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ISRAELIS APPLAUD U.S. STRIKE AGAINST TWO LIBYAN JET FIGHTERS By Gili Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Israeli leaders were quick to praise the U.S. Navy for shooting down two Libyan jet fighters off the Libyan coast Wednesday.

The first reaction came from Vice Premier Shimon Peres, who is also finance minister and leader of the Labor Party. He said the Americans were obviously threatened by the Libyan planes.

Avi Pazner, media spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, said the incident seemed to be a Libyan provocation. "Coming from a country like Libya, you can expect that kind of behavior," said Pazner.

According to an announcement in Washington, Navy F-14s from the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy shot down two Libyan MiGs over international waters, near the eastern Libyan port of Tobruk. The report said the MiGs were behaving in a threatening manner.

America's Western allies were reported nervous over the incident, which some saw as a last attempt by the outgoing Reagan administration to "hammer another nail" in the coffin of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi.

The U.S. Air Force bombed Gadhafi's headquarters in Tripoli in April 1986, in retaliation for a terrorist act in West Berlin allegedly perpetrated by Libya.

President Reagan has recently spoken openly of attacking a plant in Libya alleged to be manufacturing chemical warfare weapons.

Chemical Weapons Threat Discussed

Several agenda motions were introduced in the Knesset Wednesday to discuss reports that Libya is producing nerve gas and other chemical weapons.

Responding for the government, Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said Israel will propose tough measures against countries manufacturing or using chemical weapons.

He said Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will recommend a series of sophisticated economic and political sanctions when he addresses a U.N.-sponsored international conference in Paris on banning chemical weapons.

Arens and Netanyahu are scheduled to fly to Paris on Friday. Netanyahu said he would talk there to the foreign ministers of countries believed to have supplied raw materials to countries making chemical weapons.

He observed that Libya was not the only Arab country with chemical weapons, but did not elaborate.

According to Netanyahu, formerly Israel's ambassador to the United Nations and now a Likud Knesset member, the world reacted with indifference to the use of poison gas during the Iran-Iraq war, thereby removing the international taboo on those weapons.

He said Israel must embark on a massive campaign to revive international opinion, which once rejected chemical weapons.

In Los Angeles, meanwhile, the dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center has written to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl protesting the

reported involvement of a West German company in helping Libya build the alleged chemical weapons plant.

Saying the center was "shocked" by the report, Rabbi Marvin Hier wrote, "It is inconceivable that Germany's technology and expertise could in any way be allowed to assist (an) implacable enemy of the West and a fanatic foe of Israel in obtaining mass-murder capability."

GROUPS OPPOSE U.S. ENDORSEMENT OF MOSCOW HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Two leading Soviet Jewry organizations said Wednesday that while the Soviet Union has made improvements in its human rights practices, they are not enough to justify allowing Moscow to host a human rights conference.

The White House announced that the United States has agreed to attend a human rights conference in Moscow in 1991, as well as similar conferences in Paris this year and Copenhagen in 1990.

"The president decided to agree to this schedule, including the Moscow conference, as a means of encouraging continuation of the significant progress in human rights that has taken place in the Soviet Union over the past three years," said Roman Popadiuk, a White House spokesman.

Micah Naftalin, national director of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, expressed disappointment with the decision.

It means "that just as Vienna has been the international human rights capital for the last two years, Moscow would be the human rights capital for 1991," Naftalin said.

"They clearly have not come close to earning that distinction on the basis of any performance so far," he stressed. "They are not yet in compliance with 1975 Helsinki Final Act."

Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said it was "not yet time to reward the Soviets."

"While we acknowledge the improvements made by the Soviet government in emigration of Jews, much remains to be done," she said.

Cardin stressed that the National Conference wants "fully guaranteed" access to the Moscow conference, as it has had at the other follow-up conferences.

