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BACKGROUND REPORT
U.S. JEWRY HAS A ROLE IN HELPING
TO ASSURE THE STRENGTHENING OF
SPANISH-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
 By Marc Tanenbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) — On Monday, January 13, my Spanish-speaking colleague, Jacobo Kovadloff and I sat in the office of Ambassador Manuel Sassot, Consul General of Spain, discussing the status of the much-reported plan of the Spanish government to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

While the conversation was warm and friendly, we told the Ambassador that many in the American Jewish community were becoming frustrated over the repeated promises to Jewish leaders by Spanish officials that diplomatic ties would soon be established, but that for more than a year nothing has happened.

Ambassador Sassot, who formerly directed the Middle East desk of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, sat back in his chair, and declared firmly, "I can tell you now that the decision has been taken. I have just spoken with our Foreign Ministry in Madrid and it will happen within the next weeks."

Last week, Spain and Israel exchanged diplomatic formalities in The Netherlands when Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Premier Shimon Peres, who are personal friends, met in The Hague. That development rightly deserves to be characterized as "historic." But there ought not to be any euphoria, for a rocky road lies ahead with the Arab world. The rockier that road becomes the more important will be the role of American Jewry in helping sustain Spain's rightful decision.

Intense Arab Pressure On Spain

Spain has been subjected to intense pressures from the Arab League and its member-states threatening reprisals were Spanish-Israeli diplomatic accords realized. The ugliness of that pressure is reflected in a Spanish-language publication issued at the Saudi Embassy in Madrid which declared, "Do you want to establish relations with a racist, fascist and terrorist state?"

But more serious than the propaganda warfare carried out against Spain by Arab nations is the brute fact that the Arab world has become one of the largest buyers of Spanish-made weapons. In the first three quarters of 1983, Spain exported \$2.5 billion in goods to the Arab world while total imports came to \$5.2 billion, mostly in oil.

Saudi Arabia currently buys \$150 million in Spanish arms annually and Madrid is seeking to increase that to \$250 million by the end of next year. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Libya are the major Arab investors in Spain, with large holdings in real estate, housing, and tourist-related industries. Spanish exports to Arab countries include steel, trucks, heavy machinery, chemicals, and increasingly, military hardware.

In contrast, trade between Spain and Israel is relatively insignificant. Indeed, they are competitors in the world market for the sale of oranges and other fruits and vegetables. However, technical and cultural ties have been steadily increasing. Israeli water experts have been called into Spain's southernmost region to help solve the crippling drought problem there. Last year, Iberia and El Al signed an agreement launching direct flights between the two countries.

While Felipe Gonzalez is known to be a genuine friend of Israel's, it is realistic to expect that Arab pressures, especially economic leverage, will force him continuously to make gestures to the Arab world. Thus, in a letter he wrote to the Arab League on April 25, 1985, he assured the Arab governments that not only will Spain's gesture not entail support of Israel's policy, but that it may, in fact, benefit Arab interests.

But American Jews have an important role to play in helping counterbalance these inevitable Arab pressures against Spain in the months ahead. Spain has gone through a decade of industrial crisis as a result of the 1973 OPEC-induced oil crisis. The official unemployment rate is around 2.9 million, or almost 22 percent of the available work force, the highest rate in Western Europe.

While Gonzalez's government has made significant strides in lowering inflation and the trade deficit, Spain is in urgent need of major investments in industry and technology, as well as in increased trade and commerce.

Mutual U.S. Jewish And Spanish Interests

As is the case with West and East European governments which have sought American understanding and support, Spain very much needs the sympathetic interest of American Jews in helping to promote increased commercial ties between the United States and Spain. Spanish Embassy officials have freely volunteered that American tourism to Spain is one of the largest producers of much-needed foreign currency, and they are aware that American Jews are among the largest groups of tourists to Spain.

Beyond the natural interest of American Jews in wanting to assure the strengthening of Spanish-Israeli diplomatic and other human contacts, Jews have a profound interest as Americans in helping sustain the democratic institutions and values that have emerged out of the darkness of Franco Spain just some 12 years ago. Those democratic commitments, as well as Spain's recent firm opposition to terrorism, deserve to place Spain high on the foreign policy agenda of American Jewry.

NOV 20 1985



The American Jewish Committee

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NIVES E. FOX, European Representative

November 14, 1985

MEMORANDUM

To: David Harris
From: Nives Fox
Subj: Spain/Israel Relations

To put it very succinctly, nothing has happened and it does not seem likely that anything will, at least in the foreseeable future.

Parliaments in several EEC countries already have ratified Spain's entry in the Common Market: Luxembourg, Holland, Portugal, Greece, Belgium and Spain itself. In Holland and Luxembourg the point on Spain's conforming to Ten in terms of diplomatic relations with Israel was made, forcefully by Dutch parliamentarians; but neither these two countries, nor the others, have made it a condition for entry. For whatever it is worth, however, the individual interventions are on record.

Ratification by the rest of the EEC group is expected to take place during the next four to five weeks, probably by December 15, in any case before end-year holidays. It is the French who are having the toughest discussions, but over economic differences in Mediterranean policy (especially concerning North Africa) and not over the Israel recognition issue. Though the French had said in the past that Spain's diplomatic relations with Israel would be made a condition, it is believed that nobody will insist, and here again the best one can hope for is to have individual parliamentarians raise the question, with more or less strong pleas for conformity.

The Israeli position now is: we are not going to beg anymore; we'll wait until they are ready, now, later, never; no more urging by Israel, therefore, and hope that Jewish organizations will stop as well. When Prime Minister Peres was recently questioned on the subject by journalists his answer was: "Spain committed itself, it is now up to Spain." Implicit is the sense that Israel had done its best, will survive without diplomatic relations, and will press no further.

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This does not mean that the issue should be forgotten, simply not directly pursued by Jewish bodies and Israel. In other words, if the matter can be kept on the agenda of EEC countries through their parliamentarians, fine.

I do not know whether this is an official, clearly formulated policy of the Israel Foreign Office; but given the source of the above, I am confident enough about its accuracy, for it is the person specifically in charge of following EEC matters at the Israel Embassy in Brussels.

Moreover, Sam Toledano confirms the situation with virtually the same words. He told me that there were very strong and firm indications that Spain would make an official positive declaration about establishing relations with Israel this November. After the bombing episode in Tunis of October 1, however, everything came to a stop, with those opposed able to prevail as a result of this event. And now, says Sam, maybe December 31, maybe January, maybe never. He too adds, "we are not going to beg, enough is enough." Nonetheless, he also agrees that indirect pressure via parliamentarians in the countries which have not as yet ratified should be made and could be useful.

Regretful as the situation is, I would tend to agree with both my sources. There have been so many interventions in the past few years that Felipe Gonzales began to refuse meeting with Jewish groups. When other persons in the government spoke of the matter the declarations were always the same: It will be done eventually, and Spain will choose the appropriate moment. Withal, until recently, Sam continued to urge further interventions. No more now.

Left for action then is whatever AJC can do via parliamentarians. I hope you in the US can handle Germany (my contact on political issues with the German Zentralrat results in being asked to check with WJC). On the other hand, I have already been in touch with CRIF and Tullia Zevi in Italy. Both will be acting along the lines described, and rapidly. Have not been able to get my friends at the Board of Deputies in London, and Rabbi Melchior (the best factotum as far as I am concerned for Denmark). I should manage it tomorrow, and I am sure Denmark will be no problem...though the Board might check with WJC.

Hope the above is what you requested in the note mentioned over the telephone yesterday. If the note arrives and asks for more, I will write again. Finally, would appreciate learning of action with Germany,

cc: Marc Tanenbaum

Spain's Pragmatism

Miami Herald 1/21/86 D. Harris, Jr. Barcelona

SPAIN'S action the other day establishing diplomatic ties with Israel was not unexpected, but it was welcome nonetheless. It means that Israel now maintains relations with every European democracy.

Its move was pre-ordained when Spain joined the European Common Market on Jan. 1. There's a special significance, though, to Madrid's recognition of Israel because Spain has had such a long history of blatant anti-Semitism. Most Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, the year that Columbus sailed for the New World. Not until 1967 was the practice of Judaism made legal again.

Conditions were especially bad for Spain's Jews during the Fascist dictatorship of Gen. Francisco Franco. Not only did Franco ally Spain with Hitler's Germany, but for years thereafter he alleged that his foes were part of "a Jewish-Masonic plot" to destroy his government.

Even in today's Spain, moreover, vestiges of anti-Semitism linger. Spain's 12,000 surviving Jews remain wary that latent Fascism could resurface if an

economic crisis or some other event toppled the democratic government.

Meanwhile, Spain historically has maintained close ties to the Arab world, in which it once had a major colonial presence. Nowadays Spain even maintains low-level relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. Accordingly, Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez went to great lengths last week to reassure the Arabs of Spain's friendship. He even reiterated Spain's support of Arab claims for lands that Israel captured during the 1967 Mideast War.

Nonetheless, the normalizing of relations between Spain and Israel is timely and important in more ways than one. It not only provides one more acknowledgment of Israel's legitimacy, it also advances Spain's own aspirations to be accepted as a responsible member of the world community.

In fact, coming as it did during a period of stepped-up terrorism and reprisals against Israel's friends around the world, Spain's move bespeaks a commendable determination to atone for a shameful past.

SPANISH-ISRAEL TIES NEED U.S. NURTURE

by Marc H. Tanenbaum

The establishment of formal diplomatic ties between Spain and Israel on January 17th rightly deserves to be hailed as "historic." But there ought not to be any euphoria, for a rocky road lies ahead with the Arab world. The rockier that road becomes, the more important will be the role of America in helping sustain Spain's prudent decision.

Ever since Felipe Gonzalez was elected Prime Minister of Spain in October 1982, he has repeatedly spoken of the "blatant anomaly" of not having diplomatic relations with Israel. Both publicly and privately, he has pledged to his friend, Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and other Jewish leaders that he would establish diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel at "the opportune time."

During the past three years, Gonzalez and several of his Cabinet members declared that these pledges were based on the almost universal support for this decision among the Spanish people, the political parties, the Parliament, and the media. Despite this broad democratic consensus, Spain has been subjected to intense pressures from the Arab League and its member-states who have ominously threatened reprisals. The ugliness of that intimidation is reflected in a Spanish-language publication issued at the Saudi Embassy in Madrid which declared, "Do you want to establish relations with a racist, fascist, and terrorist state?"

Fearing possible terrorist attacks, Spain's anti-terrorist squads, the crack GEO, were dispatched to all Spanish legations last week in

Western Europe and the Middle East with instructions to take stringent security precautions.

But more serious than the propaganda warfare -- and even the terrorist threats -- unleashed against Spain by several Arab nations is the brute fact that the Arab world has become of the largest buyers of Spanish-made weapons. Saudi Arabia, for example, currently buys \$150 million in Spanish arms annually and Madrid is seeking to increase their arms sales to \$250 million by the end of the year.

In the first three quarters of 1983, Spain exported \$2.5 billion in goods to the Arab world while the total imports came to \$5.2 billion, mostly in oil. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Libya are the major Arab investors in Spain with large holdings in real estate, housing and tourist-related industries. (On Spain's Costa del Sol, the Saudi royal family maintains a palatial home.) Spanish exports to Arab countries include steel, trucks, heavy machinery, chemicals, and increasingly, military hardware.

In contrast, trade between Spain and Israel is relatively insignificant. Indeed, they are competitors in the world market for the sale of oranges and other fruits and vegetables. However, technical and cultural ties have been steadily increasing. Israeli water experts have been called into Spain's southernmost region to help solve the crippling drought problems there. Last year, Iberia and El Al Airlines signed an agreement launching direct flights between the two countries. And Spain and Israel have developed a close collaboration in combatting terrorism, with Spanish security experts visiting Israel regularly to inform themselves on internal security-related matters.

While Felipe Gonzalez is trusted as a genuine friend of Israel's, it is realistic to expect that Arab pressures, especially in the form of economic leverage, will compel him continuously to make political accommodations to the Arab world. Thus, in a letter he wrote to the Arab League on April 25, 1985, he assured the Arab governments that not only will Spain's decision not entail support of Israel's policy, but that it may, in fact, benefit Arab interests.

But America -- and particularly American Jews -- have an important role to play in helping to counterbalance these inevitable Arab pressures and intimidations against Spain in the months ahead. Spain has gone through a decade of industrial crisis as a result of the 1973 OPEC-induced oil shock. The official unemployment rate is around 2.9 million, or almost 22 percent of the available work force, the highest rate in Western Europe.

While Gonzalez' government has made significant strides in lowering inflation and the trade deficit, Spain is in urgent need of major investment capital in industry and technology, as well as increased trade and commerce. Even though Spain's entry into the European Economic Community on January 1st assures that more than 50 percent of Spain's exports will be bought by her European neighbors, the United States still remains the largest single source of foreign capital, with total U.S. investment surpassing \$2 billion last year.

As is the case with West and East European governments, among others, which have sought American understanding and practical aid, Spain very much needs the sympathetic interest of the American people, including American Jews, in helping promote increased commercial ties

between our two countries. Spanish Embassy officials have freely volunteered that tourism to Spain is one of the largest producers of much-needed foreign currency, yielding some \$5.7 billion in income last year. They are aware that Americans are among the largest group of tourists to Spain.

Americans have a special role to play, I believe, in helping Spain resist the intimidations and threats of reprisals coming from Arab extremists who would use their economic muscle to try to dictate the shape and direction of Madrid's foreign policy in the Middle East. If the United States is prepared to use its own formidable economic and political strengths to help Spain fend off these one-sided pressures, it is not inconceivable that, in time, Spain might emerge as a bridge to the advantage of Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the Middle East.

Conscious of a special understanding derived from the historical ties both with Muslims and Jews, whose long histories have been intertwined with Spain, the Spanish government and people may well be able to help realize the aspirations expressed by Israeli Prime Minister Peres last week in the Hague when he met with Prime Minister Gonzalez:

"With the benefit of balanced and friendly ties with all the parties in the conflict," he said, "Spain can serve as a bridge between us, thus contributing to the peace process in the Middle East."

Rabbi Tanenbaum is International Relations Director of the American Jewish Committee.

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PERES AND THATCHER DISCUSS NEW IDEAS TO BREAK MIDEAST PEACE STALEMATE

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Shimon Peres met British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for an hour this morning and said they discussed new ideas to break the Middle East peace stalemate.

Peres said after the meeting: "I think some new ideas were raised which are worth examining." He added: "Time is running out and there is a need to take additional steps."

The talks with Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, came on the first day of Peres' five-day visit. The only previous official visit here by an Israeli Premier took place in 1977 when the newly-elected Menachem Begin met then-British Premier James Callaghan.

Peres arrived from Holland under close security last night amid heightened diplomatic activity over the Middle East. Shortly before his arrival, King Hussein of Jordan left Britain after one of his frequent private visits. His departure ended speculation that he and Peres might hold a secret meeting here.

Both men, however, were in contact through the good offices of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who will meet Peres tonight for the second time in four days. On Sunday, he met with Peres in Holland following a meeting with Hussein in London Saturday.

Thatcher, a member of the Conservative Friends of Israel and a personal friend of King Hussein, is also in a position to play a mediating role, having met the Jordanian King during his latest visit.

Some Of The New Ideas

Some of the new ideas discussed at her meeting with Peres this morning were expected to be spelled out publicly later today when the Israeli Prime Minister delivers a key political lecture at the Royal Institution of International Affairs.

It is expected to be along the lines of an article Peres wrote in The Times of London suggesting ways to exploit "the signs of a promising opening in Jordan." Step one, Peres wrote, would be for all sides to renounce the use of violence.

"All states concerned could then convene around a negotiating table in any location mutually agreed upon. In this spirit, I reaffirm my willingness to go to Amman for the first round of talks," Peres said. The negotiations should be direct and free of external pressures and preconditions, he stressed.

On the thorny issue of Palestinian representation, Peres did not explicitly veto official representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Instead he said: "We have recognized the right of non-PLO Palestinians to participate in the negotiations. These mutually agreed representatives would be an integral part of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

He also sounded somewhat flexible on the framework of the negotiations, saying Israel welcomed the support of all states in efforts to reach a peace treaty. He called on all permanent members of the UN Security Council to help promote direct negotiations even through an international forum if need be. But he made clear that this depended on the Soviet Union's agreement to restore diplomatic ties with Jerusalem.

Attempting To Seize The Diplomatic Initiative

In his visit, part of a West European tour taking in The Netherlands and West Germany, Peres is attempting to seize the diplomatic initiative after several years in which Israel appeared to be on the defensive in the international arena.

His warning this morning, that "time is running out" to avoid renewed conflict in the Middle East, is a theme heard far more often over the years from King Hussein than from Israeli leaders.

Some British diplomats interpret it as a partial reference to Israel's domestic political setup. They say Peres might be hinting that the peace process could become more difficult when he hands over leadership of the unity coalition Cabinet next October to Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the rightwing Likud.

EFFORT IN SENATE TO AVERT DEFEAT OF ARMS SALES TO JORDAN

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Senate Majority leader Robert Dole (R. Kan.) is seeking to head off defeat of a proposed arms sale to Jordan by extending the deadline that Congress gave itself last fall for rejecting the Jordan package, according to a staff member at Dole's office.

The extension would be the second attempt since October to avert what is expected to be a humiliating defeat for the President should a bill disapproving the proposed \$1.9 billion arms package go to the floor of the House and Senate next month.

In the face of overwhelming opposition to the sale in both Houses of Congress, senior Republican leaders worked out a resolution during the last session of Congress barring the President from selling Jordan the arms before March 1, unless "direct and meaningful peace negotiations between Israel and Jordan are underway." If no resolution opposing the sale is passed by that time, the Administration can grant Jordan the requested arms.

Last month, while Congress was still on winter recess, Sen. Richard Lugar (R. Ind.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, warned that the "faltering" Middle East peace process would probably lead to the introduction of a disapproval resolution early on in the new session of Congress that began this week.

Arms Sale Expected To Be Rejected

A staff member at Lugar's office told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency earlier this week that he expected the arms sale to be rejected sometime next month and speculated that a Presidential veto would be easily overridden.

The staff member said today that Lugar and Dole were "scouting around to see if there is any mood at

all" to extend the deadline. The two Senators have been exploring the possibility of an extension since early this month, according to Dole's aide. It was still unclear today whether Dole and Lugar could win sufficient support for a second extension, but it appears unlikely to go through unless some evidence of movement toward peace talks can be demonstrated.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was sent to Europe last week for separate meetings with King Hussein of Jordan and Israeli Premier Shimon Peres, in an effort to win agreement on conditions for some kind of international conference that would serve as a backdrop for direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan. Peres is conducting a European tour in which he is seeking support for his efforts to boost the peace process.

The Murphy visit has been interpreted in large part as a last-ditch effort to avert rejection by Congress of the Jordan arms package, which includes F-16 or F-20 jet fighters and surface-to-air missiles.

But an aide at the office of Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R. Minn.), a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said today he doubted that sufficient support could be rallied for an extension of the March 1 deadline. The aide said he is aware that Dole was seeking the extension, but that his proposal was not a "live option at this point."

"I also understand that there is not an awful lot of appetite on anybody's part to just have another delay," the aide said.

ISRAELI OFFICIAL URGES THAT CONGRESS NOT REDUCE AID TO ISRAEL

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- A senior member of an Israeli Knesset committee last night urged that Congress not cut back on proposed foreign assistance programs to Israel.

Speaking in the context of what he said were also American interests in the Middle East, Ehud Olmert asserted that he hoped Israel will "continue to receive the same assistance and support from the United States" as proposed for the 1986 fiscal year.

Olmert of Herut and the senior ranking member of the Knesset Foreign Relations and Security Committee, addressed some 100 Jewish leaders at a forum sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York.

Also speaking at the forum on U.S.-Israel relations were Reps. David Obey (D. Wis.), chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, and Robert Mrazek (D. NY), a subcommittee member.

The forum took place while reports circulated in Washington regarding proposed cuts in Israel's assistance by the 99th Congress, which returned yesterday after a recess. The prospect is that Israel's assistance programs may be cut by as much as 4.3 percent to conform to the proposals of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings budget cuts. (See separate story.)

Mrazek said that he was informed last night through State Department officials of Israel's tentative decision to return \$51 million of its \$1.2 billion in U.S. economic aid for fiscal 1986, "as demonstration of its recognition of economic cuts in the U.S."

Israel received its \$1.2 billion in fiscal 1986 economic aid at the beginning of the fiscal year under a practice that enables it to benefit from the inter-

est. That left the Administration \$51 million short of meeting the requirements of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings act passed after the money was distributed.

Obey, meanwhile, in an intensely partisan address, lambasted the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings proposals as too broad, and pointed out that while cuts will have to be made in proposed foreign assistance and social spending programs, the U.S. military budget remained exempt.

He urged that those concerned with increased aid for Israel and other economic issues will have to lobby Congress and the White House for tax increases to bring added revenues to government.

According to Obey, if "you want to see us provide a decent level of support for Israel," there is a need for lobbying for overall programs, and a political compromise on the proposed cuts. He added that he doubted Israel will be exempt from the budget cuts.

Cites Grave Challenges Facing Israel

Olmert, in his remarks, said Israel is facing two grave challenges at the moment. The first is the continuing war against terrorism, and the second is that posed by the Syrian military buildup to the north.

Regarding terrorism, Olmert warned that it "cannot be the exclusive responsibility of Israel" to battle terrorism. He called on the U.S. to join with Israel to confront terrorism.

He also strongly suggested that Libya, accused by Israel and the U.S. of supporting the terrorist group allegedly responsible for the attacks at the airport counters in Rome and Vienna last month, "will not be able to escape the punishment it deserves." He did not elaborate, but said Israel "will act against Libya."

As for Syria, the Israeli official said there "can be no doubt of the intentions of Syria and the target of its military preparations." He warned that the war on terrorism and Syrian activities in the region were more than immediate threats to Israel.

"These... are threatening the interests that are important to other countries, particularly the United States," Olmert said. In this context, he said cutbacks in Israel's military assistance programs, in view of the Syrian military buildup, would have a direct effect on U.S. interests in the region.

