

VOL. 69 - 74th YEAR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1991

NO. 152

**ISRAELI WELCOMES HOSTAGE RELEASE,  
STANDS READY TO ASSIST IN A SWAP**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Israel welcomed the release from Lebanon on Thursday of British hostage John McCarthy and said it would "continue to make every effort to bring about the release of all the hostages, including the captured and missing Israeli soldiers."

In a statement which extended warm greetings to McCarthy and his family, Defense Ministry spokesman Danny Naveh said, "The government of Israel wishes to see the release of additional hostages as the beginning of an accelerated process, at the end of which will come the release of all prisoners and hostages held by various groups in Lebanon."

McCarthy, who was one of eight Western hostages held in Lebanon, was freed after more than five years in captivity by the Islamic Jihad, a military wing of the Hezbollah, a Shi'ite fundamentalist group backed by Iran.

Islamic Jihad had announced Tuesday that it would release a special envoy, who would convey an important message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

In a television interview from Damascus following his release, McCarthy said groups who are still holding hostages in Lebanon want to exchange prisoners with Israel.

"I believe they have decided that what they want now is an exchange for their people, the Lebanese held in Israel," McCarthy told the British Sky cable television network.

"That is what they are holding us for now," he added.

**Red Cross Inspection Urged**

Israel is holding several hundred Palestinian and Lebanese Shi'ite prisoners in jail for various terrorist offenses.

In addition, it has detained Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid, spiritual leader of a Hezbollah terrorist faction, whom Israeli commandos seized in Lebanon in July 1989.

While Israel maintains he was arrested for his role in plotting terrorist attacks, it is widely believed Israel seized him to use as a bargaining chip for the return of the seven Israeli soldiers who are still missing in Lebanon.

Naveh called on those holding the missing Israeli soldiers to allow the International Red Cross to see them or provide information about them, following which "Israel will be prepared to conduct negotiations for the release of Lebanese detainees in its hands, in exchange for the release of all Western hostages."

Uri Lubrani, coordinator for Israeli activities in Lebanon, told Israel Radio, "We can only hope and pray that McCarthy's release will herald the start of a dynamic process leading to the release of all hostages held in Lebanon, including our own men captured by the terrorists in Lebanon."

There has been no comment on reports by the Sky network that two rounds of negotiations have been held in Paris during the past year between Israeli representatives and Hezbollah agents on a possible exchange of Israeli prisoners for Lebanese Shi'ites held by Israel.

**IDF SAID TO BE WAITING TO PREPARE  
POSITION PAPERS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Israel Defense Force analysts reportedly have not begun preparing assessments of the security ramifications of giving up the Golan Heights, even though it has been clear for weeks that Israel will be asked to do so if peace talks with Syria get under way in October, as planned.

The Israeli daily Ha'aretz quoted senior military officials Wednesday as saying that IDF analysts have decided to refrain from preparing position papers on the region's future until asked to do so by the political leadership.

"The army has not been asked to prepare a paper on the future of the Golan Heights, and therefore it is not doing so," a senior source told correspondent Reuven Pedatzur.

"No one is looking into the defense significance of the territory, the military significance of demilitarizing it or the other possible defense arrangements," the source was quoted as saying.

The paper said IDF officials are concerned over reactions that might come from the political leadership if the army were to recommend various courses of action.

The officials are worried that if the IDF's professional recommendations did not accord with the political goals of the policy-makers, the IDF could be asked to stop preparing position papers or, in the worst case, senior officers could be transferred from their posts, the paper said.

The story pointed out that even prior to the signing of the Camp David accords, the army was not asked to prepare analyses on what might happen if a peace agreement with Egypt were achieved.

**Chief Says Golan Is Essential**

But some military sources quoted by Ha'aretz are concerned that if the peace process with Syria moves forward, no professional military assessments will be available to help formulate policy.