U.S. Could Reconsider Decision

While President Reagan has agreed to the Moscow conference, Popadiuk said "the president recognizes that there is much yet to be done in the Soviet Union before that nation meets acceptable and universal human rights standards."

"We will make it clear to the Soviet Union that the lack of future and institutionalized progress or a reversal of progress made to date will cause us to reconsider our decision to attend a Moscow conference in 1991."

Popadiuk said that the agreement to attend the conference, made after consultation with the other Western countries attending the 35-nation Helsinki Final Act follow-up conference in Vienna, was made in the belief that it "may be the best

way to encourage and support future improvements in Soviet human rights performance.

"The Soviet Union now has a unique opportunity to take further action to demonstrate its continuing and irreversible commitment to achieve commonly accepted human rights standards," he added.

The White House and the two Jewish leaders urged the Soviet Union to promulgate new laws institutionalizing the improvements in human rights. Naftalin said Soviet officials have continually promised such laws, but keep pushing the date forward.

Naftalin said that despite the increasing emigration "the numbers are still low." He said while some 19,000 Jews were allowed to emigrate in 1988, there about a half million who want to leave, and "the Soviets have hardly made a dent in the problem."

The White House announcement was made as the Vienna follow-up conference was nearing agreement on a concluding document. There were reports that Secretary of State George Shultz, who recommended approval of the Moscow conference, wanted to attend the final ceremonies Jan. 17 to 19. The conference would end the day before George Bush is sworn in as president.

But State Department spokesman Charles Redman said that no concluding date has been set, since negotiations are continuing on several important issues, including the Soviets' use of state secrecy restrictions to bar emigration.

He said the United States is prepared to stay in Vienna "as long as it takes."

SOVIET JEWS TO HAVE PRESENCE IN THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (JTA) — The formalizing of a World Jewish Congress presence in the Soviet Union cleared its last hurdle this week when Moscow Chief Rabbi Adolf Shayeitch confirmed in writing that he is no longer a member of the Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public, which he said was dismantled.

Shayeitch wrote to WJC President Edgar Bronfman on Jan. 1, requesting that he be included in WJC meetings. In the letter, he stated unequivocally that he is not a member of the Anti-Zionist Committee and never participated in any acts against Jews or Israel.

But for the moment, WJC will only allow Shayeitch observer status at any meetings he attends of the world Jewish body, according to Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director.

Nor will Shayeitch be the only representative of Soviet Jewry at WJC meetings. Steinberg stressed Wednesday that representatives of all walks of Jewish life in the Soviet Union would be represented, from religious to cultural.

He explained, for example, that Soviet Jews would be invited to an upcoming meeting of the European branch of the congress to take place in Strasbourg, and a meeting of the WJC Executive in Montreal.

But if the Soviets were to allow Shayeitch and not other Soviet Jews to attend WJC meetings, "then they would have a political problem, because their good faith would be put to the test," said Steinberg.

He said that the path to WJC representation in the Soviet Union was opened in Moscow in November, when Bronfman met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Bronfman informed Shevardnadze at the time that Shayeitch, "as a representative of an important segment of Jewish life, can participate in the World Jewish Congress, so long as he is not a member of the Anti-Zionist Committee," Steinberg said.

Need For A Representative Body

There were "two principal obstacles" that the Soviets had to clear before WJC could include Soviet Jewish representation, Steinberg said: "the unwillingness of Soviet authorities to allow Soviet Jewish participation" in the congress and "the non-existence of a representative, organized structure of the Soviet Jewish community."

The Soviet Union is the last Communist bloc country to join the congress. During the meetings in November, the Soviets agreed "in principle" to Soviet Jewish participation in the activities and meetings of the world body "to restore the links of Soviet Jewry to world Jewry," said Steinberg.

"We're in the process now of creating a federation of Jewish communities in the Soviet Union so that there will be an authentic representative body of the widest possible spectrum of the Soviet Jewish community, which we hope will then become a full participant and representative in the World Jewish Congress," he said.