U.S. WELCOMES ISRAEL'S GIVE-BACK

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- The State Department confirmed today -- and welcomed -- Israel's agreement to return \$51 million of the \$1.2 billion it received from the U.S. in economic aid last fall to help the Reagan Administration meet the budget-cutting requirements of the recently enacted Gramm-Rudman law.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb, indicating the U.S. was appreciative of the Israeli move, said the two countries are working on an agreement as to how the money will be repaid. The \$1.2 billion, a grant approved by Congress, was delivered to Israel in a lump sum at the start of the 1986 fiscal year last October 1. Israel also faces a reduction in the \$1.8 billion military aid grant for fiscal 1986, the bulk of which has not yet been delivered.

Kalb said he did not know "what started what" in Israel's decision to return the amount that the Gramm-Rudman legislation requires be deducted from U.S. aid to recipient countries. When the automatic cuts go into effect on March 1, every country receiving aid from the U.S. will have 4.3 percent of the amount

approved for it by Congress deducted from its aid package. Unlike Israel, other recipients get their economic aid funds at intervals during the fiscal year.

Dan Halperin, Economic Affairs Minister at the Israel Embassy here, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israel was told by the U.S. government that there was a "problem" resulting from the Gramm-Rudman law. He said the message was understood to be a "hint" and that Israel decided voluntarily to return the money.

Halperin added, however, that the U.S. and Israel were in agreement that Israel was under no legal obligation to return money already awarded it. Halperin also said that a reduction of the \$1.8 billion approved by Congress in military aid would be, in a sense, "a breach of an understanding or an agreement" but that Israel would not protest the cut should it go into effect. "I don't think we can contest it on legal grounds," he said.

The State Department has said that all recipients of U.S. military aid, including Israel, would be affected by the automatic cuts in March.

With respect to the \$51 million from the economic aid package, Halperin said U.S. Embassy officials in Israel were negotiating how the money would be returned. It might be deducted from other funds awarded to Israel but not yet delivered or Israel "might simply send a check," he said.

EGYPT DEMANDS ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM EAST JERUSALEM AND THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN THE WEST BANK

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Egypt told the Security Council today that Israel "must" withdraw from East Jerusalem and that the Palestinians in the West Bank, including those living in East Jerusalem, must have their right to self-determination.

The Egyptian Ambassador, Mohamed Ibrahim Shaker, addressed the Council in the course of the debate on "The Situation in the Occupied Arab Territories." The Council opened its debate yesterday at the request of Morocco, as chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and the United Arab Emirates, as chairman of the Arab Group at the UN. The request was triggered by recent confrontations on the Temple Mount between a group of visiting Knesset members and an angry Arab crowd.

Egypt claimed in the Council today that the incidents were not the first time that Israel "violated the sacred character of the Al-Aksa Mosque." This time, Egypt charged, "Israeli officials" were involved in the "profanation" of the Mosque. The Egyptian representatives warned that "the incitement of religious feelings" can harm the prospects of peace in the region.

Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, speaking at the opening session of the debate yesterday, said that a delegation of Knesset members visited the Temple Mount on January 8 and that the visit was coordinated in advance with the Waqf, the Moslem religious authority in charge of administering Moslem holy places in Jerusalem.

He charged that a pre-arranged incitement took place when the Knesset members paused at Solomon's

Stables "which had no religious significance." Netanyahu said that a group of Arabs surrounded the Knesset members and began to shout: "The Jews are invading the Temple Mount. Slaughter the Jews."

Asserting that the PLO was "the main agitator for this (the Security Council) meeting," the Israeli envoy said that the alleged anti-Moslem incident in Jerusalem never happened. "What happened was an attempt to incite anti-Jewish hatred." He said that freedom of religion flourished in Jerusalem and that Jerusalem will remain Israel's capital forever.

The Security Council decided to continue the debate next Monday. Diplomats said they hoped the Council will conclude its meeting next week although at present there is no draft resolution. Diplomats said they expect a U.S. veto on any harsh anti-Israeli resolution.

SHARON REACHES OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT WITH TIME MAGAZINE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Ariel Sharon, the controversial former Defense Minister, has reached an out-of-court settlement in his libel suit against Time magazine, in a Tel Aviv district court. The amount of the settlement was not disclosed but according to Israel Radio it is a very considerable sum, far in excess of the legal expenses incurred by the Likud Minister.

Sharon, who is Minister of Commerce and Industry in the Labor-Likud unity coalition government, said in a radio interview that he was satisfied with the outcome of his three-year legal battle with Time. He said he regarded the settlement "as a victory for truth and freedom of expression for the press."

Sharon sued the American weekly for libel in connection with an article published on February 21, 1983. Time alleged that as Israeli Defense Minister during the Lebanon War, Sharon had privately urged the family of assassinated Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel to take revenge, leading to the massacre of Palestinian civilians in the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps in Israel-occupied west Beirut in September, 1982, by a Christian Phalangist militia.

The article also claimed that a secret addendum—known as Appendix B—to the report of the Kahan Commission, which investigated the massacre, held Sharon directly responsible. The Kahan Commission, in its published report, held Sharon to have been indirectly responsible and urged then-Premier Menachem Begin to dismiss him. Sharon subsequently resigned as Defense Minister.

He filed a \$50 million libel suit against Time in the U.S. A Federal Court jury in New York decided that the Time article had been defamatory and untruthful. But the judge dismissed Sharon's charge of libel and he did not collect damages from Time. Under American law, libel can be established only if there is proof of malice on the part of the media. Time nevertheless apologized for its article.

Although vindicated in the American court, Sharon pursued his libel case in Israel, demanding damages equivalent to \$250,000. The proceedings were expedited when Sharon's attorney, Dov Weissblat, and Time's attorney, Shmuel Barzel, agreed that the findings of the New York jury could be admitted as evidence in the case. This obviated the need to repeat the entire case from scratch. There is no malice clause in Israeli libel law.



**BACKGROUND REPORT
U.S. JEWRY HAS A ROLE IN HELPING
TO ASSURE THE STRENGTHENING OF
SPANISH-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**
By Marc Tanenbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- On Monday, January 13, my Spanish-speaking colleague, Jacobo Kovadloff and I sat in the office of Ambassador Manuel Sassot, Consul General of Spain, discussing the status of the much-reported plan of the Spanish government to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

While the conversation was warm and friendly, we told the Ambassador that many in the American Jewish community were becoming frustrated over the repeated promises to Jewish leaders by Spanish officials that diplomatic ties would soon be established, but that for more than a year nothing has happened.

Ambassador Sassot, who formerly directed the Middle East desk of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, sat back in his chair, and declared firmly, "I can tell you now that the decision has been taken. I have just spoken with our Foreign Ministry in Madrid and it will happen within the next weeks."

Last week, Spain and Israel exchanged diplomatic formalities in The Netherlands when Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Premier Shimon Peres, who are personal friends, met in The Hague. That development rightly deserves to be characterized as "historic." But there ought not to be any euphoria, for a rocky road lies ahead with the Arab world. The rockier that road becomes the more important will be the role of American Jewry in helping sustain Spain's rightful decision.

Intense Arab Pressure On Spain

Spain has been subjected to intense pressures from the Arab League and its member-states threatening reprisals were Spanish-Israeli diplomatic accords realized. The ugliness of that pressure is reflected in a Spanish-language publication issued at the Saudi Embassy in Madrid which declared, "Do you want to establish relations with a racist, fascist and terrorist state?"

But more serious than the propaganda warfare carried out against Spain by Arab nations is the brute fact that the Arab world has become one of the largest buyers of Spanish-made weapons. In the first three quarters of 1983, Spain exported \$2.5 billion in goods to the Arab world while total imports came to \$5.2 billion, mostly in oil.

Saudi Arabia currently buys \$150 million in Spanish arms annually and Madrid is seeking to increase that to \$250 million by the end of next year. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Libya are the major Arab investors in Spain, with large holdings in real estate, housing, and tourist-related industries. Spanish exports to Arab countries include steel, trucks, heavy machinery, chemicals, and increasingly, military hardware.

In contrast, trade between Spain and Israel is relatively insignificant. Indeed, they are competitors in the world market for the sale of oranges and other fruits and vegetables. However, technical and cultural ties have been steadily increasing. Israeli water experts have been called into Spain's southernmost region to help solve the crippling drought problem there. Last year, Iberia and El Al signed an agreement launching direct flights between the two countries.

While Felipe Gonzalez is known to be a genuine friend of Israel's, it is realistic to expect that Arab pressures, especially economic leverage, will force him continuously to make gestures to the Arab world. Thus, in a letter he wrote to the Arab League on April 25, 1985, he assured the Arab governments that not only will Spain's gesture not entail support of Israel's policy, but that it may, in fact, benefit Arab interests.

But American Jews have an important role to play in helping counterbalance these inevitable Arab pressures against Spain in the months ahead. Spain has gone through a decade of industrial crisis as a result of the 1973 OPEC-induced oil crisis. The official unemployment rate is around 2.9 million, or almost 22 percent of the available work force, the highest rate in Western Europe.

While Gonzalez's government has made significant strides in lowering inflation and the trade deficit, Spain is in urgent need of major investments in industry and technology, as well as in increased trade and commerce.

Mutual U.S. Jewish And Spanish Interests

As is the case with West and East European governments which have sought American understanding and support, Spain very much needs the sympathetic interest of American Jews in helping to promote increased commercial ties between the United States and Spain. Spanish Embassy officials have freely volunteered that American tourism to Spain is one of the largest producers of much-needed foreign currency, and they are aware that American Jews are among the largest groups of tourists to Spain.

Beyond the natural interest of American Jews in wanting to assure the strengthening of Spanish-Israeli diplomatic and other human contacts, Jews have a profound interest as Americans in helping sustain the democratic institutions and values that have emerged out of the darkness of Franco Spain just some 12 years ago. Those democratic commitments, as well as Spain's recent firm opposition to terrorism, deserve to place Spain high on the foreign policy agenda of American Jewry.

**PAYLESS FURLONGHS FOR SHIPYARD
WORKERS SPARK MASS DEMONSTRATION**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Hundreds of employees of the government-owned Haifa Shipyards demonstrated today to protest the payless furloughs of indefinite duration enforced by a Jerusalem district court order yesterday.

The order was obtained by Amiram Blum, the government-appointed temporary receiver whose task is to try to rehabilitate the money-losing shipbuilding and repair facility on Haifa Bay. He said last night that only 10 workers will be kept on at full pay for essential maintenance work. The employees, joined by their families, threatened to barricade themselves inside the shipyard.

Haifa Shipyards has lost millions of dollars in the last two years. According to Blum, when he was named receiver a week ago, its losses were flowing at a rate of \$600,000 a month. The Shipyards, a civilian enterprise, has built missile boats for the Navy as well as ocean-going merchant vessels and harbor craft. But slashes in the defense budget have reduced naval construction, and merchant shipping is in a world-wide slump. According to Blum, the Haifa Shipyards can be salvaged, though he would not say how long it might take.

SPAIN SAYS IT WILL ESTABLISH FORMAL DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL IN 1986

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Spain announced yesterday that it will establish formal diplomatic relations with Israel before autumn 1986. Spanish Foreign Minister Francesco Fernandez Ordonez said that Spain's formal recognition "will be extended within one year, at the most." Ordonez was answering questions during an interview with a private radio station in Madrid, "Radio Cope".

The minister, who according to diplomatic sources in Madrid was speaking with the backing of Premier Felipe Gonzalez, said that Spain's formal entry into the European Economic Community which will become final on January 1, "compels Spain to act" on this question.

Felipe Gonzalez, an associate of Israeli Premier Shimon Peres within the Socialist International, has repeatedly promised Israel before coming to power that he will establish diplomatic relations between the two countries. Since he assumed power three years ago he has reiterated these promises, saying privately, however, that he has to wait "for an opportune moment."

Spain is heavily dependent on Arab investments. A large Arab community has settled in southern Spain, especially in the Marbella area, boosting the province's economy and helping relieve unemployment. In spite of the lack of formal relations, Israel has a diplomatic mission in Madrid. Its head, though he has no official status, enjoys most of the privileges normally given an Ambassador.

THE FATHER OF THE ISRAELI ENVOY WHO WAS SLAIN IN CAIRO WAS HANGED IN IRAQ IN 1967 FOR BEING A ZIONIST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Albert Atrakchi, the Israel Embassy administration attache in Cairo who was assassinated Tuesday on his way from his home in the Mahdi suburb to the Embassy, was the son of an Iraqi Jew hanged in Iraq after the Six-Day War for being Zionist "and like his father Yaacov, Albert was a faithful and dedicated servant of the State," Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said at his graveside yesterday.

Albert Atrakchi, who was laid to rest in the military section of the Kiryat Shaul cemetery, had served in the Israel Defense Force for 10 years before being posted some months ago to the Embassy in Cairo as an administrative attache.

Israeli correspondents in Cairo report that the Egyptian police have been working strenuously and efficiently in the search for Atrakchi's murderers. They have already found the red Fiat car which the assailants drove and in which they made their getaway after the shooting, together with the weapon they used in the attack.

Osana Ali, the owner of the car, has been arrested, and police have found finger prints both in the car and on the weapon.

An organization calling itself the "Egyptian Revolution" has claimed responsibility for the attack

and said that it had previously carried out an attack on Zvi Kedar, shot in the hand in Cairo over a year ago in a little-publicised incident. The group said it was carrying out attacks on "agents of the Israeli intelligence service" in Cairo.

ANTI-JEWISH ACTS IN CANADA INCREASING

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Acts of harassment and vandalism against Jews in Canada increased by more than 162 percent between 1983 and 1984, according to a report by the B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights.

The annual review of anti-Semitism released this week, says there were 126 anti-Semitic incidents reported to the League last year compared with 48 such incidents in 1983. In addition, a public opinion survey on Canadian attitudes toward Jews and other minorities found that, for the second year, the level of prejudice is highest among people who have little contact with minority groups.

Almost all the incidents of vandalism and harassment which are reported to the League by individuals and social agencies -- occurred in metropolitan areas in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, the report said. Ontario reported 32 cases of anti-Semitic harassment and 18 cases of vandalism. Quebec had the highest number of anti-Semitic acts, with 27 incidents of harassment and 40 of vandalism.

The incidents ranged from a spate of swastika daubings in Montreal late last year to four bomb threats against Jewish organizations in Ontario. The dramatic rise in reported incidents may be the result of a greater willingness to report such acts. "We may have to wait till we get the 1985 results to see if there is a pattern occurring here or whether this year's findings are just a blip on the screen," said Alan Shefman, a B'nai B'rith spokesman.

A poll conducted by the Conseil de Recherche sur L'Opinion Publique for the League, which examined the attitudes of 2,000 Canadians towards Jews, Poles and Italians, found that people who have little contact with minorities often feel that the three groups "have too much influence." The poll, financed by the Secretary of State for Multiculturalism, was first conducted last year and is to be conducted annually.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
CANADIAN TEACHER ALLEGES THAT
THE HOLOCAUST WAS A JEWISH HOAX**

By Ron Csillag

(Canadian Jewish News Staff Writer)

MONCTON, New Brunswick, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- If the attorney general of this Canadian province gives his consent, Malcolm Ross may soon be joining the company of Ernst Zundel and Jim Keegstra.

Once again, Canadian Jews may be put through the same courtroom dramas that surrounded convicted hate-mongers Zundel and Keegstra, as Ross, 39, the author of several books alleging the Holocaust never happened and that an international Jewish conspiracy is afoot, has had a formal complaint filed against him by a private citizen.

Earlier this year, Zundel, a Toronto publisher and landed immigrant from West Germany, was found

guilty about publishing lies about the Holocaust after an emotionally-wrenching eight-week trial in which many say the Holocaust itself was on trial. He was sentenced to 15 months in jail. He is appealing both the sentence and the conviction, and is also appealing a deportation order.

Keegstra was recently found guilty of wilfully promoting hatred of Jews through his 12 years of teaching junior high school students in Alberta that there is an international Jewish conspiracy to take over the world and that Jews are evil. During testimony, Keegstra said the Talmud encourages Jews to kill Christians.

Basis For The Complaint

Late last month, Dr. Julius Israeli, a retired chemistry professor and Orthodox Jew living in Newcastle, a town about 180 miles north of here, filed a complaint with the local Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) against Ross, the East Coast director of the Christian Defense League of Canada, a rightwing fundamentalist group, some of whose members attended both the Keegstra and Zundel trials.

Israeli alleges that Ross is promoting hatred of Jews through the publication of three books written by Ross -- "Web of Deceit," "The Real Holocaust," and "Christianity and Judeo-Christianity," which apparently allege that the Holocaust was a Jewish hoax and that there is a Jewish conspiracy to take over the world. Israeli is also basing his case on letters to the editor of The Moncton Times-Transcript and to a local weekly, letters written by Ross and alleging a Jewish conspiracy.

Israeli filed the complaint asking Ross be charged under section 281 of Canada's Criminal Code, the same section under which Keegstra was charged and convicted. The section, a rarely used provision, prohibits anyone from making statements, other than in private conversation, that wilfully promote hatred against any identifiable group.

Israeli, a 52-year-old Rumanian who escaped the Nazi onslaught by fleeing into southern Transylvania, said he filed the complaint because he was "sick" of seeing Ross get away with questioning the number of Jews killed in the Holocaust and alleging a worldwide Jewish Communist/financial conspiracy.

The majority of Israeli's family was deported to Auschwitz, and Israeli himself was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945. Israeli said that in 1978, he tried to file charges against Ross for "Web of Deceit," but he said the attorney general told him the words "wilful" and "hatred" in the Criminal Code were too nebulous around which to build a strong enough case.

Cites Historical Precedent

But this time, Israeli is citing the precedent set by the conviction of Keegstra. "It's not a legal precedent, but it is an historical one," said Israeli of the Keegstra case. "I'm not afraid of this." Ross, he added, "is a sick man. He has a phobia about the Jews."

Israeli said he filed the complaint as a private citizen and not on behalf of any group. He said Keegstra had referred to Ross' works as "references" and source material several times during his trial. "The law now should have no more problems with the words 'wilful' and 'hatred'," Israeli said.

The Newcastle RCMP confirmed to a Moncton newspaper last month that it had received the complaint by Israeli and that it would be investigated. The Mounties passed the complaint along to the province's Justice Department's policing section and to the director of special prosecutions, officials of which say they are familiar with the case, and who in turn passed the file on to the Moncton police department.

Cpl. Ray Leblanc of the Moncton police force confirmed that the file will eventually find its way to the city's police. He said the police will be examining Ross' books. "The basic question is, what's in the books and whether they're detrimental in any way," Leblanc said. "There will have to be a lot of interpretation."

He said that if the police find the complaint has merit, the file would be passed back to the Justice Department and eventually to New Brunswick's attorney general, Fernand Dube, the province's main law enforcement officer, who would make the final decision on whether to charge Ross. Leblanc said the police investigation would take several weeks.

As for Ross, he has been a teacher since 1968 at Moncton's Magnetic High School, where he now instructs mentally handicapped children. A Moncton school board official said the board has never received a complaint about Ross bringing his views into the classroom and that they have no knowledge of Ross ever teaching his beliefs.

Jewish Response Has Been Lukewarm

Organized Jewish response in Canada to Israeli's complaint has been lukewarm at best. Irwin Lampert, chairman of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Atlantic Region, said he questions "the wisdom of prosecution at this time. As a private citizen, Mr. Israeli has the right to file a grievance. This is not something supported or not supported by the Congress. We've never been asked to support it." Concerning Ross' letters to the editor, Lampert said the best thing to do is simply ignore them.

Prof. Bernard Vigod, head of the Atlantic Region of B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights, said he supports "the spirit" of Israeli's complaint. However, Vigod said he has reservations about whether the case is strong enough to obtain a conviction. "The law itself was touch and go even when the evidence (against Zundel and Keegstra) was overwhelming. With this case, we have our doubts about the ability to obtain a conviction."

Privately, some Jewish leaders in Canada say the community may not be able to withstand being put through an emotional wringer again and that there are reservations about pressing charges against Ross because of the possibility of his being found not guilty.

EGYPTIAN TOURISM MINISTER SAYS EGYPT HAS CANCELLED ALL RESTRICTIONS ON EGYPTIAN TOURISTS COMING TO ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Egyptian Tourism Minister Wajih Mohamed Shindi, who arrived in Israel yesterday for a three-day visit, told a press conference in Jerusalem that he had assured Premier Shimon Peres during a meeting that Egypt had cancelled all restrictions on Egyptian tourists coming to Israel, now that the Israel Defense Force has left Lebanon.

In meetings with other Israeli officials, Shindi told his Israeli counterpart, Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, that he would try to equalize the balance of tourism between the two countries but noted that a far smaller percentage of Egyptians travel abroad than Israelis. Israel says some 34,100 Israelis visited Egypt last year while only 4,600 Egyptians travelled to Israel.

At a meeting with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Shindi expressed concern at a recent drop in the number of Israelis visiting Egypt as a result of the imposition of a travel tax on Israelis travelling to other countries. He pointed out that a weekend in Cairo would cost an Israeli only about \$150, but the Israeli traveller would have to pay another \$200 just to cross the border.

CUOMO: ISRAEL'S AND AMERICA'S SURVIVAL ARE BOTH AT STAKE IN THE CONTINUING MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Governor Mario Cuomo told almost 3,000 delegates to the 71st Hadassah national convention that in the continuing Middle East crisis "what is at stake is not only Israel's survival but also our own."

Speaking at a special session of the gathering, Cuomo said that "Israel's enemies recognize better than many Americans do ... that attacks on Israel are also attacks on the interests of the United States."

"The terrorists who murder Israel's children and athletes and diplomats -- and those who give these terrorists the means to do so -- understand that, ultimately, their goals transcend the Mideast," Cuomo said.

"It is critical that our government affirm the basic nature of the confrontation in that region of the world," the Governor said. "It is not Jew against Arab -- it is those who cherish democracy as a way of life against those who would destroy democracy as a way of life."

