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**PLAN TO CUT SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION MAY FACE STIFF OPPOSITION IN CONGRESS**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- The Bush administration's reported plan to sharply limit the number of Soviet Jews permitted to enter the United States as refugees may face strong resistance in Congress, though American Jewish groups are not likely to fight it.

"Disgusting and shameful" were the words one congressman used to describe the plan, which was first disclosed Sunday in The New York Times.

"I don't think the Bush administration is correctly sensing the mood in Congress," Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on Monday.

Engel predicted "grave resistance" in Congress if the administration decides to grant refugee status to only those Soviet Jews who have immediate relatives here. They comprise about 35 percent of Soviet Jewish emigrants applying to enter the United States as refugees.

This year, the United States increased its refugee quota and budget to allow 43,500 Soviets, mostly Jews, to immigrate to this country.

The Bush administration will be consulting with Congress later this month to set its refugee ceiling for the 1990 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. It is expected to be around 50,000.

The Bush administration in January announced that it was reviewing its refugee policy. Jewish groups, including the Council of Jewish Federations, have been consulted in the process.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler confirmed Monday that the Bush administration is reviewing Soviet emigration policy, but she said, "We are not prepared to announce any policy decisions at this time."

**'Should Be Welcomed With Open Arms'**

Engel, who returned to the United States on Sunday after visiting the U.S. refugee processing center for Soviet refugees in Rome, called the Bush administration "hypocrites."

"They talk about people not being admitted unless they have family members here. And the policy of the United States government in recent months has been to separate families," he said.

He was referring to decisions by U.S. immigration officials to grant refugee status to some members of Soviet Jewish families and not to others.

"This country said to the Soviet Union, 'Let the Soviet Jews go and we'll take them in,'" he said. Now, "the minute they liberalize their policy, we are throwing roadblocks in their path."

Engel's four grandparents emigrated to the United States from Russia. Today, "a lot of these people are no different and should be welcomed with open arms," he said.

"I would be happier if more chose to go to Israel, but I still believe they have the right to choose where they go to," he said.

Despite pressure on Congress and the administration to limit government spending, Engel said that hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens entering the United States are "somehow absorbed in society."

To argue that the government cannot allow 100,000 Soviet Jews to enter the United States "does not make any sense to me whatsoever," he said.

But Mark Talisman, Washington representative of the Council of Jewish Federations, said Jewish groups realize there is no way the United States will be able to admit all of those expected emigres.

**Refusal Rate Still High**

Nevertheless, there is consensus among Jewish groups that any new U.S. restriction on Soviet Jews seeking to enter the United States "could not go the extent of breaking up families," he said.

Lawmakers such as Engel are expected to lobby harder for additional refugee spots than Jewish groups, which are also mindful of demands from nationals of other countries, such as Southeast Asians, to enter the United States.

Talisman said there was "no cabal here" among U.S. Jewish relief agencies and community federations to see additional Soviet Jewish refugees settle in other countries because of growing financial burdens.

He explained that "money is going to be raised in any event," should the refugees settle in growing numbers in Israel.

He said that "Israel's own infrastructure is at a breaking point already" to handle any growth in Soviet emigration. Housing in Israel needs to be bolstered, because it "does not exist in sufficient quantity," he said.

Talisman said that at present, the "real problem" in U.S. refugee policy is that in August, 22 percent of Soviet Jewish families in Rome seeking U.S. refugee status were refused it. That rate is "unacceptable and still, in our view, capricious," he said.

On Tuesday afternoon, the White House convened a meeting to discuss Soviet refugee policy, attended by senior State Department, Justice Department and National Security Council officials.

Congressional hearings to discuss U.S. refugee policy have been scheduled Sept. 12 and Sept. 14 by the House Judiciary subcommittee on immigration, refugees and international law.

**RABIN TO DISCUSS PEACE PROCESS WITH TOP OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin will meet with members of the Bush administration Friday in Washington, as the United States seeks to revive Israel's moribund peace initiative.

Rabin, who departed for the United States on Wednesday night to address an Israel Bonds gathering in Philadelphia, will meet with three top U.S. officials Friday: Secretary of State James Baker, Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft.

The defense minister, a leader of the Labor Party in Israel's unity government, will be followed into Washington next week by Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, a Likud stalwart.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens is scheduled to come to the United States on Sept. 24 for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly session.

Reports from Israel are that the Bush administration is trying to convince the Palestine Liberation Organization and moderate Arab states to support a 10-point paper drawn up by Egypt that modifies Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Egyptian paper is expected to win the approval of Israel's Labor Party, but not the Likud bloc, since it endorses the principle of trading "land for peace" and would allow Arab residents of East Jerusalem to participate in the proposed Palestinian elections.

