

**UJA TO LAUNCH A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN
TO FUND RESETTLEMENT OF SOVIET JEWS**
By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal will launch a special national fund-raising campaign to help pay for the high cost of resettling the crush of Jewish emigrants pouring out of the Soviet Union.

The decision comes amid mounting pressure from local Jewish federations and resettlement agencies hard hit by the largest Soviet Jewish emigration in nine years.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which provides basic housing, social and educational services for Soviet emigrants in transmigration centers in Italy, announced Thursday that it is facing a huge deficit and will no longer be able to accept Soviet Jewish clients at its facilities after March 31.

On Tuesday, board members of the Council of Jewish Federations, representing some 200 Jewish community federations, adopted a resolution calling on UJA to "give serious attention" to a special campaign.

UJA executive committee members, meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel here Thursday, voted to appoint a committee to work out the details of the campaign, sources said.

It is expected to be a "separate-line" campaign similar to that used to raise funds for Operation Moses, the Ethiopian Jewry rescue effort.

The Soviet Union's liberalized emigration policy, in effect, has created a financial crisis for JDC and the North American Jewish federations. Nearly 19,000 Jews were allowed out of the Soviet Union in 1988, a nine-year high, and 30,000 to 40,000 are expected to be allowed out in 1989.

\$53 Million Needed This Year

More than 90 percent of these emigrants are choosing to live in the United States, thereby overwhelming Jewish resources at the transmigration centers in Vienna and Italy, and in the major Jewish communities of the United States.

JDC expects it will need \$53 million in 1989 to continue its services to the Soviet emigrants alone, less \$8 million provided by the United States Refugee Program. By comparison, "care and maintenance" for Soviet emigrants cost \$13 million in 1988 and less than \$1 million in 1987.

JDC is almost completely funded by UJA. Last year it received \$52 million from UJA, and this year it anticipates a \$59 million allocation. Its 1989 budget for worldwide activities is expected to exceed \$70 million.

Most of the money raised by UJA goes to the Jewish Agency for services in Israel. Local Jewish federations allocate a percentage of their total local campaign to the UJA.

Already this year, JDC has cut back services to emigrants by 10 percent, and it will cut services another 10 percent in March. Another \$7 million in services has been trimmed from JDC programs in many of the 34 countries in which it operates.

Sylvia Hassenfeld, president of JDC, said in an interview at JDC offices Thursday that the organization has nearly reached its \$10 million

ceiling on bank loans. By March 31, she said, JDC centers in Rome and the nearby Italian resort town of Ladispoli will no longer be able to accept additional Jewish clients.

"We are having to watch our situation almost daily," said Michael Schneider, JDC executive vice president.

The situation is being compounded by a change in U.S. refugee policy, due to federal budget pressures, toward the Soviet emigrants seeking entry to the United States as political refugees.

In recent weeks, immigration officials have been rejecting 20 percent of those Soviet Jews applying for the coveted refugee status. Until last fall, refugee status was granted almost automatically for Soviet Jewish emigrants.

The rejections have increased the backlog of emigrants in Ladispoli, thereby skyrocketing the costs to JDC and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, which provides additional resettlement services.

Some 7,000 Soviet Jews, in various stages of the emigration process, are now crowded in and around Ladispoli. Approximately 700 have been rejected for refugee status, and most are appealing the decision.

JDC officials said they have tried a number of approaches to reduce costs at the transit centers. Most focus on reducing the average 75-day waiting period it now takes most Soviet Jews to obtain clearance for entry to the United States. Federal refugee funds are only available for the first 30 days of waiting.

JDC officials also have begun working closely with the Jewish Agency in order to try to convince more Soviet Jews to settle in Israel.

In addition, JDC is urging Soviet Jews to seek help from family members already living in the United States and other countries.

JDC officials have communicated their concern to UJA, CJF and Jewish Agency officials this week, and will lead them on a tour of JDC facilities in Europe next week.

Hassenfeld said a separate-line fund-raising campaign is preferable to a drastic increase in JDC's UJA allocation. Such an increase would come at the expense of the Jewish Agency for Israel, the major beneficiary of money raised by the UJA.

"We hope it wouldn't come to that," said Hassenfeld. "That would be a very divisive thing in the Jewish community."

**'EMERGENCY CONSULTATIONS' URGED
TO INCREASE U.S. REFUGEE QUOTAS**
By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- President Bush will likely be urged by both houses of Congress early next week to begin "emergency consultations with Congress" to increase U.S. refugee quotas.

A draft of a House letter that had 41 signatures Thursday afternoon criticizes the lame-duck Reagan administration's January reallocation of thousands of refugee visas from Southeast Asia to the Soviet Union.

It calls that reallocation "both unwise and unnecessary," and urges "immediate emergency

consultations with Congress to increase the worldwide ceiling of refugees."