Cuomo called for the United States "to make it clear that Israel will have the economic stability and the weapons with which to defend itself" and "that so long as Israel's enemies continue to deny her right to exist and continue to prepare for war, Israel will maintain an absolute military superiority."

Strains On Israel's Economy

The Governor said that the strains of ensuring her security places tremendous strains on Israel's economy. "A nation of idealists -- of poets, scholars and scientists -- is forced to divert its attention and its resources to the ceaseless necessity of defending itself."

"It is a crushing burden fiscally and economically, and a draining one spiritually," Cuomo stated, "but there is no alternative." As long as the threat to Israeli democracy continues, he said, "the United States must help Israel to solve the problems which result from having to shoulder a military responsibility that belongs to us all."

Cuomo also strongly denounced what he termed the "potent and dangerous force" of anti-Semitism, and the "twisting of the truth" by Israel's adversaries who equate Zionism with racism.

He pointed out that the decade-long campaign to link Zionism and racism "is an operating principle of one of the world's two superpowers, the Soviet Union." The Governor said that to let such a distortion go unchallenged is to accept "the first suppo-

sition of totalitarianism -- that words mean whatever those in control want them to mean ... that separate is equal, that slavery is freedom, that the purposes of history require mass murder and genocide."

Wiesel: Anti-Semitism Is Increasing In The U.S.

Elie Wiesel, too, warned that anti-Semitism is on the rise. Addressing the banquet session of the Hadassah convention, where he was presented with 1985 Henrietta Szold Award for distinguished humanitarian services, he said that "anti-Semitism thrives and is spreading in Western democracies as well as in the Communist world, and is becoming increasingly violent."

He also cited his own experience -- following his outspoken criticism of President Reagan's trip to a cemetery in Bitburg, Germany where Waffen SS soldiers are buried -- earlier this summer as evidence, that people are becoming more secure in their hatred towards Jews.

Following the Bitburg incident, Wiesel said he received numerous letters filled with hate and threats, which the author described as not unusual. What is unusual, he added, is that "for the first time their letters were signed -- names and addresses."

"Anti-Semitism is on the rise in our country as well," Wiesel said. He noted that recent polls indicate that Israel is losing ground in American public opinion. Traditional left-wing supporters of Israel dislike the country's attempts at becoming a stronger and more secure nation, he observed, and added that extremists of both the left and the right have established a rare common ground in their opposition to Israel.

"Our own government," said Wiesel, "has threatened Israel with economic reprisals for its position ... Israel is the only nation in the world which is threatened militarily by her enemies and politically by her friends."

The Henrietta Szold Award is named for Hadassah's founder and is presented annually to an individual or individuals whose lives and works reflect humanitarian values. Wiesel was presented with the award by Freida Lewis, immediate past president of Hadassah and current national chairman of the Hadassah Medical Organization.

Almost 3,000 Jewish women representing 385,000 members in 1,700 chapters throughout the United States attended the four-day Hadassah national convention which closed at the New York Hilton yesterday.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Prime Minister Shimon Peres told Zulu chief Gatsha Buthelezi Wednesday that Israel is prayed for equal rights in South Africa and for coexistence between all the ethnic groups there. Peres met with the head of the Zulu tribe for the second time during Buthelezi's week-long visit to Israel. Israel Radio reported that Israel will apparently participate in development projects in the Zulu tribal homeland, in the fields of water use and education.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon has accused Prime Minister Shimon Peres and the Labor Party of conducting a "White Paper" policy -- similar to that of the Mandatory government when it banned the purchase of land by Jews from Arabs. Speaking to former members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi Wednesday, Sharon criticized the ousting of Knesset member squatters from a house in the Arab marketplace in Hebron.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW
CHAVEZ: 'DON'T EAT THE GRAPES'

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Cesar Chavez today urged the American Jewish community to support the United Farm Workers' boycott of California table grapes.

"Just don't eat the grapes, that's all you can do," the 58-year-old president of the UFW said during an interview at the offices of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here.

He noted the Jewish community's strong support for the grape boycotts in the 1960's and 1970's and recalled that during the last boycott, an Orthodox rabbi in New York declared that "scab grapes" are non-kosher.

Support By Two Jewish Organizations

Two Jewish organizations have come out in full support of the UFW table grape boycott, the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the association of American Reform rabbis, and the Jewish Labor Committee, a fraternal organization.

The Jewish Labor Committee's executive director, Martin Lapan, said in a statement that the Committee "strongly urges" the Jewish community to refrain from purchasing grapes until the union achieves a fair settlement of its grievances.

Noting its past support for the UFW, the Committee accused the grape growers of "renewed exploitation," and said: "We urge the Jewish community to once again protest farm workers' exploitation by boycotting non-union grapes."

The CCAR, at its 96th annual convention in Minneapolis last June, endorsed a resolution calling for full support for the grapes boycott, urging its members and congregations "to support the boycott until the workers are accorded all rights and benefits to which they are entitled."

The CCAR, as did the Jewish Labor Committee, sharply criticized Governor George Deukmejian of California, accusing him of "undermining" the Agricultural Labor Relations (ALRB), a state enforcement agency. The UFW has charged the governor with the "systematic purge" of the Board.

The UFW boycott of table grapes was declared last year in response to what the UFW charged was Deukmejian's lack of enforcement of the 1975 state farm labor law. Chavez charged that the governor's appointees to the ALRB have dismissed hundreds of farm worker charges without investigating them and "in violation of the internal procedure for dealing with cases."

Some Of The Outstanding Issues

Some of the outstanding issues between the growers and the UFW include a demand by the workers for a fair marketing agreement, for fair and free elections, that the growers bargain in good faith and that there be a ban by the growers on five of the some 27 pesticides used in the grape fields, Chavez said. These five, the UFW contends, are harmful to the workers.

Rabbi Joseph Glazer, executive vice president of the CCAR, said the rabbinic group is pushing for rabbis in California to pressure the governor to reconsider his handling of the farm workers and "we're confident we're going to get the support--enormous support -- for the boycott."

Glazer, in a JTA interview, said the "Jewish ethic on labor is clearly stated in the Bible." He said

the "whole concept of ~~trad~~ada makes us particularly sensitive to the suffering and degregation these people have undergone through the years."

Cites Role Of The Jewish Community

According to Glazer, the Jewish community should provide a platform for farm workers to address congregants on the urgency of the current boycott. But also, he said, American Jews should not buy table grapes until "they are kosher ... Until the people who stoop and squat and go through all kinds of hell out there in the fields are treated right, those grapes are treif."

Glazer recalled that it was Orthodox Rabbi Haskell Lookstein of New York who issued a statement during the last grape boycott in the 1970's in which he said that as far as he was concerned, grapes picked under boycott circumstances "are non-kosher."

1,000 U.S. STUDENTS IN ISRAEL SIGN PETITION ON JORDAN ARMS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Over 1,000 American Jewish students, studying for a year at Israeli colleges and high schools, expressed their concern for Israel's defense by signing a petition calling on the U.S. to refrain from selling arms to Jordan, it was reported today by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). The petition was later delivered to Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) who sent it on to Secretary of State George Shultz.

The petition drive was organized by a dozen student activists, according to AIPAC. The petition stated: "We, the undersigned American students, oppose the sale of America's most sophisticated weapons to Jordan or to any other country that has not recognized Israel's right to exist and endorsed the Camp David peace process."

The petition was circulated over the entire country in less than a week's time by students at Tel Aviv and Hebrew Universities who had participated in Israel-based Political Leadership Training Seminars sponsored by AIPAC.

The activists said they found willing signers not only in the large university programs at Haifa, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, but also in yeshivot and the "High School in Israel" program at Hod HaSharon. Signers included residents of all 50 states.

The petition organizers designated AIPAC interns Lauren Strauss of Brandeis University and Julie Bergman of the University of Pennsylvania to present the petition to Kennedy. Kennedy and Sen. John Heinz (R. Pa.) have introduced a resolution in the Senate opposing arms sales to Jordan as long as Jordan "opposes the Camp David peace process."

It is unusual for American students to engage in political action from Israel. "Normally, the students wait until they return to the States to get involved in political activism. This year, they wouldn't wait," said Jonathan Kessler, head of AIPAC's Political Leadership Development Program.

The students involved in the petition drive reported that they were excited by their experience. "In circulating this petition, we raised consciousness," said one. "There are now over one thousand students returning to hundreds of American campuses committed to blocking this transfer of weapons."

"This is the high point of my Israel experience," another declared. "The AIPAC seminars have shown us how to translate what we've been experiencing into political action."

LEADING AUTO FIRM COMMISSIONS STUDY OF ITS WARTIME USE OF SLAVE LABOR

By David Kantor

BONN, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The Daimler-Benz AG., the Stuttgart-based automobile giant which manufactures the prestigious Mercedes, has commissioned an independent study of the company's history which includes the utilization of slave labor during the Nazi era.

A company spokesman told reporters yesterday that the study may lead to the payment of reparations to surviving slave laborers, many of whom are Jews, or to their families. He said the company expects to have a full account of the matter sometime next fall and will decide then how to proceed. He stressed that the question of reparations will not be limited to the legal aspects.

The Cologne-based Society for Business History was engaged in 1983 to do research in connection with the company's planned centenary celebrations. Their work includes an historical account titled "Daimler-Benz in the Years From 1933 to 1945." According to Hans Pohl, an advisor to the Society, Daimler-Benz used POWs and concentration camp inmates to expedite military production after the start of World War II.

20,000 Slave Laborers Forced To Work For Firm

According to his preliminary study, about 20,000 slave laborers from 20 Nazi-occupied countries were forced to work for Daimler-Benz at its various plants. Pohl said large numbers of them were Jews. The company, which has not paid reparations to date, said it has not been confronted with specific demands to do so.

Pohl said he has concluded on the basis of evidence on hand that Daimler-Benz did not identify itself with the Nazis beyond what was absolutely necessary to keep the company in operation. While most of the Board members were members of the Nazi Party, many of them joined after the Nazis took power in 1933.

An exception was Wilhelm Kissel, Board chairman when the war broke out. He joined the Nazi Party in 1934 but had been a member of the SS and of a Nazi professional organization before then. Kissel died in 1942 and was succeeded by Wilhelm Haspel, who was not a Nazi Party member.

Daimler-Benz was Germany's third largest motor company in the 1930's and, in order to survive, had to cooperate with the Nazis, Pohl reported. He said that as more and more male auto workers were recruited into the army, the company employed women and forced laborers, including concentration camp inmates and POWs. They were assigned by the State Labor Exchange as needed, he said.

One Board member, Jacob Werlin, was Hitler's expert on matters relating to automobile production, Pohl said. But he reportedly used his contact with Hitler to advance the interests of Daimler-Benz.

Daimler-Benz is one of the few German industries to voluntarily investigate its wartime activities and relations with the Nazi regime and to consider

reparations to slave laborers without being prodded. Earlier this month, the Flick industrial conglomerate paid the equivalent of \$2 million to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany representing Jewish slave laborers used by one of its subsidiaries, Dynamit Nobel.

But this was done only after nearly 20 years of fruitless negotiations and after Flick's new owners, the Deutsche Bank, approved the payment as a "humanitarian gesture," not a legal obligation. Other German industries that have paid reparations to slave laborers include Krupp, Siemens and I. G. Farben.

A First For An Israeli Leader: PERES WILL BE RECEIVED BY A SENIOR MEMBER OF BRITAIN'S ROYAL FAMILY
By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Shimon Peres, who arrives in Britain tonight for a five-day visit, will be the first Israeli leader to be received by a senior member of the British royal family.

It will happen when he attends lunch as guest of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The heir to the throne's invitation to Peres is regarded here as an attempt to make up for the fact that the British royal family has not yet visited the Jewish State despite frequent invitations.

Peres is coming to Britain as guest of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the first such visit since then Premier Menachem Begin was received by Labor Prime Minister James Callaghan eight years ago. The atmosphere for the Peres-Thatcher encounter had been threatened by a British invitation to a PLO-Jordanian joint delegation three months ago. But Israeli displeasure at the planned meeting was softened when the British, at the last minute, refused to talk to their PLO guests.

The royal luncheon for Peres is regarded as further evidence of Britain's wish to improve relations with the Israelis. It should also go down well in the British Jewish community, which has increasingly resented the lack of contact between the royal family and the Jewish State.

Peres will make two major speeches -- at the Royal Institute for International Affairs and at a dinner hosted by Thatcher. He will also have talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Trade Secretary Leon Brittan, as well as with opposition party leaders.

Peres will also address Jewish communal gatherings and pay a private call on 88-year-old Dorothy de Rothschild, who last offered to finance the construction in Jerusalem of a new national Supreme Court building. He will also visit Oxford University to meet Sir Isaiah Berlin, the philosopher.

Peres will arrive in London from The Netherlands, where he is paying an official visit. He will leave here for West Berlin, the first visit to the former capital of Nazi Germany by an Israeli Premier.

APARTMENTS IN THE HEART OF HEBRON RENOVATED FOR JEWISH OCCUPANCY
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The Gush Emunim chalked up a victory with serious political implications yesterday when 13 apartments, renovated for Jewish occupancy, were consecrated at a religious ceremony in the heart of Hebron.



Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy (Likud-Herut) said at the ceremonies that additional construction for Jews will begin immediately in a nearby courtyard. The Housing Ministry invested about \$1 million this year for construction of Jewish flats in Hebron.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin (Labor) told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday that he is firmly opposed to Jewish settlement in Hebron but is forced to abide by the terms of the coalition agreement under which the Labor Party and Likud formed their unity government last year.

The coalition agreement does not extend to Tel Rumeida and other parts of Hebron where the Gush Emunim have repeatedly tried to put up Jewish settlements.

The flats on which Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Elisha affixed mezuzahs yesterday are in 19th century buildings known as the Bet Hadassah and Bet Hasson complexes. They remained Jewish property after the Jewish population fled Hebron during the 1929 Arab uprising. The Gush Emunim have long claimed the right of Jews to resettle there.

In 1979, a group of women and children, headed by Miriam Levinger, wife of Gush Emunim leader Rabbi Moshe Levinger, moved into the Bet Hadassah building. They remained there for nine months, guarded by Israeli troops. The Likud-led government of Premier Menachem Begin made no attempt to evict them, although the move was clearly illegal. Since then, other Jewish squatters, including Levinger himself, have occupied the premises.

Returning To 'Land Of Our Forefathers'

Levy said that "in consecrating homes in Hebron, we are returning to the land of our forefathers." Referring to peace efforts in the region, he declared, "We will make peace with (the land of) Israel."

The Housing Ministry has completed plans for 11 more apartments and a center for "Land of Israel" studies in the courtyard of the Avraham Avinu synagogue in Hebron. The project architect, Saadia Mendel, said in a television interview that he considers the building plans an expression of political positions. He said he planned the new buildings as an integral part of the Moslem quarter of Hebron.

KNESSET MARKS KING'S BIRTHDAY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The Knesset yesterday commemorated the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in a special session, attended by President Chaim Herzog, members of the diplomatic community and other guests.

Shlomo Hillel, the Knesset Speaker, said that the life of the slain civil rights leader was devoted to fighting racism and for the human rights of his Black brethren in the United States.

"As a people who have continuously been subject to racism, suffering, and exile, and lack of tolerance, we feel deep appreciation for this exceptional fighter who has turned into one of the symbols of the American nation," said Hillel.

Yaacov Tzur, Minister of Absorption, who spoke on behalf of the government, said the educational force of King was in his rare ability to put

the contents of the fight in "plain and human terms" and to make them a unified force. Tzur also expressed concern over expressions of racism in Israeli society.

But Knesset members Mohammad Miari and Matiyahu Peled, both representatives of the Progressive List For Peace, were unimpressed. They said the special Knesset session was hypocritical, since, for the past 18 years, the Palestinian people have been under an oppressive regime, and for the past 38 years, the Arabs of Israel have been discriminated against.

In recognition of the new American federal holiday honoring King, Israel celebrated January 20, 1986 as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. In addition, schools and universities marked the day with special programs which took note of King's life and works. The Jerusalem municipality also named a street after King.

HISTADRUT SEEKING LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK UNIONISTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- Histadrut, Israel's trade union federation, has sent a two-man delegation to South Africa to establish permanent links with Black trade unionists there. According to The Jerusalem Post, the mission has the behind-the-scenes blessings of the Isra government, despite ties with the apartheid regime in Pretoria.

The Foreign Ministry has provided part of the delegates' expenses, the Post said. The Histadrut men are to meet leaders of the new Black Trades Union Federation and the Congress of South Africa Trades Unions, including Cyril Ramaphosa, secretary of the powerful National Miners Union.

The objective of the Israelis is reported to be to enlist a group of Black trade unionists to attend a labor studies course at Histadrut's Afro-Asian Institute here. That project will be financed by Histadrut and the California-based Center for Foreign Policy Options, headed by State Senator Tom Hayden. The Center is sponsoring the delegation's trip to South Africa.

WJC TO HOLD 50th ANNIVERSARY ASSEMBLY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The 50th anniversary of the founding of the World Jewish Congress will be marked here January 27-30 at a plenary assembly that is expected to bring together some 900 delegates, alternates and observers from Jewish communities in 68 countries around the world. The meeting will be the eighth plenary assembly since the WJC was founded in 1936 in Geneva by Rabbi Stephen Wise.

The four day meeting will receive reports on Jewish life from Argentina to Zaire, hear from top spokesmen of the Reagan Administration, the government of Israel and the Third World, and debate issues of East-West relations, Arab-Jewish peace, and the creative community of the Jewish people. Edgar Bronfman, WJC president, will chair the assembly.

Among the scheduled speakers at the meeting will be Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini of Italy, a stern critic of his government's policy toward terrorism; U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Vernon Walters; Dr. Bernard Lown of Boston, a leader of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, who shared the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize.

Also, Enrique Iglesias, Foreign Minister of Uruguay; Ram Jethmalani, a member of the Supreme Court of India; Rep. Julian Dixon (D. Calif.), former chairman of the Black Congressional Caucus; Premier

Shimon Peres; Deputy Premier Yitzhak Shamir; Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin; and World Zionist Organization Executive chairman Leon Dulzin, speaking as chairman of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Yitzhak Korn, chairman of the Israel Executive of the WJC Congress, who participated in the 1936 founding assembly, will take part in the 1986 assembly. He will be presented with a medal by Dr. Gerhart Riegner, co-chairman of the WJC Governing Board.

A highlight of the assembly will be a discussion of "The Jewish People and the Changing World" with Saul Bellow, Nobel Laureate in literature; Sir Isaiah Berlin, British political scientist and president of Wolfson College, Oxford University; Yitzhak Navon, former President of Israel, now Minister of Education and Culture; and Carl Sagan, astronomer and author. Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg will chair this session, at which each of the participants will receive a Nahum Goldmann medal, named for the late WJC president.

JEWISH-ARAB TENSIONS CONTINUE TO ESCALATE OVER TEMPLE MOUNT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) — Tension between Jews and Arabs stemming from recent confrontations on the Temple Mount continued to escalate this week over the issue of Jewish prayer at the site of two of the holiest shrines of the Islamic faith.

The matter was discussed before the Knesset's Interior Committee yesterday where there seemed to be some uncertainty as to what the law permits. Arabs were further angered yesterday when Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu proposed that a synagogue be erected on the Temple Mount. The Mufti, Sheikh Sa'ad A-Din Al-Alami, chief of the Moslem Council, responded in effect that it would be over his dead body.

Meanwhile, a delegation of six Israeli Arab mayors visited the Mufti on the Temple Mount today to express solidarity with the Moslem religious authorities' refusal to allow Jews to worship there. It was the first visit to the site by Israeli Arabs in any official capacity. Mayor Tarek Abdul Hai of Tira stated that Jewish demands to worship on the Temple Mount were motivated by political not religious reasons.

Sheikh Al-Alami, who is the top Moslem religious functionary in Israel, declared, "Just as I will not pray in your synagogues, I don't want Jews to come and pray here."

Actions Precipitating Latest Strife

The latest religious strife was precipitated when several members of the Interior Committee, headed by its chairman, Dov Shilansky (Likud-Herut), visited the Temple Mount two weeks ago to investigate allegations of illegal construction there. They were confronted by angry crowds and had to be extricated by the police.

The committee members repeated their visit a week later and while it passed without incident, Arab youths stoned police just outside the Temple Mount area and 17 were arrested. On both visits, the Knesseters were accompanied by ultra-nationalist Jewish activists who are not members of the Interior Committee.

Their presence, and the fact that on the first visit the news media was invited with cameras, con-

stituted what the Moslem authorities contended was deliberate provocation. Police have maintained tight surveillance over the area since then. Last Sunday they prevented several Jews from entering the western gate of the Temple Mount when it appeared they intended to stage a demonstration. Two members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach Party were detained.

The Temple Mount is open to all visitors and is, in fact, a tourist attraction. But Israeli law forbids Jewish prayers at the site of the Al Aksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock (Mosque of Omar) which, after Mecca and Medina (in Saudi Arabia), are the holiest Moslem shrines. Deputy Attorney General Yoram Barsella told the Interior Committee yesterday, however, that Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount was not a criminal offense.

No Illegal Construction Work Taking Place

David Kraus, Inspector General of Police, explained to the committee that organized Jewish prayer was banned by a ruling of the Supreme Court but an individual was entitled to pray there as long as he did not do so demonstratively.

Aharon Sarig, Director General of the Jerusalem Municipality, informed the committee that contrary to allegations, no illegal construction was taking place on the Temple Mount. He said there was some reconstruction work which did not require licenses but he knew of no prayer platforms being erected.

In other developments, there was religious strife in Hebron last Friday, where Jews and Arabs scuffled at the Patriarchs' Tomb. An elderly Arab reportedly attempted to stab a Jewish worshipper.

Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem who has long taken pride in his ability to maintain peace between Jews and Arabs in the city, reacted angrily over the weekend to a demand by one of his deputy mayors, Rabbi Nissim Zeev, that Israeli Arabs be banned from living in the Neve Yaacov neighborhood. He said unless Zeev retracted his statements he would be dismissed from office.