But a White House official refused to confirm Wednesday that the United States is backing the Egyptian paper. The official said the Bush administration supports the original election plan proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

#### U.S. Embassy in Beirut Evacuated

But, he added, the administration has stressed that the plan needs "fleshing out" and it has been seeking "input" from all sources, including Egypt.

Rabin also is expected to discuss the situation in Lebanon when he meets with the U.S. officials, as he has done on all his previous visits to Washington.

The situation may take on more urgency this week, because the United States evacuated all 30 of its remaining diplomats from the U.S. Embassy in Beirut on Wednesday morning.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said that there was a real fear that the U.S. diplomats could be killed or kidnapped.

Tutwiler said the situation deteriorated over the weekend, when some 1,000 supporters of Lt. Gen. Michel Aoun, leader of the Christian forces, surrounded the embassy in East Beirut. She quoted some threats from Aoun in newspaper interviews and said the situation was "getting nastier."

"The evacuation does not represent diminution of our intention to try to help Lebanon in its time of trouble," Tutwiler said.

She said the administration is consulting with other countries, including Israel, "on how to try to achieve a cease-fire, an end to all blockades and the beginning of a political reconciliation process."

#### **PRESIDENT REJECTS ISRAELI REQUEST FOR AID TO REFURBISH REFUGEE CAMPS**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Citing a lack of progress in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, the United States and other Western countries have rejected an Israeli appeal for aid to rehabilitate Palestinian refugee camps.

The U.S. refusal came this week in a letter from President Bush to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The Israeli newspaper Ma'ariv quoted Bush as saying that the camps had to be part of a "comprehensive plan to resolve the conflict."

Canada, France, Great Britain, Japan and West Germany also have rejected the Israeli request, an Israeli Embassy official here said Wednesday.

The State Department said Wednesday that

"the question of the refugees cannot be separated from the search for an overall solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler added that "the United States is fully engaged in trying to move the (peace) process forward and will continue those efforts."

She said the United States has "long been deeply concerned about the refugee situation" in the administered territories. She said that is why the Bush administration supports the efforts of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, which received \$65.3 million from the United States this fiscal year.

Reacting to the Bush letter, the Israeli Embassy official argued that the U.S. rejection was not based on the merit of such a project, but on a different priority list.

An international effort to improve the life of Palestinian refugees in the West Bank and Gaza Strip was part of Shamir's four-point peace initiative announced in Washington in April. Other points of the plan include elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to select Palestinian representatives who would negotiate with Israel on an interim autonomy plan for the territories and, eventually, their final status.

The Israeli official said he understood the U.S. position that "elections should be worked out" before dealing with other topics.

He added that Israel has previously proposed rebuilding Palestinian refugee camps as part of an Israeli "Marshall Plan" for the territories, a reference to the massive U.S. assistance extended to ravaged Western Europe after World War II.

#### **JEWISH AGENCY OPENS BUDAPEST OFFICE**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Israel has opened an office in Budapest to coordinate its activities and those of the World Zionist Organization in Hungary, Hadashot reported this week.

The announcement was made by Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the WZO-Jewish Agency Executive.

The Jewish Agency has five emissaries in Hungary, teaching at Jewish schools and working with Jewish youth. The new office is located in the Jewish community building.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee also has opened an office in Budapest, which is to be officially dedicated on Friday. In July, the World Jewish Congress opened an office in the Hungarian capital.

#### **ISRAELIS TRAVEL DESPITE UNEMPLOYMENT**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Israelis are treating themselves to expensive vacations abroad, despite the economic slowdown at home and record unemployment.

At least 750,000 Israelis traveled abroad this past summer, 6 percent more than last year.

Most of them chose expensive destinations like the United States and Western Europe, confounding experts who said they wouldn't have the shekels to spend.

According to the spokesman for a group of airlines, Israelis also traveled in large numbers to Eastern Europe, where tourism is much cheaper.

The cheapest tourist country, Turkey, drew only a few thousand Israeli visitors this summer.

**ISRAELIS WHO TRAINED COLOMBIANS  
MAY STAND TRIAL FOR ILLEGAL EXPORTS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- The police are expected to recommend this week that Yair Klein and his associates be brought to trial for illegally exporting military expertise to Colombia.

If convicted, he could face a prison term of up to three years for illegal export of military know-how to a foreign country.

Klein, a lieutenant colonel in the Israel Defense Force reserves, heads Hod Hahanit, a security consultant firm whose name translates as Spearhead.

It has been under investigation since last month by the serious crimes division of the national police for its activities in Colombia. Klein and several of his aides have been questioned.