The letter to Bush was initiated by Reps. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) and five others.

A second letter, to be mailed early next week to Secretary of State James Baker III and Attorney General Richard Thornburgh, was initiated by Sens. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) and Alan Dixon (D-Ill.).

A draft of that letter, which had 24 signatures Thursday morning, expresses concern that "as of the end of January, over 500 Soviet Jews have been denied refugee status in Rome."

It says that the denials depart "from the longstanding U.S. practice of considering all Soviet Jews to be refugees."

A second concern stated in the letter is that "Soviet emigres seeking visas in Moscow have been told to expect delays of a year or more in processing their applications."

Because of such delays, the senators worry that the U.S. government will replace the Soviet government "as the obstacle to departure."

The 24 senators are calling for an emergency meeting "for dealing with unexpected increases in the refugee population." This is based on the consultation procedure specified in the Refugee Act of 1980.

They note that the private sector -- an apparent reference to the United Jewish Appeal -- is "preparing a major campaign to raise additional private funds to supplement its annual fund-raising efforts." That annual effort "raises millions for the resettlement of Soviet Jews in this country," they said.

The senators also call on the Immigration and Naturalization Service to consider all Soviet Jews as refugees and to place additional Russian-speaking officials in Rome.

The letter-writing campaign was announced as the National Conference on Soviet Jewry held its annual Capitol Hill Action Day on Thursday.

The day before, NCSJ's board of governors announced that it might soon adopt a new policy on trade concessions to the Soviet Union, if present levels of emigration continue.

NEWS ANALYSIS:

LITTLE NEW IN SHAMIR PEACE PLAN TO WORRY SETTLERS, SATISFY ARABS By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's "new peace plan" is not new and it is not a plan, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens assured nervous Jewish settlers in the West Bank town of Efrat Thursday.

"I have heard of no new plan, so I dare say there is none," said Arens, a close political ally of the premier's.

He was trying to squelch a wave of rumors and media speculation, especially in Western Europe, about Shamir's ostensibly new "two-stage peace plan."

The prime minister did indeed speak of a two-stage process in a widely quoted interview published Tuesday by the Paris daily Le Monde.

But it was no more than an enlargement on the Camp David principles that have guided Shamir's policies for years, Arens said.

Few would dispute the foreign minister. Israeli commentators have been quick to note that Shamir's ideas hardly veer from the Camp David

formula.

They attribute the flurry of excitement in Europe to forgetfulness of what the Camp David accords actually contained.

Israeli correspondents got the same message from unnamed State Department officials in Washington this week. They made it clear that Shamir's remarks have been authoritatively interpreted to them as anchored in Camp David.

They point to the five-year period of Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, prescribed by Camp David to be followed by a second stage of negotiations to determine the final disposition of the territories.

This, in sum, is what Shamir has been talking about. Still, there is a sense of something new in the air here, to which Shamir and Arens have knowingly contributed.

Even in his remarks to the settlers Thursday, intended to allay their fears of possible concessions, Arens stressed that Shamir and the Cabinet would soon launch a "new diplomatic initiative."

He did not elaborate. But in a statement last week, the foreign minister observed that Israel would have to take account of Palestinian aspirations.

Shamir himself, while cleaving to Camp David, let one important -- and, for him, new -- notion slip through to reporters.

Troop Withdrawal

He said Wednesday that the Israel Defense Force would be withdrawn from the centers of Arab populated towns in the territories during the autonomy period.

Camp David indeed prescribes troop withdrawals, though it does not specify they must be from towns.

The idea of pulling out of the heavily Arab populated regions originated with the late Moshe Dayan, who as foreign minister toyed with the idea of implementing the Camp David proposals unilaterally, as long as the Palestinians refused to accept them.

Jewish settlers in Hebron were quick to spot that notion in Shamir's remarks, and they reacted furiously.

When Arens visited Hebron Thursday, he was warned by Rabbi Moshe Levinger, an activist in the Gush Emunim militant settlers movement, that any withdrawal would escalate the Palestinian uprising throughout the territories.

Shamir is saying some things he has never said before, and hard-liners on both sides of the conflict are beginning to pick up nuances.

For the moment, they are no more than nuances. Neither Shamir nor Arens has publicly backed the bolder, unequivocal proposals by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin: a phased cease-fire in the intifada, local elections for the Palestinians and Israeli negotiations with the officials they elect.

Shamir has dismissed Rabin's ideas as "private," meaning they were unworthy of Cabinet consideration.

The Palestinians, for their part, have rejected Rabin's proposals as not sufficiently far-reaching and Shamir's ideas as obsolete and a pretext for continuing the occupation.

But beneath the surface, there is recognition in the Palestinian camp of a new stirring of movement in Israel, by Rabin, representing the Labor Party mainstream, and the Shamir-Arens axis that leads Likud.