An Arab family of 12 children barely escaped injury when their flat in Neve Yaacov was set on fire last week. Other Arab residents have complained of threats and harassment by Kach Party activists.

HOLOCAUST DENIAL BOOK TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL LIBRARY

TORONTO, Jan. 21 (JTA) — A book that claims the Holocaust is a hoax as well as controversial publications will not be banned from the library at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto.

After a three-month investigation, a special committee has ruled out adopting a policy that would remove books such as "The Hoax Of The Twentieth Century" from library shelves. The book denies the well-documented fact that six million Jews died at the hands of the Nazis.

The new policy of the Institute, however, approved by its governing council, could result in a book being placed in a "limited access" area if it is the subject of an "adverse judgment" by a Canadian court.

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A woman was slightly injured and taken to a hospital for treatment for shock when a bomb exploded in Afula Tuesday. It was the eighth terrorist blast in the Jezreel valley town in recent months. The explosive charge was hidden under bushes near the Afula bus station.



SPECIAL TO THE JTA TREE-PLANTING PROJECTS TAKING ROOT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) — As rain and hail pelted Jerusalem from leaden skies yesterday, Moshe Rivlin, world chairman of the Jewish National Fund, looked through his office window on King George Street with unconcealed delight. At last, some really heavy rain.

With only a week to go to Tu B'Shvat, the traditional 15th of Shvat "New Year for Trees," JNF foresters around the country had been seriously concerned over the dearth of rainfall during this remarkably mild winter. It had not reached drought proportions yet, but there was cause for alarm for foresters and farmers.

Rivlin's men plan to plant some 3.5 million new trees around the country. They must be snugly in the ground and growing by February 28 at the latest. "Winter came late this year," said a gnarled woodsman waiting to see the JNF chairman. "But thank God it's come at last."

The JNF men pray for rain on every day save Tu B'Shvat itself, when they hold ceremonies at old and new sites around the country. This year, the central event will be in south Jerusalem, just off the road that leads from the southern suburb of Talpiot towards Bethlehem.

Tree Planting in IDF Commemorative Forest

Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy and the members of the Israel Defense Force General Staff will be the first to plant trees in an IDF commemorative forest, situated in the area of some of the heaviest fighting of the 1948 War of Independence.

The area was the scene, too, of a brief but dramatic battle in the 1967 war. Anxious Jerusalemites watched in anguish as an Israel Air Force plane was downed just outside the Mar Elias convent, midway between the capital and Bethlehem.

Within hours of that setback, the Old City fell into Israel's hands, and within two days all of Judaea was controlled by the IDF.

Other Ceremonies Marking Tu B'Shvat

In other ceremonies marking Tu B'Shvat, 100,000 school children and 50,000 soldiers, immigrants, pensioners and other organized groups will help the JNF professionals reach this year's tree-planting goal.

Because of the unseasonal weather through November and December, Rivlin has had to lower his sights. But he still hopes to achieve three million plantings before the end-of-February cutoff date.

The focal areas are:

* Galilee: Here the JNF forestry department is moving ahead impressively on several fronts. Seven hundred dunams of the Toukan Hills, near Kibbutz Lavie in southern Galilee, have been earmarked for afforestation this year and a new settlement, Avtalyon, is to be completely surrounded by greenery.

But most significantly, JNF is contributing its land-preparation and afforestation skills to the major national goal of turning the entire Kinneret shoreline into Israel's main inland tourism resource.

The hills rising above Tiberias are to be afforested — partly with the aid of the Swiss JNF. One section will be named the Rambam Park, commemorating Maimonides who, according to tradition, is buried in Tiberias.

To the northeast of Lake Kinneret the JNF is aiding a group of seven kibbutzim which jointly are implementing a major holiday resort project of hotels, water-sports, and scenic trekking to be available to visitors from Israel and abroad.

Conditions are very difficult, Rivlin noted in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "The rocks are basalt. The ground slopes. We have to build terracing, and plan each tree spot individually," he said.

* In the Negev, JNF this year is planting at Pit-hat Shalom, the border region just south of the coast. At Yatir, in the Hebron Hills, "we are literally pushing the desert back — and this will be a boon to the fledgling settlements in the area," Rivlin said.

Other Ambitious Projects

Another Negev project now underway is a Golda Meir Park near Kibbutz Revivim, where the late Premier's daughter lives with her family and where Golda herself was a frequent visitor. The site is close to one of the roads leading to Eilat. Southbound holiday-makers will be able to pause there for a unique experience of verdant relaxation in the heart of the arid desert.

Given the aridity, JNF is experimenting with over 30 strains of trees and bushes to select those best suited for the rigors of the southern climate.

Around Jerusalem, "our green belt is gradually nearing completion to the north of the capital, and now we have turned eastwards," Rivlin said. Here, too, the trees steal from the desert. He is planning a ten-dunam-wide strip of green bordering the city to the east of the Mt. Scopus-Mount of Olives line.

There are similar though less ambitious projects afoot to surround Ashdod and Beit Shemesh, two less glamorous cities, with their own green belts, too.

Abroad, JNF's Education Department predicts it will reach more than half-a-million Jewish children through various Tu B'Shvat-related activities in schools, youth groups and community centers.

A Remarkable Innovation

Looking beyond Tu B'Shvat, which is traditionally the JNF's red-letter day, perhaps the most remarkable innovation in JNF forestry at this time is going ahead quietly in a 400-dunam experimental site in the north of the country. It is an attempt, the first in Israel, to grow trees specifically for timber.

To date, JNF supplies one half of the Israeli timber industry's requirements in chipboard, all from thinning out existing forests. Chipboard comprises wood shavings and small pieces compressed together. It is extensively used in furniture manufacture here and abroad.

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israeli technicians spent two weeks in an isolated desert area demonstrating to American experts the capabilities of the Israel-made drone—pilotless light aircraft used for reconnaissance purposes. Those demonstrations resulted in a major contract from the U.S. Navy, according to an article in *Bamahane*, the Israel Defense Force monthly magazine. The Israel-made drone fulfilled the American requirements with respect to maximum cruising range and altitude, ability to spot hidden targets, take-off and landing on short (70-meter) runways, and maintenance needs.

Editor's mailbox

Big rigs

Hardly a day goes by without some serious accident involving large trucks — especially tandem tanker rigs spilling their toxic loads, endangering lives.

The trucking industry and allied unions should be confronted with this problem. Truck speeds should be reduced, frequent inspection of rolling stock should be mandatory, and drivers involved in questionable accidents should be required to undergo appropriate tests.

J. Maffel
San Francisco

War chest

I am writing about your June 9 editorial which advocates further U.S. aid to El Salvador. You attack a report by Rep. George Miller of Contra Costa County and two other members of Congress for stating the obvious — when you give money to a government at war, whether you call it economic or military aid, it assists that government's war effort.

Steven Meinrath
San Francisco

Peasant wisdom

I object to the administration's recent escalation in rhetoric and real hostility against the Nicaraguan government and its people. Statements such as "little choice but to use military force" belie the fact that there are many choices.

For example, why have we forgotten the Contadora process which Nicaragua signed and for which we professed support — until, that is, the precise time that Nicaragua committed itself to that process?

Secondly, why all the negativism? Even if Daniel Ortega was unwise to seek economic aid from Moscow when he did, there is much in the current Nicaraguan reconstruction that we could affirm.

Take literacy. In 1980 Nicaraguan leaders inspired 100,000 young people to travel throughout the countryside, teaching peasants to read and write.

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

We welcome letters from our readers, but only a selection can be used. "Open" and third-party letters are not acceptable. Letters must bear the writer's name, signature and address; the street address will not be published. We reserve the right to edit letters for style and brevity. Send letters to Editor's mailbox, San Francisco Examiner, P.O. Box 7260, San Francisco 94120.

The country is almost 90 percent literate now. This campaign used Paulo Friere's methods — giving peasants a sense of dignity, self-worth and empowerment.

As our president beats the war drums, let us ponder Nicaraguan peasant wisdom: "Reagan depends upon the loyalty of the ignorant."

Kathleen Costello
Cupertino

Lane change

I read with interest about the extension going up on the Bay Bridge to accommodate a golf-size cart for maintenance and repair work. Why don't the bridge directors make the addition wide enough for an ambulance or a small fire-fighting vehicle or a paramedical truck?

In case of an emergency, that new lane could be used to save a life. An extra foot of width on the addition could be of real value.

Stanley Lichtenstein
Oakland

Blockheads

After reading how a San Francisco supervisor sometimes parks in her driveway, blocking the sidewalk, I offer four good reasons why cars should not be parked on the sidewalk:

1. Almost every time I take my child out in the stroller, we are forced out into the street and into traffic because some clod has blocked the sidewalk. (One evening I counted 11 cars on the sidewalk — in one block!)

2. The government spent a fortune rebuilding curbs so that the handicapped in wheelchairs could

travel from corner to corner — only to run smack into a car blocking the sidewalk.

3. Oil slicks on the sidewalk are a safety hazard.

4. Pedestrians, especially the elderly, often find it difficult to maneuver around cars and curbs and are forced into traffic lanes.

This parking abuse is a serious safety hazard to pedestrians and must be dealt with by the police on a regular basis.

Jeffery S. Skale
San Francisco

Spain and Israel

After months of negotiations, Spain soon will formally join the European Economic Community. A major factor promoting this move was the conviction that its integration was important to the health of European democracies and Spain itself.

Some misgivings have been voiced, however, about Spain's reluctance to join her European partners under the NATO umbrella. Also of concern is Spain's delay in establishing diplomatic relations with Israel — despite the fact that all the other states in the EEC already have such relations. Experts attribute the delay to pressure from the Arab world.

Despite the foot dragging, there have been some positive developments. Spain and Israel have established air links and the city of Cordoba is hosting a number of events celebrating the birth of Maimonides, the great Jewish philosopher. Several Spanish cabinet members visited Israel before they took office.

A number of Western governments have reminded Spain of her commitment to formal diplomatic relations with Israel. In honoring that commitment, she can mark her upcoming membership in the European Community by contributing her special experience and relationships in the search for Middle East peace.

Nathaniel Schmelzer
Chairman, Foreign Affairs
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
American Jewish Committee

Friday, June 14, 1985

Joel Jay Fisher
Apartment 6-C
310 West 55th Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

(212) 247 -7996

November 4, 1982

Rabbi Mark Tannenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Tannenbaum:

I hear your comments periodically on the radio.

Would you please give me an assessment of the attached letters?

I do not believe that I am an impolite and disrespectful person. The Spanish ambassador to the UN says that I am.

Spain is presently propagandizing the entire world through governmental literature on Spanish Jewery. Yet, as favorable as this literature is towards Jews Spain won't take a stand against the PLO.

Do you really think that this Spanish ambassador represents anything positive in Spain or rather is he trying to exhibit his knowledge of English which to me looks artificial, expedient and self-serving?

Also, I understand that Moses Maimonides moved away from Spain at the tender age of 13 and he is claimed by Spain to be its most famous Jew. I seriously question whether Spain truly has freedom of religion. I honestly don't know what the Old Testament has to do with the New Testament in that Catholic country.

Most Sincerely,

Joel Jay Fisher
Joel Jay Fisher

attachments

P.S. Would you personally know of any college level correspondence course in the New Testament which I could take for credit?



*Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations*

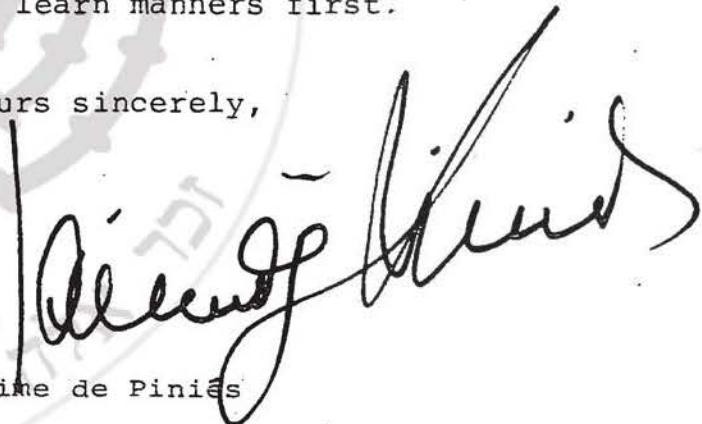
New York, September 13, 1982

Mr. Joel Jay Fisher
310 West 55th Street,
Apt. 6-C
New York, N. Y. 10019

Sir:

I have received your impertinent letter of September 11th. My letter was very polite and if you wish to address to me any other letter learn manners first.

Yours sincerely,


Jaime de Piniés

Joel Jay Fisher
Apartment 6-C
310 West 55th Street
New York, N.W. 10019

(212) 247 - 7996

September 11, 1982

Mr. Jaime de Pinies
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Spain to the U.N.
Permanent Mission of Spain to the U.N.
809 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. de Pinies:

Your reply of August 20, 1982 is not to my satisfaction, unfortunately.

While you were good enough to respond I find your Government's refusal to take a stand on Israel vis-à-vis the PLO to be unacceptable.

Your Government's booklet entitled Exploring the Jewish Heritage in Spain is very unimportant in the light of your Government's lack of a position on the Israel-PLO matter. A booklet for tourists is not the guide I seek.

I am Jewish and I consider the PLO a direct threat to Israel's existence.

It is most regrettable that a beautiful TV program such as Antologia de la Zarzuela will no longer have my support nor can I get involved with any other commercial enterprise from Spain under the circumstances. This had been my intention.

Most Sincerely,


Joel Jay Fisher

JJF. Your Government's extremely good relations with America to quote your words do not preclude me from having an opinion on world affairs.



PERMANENT MISSION OF SPAIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
809 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

August 20, 1982

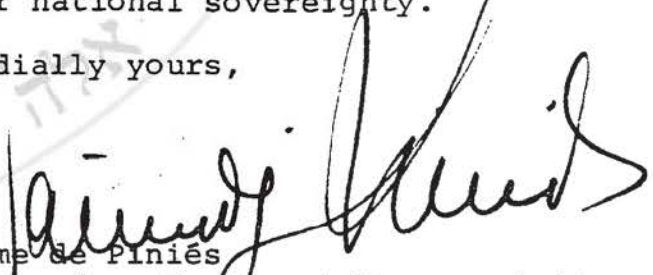
Mr. Joel Jay Fisher
310 West 55th Street,
Apt. 6-C
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Fisher,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 13, and I am very pleased that you enjoyed the TV show you mentioned and my country at large.

As far as our foreign policy is concerned I want to inform you that we are allies of the United States, having extremely good relations with your country, a matter which should be of your concern. Our relations with other countries fall within the scope of our national sovereignty.

Cordially yours,


Jaime de Piniés
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of Spain to the United Nations

Joel Jay Fisher
310 West 55th Street
Apt. 6-C
New York, N.Y. 10019

August 18, 1982



Spanish Mission to the UN
809 UN Plaza
New York, N.Y.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Dear Sirs:

I have become much interested in Spain. I am well impressed with your country's approach toward better world relations.

I watch your show Antologia de la Zarzuela on TV and I read your tourism literature, especially on the Jewish Heritage in Spain.

Please inform me what is your government's position on Israel vis-á-vis the PLO. I am concerned to see if I personally can continue to morally support your nation which has so far made great progress in my judgement.

Most cordially,

Joel Jay Fisher

JJF:afg

NEWS

FROM THE

COMMITTEE



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE Institute of Human Relations, 165 E. 56 St., New York, N.Y. 10022, (212) 751-4000

The American Jewish Committee, founded in 1906, is the pioneer human-relations agency in the United States. It protects the civil and religious rights of Jews here and abroad, and advances the cause of improved human relations for all people.

MORTON YARMON, Director of Public Relations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK ... Spain's Consul General, Ambassador Manuel Sassot, has informed the American Jewish Committee that his government has made "a definite decision" to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, and that the announcement of that act will take place in February or early March.

Ambassador Sassot, who was formerly in charge of the Middle East desk of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, reported this decision during a meeting at the Spanish consulate on Monday (Jan. 13) with Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of international relations of the American Jewish Committee, and Jacobo Kovadloff, AJC's director of South American affairs.

The Spanish Ambassador acknowledged that a number of Arab states have been pressuring Spain not to go through with this decision, but that several "moderate" Arab states have indicated they would not object. Some have suggested, he said, that Spanish-Israeli diplomatic ties would in fact contribute to the advancement of peaceful negotiations between Israel and moderate Arab states.

Ambassador Sassot told Rabbi Tanenbaum and Mr. Kovadloff that Spain's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, called a meeting in late December of Arab Ambassadors in Madrid during which he informed them that Spain will pursue its plans to recognize the State of Israel. Ambassador Sassot added that "now that Spain has become a member of the European Economic Community, we share in the obligation to develop a common European foreign policy, and we therefore join with the other EEC countries, all of whom maintain diplomatic ties with the State of Israel."

Both Rabbi Tanenbaum and Mr. Kovadloff informed the Ambassador Sassot that "Spain should not allow Arab governments to dictate foreign policy for, if they succeed in this instance, precedents will be established for an endless road of intimidation and blackmail which would compromise the sovereignty of the Spanish government and people."

The AJC spokesmen also said that "the establishment of diplomatic ties between Spain and Israel will be an important contribution to the cause of peace on the Middle East, and will also advance the spirit of friendship and mutual support between the American people, including the Jewish people, and Spanish society."

more....

Howard I. Friedman, President; Theodore Ellenoff, Chair, Board of Governors; Alfred H. Moses, Chair, National Executive Council; Robert S. Jacobs, Chair, Board of Trustees;

David M. Gordis, Executive Vice-President

Washington Office, 2027 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 • Europe hq.: 4 Rue de la Bienfaisance, 75008 Paris, France • Israel hq.: 9 Ethiopia St., Jerusalem 95149, Israel
South America hq. (temporary office): 165 E. 56 St., New York, N.Y. 10022 • Mexico-Central America hq.: Av. Ejercito Nacional 533, Mexico 5, D.F.

CSAE 1707

Ambassador Sassot spoke warmly of AJC's leadership mission to Spain last February, which, he said, helped promote "a spirit of understanding and solidarity between Spain and the Jewish people."

The American Jewish Committee is this country's pioneer human relations organization. Founded in 1906, it combats bigotry, protects the civil and religious rights of Jews here and abroad, and advances the cause of improved human relations for all people everywhere.


* * *

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THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date June 27, 1985
to Marc H. Tanenbaum
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject IMMINENT ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS-
SPAIN-ISRAEL

Please find enclosed a translation into English of an article by Ignacio Cembrero published in the leading newspaper of Spain El Pais - June 15th.

Certainly, we knew in advance that after Spain was accepted by the European Common Market, the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel should be concrete despite several reservations that were expressed by different sources, since against his own wishes, Felipe Gonzales had not obtained the total support of the King and some members of his cabinet.

But what is clear is that it was pressure by some members of the European community and mainly the Netherlands. It's also interesting to realize the intervention of Spain in the recent terrorist's hijacking of the TWA plane and passengers (see: Schumacher article in The New York Times). The latest according to an "off-the-record" opinion given to me by a Spanish diplomat as well as the local terrorist acts in Spain had consolidated President Gonzalez's position.

JK/BJB
encls.

cc: Leo Nevas
David Gordis
Members of AJC's Delegation to Spain
David Harris
David Geller
Nives Fox

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations

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PARIS OFFICE

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Paris VIII^e

December 30, 1977

MEMORANDUM

To: Morris Fine
From: Abraham Karlikow
Subj: More Spain

As you may have seen in the papers, Chief Rabbi Joseph Obadia of Israel did meet the King and Queen of Spain. The Chief Rabbi already had left Madrid and flown down to Malaga when he got word that the monarch would receive him. He flew back and met with him on Wednesday the 21st. There was a condition to this, however: that there would be no publicity given to the visit, at least in Spain itself; and it was not listed among the royal audiences of the day.

The meeting was arranged by Rabbi Garzon of Madrid, which probably means through Professor de Solas once again. There are those in the community who feel that the Chief Rabbi should not have accepted under such conditions.

The meeting, I understand, was almost entirely social, including a request by the Queen that the Rabbi bless her children, which he did. (A new version of Pascal's insurance?) But the question of relations with Israel was, of course, brought up. The King indicated in a most general way that things were moving in the right direction.

My face is red that I didn't know about the visit before, even though I already had left Madrid when it occurred. Nonetheless, given the fact that the King insisted on keeping the meeting sub rosa, as it were, I see no reason to change my original recommendation that AJC intervene with the Spanish ambassador in the U.S. to express our unhappiness with the lack of progress, and indeed, retrogression, since the AJC delegation met the King in the U.S.


I am sure we don't think the Spanish monarch should be afraid lest it be known he is meeting Israelis; or, as was the case with Gerson Cohen some months ago, that he be afraid to meet with leading Jews, even after an appointment had been set up. Since at least part of his unwillingness doubtless stems from Spanish Foreign Office views it is only logical that we should address ourselves to the Foreign Office, through the Spanish Ambassador.

cc: Gold
Tanenbaum
Geller - Bookbinder

AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

memorandum

date March 9, 1987
to Marc Tanenbaum
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject Meeting with Mr. Luis Yañez from Spain

I was told by Haskell that in his meeting last Friday with consul general of Spain, Ambassador Sassot, Sassot suggested for an AJC group to meet with Mr. Luis Yañez, Secretary of State, for International Cooperation, and President of Spain's Commission for the Fifth Centennial of the Americas. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 25th in the morning (hour to be confirmed).

Haskell asked me to contact Mr. Tomas Pantoja from the Consulate to confirm if we are interested in having this meeting which I did and I accepted.

Please let me know whom you would like to attend this meeting.

Permit me to suggest to you that Sam Toledano in Madrid should be telephoned by us for his suggestions on this meeting.

cc. David Harris
David Geller
Haskell Lazere

JK/leh

**FOCUS ON ISSUES
SPAIN TAKES LONG OVERDUE
STEP TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 20 (JTA) — The Spanish government, by establishing formal diplomatic ties with Israel last Friday, took what it and apparently most of the Spanish people consider a long overdue and honorable step, at the risk of Arab economic sanctions and possible terrorist attacks against Spanish installations and citizens abroad and at home.