During the November talks, the Soviet foreign minister suggested that Shayeitch and other chief rabbis of Soviet cities represent a federation of synagogues in the congress. WJC had no objection to the presence of synagogue representation, said Steinberg.

But the international Jewish organization is also insisting on inclusion of Jews from all walks of life, from refuseniks to secular Jews, from cultural activists to members of the "ba'alei teshuvah" movement of newly observant Jews, Steinberg stressed.

He said inclusion of non-government-accepted Jewish representatives in the WJC project to build a Jewish cultural center in Moscow was stipulated in a contract signed in October by Isi Leibler of Australia, who is a vice president of the congress, Soviet authorities, and Jewish refuseniks and cultural activists, "who would not only participate but run the cultural center."

SOVIETS RENEGE ON INVITATION FOR ISRAELI FANS TO VISIT MOSCOW

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Soviet authorities have reversed their promise to issue visas to fans of the Maccabee Tel Aviv basketball team, which plays the champion CSKA Red Army team in Moscow next week.

The Diesenhau travel agency initially received 470 applications for entry visas, airline tickets and hotel rooms after the Soviets announced last month that Israelis would be welcome to follow their team.

Avi Friedman, assistant manager of Diesenhau, told Israel Radio from Vienna on Wednesday that the deal was off.

He said Soviet officials there told him they could not agree to such a large group of Israelis in Moscow, because Israel and the Soviet Union have no diplomatic relations.

Meanwhile, the original 470 applicants dwindled to 180, after would-be travelers learned that Intourist, the Soviet travel bureau, was charging them more than double the normal rates for visas and the tour package, Friedman said.

U.N. OFFICIAL CALLS ON ISRAEL TO RESCIND DEPORTATION ORDERS

By Andrew Silow Carroll

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 4 (JTA) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar called on Israel to rescind its recent deportation of 13 Palestinians from the administered territories.

A spokesman for Perez de Cuellar said in a statement Wednesday that the U.N. official was "dismayed" by the expulsions of the Palestinians to Lebanon, which took place over the weekend.

He called the deportations a "clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention," which governs the behavior of an occupying power, and hoped for the prompt return of the Palestinians to their homes and families.

Israeli officials said Sunday that the 13 deportees were leaders of the Palestinian uprising. Two other Palestinians left for Lebanon voluntarily.

A spokesperson at Israel's mission to the United Nations declined to comment on Perez de Cuellar's statements.

Perez de Cuellar met earlier in the day with Lebanese U.N. representative Rachid Fakhoury. The Lebanese diplomat circulated a letter Wednesday calling on the United Nations to bring pressure on Israel to desist deporting Palestinians to Lebanon.

The letter noted that Israel had deported 48 Palestinians to Lebanon since the beginning of 1988.

The deportations also drew a rebuke this week from the U.S. State Department and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

PALESTINIAN YOUTH KILLED IN GAZA AS CAMP PERFORMS A DAILY RITUAL

By Gil Sedan

DEIR EL-BALAH, Gaza Strip, Jan. 4 (JTA) — A 16-year-old Palestinian boy, Nasser Ismail Nasser, was shot to death Wednesday morning in the middle of this small refugee camp, whose population numbers 8,000.

A friend of his, Waher Abu-Ghalyoun, 15, was wounded in the chest.

The circumstances of the shooting were unclear. The Israel Defense Force officer in charge began an investigation as camp residents hastened to bury the body in the local cemetery.

Events such as these are an almost daily occurrence since the Palestinian uprising began 13 months ago. They follow a familiar pattern.

At about noon, IDF jets sped into the refugee camp. Soldiers using loudspeakers declared a curfew "in effect until further notice."

From an overlooking rooftop, an observer could see camp residents scurrying across the main street that runs through the heart of the camp. They rushed to their homes, fearful of being caught in the street during curfew.

It is almost a ritual: Local youths stone an army patrol. The soldiers fire at the youths. Somebody gets hurt.