The IDF chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, made clear this week his belief that the Golan Heights are essential to Israel's security and the IDF's capacity to defend the country. Israel captured the territory from Syria in 1967 and, in effect, annexed it in December 1980.

But other military experts in Israel say that from a purely military perspective, it is possible to achieve satisfactory security arrangements with Syria, even if that would entail relinquishing territory in the Golan Heights. Demilitarizing the Golan Heights would obtain a good level of security for Israel, they say.

But Barak believes Syria will continue to be Israel's biggest security threat for the foreseeable future.

"If a political process is opened, it might be a very long, sometimes frustrating process, with some opportunities and many risks," he said in an interview Wednesday with Israel Radio.

"No one can, in my judgment, make any predictions about what the results may be at the end," he said.

Faced with a lengthy and complicated politi-

cal process, fraught with both risks and opportunities, the IDF would have to maintain its strength for a long time to come, both because of the uncertainties of the peace process and in order to conduct negotiations from a position of strength, the IDF chief said.

That would require an investment of some 5 billion shekels, or more than \$2 billion, by the end of this decade, Barak said, adding that he hoped such funds would be made available.

Barak said Syrian President Hafez Assad had agreed to peace talks with Israel after carefully considering his military situation and drawing practical conclusions on what he could and could not do at present.

The other Arab states have also carefully considered the IDF's capabilities, Barak said, which have had a major influence on persuading the Arabs to consider direct negotiations with Israel.

### **Soviet Arms Deal Went Sour**

Ron Ben-Yishai, writing in the daily Yediot Achronot, agreed that Syria's decision to enter direct negotiations with Israel came, among other things, from realization that within the near future, Syria will not be able to achieve strategic parity with Israel.

Ben-Yishai quoted official sources in Israel as saying that Assad was disappointed with the terms of the large arms deal he signed with the Soviet Union a few months ago.

The deal, valued at \$2 billion to \$3 billion, was to include advanced MiG-29 and Sukhoi-24 fighter jets, as well as tanks and state-of-the-art, surface-to-air SA-10 missiles, which are not yet in the hands of any other Middle East country.

But the financially strapped Soviet Union is asking for payment in cash, and Syria does not have the money. Only a small amount has arrived from the Gulf states, which promised Syria some \$2 billion in recognition of its participation in the Western coalition that dislodged Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Syria has already used much of what it did receive to pay for Scud-C missiles purchased from North Korea, Ben-Yishai reported.

It is possible the Soviet deal may not come to fruition at all or that only some of the items will be given to Syria for cash, he wrote.

The Soviet Union has already forgiven Syria for billion dollar debts from a prior weapons deal and apparently is not willing to continue financing the Syrian war machine when the Soviet Union itself is suffering financially.

### **ISRAELI MAY GET EYE IN THE SKY**

**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Israel will soon have the capability of sending satellite-mounted cameras into orbit, according to experts quoted Thursday in the Israeli daily Ma'ariv.

Israel's Ofek (horizon) program has to date launched two satellites into orbit, neither of which, according to the Israeli government, carried cameras or was intended for military use.

Foreign sources, however, have claimed that the Ofek-2 probe, launched April 3, 1990, was a spy probe and did, in fact, carry a camera.

In March, Defense Minister Moshe Arens made a surprise announcement that Israel would soon be launching its own spy satellite. It was the first public disclosure by a senior Cabinet member that Israel had a spy satellite program.

Arens' announcement followed criticism by members of the opposition that Israel's intelligence services had not performed well during the Persian Gulf crisis.

During the Gulf crisis and the Persian Gulf War, Israel had to depend on U.S. satellite data for intelligence about Iraqi troop movements and Scud missile launchers. Arens had countered criticism by saying Israel had relayed information to the United States.

Arens enthusiastically supports the project's continuation, but says Ofek's fate depends on an increased defense budget.

Defense sources are saying the war proved the necessity for spy satellites.