Spain sought to forestall diplomatic and economic repercussions in the Arab world by informing Arab leaders of its intention to recognize Israel well in advance. Spanish diplomats stressed that this will not alter Spain's traditional backing of the Palestinian cause.

At their meeting with Israeli diplomats at The Hague to sign the documents of mutual recognition, the Spaniards presented the Israelis with a paper calling for international recognition of Palestinian rights.

Stringent Security Precautions

Meanwhile, stringent security precautions have been in place since early last week at all Spanish Embassies and diplomatic missions abroad. These were especially evident at Spanish legations in Western Europe and the Middle East. Last Thursday, on the eve of recognition, hundreds of members of Spain's anti-terrorist squad, the crack GEO, were dispatched to European and Middle East capitals.

Despite these precautions, three Spanish officials, one a security guard, were kidnapped in Beirut Friday morning. They are being held by a Shiite Moslem militia, reportedly as hostages for release of several Lebanese gunmen sentenced to prison terms in Spain last year. It was not clear whether the kidnappings were connected with Spain's recognition of Israel or merely coincidental.

Despite threats of terrorist attack and economic retaliation, Spanish public opinion seems nearly unanimously in favor of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's initiative to recognize Israel. Virtually all of the major dailies have congratulated him for taking the step, expressing regret only that it was not taken much sooner.

Searching For Historic Roots

Democratic government was restored in Spain in 1974 for the first time in 35 years, following the death of Gen. Francisco Franco. The Spanish people have since been searching for their cultural and historic roots. In the course of that search, they have welcomed the very notion of Sephardism, the concept of a Spanish Jewry, removed by the expulsion 500 years ago.

Dozens of books on the role played by Sephardic Jews in Spanish history are published every month. A regular monthly television program on the State-owned network is devoted to the Jewish contribution to Spain. Popular singers are performing songs based on Sephardic themes.

The recognition of Israel is viewed by many Spanish historians as closing the breach between Spain and Jews that opened in 1492. A special service celebrating the new relationship between Spain and Israel was held at Madrid's modern synagogue. Jewish congregants, most of them relative newcomers from North Africa, greeted each other with cheerful "Mazel Tovs."

Members of Jewish youth organizations filled Madrid's community center. They sang the Israeli national anthem, Hatikva.

There are believed to be about 15,000 Jews in Spain. The largest communities are in Madrid and Barcelona. At the time of the expulsion, an estimated quarter-million Jews lived in Spain, among them writers, jurists, rabbis, doctors and philosophers.

**SHAMIR: SPANISH-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC
TIES WILL HELP STRENGTHEN ISRAEL'S
STANDING IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA) — Shmuel Hadass, who has been Israel's unofficial representative in Madrid until now, will become the Jewish State's first Ambassador to Spain, it was learned here Friday when the two countries announced the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a special interview Friday, "I regard the establishment of relations between the two countries as a very important step in strengthening Israel's political standing in the world, particularly in Europe. This is, in effect, a correction which has been needed for many years."

He added, "We welcome this important step, and I hope we shall witness the development of significant relations in all spheres, the political, the economic and the social."

The announcements were made simultaneously in Jerusalem, Madrid and The Hague where the documents of mutual recognition were signed by Yeshayahu Anog, Deputy Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Maximo de Kajal, director of the European Affairs Department of the Spanish Foreign Ministry. Premier Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain met at The Hague Sunday. (Separate story, P. 3.)

Spain is the last Western European nation to establish full diplomatic ties with Israel. The joint communique issued by both countries Friday stated that the decision was made among other reasons because of the deep historic connections between the Spanish and Jewish people. The move had been sought by Israel for many years.

Arrangements were completed during a secret visit to Madrid early this month by Labor MK Micha Harish and Uri Savir who was Peres' communications advisor in the Spanish capital.

Both countries made political statements Friday indicating that their new formal relationship will not affect their respective policies which differ sharply on the Middle East.

Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez of Spain stressed at a press conference his government's commitment to solve the Palestinian problem through negotiations that would include the Palestine Liberation Organization and that it was firmly opposed to any attempt by Israel to annex Arab territories it now occupies.

Ordonez's statement reflected Madrid's sensitivity to Arab pressure. In fact the latter is considered the main reason why Spain delayed recognition of Israel for 38 years after the founding of the Jewish State and more than 10 years after the restoration of democratic government in Spain following the death of Gen. Francisco Franco in 1974.

Recognition of Israel was in fact one of the conditions of Spain's admission to the European Economic Community (EEC) which it joined on January 1. All EEC member states, including Portugal which also joined the Common Market January 1, have diplomatic relations with Israel.

Shamir noted that Spain's admission to the EEC was a major factor because it would have been "unacceptable that one of the EEC countries would not have diplomatic relations with Israel." He acknowledged Israel's competition with Spain for European markets, notably in citrus and other agricultural products. He said the matter was the subject of ongoing negotiations "and I hope that soon we shall reach an agreement that will be acceptable to all parties."

MURPHY IS IN EUROPE IN ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO ADVANCE THE MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, was in Europe this weekend in another attempt to advance the Middle East peace process.

Murphy met with King Hussein of Jordan in London on Saturday and the next day conferred with Israeli Premier Shimon Peres at The Hague. There was no indication that any progress had been made although Peres reportedly commented after his talks that no breakthrough should be expected.

The State Department's point man on the Middle East, Murphy made six trips to the Middle East last year but apparently was not planning to go to the region this time. In announcing the trip last Friday, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb stressed again the United States' "objective" which is to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

"We will be working with the parties to achieve an international context that meets the political needs of those involved and leads to direct negotiations," Kalb said.

Last month, a senior Administration official, summing up the Reagan Administration's Mideast efforts in 1985, said that the U.S. would be concentrating on getting Israel and Jordan to agree on conditions for an international conference that would lead to direct negotiations. The official said that a large measure of agreement already exists and that the U.S. would try to help the parties "fill in the gaps."

Kalb also indicated Friday that the U.S. still sees no role for the Soviet Union in the Mideast peace process. He said if the USSR "wishes to play a larger role" then it must demonstrate by being "constructive."

Perhaps one reason for Murphy's hurried trip to Europe is the Administration's concern over its proposed \$1.9 billion arms sale to Jordan. With Congress returning tomorrow there is a strong likelihood that new resolutions will be introduced in both the Senate and the House to reject the sale. Last October, Congress passed a resolution delaying the sale until March 1 unless "direct and meaningful negotiations between Israel and Jordan are underway."

Meanwhile, the U.S. welcomed the decision by Spain to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. "We have long said that we favor full recognition of Israel by all members of the international community," Kalb said. "This makes Spain's practice consistent with those of the other members of the European Economic Community which Spain joined earlier this month."

BURNING CANDLE CAUSED BARRACKS TRAGEDY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- A fire which caused the deaths of eight soldiers and serious injuries to seven others in an artillery corps camp in the West Bank last month was caused by a lighted candle left unattended by one of the men sleeping in the barracks, according to an IDF military police investigation, whose findings have just been released.

The investigation found that one of the 45 soldiers housed in the prefabricated hut had placed a lighted candle on a shelf and had then left the building at about 1 a.m., when all the others were asleep.

The candle apparently set fire to a towel, and the flames spread almost instantly throughout the structure. Soldiers in the camp were not able to quench the fierce blaze and the hut burned to the ground. Some of the sleeping soldiers are believed to have been asphyxiated by fumes which prevented them from escaping through the doors at either end of the long building.

The soldier who used the candle against all regulations -- apparently because there was a power failure at the time -- is to be charged with negligence, disobeying orders and possibly with more serious offences, in a court martial to be held this week.

EL AL TICKET COUNTERS ARE RELOCATED AT TWO BRITISH AIRPORTS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- El Al ticket counters at two British airports -- in Manchester and in London -- have been relocated, apparently because other airlines are nervous about possible terrorist attacks. In the December 27 assault on El Al ticket counters at the Rome and Vienna airports, most of the 19 who died were passengers on line at adjacent counters.

Israel's national airline is not happy over the situation and is expected to cancel its weekly flights to Manchester. The airport management there moved El Al to an isolated part of the terminal, citing security considerations. El Al said it should rather have tried to improve airport security.

El Al reluctantly agreed to have its facilities removed from the international flights terminal at Heathrow, London's main airport, to a terminal handling British Airways flights only.

* * *

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A four-day television black-out last week ended after a labor court ordered striking employes to return to work and instructed the Broadcast Authority to re-instate union leader Hezi Koka, whose dismissal triggered the walkout.

PERES AND GONZALEZ SEAL THE NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres of Israel and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain met for four hours at The Hague yesterday to seal the new relationship between their countries.

Spain and Israel formally announced on Friday the establishment of full diplomatic ties. Officials of the two countries signed the documents of mutual recognition in The Netherlands capital.

Peres and Gonzalez were invited here by the Dutch government for a bilateral discussion and other meetings related to the Middle East peace process and the European Economic Community. Holland currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the EEC, which Spain joined on January 1. One of the conditions of its admission to the Common Market was recognition of Israel.

An Historic Event

This was an historic event for both Mediterranean nations, as Peres noted in remarks at Ben Gurion Airport before his departure yesterday morning. "This morning will begin with the meeting with the Prime Minister of Spain, Felipe Gonzalez," Peres said.

"This really is a very special occasion in the annals of diplomacy and the history of our people, since the Golden Age (of Jews in Spain) which goes back 500 years when the Jewish people participated so much in the culture of Spain, contributed to it and carried with them the essence of a very unique culture," Peres said.

He recalled the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. "Now, meeting again as peoples, countries and leaders is, I believe, for all of us, a moving experience," Peres added.

Cites Spain's Unique Position

Following his talk with Gonzalez here, the Israeli leader observed that Spain is in a unique position to help the Middle East peace process. "With the benefit of balanced and friendly ties with all parties in the conflict, it can serve as a bridge between us, thus contributing to the peace process in the Middle East," he said.

Gonzalez noted that Spain's recognition of the Jewish State -- 38 years after its founding -- was part of the process of ending his country's isolation from world affairs that characterized the regime of the late Gen. Francisco Franco. "I hope we can contribute now to the peaceful solution of Middle East problems," he said.

Peres Meets With Murphy

Peres met in The Hague today with Richard Murphy, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, who flew to Europe over the weekend in what Reagan Administration sources described as a renewed effort to break the impasse in the Middle East peace process. Murphy met with King Hussein of Jordan in London on Saturday.

No details were released of his discussions with Peres today. A spokesman for the Israeli leader said the two men would probably meet again later this week. Peres is due to visit Britain and West Germany after talks with Dutch Premier Ruud Lubbers. He is scheduled to return to Israel January 30.

When he left Israel yesterday, Peres described his trip as "a mission to reinforce our friendship with Europe," although his meeting with Gonzalez was clearly the highlight. The U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Thomas Pickering, accompanied the Premier on his flight to Holland.

A Hectic Schedule

Peres will spend five days in Britain where he has a 90-minute private talk scheduled with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and a luncheon with the Prince and Princess of Wales. In West Germany he will meet with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, President Richard von Weizsaecker, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Bavarian Prime Minister Franz-Joseph Strauss.

Peres will also visit West Berlin, the first Israeli Premier ever to do so, and is expected to pay a private visit to the site of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. In each of the three countries on his itinerary, Peres will also meet with leading businessmen in an effort to boost trade with Israel.

LEHAT TO HEAD LIST OF LIBERAL PARTY CENTER IN NEXT KNESSET ELECTIONS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- Mayor Shlomo Lehat of Tel Aviv will head the list of the new Liberal Center Party in the next Knesset elections. The party, founded by disaffected members of the Liberal Party wing of Likud, was officially launched at a press conference in Tel Aviv last week.

It described itself as the authentic successor to the mainstream General Zionist movement, which is traditionally bourgeois in domestic economic policy and moderate in foreign policy.

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, is president of the Liberal Center. The other founding members are former Knesset Speaker and Cabinet Minister Yitzhak Berman and Mayor Yehezkel Harmelech of Rehovot. They expressed concern over the Liberal Party's drift to merge with Herut, its rightwing partner in Likud.

U.S. VETOES ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTION

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- The United States last Friday night vetoed in the Security Council a Lebanese-sponsored resolution "deploring" Israel for "violence" in south Lebanon and demanding that Israel withdraw its military forces "to the internationally recognized boundaries of Lebanon." Eleven members of the 15-member Council supported the resolution while three countries, Australia, Britain and Denmark, abstained. The U.S. was the only country that opposed the resolution. It traditionally vetoes anti-Israeli resolutions as unbalanced and one-sided.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai presented a \$21.6 billion budget to the Knesset Monday for the next fiscal year. It is about \$550 million under the budget for the current fiscal year and is aimed at stabilizing the economy. There are no provisions for renewed economic growth. In presenting the proposed budget, Modai hailed the rapid decline of inflation which he said had no precedent anywhere in the world. The government intends to keep inflation at its present rate, a maximum of two percent per month, Modai said. He said this was the achievement of the entire people.



**BACKGROUND REPORT
LIBYA IS A CENTER FOR TRAINING
TERRORISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- Libya has established more than 20 training camps for terrorists where more than 7,000 terrorists from all over the world are receiving training in terror, assassination, subversion and sabotage activities, according to a 43-page booklet on Libya's connection to international terror, just released by the Israel Defense Force spokesman's office.

It says that since Muammar Qaddafi seized power in 1969, Libya has given support to almost every terrorist group throughout the world. The booklet is based in part on surveys of media reports throughout the world and on statements by Qaddafi himself and by terrorist organizations.

It details Qaddafi's attempts to subvert governments and Arab opponents, his offer of money, weapons and training for what he calls national liberation movements around the globe.

The Libyan link goes through Africa and the Middle East to Europe and on to Latin America. It involves Libyan support and help not only for a variety of Palestinian terrorist organizations but also for others, such as the Japanese Red Army, the Italian Red Brigades and the West German Red Army faction, the IRA in Ireland, the Basque ETA, and various groups in Latin America.

The book claims that Qaddafi also set up his own terrorist group, the Arab Nationalist Youth for the Liberation of Palestine, which carried out some major airline attacks soon after its establishment in the early 1970's. But little has been heard of this group of late.

Contacts Between Qaddafi And Abu Nidal

The IDF review lists a long record of contacts between Qaddafi and Abu Nidal, including talks between the two in Libya last September -- contradicting Qaddafi's own claim that he has not met Abu Nidal for more than a year. Qaddafi is said to have been distributing as much as \$100 million a year to terrorist and subversive groups around the world.

At camps in Libya, terrorists and liberation groups receive training for a variety of activities. According to a list in the IDF booklet, Tunisians, Moroccans and Sudanese train at three camps; Africans from Nigeria, Chad and Zaire, among other African countries, are located at two other camps; and Palestinians, Europeans and others are being trained at more than a dozen camps all over Libya.

**NINE MORE SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVISTS
FOUND GUILTY FOR ILLEGALLY
DEMONSTRATING AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY**
By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- Nine Soviet Jewry activists, including a Soviet Jewish emigre who became a naturalized U.S. citizen last fall, were found guilty of conducting an illegal demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy here.

But for the first time since the District of Columbia court began trying the groups of activists arrested at seven Soviet Jewry demonstrations since last May, the judge admitted a lengthy written account of what the proposed witnesses would have said in their testimony about the persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union.

In an unprecedented move in the Soviet Jewry protest hearings, the judge also agreed to postpone the probation sentences of the defendants pending appeal.

Most of the nine convicted last Thursday were attending a conference of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews when they were arrested at a rally in front of the Soviet Embassy last October. One hundred and thirty-two people have been arrested in Soviet Jewry demonstrations at the Embassy since last spring for violating a local statute that bans demonstrations within 500 feet of an Embassy.

Like all but one of over 50 activists convicted to date -- including primarily rabbis, but also a Lutheran minister, cantors and Jewish lay leaders -- Thursday's group was given a 15-day suspended sentence, six months unsupervised probation and a \$50 fine. Last month, five of the rabbis decided to go to jail rather than accept the probation sentence, as a way of dramatizing the Soviet Jewry issue. They were released after twelve days, three days short of their actual sentence.

Cites Severity Of Jewish Situation In The USSR

The attorney for the group, Seth Waxman, attempted, as did those representing the earlier groups, to plead the case by demonstrating that persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union is so severe and their situation consequently so critical that the demonstration was perceived by the activists as necessary to save Russian Jews from further harm. In a lengthy statement, he cited State Department reports on Soviet rights violations and anti-Semitism.

Although the Judge, Joseph Hannon, refused to hear the proposed defense and consequently ruled out testimony from witnesses about Soviet persecution of Jews, he accepted a written account of what the witnesses would have said had they been allowed to testify.

The proposed witnesses included recent Soviet emigre Sergey Broude, who was among those convicted.

His arrest last October occurred four days after he became a naturalized American citizen. Broude, a physicist, was a Hebrew teacher in the Soviet Union and principal of a secret Hebrew school. He has lived in Boston since he was allowed to emigrate five years ago.

One of those convicted Thursday, Rusty Frank, a Soviet Jewry activist in San Francisco, considered going to prison rather than accept the probation sentence. But in consultations with Waxman, Hannon urged her not to force him to hand down a jail sentence, which he said he would postpone in any case.

In deciding to postpone the probation sentence, Hannon said that although he could not prophesy what the outcome of the group's appeal would be, the statement submitted by Waxman was "indeed a remarkable record," and he suggested that the case might have sufficient merit to win on appeal.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin acted personally over the weekend to cancel a decision by the Jewish Agency to rent the Binyanei Ha'azma convention hall here to Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach Party for its convention next month. Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, was alerted to the deal by MK Yair Tzaban of Mapam. He expressed shock, declaring it was unthinkable to rent the Jewish Agency-owned hall to a "racist, un-Zionist movement" that was contrary to the essence of Zionism and democracy.

REACTIONS TO ROCKET ATTACK ON AN ARAB BUS RUNS THE GAMUT FROM OUTRAGE AND REVULSION TO PRAISE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 29 (JTA) — The rocket attack yesterday, apparently by Jewish extremists, on an Arab bus here in which one young man was killed and 10 other persons were wounded, produced the predictable gamut of reactions today — from stonethrowing at the Daheisha refugee camp, to outrage and condemnation from politicians of most parties, to praise from Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach Party.

Early radio reports last night that police had arrested three Jews close to the scene of the attack proved inaccurate, or at least premature for the time being. The police had no one under arrest today.

Police Minister Haim Barlev, a former army Chief of Staff, condemned the laxity in the army which enabled the rocket launcher to find its way into the hands of "fanatics." He called on the military authorities to tighten up security in this respect. The rocket launcher is widely used by the infantry.

(In the ongoing campaign by the Israel Defense Force to have stray equipment returned to the army, which has lasted throughout this month, scores of rifles, mortars, grenades and other lethal weapons have been brought back to the police stations and army camps across the country. The campaign enables people to return army equipment with "no questions asked." The IDF announced that the amnesty period for returning weapons will end November 1 and that after that date it will conduct an intensive search-and-prosecute effort against recalcitrants.)

Yesterday's attack was the first such anti-Arab incident since last April when police thwarted an attempt by Jewish extremists to plant bombs on Arab-owned buses in Jerusalem and the West Bank. Subsequently, 25 Jews were arrested and are subsequently on trial in connection with several attacks on West Bank Arabs during the past three years.

Statements By Various Political Personalities

Reacting to yesterday's attack, Barlev said "We do not think (apprehending) the Jewish underground case suspects was the end of the matter. The security authorities are continuing to follow the doings of these crazies." In a television interview, he called for "immediate" Knesset legislation that would specifically outlaw racist actions and statements — and thereby render Kahane's utterances illegal.

Justice Minister Moshe Nissim said that "no one has the right to act in place of the government.... The hand of the law will reach these criminals." Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin called the attack a "repulsive act of violence against innocents." Minister-Without-Portfolio Yosef Shapira of Morasha, called the attack "an act of lunacy and irresponsibility. This is no revenge but an indiscriminate act of violence against innocent people."

A handwritten note in Hebrew found near the rocket launcher declared that the attack was an act of revenge for the murder of an Israeli man and woman who had been hiking near Beit Jalla, outside Jerusalem. Police said the suspect in that execution-style shooting admitted the crime and said he had

done it out of nationalistic motives. Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Hebron, a leader of West Bank Jewish settlers, said yesterday's bus attack was "a result of the government's weakness in security in Judaea and Samaria. We keep calling for a tough policy and the death penalty for terrorists."

Kahane declared: "May the hands which did this be strengthened.... It was a brave and noble act."

SPAIN IS PREPARING TO SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL

By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 29 (JTA) — A prominent Spanish Socialist politician, Enrique Mugica-Herzog, is preparing himself for the task of becoming his country's first Ambassador to Israel, according to well informed sources in Madrid. The sources said that Spain is taking seriously warnings by West European nations that failure to establish diplomatic relations with Israel could add to Spain's difficulties in joining the European Economic Community (EEC) at the beginning of 1985.

Madrid apparently wants to appoint a "political" Ambassador rather than a professional diplomat to what is considered to be an extremely sensitive task of representing Spanish interests in Israel some time in the near future.

While the Spanish Foreign Ministry officially maintains that no new steps have been taken to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, it is, at the same time, giving the impression that the time is ripe for new initiatives. This has been made clear in recent reports by Spanish journalists who are close to the Foreign Ministry, such as Pilar Cemuda.

'More Than Just Speculations'

Diplomats in Spain, in telephone interviews, confirmed that the reports by Cemuda and other journalists have been "more than just speculations." The diplomats pointed to what they termed "a rapid development of contacts between Spain and Israel in recent months." They added that Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain and Premier Shimon Peres of Israel are known to have established very good contacts.

The diplomats also noted that Spain and Israel have developed a close cooperation in combatting terrorism. They said that Spanish security experts regularly visit Israel to inform themselves on internal security-related matters but they declined to confirm reports in Madrid that Israeli security experts stay in Spain on a permanent basis.