If the victim is only wounded, business goes on as usual. But if someone dies, passions run high. The local residents are up in arms.

The IDF has learned that the surest damper is an immediate curfew.

That was the situation Wednesday. But while the IDF was imposing the curfew, the funeral procession for the slain teen-ager returned from the cemetery.

Such marches are considered taboo by the military authorities. But the soldiers did not intervene immediately.

They were too busy buttoning down the curfew. When they finally realized what was happening at the other side of the camp, they jumped into their jeeps and dispersed the mourners with tear gas.

Three other Gaza Strip residents were wounded in clashes with security forces Wednesday. In the West Bank, another Arab youth was wounded at the Amari refugee camp, near Ramallah.

CHIEF RABBI MOURNS CRASH VICTIMS AT MEMORIAL SERVICE IN LOCKERBIE

By David Winner

The Jewish Chronicle

LONDON, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Most of the Jewish victims of Pan American Airways Flight 103 have now been buried, according to Yehuda Brodie, administrator of the Beth Din in Manchester, England.

He made that statement to Lord Immanuel Jakobovits, chief rabbi of Britain and the Commonwealth, who joined Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other dignitaries Wednesday at memorial services for victims of the air disaster in Lockerbie, Scotland.

The New York-bound jumbo jet disintegrated 31,000 feet over Lockerbie about an hour after leaving London's Heathrow Airport on the night of Dec. 21.

British investigators have determined that a bomb concealed in a suitcase was responsible. All 259 passengers and crew members aboard died, as did 11 people on the ground.

Brodie and Shlomo Adler of the Manchester Chevra Kaddisha (burial society) have been counseling bereaved Jewish families; helping identify the dead and expediting the burials.

The exact number of Jewish victims of the disaster is not known. According to one report, 40 kosher meals were ordered on the flight. But not all Jews order kosher meals.

The chief rabbi attended the Christian memorial service at Dryesdale parish church in Lockerbie.

He explained that it was important to pay his respects to all the victims and to honor the work of the emergency services.

Jakobovits was in New York on Sunday for the funeral of a bomb victim, Joseph Miller, treasurer of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, whose body was later flown to Israel for burial.

Two other Jewish victims of the disaster have been identified by the Jewish Exponent of Philadelphia. David Dornstein, 28, a former Philadelphian who was living in Israel, worked for the New York-based Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education. He helped organize its July conference in Israel.

Also killed on the plane was Martin Apfelbaum, a Philadelphia stamp dealer who wrote on stamp collecting for three trade publications.

Meanwhile, El Al, Israel's national airline, claimed its business here in London has picked up since the disaster, because the stringency of its security measures has been widely publicized.

Passengers flying from London to New York have been switching to El Al, a spokesman told the Jewish Chronicle. He said the carrier would increase its flights from one to three a week.

**DEFENSE AND TREASURY BUDGET DISPUTE
NOW SEEMS ON WAY TO RECONCILIATION**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (JTA) — The Treasury and the Defense Ministry seemed to be closing the gap between them Wednesday on the amount of defense spending that will be reduced in the new fiscal year.

If such an agreement is reached, one of the main obstacles to Finance Minister Shimon Peres' austerity economic program will have been removed when it goes before a special session of the Cabinet Thursday.

Deputy Premier David Levy of Likud said there were "grounds for optimism" that the defense budget will be settled.

Levy, who is also construction and housing minister, spoke after a meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, his top aides and senior Israel Defense Force officers.

The meeting was in the context of inter-ministerial budget discussions in which Peres is also participating.

Unofficial reports Wednesday said the Treasury will be satisfied with a 120 million shekel cut in the defense budget this year.

According to Rabin, it originally planned to slash 450 to 600 million shekels from the defense budget, which he called "dangerous and unacceptable."

Proposed cuts in the police budget are also under fire from Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev.

