will be the guest of the Chinese Association for Friendship Among Nations and is expected to discuss the Middle East peace process with senior officials of the Chinese Communist Party.

STOCK EXCHANGE CLOSED BY STRIKE

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange was closed Tuesday by a strike of its employees.

The staff committee ordered the walkout Monday night in a dispute over a management decision to change the seniority clause in the general wage contract.