Several members of the present Spanish Cabinet visited Israel before they became ministers. They were Gonzalez, Vice Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra, Interior Minister Jose Barrienuedo, Health Minister Ernest Lluch, Transportation and Tourism Minister Enrique Baron, and Minister-Without-Portfolio Javier Moscoso. Other leading figures of both the coalition and the opposition have also visited Israel and are on record as sympathetic to the Jewish State.

FERRARO ACCUSES REAGAN OF A 'DISGRACEFUL FALSEHOOD'

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA) — Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro today accused President Reagan of a "disgraceful falsehood" when he asserted last week at a political rally in a North Woodmere, Long Island synagogue that the leadership of the Demo-



cratic Party lacked the "moral courage" to denounce anti-Semitism. "President Reagan's remark is contradicted by the whole history of my party," Rep. Ferraro declared. "It was a Democratic President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, who led this nation in the fight against the Nazis.

"It was a great Democrat, President Harry Truman, who recognized the Jewish State of Israel just a half hour after that nation came into being. It was a trio of courageous Democrats -- John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Hubert Humphrey -- who led the battle against all forms of discrimination and fought for the civil rights of every American."

Ferraro's speech today was before an overflow crowd of 1,200 assembled at the Congregation Kehilath Jershurin in Manhattan, arranged under the auspices of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and the New York Board of Rabbis, the association of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis. Her 25-minute speech was interrupted numerous times by applause.

Hits Reagan For His Holocaust Remark

The Vice Presidential candidate also rebuked Reagan for asserting last week that the U.S. sent the marine forces into Lebanon to prevent another Holocaust of Jews. "I don't know which is more troubling, the President's ignorance of the facts or his cynical exploitation of the Holocaust," Ferraro asserted.

Continuing, Ferraro added: "The plain fact is that marines were sent into Beirut for the first time (in 1982) not to protect Israel but to oversee and protect the safe withdrawal of the Palestine Liberation Organization from that city. Does he (Reagan) think we have forgotten that?"

On the issue of the separation of church and state, Ferraro charged the Reagan Administration with having given "a platform in this campaign" to such "moral monopolists" as the Rev. Jerry Falwell, head of the Moral Majority, and the Rev. James Robison, who delivered the invocation at the Republican national convention in Dallas last August. "These individuals have not been spurned by the Republican Party," she declared. "They have been welcomed into it."

SCHINDLER ASSAILS REAGAN'S REFERENCE TO ANOTHER HOLOCAUST

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, representing Reform synagogues, today assailed as "both false and grossly offensive" President Reagan's claim last week at a political rally in a North Woodmere, Long Island synagogue that American marines were sent into Lebanon to prevent another Holocaust of Jews.

Schindler pointed out that the American troops were sent to Lebanon to oversee the evacuation of the PLO from Beirut. He added that Reagan's assertion also "denies a fundamental aspect of U.S.-Israel relations. Israel has stated publicly on numerous occasions that it will never ask for American troops to defend its borders or the lives of its citizens. It asks only for the military and economic support necessary to do the job itself."

Continuing, Schindler said: "Equally important, we are offended because the President's statement demeans significance of the Holocaust. The genocidal effort to eradicate the Jewish people throughout the world simply because they were Jews was a unique event in human history. Evoking the memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis, at a political

rally in a synagogue 10 days before the election for clearly partisan purposes, insults the feelings of American Jews and the intelligence of the American people."

U.S. REITERATES THAT IT WILL NOT BECOME INVOLVED FOR THE PRESENT IN MEDIATING LEBANON SITUATION

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration reiterated today that it has no intention of becoming involved for the present in mediation or negotiations on Lebanon despite the public desire of the Israeli government that it do so.

The State Department spokesman, Alan Romberg, noted that Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, is in the Middle East and it was "logical" that Lebanon would be discussed when Murphy visits the various capitals. Both Murphy and Michael Armacost, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, were in Saudi Arabia today.

The Israeli Cabinet announced a policy decision yesterday that urges the United States to act as mediator to achieve a troop withdrawal from south Lebanon, coupled with guarantees preventing Syria from moving its forces into the areas vacated by Israel and terrorists from infiltrating from Syrian-controlled territory toward Israel.

Romberg said the United States still wants a complete withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon but he repeated the Administration position that before that the United States will agree again to act as a mediator, Israel, Syria and Lebanon must demonstrate a "narrowing of the substantial differences that now exist" and a willingness to engage in a "practical problem-solving approach."

He refused to comment on what the issues were that were dividing the three countries or to "weigh" which country was more responsible for the division.

Meanwhile, Romberg said the United States "deplored" the rocket attack on an Arab bus yesterday. He stressed that the Israeli government indicated that it would move "swiftly to do whatever it can to bring those responsible to justice."

ISRAEL RAPS BRITAIN AND FRANCE FOR ARMS SALES TO ARAB STATES

JERUSALEM, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Israel lashed out yesterday at Britain and France for seeking to sell advanced arms to hostile Arab states and thus escalate the Mideast arms race. The comments were timed to coincide with the arrival here, for an official visit, of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. (See related story, P. 3.)

Officials in Jerusalem blasted Britain's and France's weapons-peddling in this region. They referred to recent separate sales missions by the British and French Defense Ministers to various Arab countries.

"Such supplies (if realized) must inevitably add to the danger of escalation and war," the officials said. "Such policies should not be pursued by those purporting to promote peace in the region."

The comments referred specifically to sales to "countries in a state of war with Israel," thus impliedly excluding British efforts to interest Egypt in London's military wares.

TWINNING OF WEST BANK SETTLEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICAN PUPPET STATE IS RAPPED BY ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- The West Bank settlement of Ariel is to be twinned on Wednesday with Bisho, capital of the puppet state of Ciskei, even though Israel and the rest of the world, apart from South Africa, does not recognize that country set up by South Africa as an African "homeland."

Ciskei's President Lennox Sebe is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow for an unofficial four or five day visit which the Israel Foreign Ministry is unhappy with but cannot prevent as Sebe is coming on a South African passport.

The Foreign Ministry was not consulted by Ariel before the decision to twin with the Ciskei capital. It is not known whether any Cabinet ministers and prominent Israelis will accept Ariel's invitation to attend the twinning ceremony. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the arrangement with Ciskei's capital "is not to our liking."

Ariel spokesmen said they did not see any difference between their West Bank town twinning with Bisho and Haifa twinning with Cape Town some years ago.

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN SECRETARY ON HIS FIRST VISIT EVER TO ISRAEL
By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Sir Geoffrey Howe, Britain's Foreign Secretary, is on his first visit ever to Israel. On the eve of his departure yesterday, he said he was taking "no preconceived ideas or blueprints" for solving the problems of the Middle East and that he would show "a deep personal concern and a willingness to listen" to his Israeli hosts.

Although he seems anxious to contribute to an improvement in Anglo-Israeli relations, his hosts will find no softening in his view, expressed nearly a year ago during a visit to Saudi Arabia, that Israel was partly responsible for the lack of progress towards an Arab-Israeli settlement.

Sir Geoffrey maintains that Israeli settlements on the West Bank are illegal and that there should be self-determination for the Palestinians. He regards a resuscitation of the Reagan Middle East initiative after the forthcoming American Presidential elections as the best prospect for renewing the diplomatic process.

He will also urge Israel to speed up its withdrawal from south Lebanon and may even consider sending British troops to expand the United Nations forces there. He is placing at least as much importance on his discussions about direct relations between the two countries, particularly trade, and the implications of Spain's and Portugal's entry into the European Economic Community for British purchases of Israeli citrus products.

Dislikes The Arab Boycott

Like many other British politicians, Sir Geoffrey readily expresses his distaste for the Arab boycott, which he regards as an interference in free trade. However, as he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here last Friday, the government is still not ready to permit the sale of British North Sea Oil to Israel.

He denies that any discrimination is involved since Israel is only one of many countries who are not members of the EEC or the International Energy Agency and therefore do not qualify to buy British oil.

He recognizes that this policy was laid down five years ago when there was a worldwide oil shortage, but even though there is now a glut of oil, with prices falling, the guidelines are not to be changed.

Sir Geoffrey was to have visited Israel earlier in the year, but the trip was postponed because of the Israeli general elections. Besides meeting Israeli leaders, he will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem and tour northern Galilee.

HY VILE DEAD AT 82

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 29 (JTA)-- Funeral services were held here last Thursday for Hy Vile, a Polish-born industrialist who was honored on numerous occasions for his decades of service to Jewish causes locally and nationally. He died in his home last Monday at the age of 82.

Vile, who served as president of Beth Shalom Synagogue, was named Man of the Year in 1963 by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He was a member of the Board of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the time of his death.

Active in founding the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, and a lifetime honorary trustee of the day school, he was also honored by Yeshiva University, which conferred on him its Heritage Award in 1975.

Vile was active in Israel Bond drives and was a member of the Board of the Kansas City Jewish Federation. He was an Hadassah Associate and, with his wife Bella, was the recipient of one of the highest Hadassah awards, the Ima/Abba Award. He was also active in the Jewish National Fund and B'nai B'rith. Vile authored a popular column for the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle called "Seriously Speaking."

Vile came to the United States at the age of four. He sold newspapers, worked in local printing plants and learned the printing trade in high school. He was the co-founder of a principal printing company here and in the general community he was a leader in the graphic arts industry.

METROWEST STRIKE ENDS
By Ben Gallab

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- A month-long strike against the United Jewish Federation of Metrowest in East Orange, New Jersey, by 150 union workers has been ended by agreement on a new two-year contract. Howard Charish, Federation executive vice president, said the offices of the Federation and its affected agencies maintained services throughout the strike, which began September 17 and ended October 22, by use of managerial personnel.

Dora Fligel, chairperson of the union, Local 215, District Council 1707 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the new two-year contract provided for a salary increase of six percent for each year, or at least \$13 per week more, for non-professionals -- clerical and maintenance workers.

The contract also provides either six percent more or \$800 more annually for professionals with a B.A. degree; and \$1,000 more annually for professionals with an M.A. degree. Fligel also reported that existing medical and hospitalization terms were maintained. Charish confirmed the terms of the settlement.

The affected agencies were the Federation, the Jewish Counseling Service Agency, the Y and the Jewish Vocational Service. All of the striking employes returned to work on October 22.

* * *

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Israeli authorities were reported Monday night to be considering closing Bethlehem University following a day of violence on and near the campus in reaction to Sunday's bus attack in Jerusalem. Students at Bethlehem stoned passing cars and border policemen responded with tear gas grenades during the hours of unrest at the campus.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES
ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC WOES**
By Steven A. Cohen

WALTHAM, Mass., Oct. 29 (JTA)— Israel is trapped in a web of conflicting economic forces in its struggle to cope with an ailing economy, according to a Brandeis University economist who says solutions to one problem often exacerbate others.

"Israel today is faced with the problems of mounting foreign debt, high trade and budget deficits and 400 percent inflation," says Robert Lerman of Brandeis' Heller Graduate School. "Because of the intermingling of so many things in Israel's economy, it's difficult for them to cope."

For example, government cuts in price subsidies will initially reduce government spending. But by raising market prices, they also will raise wages and interest on government bonds because both are indexed to the cost of living.

Devaluing the currency, the traditional way countries deal with trade deficits, also fuels the inflation cycle in Israel because of the link between prices and wages.

"When you devalue, you raise the price of foreign goods," says Lerman. "That is reflected in the cost of living and thus it increases wages, which force Israeli companies to raise the price of their own goods."

Meanwhile, says Lerman, Israel's foreign debt and trade deficits are diminishing the country's ability to grow, and "they create the danger of larger and more serious economic downturns."

Background Of The Current Problems

Lerman traces Israel's current problems to economic practices that developed and were appropriate during the nation's first two decades but now have Israel "living beyond its means."

"For a new country intent on growing, it made sense to borrow abroad, to use foreign capital to supplement internal resources for investment," says Lerman. "It especially made sense for Israel, given its ability to draw on such resources as world Jewry."

Lerman says that even though Israel spent more than it produced during its first two decades, "the foreign debt position wasn't negative; it was a strategy for growth." Then, with the Yom Kippur War in 1973, "there was a large increase in military imports and a large rise in oil prices."

Unlike many other countries, Israel didn't respond to rising oil prices by cutting consumption. Consumption was allowed to rise, says Lerman, and this was financed by foreign borrowing. "Starting with this period, Israel's balance of payment deficits were no longer primarily financing growth," he says. "They became unproductive deficits."

In addition, "the share of Israel's deficits financed by grants and long-term concessionary loans from abroad began to decline, and more and more of the deficits have had to be financed by expensive short-term borrowing."

For example, Lerman says Israel owed \$3.3 billion in 1970, with about \$600 million of that in short-term debt. By 1980, Israel's debt had grown to \$22 billion, and \$9.6 billion was short-term.

"The problem now is that while everyone recognizes the long-term issues -- the growing debt and the burden of repayment -- there are many differences of opinion about what to do," says Lerman. He says the differences result from concern over Is-

rael's "super inflation" and relationships between the various elements of the economy. "The fundamental issue now," says Lerman, "is whether to give priority to bringing down inflation or reducing the balance of payments deficit."

Without improvement in Israel's balance of payments, the country risks a serious decline in living standards, increased unemployment and the possibility of emigration, Lerman says. "But efforts to deal with the trade balance directly without dealing with inflation can fail, as they have in the past."

"It's not entirely a matter of people knowing or not knowing what to do, but Israel is in a box that is very difficult to extricate from."

**12 THINK TANKS TO DESIGN PROGRAMS
TO STRENGTHEN ISRAEL'S ECONOMY**

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 29 (JTA) — The non-profit Committee for Economic Growth of Israel (CEG-I) is forming 12 blue ribbon think tanks composed of American Jewish and Israeli business leaders to help solve Israel's economic problems, it was announced here by Elmer Winter, CEG-I chairman.

Citing recent steps announced by Prime Minister Shimon Peres to strengthen the Israeli economy, Winter said the Committee would devote "every effort to make Israel economically independent." CEG-I was established in 1976 to promote investment in and trade with Israel. The Committee is composed of some 130 top business executives in the U.S. and Israel.

Winter said he had informed Peres of the Committee's new program. He expressed his belief that the new unity government "will take appropriate steps to bring about a viable and strong Israeli economy."

12 Areas Involved

Winter announced that the 12 groups would examine U.S.-Israel business and economic relationships at both the governmental and private sector levels, and that each panel would address itself to a different facet of Israel's economy. They are:


Increasing private American investment in Israel; expanding free enterprise in Israel; exploring the potential for the sale of Israeli government-owned facilities; improving the marketing of Israeli investments in the U.S.; liberalizing Israel's investment incentives; expanding Israeli exports to the U.S.; increasing the flow of U.S. venture capital into Israeli companies.

Also, expanding the sale of limited partnerships for Israeli research and development projects; reducing the number of unfilled offset-purchase agreements by American companies; maximizing U.S.-Israel economic relationships on an intergovernmental level; stimulating Jewish non-profit organizations in the U.S. to become involved in expanding business relations with Israel; and improving the marketing thrust of Israeli universities and research/industrial parks.

Winter was a co-founder of Manpower, Inc., and served as its president for 28 years. He is the author of numerous publications and articles on Israel's economy, including "A Plan to Make Israel Financially Independent in 1990."

BONN (JTA) — The Jewish cemetery of Weyhers near the town of Fulda was desecrated over the weekend. Some 90 of the 200 tombstones were uprooted and at least 20 of the tombstones were completely or severely destroyed. Police could not estimate the amount of the damage but said it was very heavy.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 13, 1986
to Marc H. Tanenbaum
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject SPAIN

The Spanish press news published on January 12th reported that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, called a meeting of the Ambassadors of Arab countries to Spain at which he told them that — Spain will follow-up on its plans to recognize the State of Israel.

The wire also reported that members of the Arab League, at a meeting that took place one week before in Tunisia, told Spain not to recognize Israel. Also, the General Secretary of the League of Arab States announced at a press conference that he planned to visit Madrid to emphasize to the Spanish government "the gravity of such a change."

On the other hand, the Minister of Defense of Spain, Mr. Narciso Serra, went to Egypt and, according to diplomatic sources, he checked Egyptian reaction on the formal recognition of Israel.

Narciso Serra is frequently mentioned as a candidate to replace Felipe Gonzalez at election time (not scheduled for awhile).

Finally, let me remind you of the Reuters cable that appeared in The New York Times on January 2nd with a statement of Fernandez Ordonez (clipping attached).

JK/BJB
attachment

... recently.

Spain to Establish Relations With Israel 'Early This Year'

MADRID, Jan. 1 (Reuters) — Foreign Minister Francisco Fernández Ordóñez said today that Spain would establish diplomatic relations with Israel early this year.

Mr. Fernández, speaking to the state radio, did not specify a date.

Spain had pledged to establish relations with Israel before elections due by October this year, but said it was waiting for an appropriate moment.

Spain is the only West European country not to have formal ties with Israel.

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EL PAIS -- (Madrid, Spain) -- June 15, 1985

Government acknowledges existence of letter to Arab League Secretary General

SPAIN HAS NOTIFIED ARABS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, ACCORDING TO LEBANESE PUBLICATION

Ignacio Cembrero, Beirut

Felipe González, head of the Spanish Government, has officially notified several Arab Governments and organizations of his intention to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel, according to the latest issue of Al Mustakbal (Future), a Lebanese weekly published in Paris. The article quotes the full text of one of the recent communications by the Spanish head of government. The President's office in Madrid stated that González had addressed only one such letter to Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, on April 25, 1985.

Contents of the letter basically concur with the one published in Al Mustakbal, according to Spanish government sources who also assert that no message to the effect had been conveyed by Felipe González to any other Arab government or organization. However, the possibility of Klibi's having forwarded the comments to other leaders cannot be ruled out.

→ "Not having diplomatic relations with Israel, a blatant anomaly, will be set right whenever Spain considers it timely and propitious, without yielding to possible pressures of one kind or another," González asserted in his letter, featured on the cover of the Lebanese weekly together with a large photograph of the Spanish government chief.

Al Mustakbal, one of the most influential publications in the Middle East, terms the letter "of the utmost importance" and "highly confidential." Commenting on the subject, the diplomatic correspondent of the weekly, which reflects the viewpoints of the moderate Arab countries and Yassir Arafat's supporters, gives assurances -- based on reliable sources -- that Madrid will exchange ambassadors with Tel Aviv before the year is over.

→ In his message, González justified his Cabinet's decision, in principle, in the light of Spain's joining the West European organizations in the near future. He also assures the recipients that not only will Spain's gesture not entail support of Israel's policy, but that it may, in fact, benefit Arab interests.

[One Friday, June 14th, Spanish government sources maintained that the letter quoted in Al Mustakbal basically concurs with Felipe González' communication to Klibi of last April, following a conversation held between both parties on November 6 of last year. Middle East diplomatic sources assert that González' letter was in answer to a letter written by the Arab League Secretary General. Klibi, according to these sources, would take a tough stand regarding an

exchange of ambassadors with Israel, ruling out the possibility that he was a mediator between Spain and the Arab countries in order to elucidate the problem.]

"The purpose of this step," reads the letter, translated from Arabic into Spanish, "is to allow for a dialogue with a country that has diplomatic missions from all of Western Europe, since Spain is a part and a member of this important community of nations." It seems unacceptable," he adds, "that we should be asked to take a stance which differs from, and is in fact opposed to, our geographic and cultural framework."

Only Spain and the Vatican

Aside from Spain, only one other West European State, the Vatican, has not recognized the Jewish State, while Greece, a member of the European community, maintains informal relations with Tel Aviv. Finally, Portugal has not opened an embassy in the Israeli capital, although Israel does have diplomatic representation in Lisbon. Only one Socialist country in Europe, Roumania, has diplomatic relations with Israel. Following an appeasing introduction in which he emphasized that "establishing diplomatic ties with any State does not imply support of its domestic or foreign policies," the head of the Spanish government asserts that Spain's initiative "should by no mean imply that Spain will cease endorsing the Arabs' justified demands, particularly their rejection of the occupation of Arab territory, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to decide freely what its future is to be."

Moreover, the president continued, "Spain will thus be able to contribute to the furtherance of the Europe-Middle East dialogue because of its good relations with the Arab world, the friendly support emanating from that area, and its understanding of Arab expectations." Once again justifying his decision, González emphasizes that "it is clear, however, that any step or gesture in support of peace and the solution of problems will be useless and ineffective, unless good relations with both parties involved in the Arab-Israel conflict actually exist."

Therefore, the Spanish government chief, "who follows closely, and with the deepest concern, the continual mediating efforts towards a just and lasting peace in the area (...) and earnestly supports these noble goals, intends to reinforce his activities in the region [by establishing relations with Israel] to further the peace process in a constructive way."

Upon receiving González' communication, Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi summoned Spanish Ambassador Fournier in Tunis to convey to him, according to the weekly, his "deep concern" over an initiative which could "have serious repercussions, because it is opposed to Spain's verbal, moral, and political commitments to the world."

El Gobierno admite la existencia de una carta al secretario general de la Liga Árabe

España anuncia a los árabes el establecimiento de relaciones con Israel, según una revista libanesa

IGNACIO CEMBRERO, Beirut
El presidente del Gobierno español, Felipe González, ha comunicado oficialmente a varios Gobiernos e instituciones árabes su intención de establecer plenas relaciones diplomáticas con Israel, según publicaba en su último número el semanario libanés editado en París *Al Mustakbal* (*El Futuro*), que reproduce el texto íntegro de una de las cartas recientemente redactadas por el jefe del Ejecutivo español. En Madrid, la Presidencia del Gobierno declaró que González sólo había enviado una carta sobre este tema, el pasado 25 de abril, al secretario general de la Liga Árabe, Chadli Klibi.

El contenido de fondo de la carta a Klibi, según fuentes de la Presidencia española, se asemeja al expuesto por *Al Mustakbal*. Según estas fuentes, Felipe González no había enviado ningún mensaje sobre este tema a ningún otro Gobierno ni organización árabe, aunque no se descarta que Klibi haya hecho llegar su carta a otros líderes.