"Every citizen will tell you they feel the need for more police on the streets, not less," Bar-Lev told reporters Wednesday after a meeting with Peres.

The finance minister also has to convince the Histadrut that the well-to-do will share the burdens of economic austerity.

Communications Minister Gad Ya'acobi, a Peres supporter, disclosed that the Treasury is considering a special tax on "relatively new and relatively large cars" to separate the more affluent sectors of society from part of their spending power.

This, hopefully, should meet Histadrut's demands for economic equity, Ya'acobi said.

**PIG CARCASS LEFT OUTSIDE HOME
OF ONE OF THE STOCKHOLM FIVE**

By Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 4 (JTA)— Police are investigating an incident here in which a skinned pig carcass was left outside the home of Stanley Sheinbaum, one of the five American Jews who met with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat in Stockholm last month.

Next to the pig was a blood-soaked note bearing one word — "Troy."

Sheinbaum said he had no idea what the word was meant to convey, but some members of the Jewish community have charged that his meeting with Arafat served as a "Trojan horse" to undermine Israel's security.

Police said they are investigating the case as a hate crime, but did not identify any suspects at this time.

In April of last year, a live pig was delivered to the home of Paul Conrad, editorial cartoonist of the Los Angeles Times, whose perceived anti-Israel cartoons had incurred the wrath of many Jews.

The incident was organized by an otherwise

unknown group calling itself People United Against Jew-Hatred, which answered to the same phone number as the Jewish Defense League.

An inquiry to the Los Angeles home of Irv Rubin, national chairman of the JDL, was answered by his wife, Shirley, who said her husband was unavailable. But she said that "it's ridiculous to call this a hate crime."

Sheinbaum and his wife, Betty, told police that the carcass was left outside their home on New Year's Day, when the couple were away.

He commented that the act was the work of "some people whose quality is reflected by their own action."

The 68-year-old economist and publisher conceded that "a lot of my fellow Jews are very upset that I met with Yasir Arafat."

Some critics took particular exception to a widely published photo showing Sheinbaum with his arm draped around the PLO leader's shoulder.

Sheinbaum is a longtime fund-raiser and activist for the Democratic Party and a regent of the University of California.

**ISRAELI ORGAN DONOR IDENTIFIED;
KIDNEYS USED IN NEW TRANSPLANT**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — David Oren, a former Austrian who came to Israel 12 years ago and converted to Judaism, was the organ donor whose heart and liver were used in transplant surgery performed at two Israeli hospitals this week.

His identity was disclosed Wednesday by his widow, Linda Oren, of Yavne. She said she took the unusual step of identifying him to encourage other people to donate their organs to save lives.

Oren was originally identified as an unnamed Austrian tourist. He was fatally injured in a traffic accident Monday.

On Wednesday, his donated kidneys were used in two transplant operations at Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva.

Liver recipient Maurice Aslzada remained in critical condition Wednesday, following a 13-hour operation Tuesday at Beilinson Hospital.

But heart recipient Yehezkel Drucker's condition was reported stable and satisfactory at Hadassah University Hospital in Ein Kerem. The six-hour heart transplant surgery was performed there Monday night by a team headed by Dr. Joseph Borman.

Aslzada, 46, suffered from cirrhosis. He and his family abandoned plans to go abroad for surgery because of the high cost and long period of separation.

They applied instead to Beilinson, which was licensed by the Health Ministry only a few months ago to do liver transplants.

Aslzada was the first liver transplant performed there. The surgical team was headed by Dr. Zaki Shapira.

ISRAEL NAMES NEW MILITARY ATTACHE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — The commander of Israel's navy, Adm. Avraham Ben-Shoshan, is being switched to a shore job in Washington.

Ben-Shoshan, 42, will become military attache at the Israeli Embassy there shortly. He replaces Maj. Gen. Amos Yaron, who is retiring.

Ben-Shoshan will be replaced as head of the navy by Brig. Gen. Micha Ram.