They allegedly provided military training and know-how to unofficial groups in Colombia without the requisite licenses from the Israeli Defense Ministry.

According to unconfirmed media reports, Klein personally trained assassination squads for a Colombian drug cartel.

But the probe has been limited to the licensing problem. Police said they had no information to substantiate the drug allegations.

They said the Colombian authorities have failed to respond to requests for additional data made more than two weeks ago. But the file remains open, and if new information is forthcoming, Klein will be questioned again, the police said.

So far, Klein maintains that his work in Colombia was perfectly legal and that because his clients were non-governmental, he required no license.

He says he trained security guards for Colombian ranchers and farmers who were being harassed by guerrillas and cattle rustlers.

A decision to prosecute rests with the state attorney. If Klein goes to trial, the case will be heard by a magistrates court.

**FOREIGN NATIONS TRYING TO USE ISRAEL  
TO LAUNDER EXPORTS TO SOUTH AFRICA**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Some countries are using Israeli companies to "launder" their exports to South Africa to avoid the appearance of doing business with the apartheid regime.

According to a report Wednesday in Ha'aretz, customs officials seized shipments destined for South Africa from foreign sources that had disguised the products to appear as if they originated in Israel.

The officials acted on orders of Deputy Finance Minister Yossi Beilin, the newspaper said, adding that several instances have been uncovered of countries circumventing their own embargoes on trade with South Africa.

Customs officials recently confiscated a \$200,000 shipment of Romanian ball bearings. It refused to release them, despite appeals from the Israeli company Shagum, which were supported by the Romanian Embassy in Tel Aviv.

According to political sources, Romania wanted the Israeli firm to help it bypass its trade boycott against South Africa.

But the Israeli Cabinet has barred Israeli firms from doing so.

**U.S. WILL TRY TO DENATURALIZE  
MILWAUKEE MAN WHO SERVED IN SS**

By Marilyn Ruby

Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Anton Tittjung, 64, a retired marble craftsman living in Greenfield, Wis., has become the second Milwaukee-area man in five months to face possible revocation of his U.S. citizenship because of his alleged role as a Nazi concentration camp guard.

A motion to revoke Tittjung's citizenship was filed Aug. 29 in the federal district court in Milwaukee by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations.

OSI alleges that Tittjung concealed three times from U.S. immigration authorities his service as an armed guard of prisoners at the Gross Raming subcamp of the Mauthausen concentration camp complex in Austria.

Tittjung, a native of Yugoslavia, is also accused of concealing his membership in the SS-Totenkopf Sturmabteilung (Death's Head Battalion).

OSI's motion states that Tittjung falsely swore that his military service consisted solely of membership in the Prinz Eugen Division of the Waffen SS. Members of that division were deemed eligible for entry into the United States.

Service in the Totenkopf-Sturmabteilung unit was adjudged as criminal by the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany, following World War II.

The tribunal ruled that the Totenkopf-Sturmabteilung unit constituted assistance in the Nazi persecution of civilians and membership in a movement hostile to the United States.

OSI notes that during the time Tittjung served at Mauthausen, the camp's death toll rose to a peak of 400 per day in 1944. In all, thousands of prisoners died there as the result of shooting, gassing, hanging, electrocution, starvation, forced labor, lethal injection and other forms of murder.

**Knew Of Killings**

The OSI motion adds that while serving as an armed guard at Gross Raming, Tittjung knew that civilians were being killed there.

According to OSI, the defendant falsely claimed he was a displaced person after the war. He said he had received four months' infantry and artillery training, fought against the Tito partisans in Yugoslavia and then retreated to the Austria-Yugoslavian border in May 1945.

Tittjung entered the United States from Austria in 1952 under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948. In 1955, he successfully reapplied for admission to the United States from Austria, where he had been visiting. In 1973, he received U.S. citizenship.

U.S. Attorney Francis Schmitz will serve as local counsel for the government in the Tittjung case, and federal Judge John Reynolds has been assigned to hear it. Schmitz added that OSI will handle the bulk of the litigation, due to its specialized nature.

According to Schmitz, Tittjung was served with a copy of the complaint on the morning of Sept. 5.

Tittjung could not be reached for comment.

Citizenship revocation proceedings are also pending against Anton Baumann, 77, of West Allis, Wis. He is accused of concealing that he was a guard at the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany and the Stutthof camp in Poland.

## FOUR JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN U.S. GEARING UP FOR VISIT BY GLEMP JTA Staff Report

CHICAGO, Sept. 6 (JTA) -- Jewish communities in four Midwestern cities are bracing for a scheduled U.S. visit by Cardinal Jozef Glemp of Poland, whose recent anti-Semitic remarks regarding the convent at Auschwitz have outraged Jews around the world.