"La flagrante anomalía de la inexistencia de relaciones diplomáticas con Israel será corregida en el momento en que España lo considere oportuno y conveniente sin detenerse ante posibles presiones en un sentido o en otro", afirma González en su misiva, cuya publicación es anunciada en la portada de la revista libanesa junto con una gran fotografía del jefe del Gobierno español.

Al Mustakbal, una de las publicaciones más influyentes en Oriente Próximo, califica de "gran importancia" el documento, que revela de "muy confidencial", y, en un comentario paralelo, el corresponsal diplomático de este semanario, que refleja los puntos de vista de los países árabes moderados y de los palestinos partidarios de Yasir Arafat, asegura, citando fuentes fidedignas, que Madrid intercambiará embajadores con Tel Aviv antes de finales de año.

En su escrito González justifica la decisión de principio de su Gobi-

nete debido a la próxima integración de España en las instituciones de Europa occidental, pero asegura a sus destinatarios que no sólo el gesto español no constituirá un apoyo a la política israelí, sino que puede ser incluso beneficioso para los intereses árabes.

[Fuentes de la Presidencia del Gobierno español afirmaron el viernes 14 que la carta citada por *Al Mustakbal* coincide en el fondo con la enviada por Felipe González a Klibi el pasado mes de abril, después de la conversación que ambos mantuvieron el pasado 6 de noviembre. Fuentes diplomáticas de Oriente Próximo afirman, por su parte, que la carta de González era contestación a una carta del secretario general de la Liga Árabe. Klibi, según estas fuentes, mantendría posiciones duras frente al intercambio de embajadores con Israel, y se descartaría que estuviera mediando entre España y los países árabes para explicar el problema.]

"El objetivo de ese paso", señala el texto de la carta traducida del árabe al español, "es encontrar una vía de diálogo con un Estado donde existen misiones diplomáticas de todos los países de Europa occidental, siendo España parte y miembro de esa importante comunidad de naciones". "No parece aceptable", añade, "que se nos pida tomar una postura distinta y hasta opuesta a la de nuestro contexto geográfico y cultural".

Sólo España y el Vaticano

Aparte de España, solamente un Estado de Europa occidental, el Vaticano, no ha reconocido al Estado israelí, mientras un país miembro de las Comunidades Europeas, Grecia, mantiene con Tel Aviv relaciones a un nivel subalterno y, por último, Portugal no ha abierto embajada en la capital israelí, aunque Israel sí cuenta con una representación diplomática en Lisboa. Un solo país socialista de Europa, Rumania, tie-

ne relaciones diplomáticas con Israel. Tras una introducción conciliante en la que recalca que "el establecimiento de relaciones diplomáticas con cualquier Estado no supone un apoyo a su política interior o exterior", el jefe del Ejecutivo español insiste en que la iniciativa española "no significará de ninguna manera que España dejará de respaldar las justas reivindicaciones árabes, y especialmente el rechazo de la ocupación de las tierras árabes y el reconocimiento del derecho de los pueblos palestinos a decidir libremente su futuro".

Es más, prosigue el presidente: "España podrá contribuir así a la mejora del diálogo entre Europa y Oriente Próximo gracias a sus buenas relaciones con el mundo árabe, a las amistades con que cuenta en esa región y a su simpatía por las aspiraciones árabes". Pero, resalta González, justificando nuevamente su decisión, "está claro que cualquier paso o gestión en pro de la paz y de la resolución de los problemas será inútil e ineficaz si no se tienen buenas relaciones con ambas partes" implicadas en el conflicto árabe-israelí.

Por este motivo, señala a continuación el presidente del Gobierno, España, que "sigue de cerca y con el mayor interés las continuas mediaciones para una paz justa y duradera en la región (...) y apoya seriamente esos nobles objetivos, se propone reforzar su acción regional [estableciendo para ello relaciones con Israel] para promover de forma constructiva la paz".

Tras recibir la comunicación de González, el secretario general de la Liga Árabe, Chadli Klibi, convocó al embajador de España en Túnez Fournier, para, según el semanario, expresarle su "profunda preocupación" ante una iniciativa que "tendrá graves consecuencias porque contradice los reiterados compromisos verbales, morales y políticos de España ante el mundo".

Sábado 15 de junio

BACKGROUND REPORT
U.S. JEWRY HAS A ROLE IN HELPING
TO ASSURE THE STRENGTHENING OF
SPANISH-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
 By Marc Tanenbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- On Monday, January 13, my Spanish-speaking colleague, Jacobo Kovadloff and I sat in the office of Ambassador Manuel Sassot, Consul General of Spain, discussing the status of the much-reported plan of the Spanish government to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

While the conversation was warm and friendly, we told the Ambassador that many in the American Jewish community were becoming frustrated over the repeated promises to Jewish leaders by Spanish officials that diplomatic ties would soon be established, but that for more than a year nothing has happened.

Ambassador Sassot, who formerly directed the Middle East desk of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, sat back in his chair, and declared firmly, "I can tell you now that the decision has been taken. I have just spoken with our Foreign Ministry in Madrid and it will happen within the next weeks."

Last week, Spain and Israel exchanged diplomatic formalities in The Netherlands when Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Premier Shimon Peres, who are personal friends, met in The Hague. That development rightly deserves to be characterized as "historic." But there ought not to be any euphoria, for a rocky road lies ahead with the Arab world. The rockier that road becomes the more important will be the role of American Jewry in helping sustain Spain's rightful decision.

Intense Arab Pressure On Spain

Spain has been subjected to intense pressures from the Arab League and its member-states threatening reprisals were Spanish-Israeli diplomatic accords realized. The ugliness of that pressure is reflected in a Spanish-language publication issued at the Saudi Embassy in Madrid which declared, "Do you want to establish relations with a racist, fascist and terrorist state?"

But more serious than the propaganda warfare carried out against Spain by Arab nations is the brute fact that the Arab world has become one of the largest buyers of Spanish-made weapons. In the first three quarters of 1983, Spain exported \$2.5 billion in goods to the Arab world while total imports came to \$5.2 billion, mostly in oil.

Saudi Arabia currently buys \$150 million in Spanish arms annually and Madrid is seeking to increase that to \$250 million by the end of next year. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Libya are the major Arab investors in Spain, with large holdings in real estate, housing, and tourist-related industries. Spanish exports to Arab countries include steel, trucks, heavy machinery, chemicals, and increasingly, military hardware.

In contrast, trade between Spain and Israel is relatively insignificant. Indeed, they are competitors in the world market for the sale of oranges and other fruits and vegetables. However, technical and cultural ties have been steadily increasing. Israeli water experts have been called into Spain's southernmost region to help solve the crippling drought problem there. Last year, Iberia and El Al signed an agreement launching direct flights between the two countries.

While Felipe Gonzalez is known to be a genuine friend of Israel's, it is realistic to expect that Arab pressures, especially economic leverage, will force him continuously to make gestures to the Arab world. Thus, in a letter he wrote to the Arab League on April 25, 1985, he assured the Arab governments that not only will Spain's gesture not entail support of Israel's policy, but that it may, in fact, benefit Arab interests.

But American Jews have an important role to play in helping counterbalance these inevitable Arab pressures against Spain in the months ahead. Spain has gone through a decade of industrial crisis as a result of the 1973 OPEC-induced oil crisis. The official unemployment rate is around 2.9 million, or almost 22 percent of the available work force, the highest rate in Western Europe.

While Gonzalez's government has made significant strides in lowering inflation and the trade deficit, Spain is in urgent need of major investments in industry and technology, as well as in increased trade and commerce.

Mutual U.S. Jewish And Spanish Interests

As is the case with West and East European governments which have sought American understanding and support, Spain very much needs the sympathetic interest of American Jews in helping to promote increased commercial ties between the United States and Spain. Spanish Embassy officials have freely volunteered that American tourism to Spain is one of the largest producers of much-needed foreign currency, and they are aware that American Jews are among the largest groups of tourists to Spain.

Beyond the natural interest of American Jews in wanting to assure the strengthening of Spanish-Israeli diplomatic and other human contacts, Jews have a profound interest as Americans in helping sustain the democratic institutions and values that have emerged out of the darkness of Franco Spain just some 12 years ago. Those democratic commitments, as well as Spain's recent firm opposition to terrorism, deserve to place Spain high on the foreign policy agenda of American Jewry.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS



News & Views

September-October, 1984
New Year Issue 5745
Volume IX
Number 1

Edgar M. Bronfman, President

Israel Singer, Executive Director

Max Melamet, Editor

Bronfman and Jewish Women Leaders Meet with Reagan

WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman led a group of national Jewish women leaders in a meeting with President Ronald Reagan at the White House on August 16. Accompanying Mr. Bronfman was Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis, chairman of the WJC American Section, in her capacity as a leader of the women's group.

The Jewish group sought assurances from the President that the United States would counter efforts at the United Nations Conference on Women, to be held in Nairobi in

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Argentine President Raul Alfonsin greeting WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman at the Presidential Palace in Buenos Aires. (See story on page 5.)

New Year Letter

WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman

In the swirling confusion, controversy and anxiety that have agitated the State of Israel in a year that began with Menachem Begin's formal resignation and ends on a note of cautious political optimism, an important fact must not be overlooked: there was peace, or at any rate, no all-out war. For this we should be thankful. I say this while acknowledging with sadness the tragedies visited upon the families of Israelis by terrorist attacks in southern Lebanon.

I was in Israel during much of the political campaign there and on Election Day. I believe it is essential that a solution be found for the fragmentation of political power among so many different parties. At one point it seemed almost impossible to put together a government sufficiently secure to risk the political unpopularity that could come with the belt-tightening measures necessary for economic recovery.

In my talks with political leaders in Israel after the election, I supported the formation of a national unity government to deal with the economic crisis, which is eroding Israel's security. Such a government has now come into being and we wish it every success.

In the year ahead, Israel's most crucial problem is likely to be not a military or political one, but economic. Battered with mounting severity by raging inflation, Israel's economy is approaching the danger point of financial collapse. Until now, Israelis have largely been sheltered from the full impact of the economic crisis by wage indexation and by other palliatives, made possible in large part by massive aid from the United States. Unless Israel demonstrates that it is addressing its economic problems realistically and with determination, however, Washington may well become resistant to further appeals for financial help.

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Historic Asian-Jewish Colloquium

History was made when scholars, scientists and intellectuals from Australia, People's Republic of China, India, Israel, Japan, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States came together in Singapore, September 11-12, for a colloquium on "Cultural Interaction—Old and New: Old Societies, New States."

The conference was organized by the Asia-Pacific Jewish Association, under the sponsorship of the World Jewish Congress. The convenors were Mr. Isi Leibler, president of the APJA and of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, and Professor Yoram Dinstein, rector of Tel Aviv University.

Those who made presentations at the various sessions of the conference included Thailand's former Foreign Minister, Dr. Thanat Khoman; Indian M.P. and Bar Association president, R. Jethmalani; Prof. A. Wada of the

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The United States is Israel's most valuable ally. It is likely to remain so, regardless of the outcome of the November Presidential election. But even good friends must not be taken for granted. Israel should be sensitive to U.S. public opinion and should not assume that American Jews have an irresistible influence on U.S. policies.

Recently, Senator Charles Mathias, Republican of Maryland, wrote in *Foreign Affairs* expressing disquiet about the growing influence of ethnic lobbies. Of the Israel lobby he had this to say: "This is not to suggest that Congress supports

Israel for no better reason than fear of the Israel lobby; on the contrary, I know of few members of either House of Congress who do not believe deeply and strongly that support of Israel is both a moral duty and a national interest."

I would suggest a corollary to this: the greater Israel's moral stature in American eyes, the more responsive the Administration and Congress will be to efforts in behalf of Israel by American Jewish spokesmen.

On the United States domestic scene, there has been much concern about the Rev. Jesse Jackson. Let me say that I believe Mr. Jackson made a full and sincere apology at the Democratic Party Convention. But what is even more important, is that we work to relieve tensions between the Black and Jewish communities and nourish the mutual sympathies that have traditionally found us on the same side of most issues.

Continuing the policy I adopted when I became president of the World Jewish Congress, I visited as many communities as I could in the last year. I met with the leaders of the Jewish communities of Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, Greece, Spain, West Germany and Rumania, and I made several visits to Israel.

I also conferred with a number of heads of state and government: President Ronald Reagan, President Chaim Herzog of Israel, President Francois Mitterrand of France, President Rudolf Kirchsclaeger of Austria, President Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, President Jaime Lusinchi of Venezuela, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Marquez of Spain and Prime Minister Andreas Papan-dreou of Greece. I met with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations and in New York and Washington with various representatives of foreign governments, including Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet envoy to the United States.

The Jews of the Soviet Union were very much on my mind, and I sought at every opportunity to enlist actively in their behalf statesmen and government leaders who have access to the leaders of the U.S.S.R. I am not optimistic that there will be any change in the present situation so long as the chill in Moscow-Washington relations continues, nor do I think the Soviet Union can be intimidated by verbal abuse or threats. We must continue to place our reliance on diplomacy and our hopes in the force of world opinion. Over the long run, the leaders of the Soviet Union are not immune to public pressure and to the moral and political persuasion of governments and private groups.

I am gratified by the growth of the World Jewish Congress constituency in Europe and in Latin America. During my visit to Argentina I was much encouraged by that country's return to democratic government.

While anti-Semitism continues in various parts of the world, we monitor the situation closely and take appropriate action wherever we can.

I began this letter with Israel, and I would like to end it with some of the thoughts that came to mind during my visits. It was a time of turbulence engendered by economic crisis, political uncertainty, passionate debates over the relationship between state and religion and the arrest of prominent Jews on charges of anti-Arab terrorism.

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First International Conference on Anti-Zionism

The problem of anti-Zionism—what it is, how strong it is and how to fight it—was the subject of a major international conference held at the Institute of Jewish Affairs, the London-based research arm of the World Jewish Congress, from 25-27 June. More than 30 scholars and leading experts from the U.S., Israel, France, Sweden, Switzerland and Canada participated.

The conference was organized jointly by the IJA, the International Centre for the Study of Antisemitism of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and the Program for the Study of Political Extremism and Antisemitism, Tel Aviv University.

Setting the problems facing the conference were Prof. Yehuda Bauer (Jerusalem), Prof. Shulamit Volkov (Tel Aviv) and Dr. Stephen J. Roth (director, IJA), from the three sponsoring organizations.

After defining the different forms of anti-Zionism, specialists surveyed its manifestations in different geographical areas and political forms, its history, content, language, causes, function and effect in the west, among the radical left (Dr. Robert Wistrich, Jerusalem), in the middle ground (Prof. Shlomo Avineri, Jerusalem), on the far right (Cesar Aronsfeld, IJA), in the Communist World (Prof. Shmuel Ettinger, Jerusalem), Islamic and Arab countries (Prof. Itamar Rabinovich, Tel Aviv, and Prof. Yehoshafat Harkabi, Jerusalem) and among the Christian churches (Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, Geneva). Also dealt with were the Third World (Colin Legum, London), the Blacks in the U.S. (Will Maslow, New York) and the United Nations (Shabtai Rosenne, Jerusalem). The anti-Semitic element of anti-Zionism was identified in each case.

Bringing War Criminals to Justice U.S. Agency Praises WJC's Help

The head of the Federal agency responsible for instituting proceedings against Nazi war criminals residing illegally in the United States has thanked the World Jewish Congress for its assistance.

The director of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Neal Sher, wrote to WJC Executive Director Israel Singer "to offer my thanks for the gracious and significant assistance rendered to OSI by the WJC in the discovery of surviving eyewitnesses to the Holocaust. Such eyewitnesses—including concentration camp and ghetto survivors, forced laborers, and Jewish prisoners of war—regularly form a necessary part of the proof of Nazi persecution which enables OSI to denaturalize and deport those responsible for participating in that persecution. Without the expert cooperation of the WJC, those of us who prepare and prosecute cases at OSI would find our jobs much more difficult, and our hope for justice much reduced."

Mr. Sher particularly commended the efforts of Bessy Pupko, who for the past decade has been in charge of the unique Holocaust-era witness files and began her work with the WJC by translating the proceedings of the Nuremberg trials after the War. "Ms. Pupko's work in helping to locate Holocaust survivors has been tireless, and her achievements have been many, even in the most difficult cases involving smaller camps and towns," he states.

Since the end of World War II the WJC has helped locate thousands of witnesses for trials of Nazi war criminals in West Germany and in recent years in the United States. □



New President of WJC (Europe)
The Hon. Greville E. Janner, QC, MP

Greville E. Janner, a Queen's Counsel and member of the British Parliament, is the newly elected president of the World Jewish Congress (Europe). He has succeeded the late Dr. Maurice Grynfolgel of France, who died suddenly and tragically earlier this year.

The new head of the WJC (Europe), in whose meetings all the Jewish communities of western and eastern Europe with the exception of that of the Soviet Union participate, is energetic, articulate and creative. He speaks several languages, including Hebrew and Yiddish.

Mr. Janner is currently the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, a position his father, the late Lord (Barney) Janner also held, and he is the president of the newly created Commonwealth Jewish Council. In Parliament, he serves on the powerful select Committee on Employment and on Procedure and is the chairman of the Parliamentary Industrial Safety Group. As a lawyer, he specializes in industrial relations, employment and industrial safety law, and is the author of the several books on industrial law.

Long active in Israel and Zionist

work, he was recently granted an honorary Ph.D. by Haifa University. In Parliament, he is the vice-chairman both of the All-Party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry and of the British-Israel Group.

Educated during the war in Canada and later in London, Mr. Janner was an Exhibitioner at Trinity Hall, Cambridge; a Fulbright and Smith-Mundt scholar at Harvard Post-Graduate Law School; a Harmsworth scholar of the Middle Temple. He served as a war crimes investigator in Germany, working in his spare time with children in the Bergen-Belsen D.P. camp.

The Janner family has a long association with the Board of Deputies. Greville's mother, Lady Janner, is still active in that organization, as is his wife Myra (nee Sherk), and Daniel, the eldest of the three Janner children, is the first of the third generation to be elected to the Board.

As he told *News & Views*, Mr. Janner hopes that he and his colleagues in Europe will by strengthening the European presence of the World Jewish Congress fortify the appearance and the reality of the Congress "as a truly international organization. □

Edgar Bronfman *continued from page 2*

I found some anxiety about the future but little pessimism. Rather, I discerned a strong belief that Israel would come through. There was a feeling that despite all its difficulties, formidable as they were and are, Israel had the ability to conquer whatever problems arose. I felt I was in a land where old dreams might be fading, but new dreams were coming to birth, new horizons beckoning and new issues challenging. I thought of what was wrenched from the Jewish people by the Holocaust and then, surveying Israel and its people, I was grateful for how much remained to us. Truly, *Am Yisroel Chai*.

I wish all members of the World Jewish Congress family and all the Jewish people a happy, healthy and peaceful 5745.

WJC President Urges IPU Refuse Consideration of Anti-Israel Resolution

On September 12, WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman sent the following cable to the Inter Parliamentary Union which met in Geneva from September 24 to 29:

"In the name of 67 national communities throughout the world, members of the World Jewish Congress, I strongly urge that the 72nd Interparliamentary Conference and its appropriate bodies refuse consideration of the draft resolution presented by the Kuwaiti group on item 3 of the agenda.

"The language proposed is irrelevant to the situation in Namibia and in seeking to reaffirm the slanderous and inflammatory equation of Zionism with racism is in and of itself an incitement of racist anti-Semitism and as such offensive to Jews throughout the world irrespective of the social and political systems in which they live.

"Any doubt about the unacceptable terms of the proposed resolution and its anti-Semitic nature is made clear by the violent and extremist Kuwaiti memorandum, establishing beyond doubt the malicious and inflammatory intent of the draft text.

"We urge you to take all necessary action to prevent consideration of this text and to ensure its withdrawal as being violative of basic human rights principles prohibiting incitement to hatred on grounds of race or religion.

"We fear that if this text is adopted it will seriously affect the credibility of the IPU and reduce its moral standing as well as discrediting the very purpose intended to be achieved by this agenda item namely prevention of discrimination on grounds of race."

Post Script

At publication we have been advised that the Kuwaiti draft was withdrawn as a consequence of political opposition. □

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WJC (Europe) Elects New President



Above, L to R: Senator Michel Dreyfus-Schmidt, Mr. Janner, Dr. Lavoslav Kadelburg, Mr. Jean Nordmann, Mr. Serge Cwajgenbaum.

At a meeting in Paris on September 9, the World Jewish Congress (Europe) elected the Hon. Greville E. Janner, QC, MP, as its president. Represented at the meeting were the communities of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom. The executive director of the WJC, Israel Singer, participated in the meeting.

The Executive of WJC (Europe) now consists of the following: Mr. Janner, president (U.K.); Senator Michel Dreyfus-Schmidt (France); Mr. Werner Nachmann (West Germany); Dr. Lavoslav Kadelburg (Yugoslavia); a Swedish representative;

Mrs. Tullia Zevi (Italy); Dr. Stephen J. Roth (Institute of Jewish Affairs); Mr. Serge Cwajgenbaum (France), director.

Following the meeting, the new president, Mr. Janner, held a press conference which was attended by more than twenty French and international journalists and which received wide press coverage.

Later Senator Dreyfus-Schmidt gave a reception in Mr. Janner's honor. Among the distinguished guests were the ambassadors of the U.K., Finland, West Germany, Rumania, Poland, Hungary, the Israeli Ambassador to Unesco, the Israeli Consul General and diplomatic representatives from Italy and Spain. □



Above, WJC Executive Director Israel Singer addressing the crowd of thousands with Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen (on Mr. Singer's left) in front of the monument in Dej at the commemoration by the Federation of Jewish Communities of Rumania of the 40th anniversary of the deportation of Jews from Northern Transylvania by the Nazis during World War II (see *News & Views* Summer Issue). Chief Rabbi Rosen and the Federation of Jewish Communities sponsored the erection of similar monuments in all the major cities and towns in Rumania with the cooperation of the authorities.

WJC President Visits Latin-American Jewish Communities

From September 14 to September 19 WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman visited the Jewish communities of Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela. In Buenos Aires, Mr. Bronfman met with Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and in Caracas with Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi. Both meetings were most cordial.