### **KUWAIT SAYS IT EXPECTS TO REVOKE SECONDARY BOYCOTT LAWS 'VERY SOON'** **By Howard Rosenberg**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Kuwait will soon revoke laws barring contracts with foreign companies that do business with Israel, a Kuwaiti Embassy official said Thursday.

Revocation is "only a matter of time" and will occur "very soon," predicted Raed al-Rifai, spokesman at the embassy.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, welcomed that statement.

The WJC also has made public a May 30 letter by Edward Gnehm, the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait, assuring Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) that Kuwait will not use its "boycott blacklist" any longer against American companies.

Steinberg said Gnehm's letter is significant in that he is vouching for a change in Kuwaiti policy.

"Since Kuwait's liberation, many new American firms have found business opportunities in Kuwait, and many of those companies employ Americans of the Jewish faith," the U.S. ambassador wrote.

Kuwait has not observed the so-called secondary boycott against Israel since Iraq's invasion last August, the American Jewish Congress pointed out in the July issue of its Boycott Report newsletter.

The WJC said Kuwait's enforcement of the boycott after the end of the Persian Gulf War became "problematic" because Iraq "had looted and vandalized" Kuwait's boycott office after the invasion.

Rifai of the Kuwaiti Embassy said his government is "on record as saying not too long ago, in effect, that the boycott is not being applied. That is the reality of the situation" and "there won't be a single (U.S.) company that will be boycotted," he said.

When asked why Kuwait had not yet revoked the boycott laws, Rifai spoke of "certain sensitivities" to the "Arab approach now to the problem of the boycott."

"We don't want to do anything unilaterally," he said. "It's all over the Arab world that it will be revoked. We like to work within a certain framework."

Rifai denied that Kuwait would revoke the laws in order to improve its relations with the United States. "Our relations with the United States have never been better. We have a complete understanding and our position is very clear," he said.

Although Kuwait has suspended the so-called secondary boycott of Israel, it continues to bar Israeli-made goods from entering the country.

**RABBI OF THE WESTERN WALL  
WITHDRAWS HIS RESIGNATION****By David Landau**

**JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) --** Rabbi Yehuda Getz withdrew his resignation as rabbi of the Western Wall on Thursday.

The rabbi had submitted his resignation earlier in the week in a dispute over plans for a coeducational ceremony at the plaza in front of the Wall by Gadna, a paramilitary youth corps.

Getz, who fiercely opposes the mingling of men and women at the Wall, said he was satisfied by a compromise worked out to ensure decorous behavior by the youngsters during a ceremony that will take place later this month.

The compromise calls for boys and girls to be segregated during the ceremony, and ensures they will not remain at the plaza after it ends.

It was worked out Tuesday by Religious Affairs Minister Avner Shaki; the Chief Rabbinate director, Rabbi Eitan Eisman; and the Gadna commander, Col. Yisrael Assaf.

Getz had said he would accept a solution if it were approved by the chief rabbis. Eisman's presence at the meeting appeared to signify that the agreement did indeed enjoy the endorsement of Chief Rabbis Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu.

Getz, 67, said he would resume his position and continue serving "until the Messiah comes, speedily in our day."

Sephardic Chief Rabbi Eliahu issued a statement welcoming Getz's decision.

Much of the Israeli media had attacked the compromise as an unjustified concession by the army to the Orthodox establishment.

The Israeli daily Ha'aretz did not dismiss Getz's original objections, but felt the Gadna command could be relied upon to ensure that past infringements of the sanctity of the site by its members would not be repeated at the ceremony.

Getz, who has previously come under fire for not allowing women to pray in groups at the Wall, is also the Religious Affairs Ministry's chief supervisor of Israel's holy places.

Government sources have stressed Getz's long service. He became rabbi of the Wall when it was liberated in 1967.

One of his sons was killed during the battle.

In light of this episode, Jewish Agency guides who on Tuesday escorted some 2,000 recently arrived young Ethiopian immigrants on a tour of Jerusalem carefully made sure the boys and girls were separated during their visit to the Wall, where they were addressed by Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky.