RUSSIAN EMIGRE CHARGED WITH SPYING FOR PLO

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- A 35-year-old former emigre from the Soviet Union has confessed to spying for the Palestine Liberation Organization, but for money rather than for ideological reasons.

The man was remanded in custody by a Petach Tikva magistrate Thursday. His trial will be held within 10 days.

The court forbade disclosure of the man's identity or details of the charges against him, but it is known that he worked for a government organization.

The man reportedly told the authorities he spied for money and meant no harm to Israel though he was "disappointed" with the country.

He is said to live in northern Israel with his wife and two children, a daughter, age 10, and a 5-year-old son. He was arrested at Ben-Gurion Airport on Tuesday when he arrived from Athens.

He admitted having contacts with PLO agents in Athens and passing information to them in exchange for a promise of \$1.5 million.

He told the court that when his contacts failed to pay, he went to the Israeli Consulate in Athens, disclosed he had passed information to PLO agents and answered their questions.

The man came here from the Soviet Union in the early 1970s. He was quoted as saying he became a spy because he was "fed up with the conditions in Israel."

He said he always wanted to go to Israel, "but I have been disappointed. There are people who have made my life a misery. I have been a better citizen than those who embittered my life," the accused told the court.

He said he "didn't understand the seriousness and what damage I was doing."

SOVIET DESCRIBES HIS DEFECTION AS EXPERIMENT TO TEST 'GLASNOST'

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Jacob Kogan, the Soviet Jewish computer scientist who defected to Israel from Paris this week, has become something of a mystery man.

He insists he did not defect, but only carried out an experiment to test glasnost, President Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of openness.

Although described by the local news media as a distinguished mathematician and member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, he is unknown to the Soviet emigre community here or to Israeli academicians.

Mathematicians and computer scientists at Israeli universities, including newcomers from the Soviet Union, have said they know nothing of Kogan, his work or academic qualifications.

Kogan, 48, applied for an immigrant visa at the Interior Ministry's Tel Aviv office Thursday. He arrived in Israel on Sunday with a tourist visa issued by the Israeli Embassy in Paris.

Interviewed on television and the Israel Defense Force radio station, Kogan provided a version of events considerably different from earlier accounts.

He was a member of a Soviet delegation attending an international conference on computers in Paris. It was his first trip outside the Soviet Union and he decided to "try an experiment," Kogan told his interviewers.

He said he telephoned the Israeli Embassy last Friday and was given complete instructions.

He said when he phoned back Saturday, he was told to take a taxi to Orly Airport on Sunday, not before 12:30 p.m., to catch an El Al plane leaving at 12:35.

But according to an earlier version, Kogan went out jogging one morning last week and sprinted directly to the embassy, where he asked for asylum.

The later story did not mention a visit to the embassy. He said he spent Sunday morning at a museum, caught a taxi, got lost, but arrived at the airport in time to find a tourist visa in his name at the El Al counter.

He said an El Al official took his Soviet passport through the passport control station.

Kogan said he did not apply for an exit visa at home, because he was afraid he would lose his job and become a refusenik for many years.

Kogan left his wife and two sons, 7 and 10 years old, in Moscow. He said he hoped to send them an official invitation so they could apply for exit permits on the basis of family reunification.

SHAMIR, TOO, SAID TO OPPOSE SHARANSKY PICK FOR U.N. POST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has privately expressed reservations over the proposal to appoint Soviet Jewry activist Natan Sharansky to be Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, informed sources here said Thursday.

While he admires the former prisoner of conscience, Shamir is concerned that naming him to the highly visible U.N. post might be perceived in Moscow as a needless provocation at a time when Soviet-Israeli relations seem to be warming, the sources said.

The idea originated with Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who was Israel's U.N. envoy before he quit last year to run for the Knesset.

Shamir is said to regret its premature disclosure to the news media. It will be hard now to back away from the appointment without causing Sharansky some embarrassment.

Officials here said Shamir will try to have the proposal quietly shelved. In doing so, he is likely to have the cooperation of his coalition partner, Vice Premier Shimon Peres, whose consent is needed for the appointment.

Many members of Peres' Labor Party have voiced opposition to Sharansky as head of Israel's U.N. delegation.

INFILTRATORS FOILED IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army killed three guerrillas Wednesday night who were attempting to infiltrate Israel from the southern Lebanon security zone.

They were identified as members of Amal, the mainstream Shiite militia.

There were no SLA casualties in the encounter, which occurred in the eastern sector of the security zone, a 6- to 12-mile strip of land alongside the border patrolled by Israeli-backed troops.

Amal said in Sidon that its men had been sent to plant mines and were attacked by the SLA.