Though Glemp's schedule has not been finalized, he is supposed to arrive in the United States on Sept. 21, where he is expected to spend approximately a week in Chicago, before continuing on to Cleveland, Milwaukee and Detroit for shorter visits.

There have also been reports that Glemp is planning to visit Washington and Boston, and that he will stay in the United States at least until Oct. 1.

Glemp, the highest-ranking Catholic official in Poland, caused a stir when he accused Jews of directing the international media against Poland and spreading anti-Polish propaganda.

He has also called for the renegotiation of an agreement by Catholic and Jewish leaders to relocate the controversial Auschwitz convent to a planned interfaith center located off the grounds of the death camp.

On Friday, a delegation headed by the Chicago Jewish Community Relations Council will meet with Cardinal Joseph Bernadin, the archbishop of Chicago, to discuss the Jewish community's response to the Glemp visit.

Michael Kotzin, Chicago's JCRC director, said the Jewish community is currently "pursuing an appropriate vehicle of expression" which "would be carried out with dignity and would be a unified response" to Glemp's recent anti-Semitic statements.

Rabbi Shlomo Levine, president of the Chicago Board of Rabbis and a signer of the interfaith statement, declined an invitation to speak at an ecumenical service and reception for Glemp, scheduled for Sept. 25.

### Canards Out Of The Past

"Cardinal Glemp's presence in Chicago after the statements he made represents the rekindling of ideas and images that are astonishing. After Vatican II and through the church's own teaching, we thought the canards he proposed were way in the past," Levine said.

"To stand before him and begin to explain the nature of pluralism and the good work of Joseph Cardinal Bernadin would be an affront to the work of the archdiocese. It would also be inappropriate to receive him in the Jewish community given his rancorous statements."

Jewish members of the Chicago Catholic-Jewish Scholars Dialogue group have also announced that they have declined an invitation to the ecumenical service.

The interfaith group recently issued a statement calling for the nuns at Auschwitz to relocate.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss of New York, who led the July 14 demonstration at the Auschwitz convent that precipitated the announcement that the convent would not be moved, said last week that he would protest against Glemp wherever he appears.

"If he's going to be in Chicago, I'm going to be in Chicago. Wherever he will be, I will be. I will confront him face to face," he told the

Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a telephone interview.

Weiss has also retained attorney Alan Dershowitz to investigate what legal action can be taken against Glemp.

"If he steps one foot in this country," Dershowitz said, "we are going to serve him a summons and subpoena on a slander charge."

### 'I Want To Pray For Him'

In Milwaukee, Cleveland and Detroit, Jewish groups are meeting this week to plan their response to Glemp's visit.

"We need to develop a strategy as events unfold," said Judy Mann, executive director of the Milwaukee Jewish Council.

She said the council will work to create "opportunities for people in the Jewish community to express themselves."

One Milwaukee rabbi has planned independent action.

Rabbi Francis Barry Silberg of Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun said he and nine members of his congregation -- some of them Holocaust survivors -- would go to St. Josaphat's Basilica at the time Glemp is scheduled to celebrate mass there on Sept. 27.

He said his group will "pray silently in our own way for an end to that hostility which results in anti-Semitism."

Silberg said he intends to draw an analogy between the Carmelite nuns' prayers for the souls of Holocaust victims and the prayers his minyan will offer for Glemp.

He emphasized that his plans do not involve any demonstration to interrupt the mass. He added that he informed Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert Weakland of his intent and received a "gracious response."

Silberg added that he is not interested in meeting Glemp. "I don't want to talk to him, I want to pray for him," he said.

The communities which Glemp is scheduled to visit have all been coordinating their strategy through the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

### 'Not A Welcome Guest'

Albert Chernin, executive vice chairman of NJCRAC, said that while discussions with community leaders are continuing, a "general feeling" has emerged that "no productive result can be achieved through a meeting with Cardinal Glemp.

"Generally, our view is that such a meeting could be very troublesome," Chernin said. "It's not a question of minor differences or policies we disagree with -- his statements were clearly and blatantly anti-Semitic."

Chernin said that Jewish communities have been encouraged by the sympathy voiced by prominent U.S. Catholic officials toward Jewish sensitivities about the presence of the convent at Auschwitz.

Various Catholic leaders in Europe and the United States have called for the convent to be moved and have condemned Glemp's remarks.

He said that while Jews will not be pressuring Catholics in their local communities to cancel Glemp's visit, they will be conveying the message to Catholics that "for the Jewish community, Cardinal Glemp is not a welcome guest."

(Contributing to this report were JTA correspondent Todd Winer in Chicago, JTA staff writer Allison Kaplan in New York and Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle staff writer Leon Cohen in Milwaukee.)