**USSR ASKS ISRAEL TO RELEASE  
IMMIGRANT JAILED FOR SPYING****By Hugh Orgel**

**TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) --** The Soviet Union recently asked Israel to free Shabtai Kalmanovitz, an Israeli businessman sentenced three years ago by the Tel Aviv District Court for spying for the Soviet Union, the Israeli daily Yediot Achronot reported Thursday.

Kalmanovitz, 46, is currently serving a nine-year prison term. His 1988 trial was held behind closed doors.

In exchange for allowing Kalmanovitz to return to the USSR, the Soviets offered to assist Israel in humanitarian issues.

According to Yediot, an Israeli academician

doing research work in Moscow was told of the request by someone from the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Sources in Israel have confirmed the information, the paper said.

Kalmanovitz immigrated to Israel in 1971. After briefly working in the Labor Party and in the Prime Minister's Information Service, he became an aide to businessman Shmuel Flatto-Sharon.

Flatto-Sharon, a member of Knesset in the late 1970s, was himself sentenced to a three-month jail term in Israel for buying votes and to 10 years in a French prison for embezzlement.

Kalmanovitz was arrested in December 1987 when he returned to Israel on a flight from London. He was subsequently charged with spying for the Soviet Union.

**VANDALS DEFACE SACHSENHAUSEN CAMP****By David Kantor**

**BONN, Aug. 8 (JTA) --** Unknown vandals wearing masks over their heads daubed neo-Nazi slogans this week on the buildings and walls of the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

One slogan that was scrawled more than once read: "Put an end to the Holocaust--Germany, do you really want to keep paying?" according to Monika Knop, an official at the memorial.

Similar slogans were found at the camp on July 7.

**NEO-NAZIS SEEK EAST GERMAN PROPERTY****By David Kantor**

**BONN, Aug. 8 (JTA) --** The National Democratic Party, a neo-Nazi group active in West Germany before reunification, has filed a request with the German government to take possession of buildings and other property belonging to a former East German party with the same name.

But the defunct East German party, known as the NDPD, had very different politics than the West German neo-Nazi party.

It was widely considered to be a sister party to the West German Free Democratic Party, whose best-known politician is Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Sources here say a legal battle could ensue if both groups insist on rights to the considerable property belonging to the former East German organization.

**GERMAN STREET NAMED FOR ISRAELI JUDGE****By David Kantor**

**BONN, Aug. 8 (JTA) --** A street in the eastern German town of Weissenfels, located about 20 miles southwest of Leipzig, has been named for native son Benjamin Halevy, a former Israeli High Court judge and Knesset member.

Halevy, now 81, fled the Nazis in the 1930s.

At the street-naming ceremony, Halevy was honored for his achievements in Israel. The ceremony was attended by students from a high school in Ra'anana, Israel, who happened to be in Germany for a youth exchange program. It was one of the very first Israeli groups to visit the former area of East Germany.

Halevy became well known here when he served on the panel of judges in 1951 that tried Adolf Eichmann, the Nazi war criminal who was sentenced to death and hanged in Israel.

**WOMEN IN THE RABBINATE:  
SECOND GENERATION OF WOMEN RABBIS  
FACING SAME CHALLENGES AS PIONEERS**  
[Part 1 Of A Series]

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Working Woman magazine recently listed its 25 best career choices for women in the 1990s. After management consultant, private banker and veterinarian came a surprising inclusion: rabbi.

In the 19 years that the Reform movement has been ordaining women as rabbis, and in the six years that the Conservative movement has done so, women in the rabbinate have worked hard to create a place for themselves in a profession that, since its creation at least 1,500 years ago, had been the exclusive province of men.

To date, the Reform movement's Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion has ordained 185 women rabbis, and the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary has ordained 32.