U.S. CAN'T CONFIRM CBS REPORT LINKING JABRIL TO PAN AM BOMBING

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The State Department said Thursday that U.S. investigators could not confirm a CBS News report that named Ahmed Jabril, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, responsible for the blowing up of a Pan American plane over Scotland Dec. 21.

"The investigators have not yet reached any conclusion about who is responsible for the tragedy of Pan Am Flight 103," department spokesman Charles Redman said.

"We are confident that we'll eventually find out who is responsible," he added. "But we do not expect a quick solution."

CBS News, citing sources "in the international terrorist movement," said Wednesday night that the PFLP-General Command was responsible for the bombing of the Pan Am flight that killed 270 people.

CBS said that Jabril was acting at the behest of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, who had been seeking revenge for the April 15, 1986 U.S. air raid on Libya.

It also reported that Jabril had the backing of Syria. As a former officer in Syrian military intelligence, Jabril would have had to receive clearance for the operation from Brig. Gen. Ali Douba, head of the Syrian military intelligence.

W. GERMANY GRANTS ARMY EXEMPTION TO THIRD-GENERATION SURVIVORS

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- West Germany's Jewish community is divided over the decision by Defense Minister Rupert Scholz to excuse young German Jews whose grandparents suffered under the Nazis from compulsory military service.

The issue was raised by Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Central Council of Jewish Communities in West Germany, at a meeting with Scholz last week.

He argued that many young Jews refused to be drafted on grounds that members of their families were once persecuted by Germans in uniform.

But the community is not of one mind on the issue. Some Jewish representatives say it is perfectly justified to seek exemptions as long as Nazi victims are still alive.

But others maintain that special treatment of Jews gives Hitler a posthumous victory.

They recall that one of his first edicts when the Nazi came to power in 1933 was to exclude Jews from the German armed forces.

Until now, the West German army has granted individual requests for deferments by Jews whose parents suffered in concentration camps.

But lately, it has insisted on drafting those whose grandparents were Nazi victims.

The defense minister's decision has aroused resentment among non-Jewish youths subject to the draft.

"If they choose to live here, they should be ready to share the burden of defending this country," said one young recruit on a television interview.

"The Jews got so much money from Germany," said another recruit. "Now that they are being called to serve the country, they quote the Holocaust and the Nazi past. That is absolutely

wrong."

But one young Jew had a different perspective. "This is not my homeland," he said. "I am not ready to die for it. I just live here."

MARIE SYRKIN, LABOR ZIONIST LEADER FOR 60 YEARS, DIES AT 89

By Behnam Dayanlm

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Dr. Marie Syrkín, an author, lecturer, biographer of Golda Meir and a leading figure in the Labor Zionist movement for more than 60 years, died in Santa Monica, Calif., Wednesday at 89.

A gifted speaker and prolific writer, Syrkín wrote three volumes on the life and work of Golda Meir, the only woman prime minister of Israel, with whom she was closely associated.

Another book, "Blessed is the Match," published in 1947, dealt with the Holocaust.

Her most recent volume, "The State of the Jews," published in 1980, was a collection of essays that appeared in the Jewish Frontier, Midstream, Commentary and The New Republic.

Syrkin was on the editorial board of the Jewish Frontier, the Labor Zionist journal, since its founding in 1934. She was its editor in chief from 1948 until the mid-1970s.

Ben Halpern, professor emeritus at Brandeis University and former managing editor of the Jewish Frontier, lauded Syrkín as "a woman of valor."

He said that he had "worked with her since I started working, in one form or another," and said he was "very grieved" at her death.

Menachem Rosensaft, president of the Labor Zionist Alliance, called Syrkín "one of the last of the great Zionist leaders. Her passing truly marks the end of an era."

Rosensaft praised her "intellectual brilliance and moral courage . . . to take strongly progressive steps on behalf of the peace movement in Israel (and) progressive Zionist causes."

Syrkin taught in New York City high schools from 1925 to 1948 and was an associate professor of English at Brandeis from 1950 to 1966.

She was born March 22, 1899, in Bern, Switzerland, the daughter of Dr. Nachman Syrkín, the foremost Socialist Zionist theoretician of his time and a founder of the movement.

She came to the United States with her father in 1907 and graduated from Cornell University in 1920.

Her late husband was the noted poet Charles Reznikoff.

FBI INVESTIGATING 35 ISRAELIS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The FBI is investigating 35 people in Israel suspected of attacking Arab activists and alleged former Nazi war criminals in the United States, according to a report in Hadashot Thursday.

Israeli police, assisted by informants, are keeping the suspects under surveillance, the newspaper said.

Most of them are active in Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement, with some living in Kiryat Arba, the militant Orthodox township adjacent to Hebron in the West Bank.

Hadashot said one of the suspects is Yekutiel Ben-Yaakov, a spokesman for the new "State of Judea" which Kahane said would be established in any territories evacuated by Israel.