Since 1981, just under half of the incoming classes of rabbinic students at HUC-JIR have been female. At HUC-JIR, of the 190 students in the rabbinical school during the 1991-92 year, 43 percent will be women.

Incoming classes at JTS vary, but the proportion of women seems to be on the increase. Of the 32 students planning to enter the seminary's rabbinics program next year, 15 are women.

Still, women represent only a small fraction of the two rabbinical organizations that admit them: the Reform movement's 1,560-member Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Conservative movement's 1,300-member Rabbinical Assembly.

Integration into this all-male profession has not been easy for many of the pioneers.

And although the newest women rabbis are part of a "second generation," and may even have had women precede them in their jobs, the challenges they face are no less daunting than those which confronted the first women to walk through the seminary doors.

**'Out On Our Own'**

The issues are no longer about entry into the rabbinate; they now revolve around gaining access to the senior ranks and transforming the profession into one which will accommodate, and even welcome, the unique needs and gifts of women.

Most women rabbis feel that their concerns are beginning to find their way onto the agendas of the movements' rabbinical organizations.

But "educating and sensitizing lay people and some senior rabbis" is still very much a challenge, according to Rabbi Jody Cohen, religious leader of Temple Beth Hillel in South Windsor, Conn.

"We're still out on our own," said Cohen, who is also co-coordinator of the Reform movement's Women's Rabbinic Network.

Women in pulpits are still often viewed as novelties and are reminded of that in a variety of ways that run the spectrum from amusing to annoying.

They have come to almost expect certain remarks from congregants, such as, "I don't believe in women rabbis, but you're good," and "You did a good job on that sermon," in an

overly impressed tone, as if such a performance was unexpected.

"It takes people time to deal with it, which I think is perfectly understandable," said Rabbi Joyce Newmark, who was ordained at JTS last June.

"A woman putting on a tallis is not something they've seen before," she said. "When people develop some comfort with you, the comments go away."

Some women feel that acceptance has begun to come on a superficial level, the level of remarks and jokes, but that resistance to the idea of having a woman rabbi still exists on some deeper level.

**Crossing Legs On The Bimah**

Rabbi Amy Eilberg, the first woman ordained by the Conservative movement, experienced some of that resistance in her first job out of the seminary.

In a pulpit for one year, she found congregants discussing whether or not she should be permitted to cross her legs on the bimah, something the synagogue considered a sign of disrespect.

"Congregants are always more focused on the body of the woman rabbi than on the male rabbi. They discuss what she wears, whether her shoes are open or closed toe.

"It's a reflection of the deep place that is touched when women take on the mantle of leadership," Eilberg said. "People are able to deny how profoundly they are affected."

In interviews with synagogue search committees, women rabbis continue to be asked if they plan to marry or become pregnant, or, if they are already parents, what they would do if their children were at home sick and they had to attend to a synagogue matter.

These are questions, several women rabbis pointed out, that no male candidate would ever be asked, though single male rabbis are sometimes asked why they are not married.

Bias against women rabbis also has an impact on their paychecks.

A survey recently conducted by the Central Conference of American Rabbis found that Reform women rabbis' median incomes are 5 to 25 percent lower than the incomes of male colleagues who are at the same level positions.

**Unconscious Bias**

Men and women start out earning the same salaries, said Rabbi Arnold Sher, director of placement for the Reform movement, but the discrepancies become apparent the longer someone has been in the pulpit and grow as congregations get larger.

Rabbi Joel Meyers, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly, said that no such discrepancy between the salaries of men and women exists in the Conservative rabbinate, where they earn "comparable amounts."

The bias that leads to salary inequities is often unconscious, said Rabbi Deborah Hirsch of New York's East End Temple, a 200-family Reform congregation. But that makes it no less insidious while making it harder to combat.

During contract negotiations, "a congregation will say, 'Her husband works and must make a good salary,' when dealing with a female candidate.

"But for a man, they might say, 'He has to support a family.'"