The meeting with President Alfonsin was at the Presidential Palace and took place prior to meetings with the DAIA, the central political body of Argentine Jewry, and with the Foreign Relations Committee of the Argentine Senate. At the meeting with the President, Mr. Bronfman was accompanied by WJC Executive Director Israel Singer, the chairman of the Latin American Jewish Congress, Ing. Gregorio Faigon, and by DAIA President Sion Cohen Imach.

In his meeting with President Alfonsin, Mr. Bronfman told him that Jews everywhere were pleased at his election and the return of Argentina to democratic government. He mentioned that he had previously avoided meeting with Argentine leaders, but now that democracy had been restored he felt honored to be received by the President of Argentina.

During their talks, President Alfonsin made clear his opposition to the equation of Zionism with racism and assured the Jewish leaders that voting by Argentine representatives at future international forums would reflect this opposition.

President Alfonsin told Mr. Bronfman he would encourage the Spanish authorities to open diplomatic relations with Israel and promised to lend his good offices in approaches to the Soviet government to ease the plight of Soviet Jews.

The President praised the WJC role in seeking to reduce tensions between East and West and urged it to continue in this direction, thereby helping Soviet Jews and the cause of international peace.



WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman makes a point during discussions with Senator Adolfo Gass at the Senate in Buenos Aires.



Above, L to R: Dr. Jacobo Byskubicz, secretary-general, Latin American Jewish Congress; Dr. Sion Cohen Imach, president of DAIA; WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman in Buenos Aires. (photo by Hella Moritz)

The meeting in Caracas was also at the Presidential Palace. Mr. Bronfman was accompanied by Mr. Walter Czenstochowski, president of the Venezuelan Jewish community, and Mr. Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC American Section.

When Mr. Bronfman informed the President that there was an impending vote on a draft resolution submitted by Kuwait to the Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva, the text of which not only contained attacks on Israel but reaffirmed that Zionism is a form of racism, President Lusinchi replied that he had not known this but would send explicit instructions to oppose the resolution to the head of the Venezuelan delegation in Geneva as well as to the president of the Venezuelan Congress.

He described as a "horror" the charge of racism against the Jews in view of the fact that it was they who historically suffered the most because

of racism, and referred specifically to the tragedy of the Holocaust.

In response to a request by Mr. Bronfman for Venezuelan intervention on behalf of Soviet Jews, President Lusinchi gave assurances that he would help and would add the matter to his agenda during his talks at the United Nations General Assembly.

As had President Alfonsin, President Lusinchi promised to speak to the Spanish Prime Minister, Felipe Gonzalez, whom he referred to as "my good friend," about opening formal diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel.

The Venezuelan President expressed great affection for the Jewish community and proudly displayed a menorah presented to him by the government of Israel. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Czenstochowski presented the President with a Hebrew bible which he accepted with gratitude and placed beside the menorah.

The Jews of Spain

By 710 the whole of North Africa, as far as the Atlantic coast was in Moslem hands. The Berbers of northwest Africa had finally been subdued, converted to Islam, and they now served in large numbers in the Arab armies.

In 711, the Berber governor of Tangier, Tariq b. Zayid crossed the straits at the head of a largely Berber army of some 7,000 men and encamped at Gibraltar (Jebel Tariq—Mount of Tariq). Advancing into the interior Tariq defeated a large Visigothic army.

In 712 the Arab governor of northwest Africa arrived with an Arab force of more than 10,000 men. By 714, except for the isolated and mountainous northern regions where Asturians, Cantabrians and Basques held out, and from where they began their struggle to reconquer Spain, the Moslems controlled the whole of the Iberian Peninsula, which they called al-Andalus.

Welcoming the Berber and Arab invaders were the Jews of Spain, who had for many years suffered under Visigothic rule.

There were Jews in Spain long before the Visigoths became its masters in the fifth century. Most probably Jews began to settle in Spain in the first century of the Common Era. By the end of the third century, they were numerous enough for the Church Council of Elvira (305-312) to emphasize the need for Christians to keep separate from the Jews.

As long as the Visigoths followed the Arian form of Christianity the condition of the Jews was tolerable. In 589 they embraced Catholicism, however, and thereafter their policies

toward the Jews aimed at converting them to Christianity, either by persuasion or by compulsion.

In 694 a Church council in Toledo decreed that the property of all the Jews be confiscated, they themselves declared slaves and given into the hands of Christian masters. Those Jews who were able to, escaped; the rest became slaves.

In 756 Abd-al-Rahman, a young survivor of the massacre of the Umayyad dynasty in Damascus, established the Umayyad dynasty in Spain, with its seat in Cordoba.

The tolerance of the Umayyads made Moslem Spain a refuge for Jews. Moslem conquest meant for the Jews a great improvement in their situation because "they ceased to be an outcast community persecuted by the ruling church and became part of a vast class of subjects with a special status."

Under Abd-al-Rahman III, Umayyad rule reached its apogee. In 929 he proclaimed himself caliph.

His reign was one of political stability and internal peace. Cordoba was a center of both Arab and Jewish culture, which flourished alongside its Arab counterpart and was influenced by it.

The outstanding Jew of this period was Hasdai ibn Shaprut (c. 910-970), physician, diplomat, statesman, linguist, and patron of Jewish scholarship. His fame in Cordoba as a medical practitioner brought him in touch with the caliph. He became the caliph's confidant and adviser.

The collapse of the Umayyad dynasty in the first half of the eleventh century was followed by an era of fragmentation. Moslem Spain was divided into principalities ruled by the so-called "party kings." The capitals of the various Arab and Berber principalities became commercial and cultural centers. The relatively tolerant rulers welcomed Jewish financiers, economic and political advisers, scholars, scientists. "This Jewish upper class was distinguished by several features: the desire for political power, the harmony of religion and

secular culture, the study of the Talmud along with poetry and philosophy, equal proficiency in Arabic and Hebrew."

Epitomizing this Jewish upper class was Samuel b. Joseph Halevi, whose family surname was Nagrela, Samuel ha-Nagid, Prince Samuel (993-1056). He rose to become the vizier of the king of Granada, a statesman and general. Among Jews he was hailed as leader, scholar, poet, although excelled as a poet by his friend, Judah ibn Gabirol.

Samuel's son, Joseph ha-Nagid, succeeded him as vizier but aroused the hatred of certain Moslems who, in 1066, assassinated him, unleashing a pogrom, the first in the history in the Jews of al-Andalus, that left nearly four thousand Jews dead. The position of Jews in the other Moslem states was not affected.

Islam was no longer dominant in the entire peninsula. The Christian kingdoms born in northern Spain were reconquering more and more territory. In 1085 Toledo capitulated to the Christians, the first great city to fall to them. Deciding that they could not halt the Christian advance without aid, the Moslem princes asked the leader of the fanatical Berber Almoravids of northwest Africa for help. In 1086 the Almoravids gained a decisive victory at Zallaka, and proceeded to make themselves masters of the South.

It was not long before the Almoravids grew more tolerant. Cordoba prospered and was a cultural center. Jewish physicians and astronomers came to exercise considerable influence in Almoravid courts. In 1146, however, the Almoravids gave way to the even more fanatical Almohads, who pushed into Spain and within four years made themselves masters of the richest province of Moslem Spain.

The conquerors did not permit any non-conformity. The practice of the Jewish religion was forbidden. Many outwardly professed Islam but secretly remained Jews. Almohad rule in Spain lasted longer than a century.

(Sources: Ashtor: *Jews of Moslem Spain*, JPS, 1979; Baer: *History of the Jews in Christian Spain*, JPS, 1961; *Encyclopedia Judaica*; Goitein: *Jews and Arabs*, Schocken, 1974; Lewis: *The Arabs in History*, Harper, 1966 and *The Jews of Islam*, Princeton, 1984; Margolis and Marx: *A History of the Jewish People*, Atheneum; Roth: *A History of the Jews*, Schocken, 1970; Stillman: *The Jews of Arab Lands*, JPS, 1979)



But the Christian advance continued and new Jewish centers under Christian rule provided opportunities for new Jewish life. In 1212 the Muslim defeat of Las Navas de Tolosa initiated a series of Christian advances culminating in the capture of Cordoba in 1236 and Seville in 1248. In 1139 Portugal became a separate kingdom. By the end of the 13th century only Granada remained under Moslem rule which continued there for nearly two hundred years more.

Christian Spain, too, had a Jewish "Golden Age." Judah Halevi spent the formative years of his life in Toledo among Jewish circles close to the Castilian court and appears to have practiced medicine in that city. Jewish courtiers, largely in Castile, rose to the highest positions.

The great Maimonides had to leave his native Cordoba as a result of the fall of that city to the Almohads in 1148, when he had just turned 13, and for the next eight or nine years he and his family wandered from place to place in Christian Spain before leaving for Fez.

Nahmanides (1194-1270), the RaMBaN (an acronym of Rabbi Moses ben Nahman), was born in Gerona, Catalonia. He has been described as the outstanding personality in Jewry during the middle of the 13th century. The distinguished historian, Yitzhak Baer, says of him: "His personality was the product of diverse influences: the Spanish cul-

tural background, French talmudism, German pietism, the mysticism of the Cabala, and an acquaintance with Christian theological writings."

As late as the end of the 14th and beginning of the 15th century, there was still to be found in the Catalan Jewish community and at the court of Aragon a Hasdai Crescas, a philosopher, theologian, statesman, "a veritable rock upholding Judaism and Jewish learning."

Moses de Leon (1250-1305), according to both Graetz and Gershom Scholem, the author of the Zohar lived in Christian Guadalajara and Avila.

The 14th century was the beginning of the end. On June 6, 1391, influenced by the anti-Jewish sermons of the archdeacon Fernand Martinez, a mob broke into the Jewish quarter in Seville and killed thousands. Only those who submitted to baptism escaped. The massacre in Seville touched off massacres throughout the Peninsula. Some fifty thousand Jews are said to have been slaughtered while the baptized numbered hundreds of thousands. In places, the entire community was exterminated. Only in the Moslem kingdom of Granada and in the kingdom of Portugal were there no massacres. Out of the forced conversions was born the phenomenon of the Marrano.

Almost surprisingly, the Spanish communities recovered from the catastrophe but, in spite of some favorable interludes, the persecution

continued. In January, 1492, Ferdinand and Isabella entered fallen Granada in triumph. On March 31, 1492, in Granada an edict was signed expelling from Spain all Jews not willing to convert to Christianity.

A great number of forcibly converted Jews secretly remained true to their original faith. Some later fell victim to the Inquisition; others managed to leave Spain and Portugal and return openly to Judaism in the Sephardi communities in other parts of the world.

Though the edict of expulsion was not formally repealed until the end of 1968, Jews had been allowed to live in Spain as individuals, but not as an organized community, from the late 19th century.

The Religious Liberty Law of 1967 accords Spain's Jews the legal status to practice their religion freely and openly, individually and collectively.

Negotiations are in progress between the Jewish community and the Spanish government for an agreement, enhancing the civil and religious status of the Jewish community.

The Spanish community, numbering about 12,000, is largely of fairly recent origin. It is a mixture of Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jews. The main concentrations are in Madrid and Barcelona (3,000 each) and Malaga (1,200).

There are synagogues in Barcelona (two—one Sephardi, the other Ashkenazi), Madrid, Malaga, and some other centers.

There are two day schools, one in Barcelona, the other in Madrid and there is a Talmud Torah in Mellila. The Federation of Jewish Communities of Spain, the central representative body of Spanish Jewry, and an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, publishes a Spanish-language bulletin, *Hakesher*.

There is a Center for Judeo-Christian studies, a program of the Catholic Church. It not only arranges courses for Catholic clergy, but, in conjunction with the Jewish community, organizes annual seminars for Spanish and Israeli university professors, held alternately in Spain and Israel. □

M.M.

WJC President with Rumanian Head of State

East-West relations, the situation in the Middle East and the position of Jews in Eastern Europe were among the subjects discussed at a meeting between Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and World Jewish Congress President Edgar M. Bronfman, held August 1 at Ceausescu's seaside villa in Neptun, Rumania.

Mr. Bronfman conveyed to President Ceausescu the WJC's sense of satisfaction at the forceful and authori-

tative manner in which he had acted to halt an outbreak of anti-Semitism in the country a few months ago. Earlier this year, the Jewish community in Rumania was shaken by the appearance of anti-Semitic publications which included attacks upon the community's Chief Rabbi, Moses Rosen.

Present at the meeting between Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Ceausescu were Rumanian Foreign Minister Dr. Ste-

fan Andrei and WJC Executive Director Israel Singer.

Mr. Bronfman told the Rumanian president that positive movement on the Soviet Jewry question could help facilitate the easing of East-West relations. Both agreed that the present political atmosphere between East and West was unhealthy and that a relaxation of tensions was highly desirable. □

Leaders of WJC (Europe) Critical of Trifa's Presence in Portugal

At its meeting in Paris on September 9, the World Jewish Congress (Europe) resolved to approach the Portuguese authorities about the presence in Portugal of Valerian Trifa, the bishop of the Rumanian Orthodox Church, who was expelled in August from the United States for wartime criminal activities involving the murder of hundreds of Jews.

In Bucharest, Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania praised the Amer-

ican authorities for having, in spite of the many obstacles that had to be overcome, expelled from its territory "the murderer of the Jews of Bucharest."

In a statement made earlier in the summer in New York, Mr. Kalman Sultanik, a vice-president of the World Jewish Congress, charged that the United States Department of State "was engaged in a deliberate and calous policy of sabotaging efforts to

deport convicted Nazi war criminals from the country."

Mr. Sultanik, who was appointed to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council by President Carter in 1980 and subsequently became chairman of its Anti-Semitism Commission, cited the delays in expelling Trifa as an example of State Department obstacles to the efforts of the Justice Department and the Office of Special Investigation. □



WJC Executive Director Israel Singer speaking at a memorial meeting in New York on September 5 to mark the second yahrzeit of Nahum Goldmann. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Theodor Herzl Institute and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. On Mr. Singer's right is Mr. Jacques Torczyner, chairman of the Institute, and on Mr. Torczyner's right is Mr. Yehuda Hellman, executive vice-chairman of the Presidents' Conference. (photo by Alexander Archer)

Riegner Speaks at Lutheran Assembly

When Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, co-chairman of the WJC Governing Board, addressed the World Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in Budapest at its July 31-August 2 meeting, he became the first Jew, in fact the first non-Christian, to do so. It was also the first time that the whole question of Lutheran-Jewish relations was discussed in the plenary of the Lutheran World Federation.

In his remarks Dr. Riegner praised the Declaration of Lutheran Theologians in Stockholm in 1983, which said, in part, that "the violence of his (Martin Luther's) attacks on the Jews must be acknowledged with deep distress, and all occasions for similar sins in the present or the future must be removed from our churches."

In a formal resolution, the World Assembly, "gratefully received" the Stockholm statement and strongly recommended it to all its member churches for study. The resolution further called for the continuation of the Lutheran-Jewish dialogue. □

Meeting with Reagan

continued from page 1

1985, to divert the conference from its original goal to the kind of anti-Zionist attacks that marred similar conferences in Mexico City in 1975 and Copenhagen in 1980, especially repetitions of the infamous equating of Zionism with racism.

The meeting was cordial and productive. In a statement issued after the meeting, the White House noted that President Reagan expressed his commitment to the security of Israel, stressed that his Administration does not condone anti-Semitism in any form and that it will actively oppose any items on the agenda of the Nairobi Conference which call for the discussion of non-germane, political issues, including any agenda item that could be used as a vehicle to defame Israel.

The White House statement says further that the "President noted that the United States will oppose any agenda item at the Nairobi Conference which associates Zionism with racism. If, despite the United States' efforts, such an agenda item is adopted, the United States will have no choice but to consider seriously cancelling its participation in the conference."

Mr. Bronfman was accompanied by Israel Singer, WJC executive director, and Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC American Section. □



North America

● On June 22, WJC Executive Director Israel Singer and representatives of three other major organizations met at the Waldorf Towers with the President of Sri Lanka.

● At a meeting of the officers of the WJC American Section on July 19, Jak Kamhi, honorary president of the

Asian Jewish Colloquium *continued from page 1*

Department of Physics, Tokyo University; Prof. Takeshi Muramatsu of Tsukuba University, Japan; Prof. E.J. Angara of the University of the Philippines; Dr. Kee Hyong Kim of Kyung Hee University, Korea.

There was much interest in the presence at the colloquium of a distinguished Chinese scientist, Dr. M.C. Niu, professor of Biology, Temple University, Philadelphia, and science adviser to the Chinese Academy of the Institute of Developmental Biology Sciences, Beijing (Peking).

Among the Jewish participants who presented papers were Prof. Dinstein; Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, Wolfson Professor of Theoretical Physics, Tel Aviv University and former Israeli Minister of Science and Technology; Prof. Jean Halperin, University of Geneva and consultant on interfaith relations to the World Jewish Congress; Dr. Natan Lerner, director, International Centre for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, Jerusalem and former director of the World Jewish Congress Israel Branch; Ambassador Netanel Lorch, Truman Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Prof. David Sidorsky, Department of Philosophy, Columbia University, New York; Prof. Zvi Werblowsky, Professor of Comparative Religion, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

At the end of the conference a declaration was adopted which, *inter alia*, recorded the belief that the colloquium had succeeded both in maintaining a standard of scholarly excellence in its formal sessions and in providing a useful dialogue at the

more informal level of person-to-person contact. The declaration noted that the deliberations pointed to convergences and shared perceptions but also revealed areas of possible misunderstanding which require clarification.

In his remarks, Prof. Dinstein observed that Israel and world Jewry had little knowledge of Asia and that, equally, Asia was largely ignorant of the relationship between Israel and world Jewry and the impact of Jews on modern western civilization.

The declaration followed the reference to the revealing of areas of "possible misunderstanding which require clarification," with the statement "that this is an additional compelling reason for the holding of future colloquia," and proposed that the next meeting be in Tokyo in 1986 with "Pluralism in Society" as its theme.

The organizers will publish in book form the papers and proceedings of the colloquium. □



Above, L to R: Mr. Isi Leibler, president of the APJA and of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, and Professor Yoram Dinstein, rector of Tel Aviv University, at the Asian-Jewish Colloquium in Singapore.

Jewish Community of Turkey, stated that the Turkish government has granted special permission for members of the Jewish community to attend and participate in international Jewish gatherings. The Section also hosted Mr. Arthur Suzman of the South African Jewish community

● Three national organizations—Jewish National Fund, American Federation of Polish Jews, North

American Jewish Students' Network—were admitted to full membership of the American section on July 16.

● Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis, chairman of the American Section, attended a private luncheon hosted by Secretary of State Shultz at the U.N. for the foreign ministers and ambassadors of Latin American countries attending the General Assembly.

United Nations

● A statement in August at the 37th Session of the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities by Mr. Daniel Lack, on behalf of the World Jewish Congress and the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations in connection with the agenda item relating to the Genocide Convention, drew favorable reactions from Subcommittee members. The Rapporteur expressed great appreciation for the Jewish NGOs' efforts in this connection.

The WJC/CBJO spokesman called on the Subcommittee to adopt measures which would identify, prevent and deter any future attempt to annihilate racial, religious or ethnic groups. He drew particular attention to the dangers of denying cultural facilities and violating cultural rights, which also included damage or more frequently destruction of cultural property as precursor to the annihilation of such groups. Mr. Lack proposed that propaganda for genocide be made punishable under the convention, and that a plea of "superior orders" not be accepted as a defense.

● Mr. Lack spoke also at the Session on the agenda item, The Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion or Belief. He described the Arab boycott against Israel, "directed against nationals of other countries solely by reference to their Jewish faith" as a "particularly disquieting and obnoxious example of racial and religious discrimination." Mr. Lack deplored the plight of Syrian Jews and, by indirection, the denial of adequate religious facilities to Soviet Jews, and then held up as example countries which had adopted effective laws against discrimination on grounds of race and religion.

● The president of the Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO), Mrs. Raya Jaglom, addressed the Session on the agenda item—Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion or Belief. She focused on the singling out of Judaism by the Soviet authorities for harsh treatment.

Europe

● David Amar, a prominent businessman, the secretary-general of the Council of Jewish Communities of Morocco (the central representative body of Moroccan Jewry and an affiliate of the WJC), has been awarded by King Hassan of Morocco the high decoration of "Officer of the Throne" at ceremonies held in the Royal Palace in Rabat.

● Mr. Greville E. Janner, president, World Jewish Congress (Europe), was in Africa recently and met with President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe. Mr. Janner was received by the Jewish communities of all three countries.

● Professor Jean Halperin represented the WJC at the Annual General Meeting and International Colloquium of the International Council of Christians and Jews held in Vallombrosa, Italy, in July.

● WJC Executive Director Israel Singer and the director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, Dr. Stephen J. Roth, represented the World Jewish Congress at a meeting in London on September 19-20 of the International Council on Soviet Jewry (formerly

known as the Presidium of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry).

● The Institute of Jewish Affairs was one of the sponsors of a week-long international conference on Polish-Jewish relations held at Oxford in August. Dr. Roth, director of the Institute, spoke at the opening session and Dr. L. Hirszowicz, of the Institute, who took an active part in the organization of the conference, presented a paper on the post-war period. Scholars from Poland, Israel, the U.S.A., Canada and Europe participated in the conference.

● A regional conference of the WJC French Section for Southeast France took place in July in Antibes. Some 60 leaders of the main communities of the region (Nice, Cannes, Monaco, Nimes, Antibes, Juan-les-Pins, St-Laurent-du-Var, Villefranche s/Mer) participated. Messrs. Serge Cwajgenbaum, Henry Bulawko, Jacques Toledano and Raphael Benarrosh reported on a number of developments of Jewish concern.

● Dr. S.J. Roth, director, IJA, attend the meeting of the Commonwealth Jewish Council in Gibraltar, September 3-6, and during his stay there obtained the affiliation to the WJC of the 600-strong Jewish community of Gibraltar.



Above, Mr. Samuel Toledano, secretary-general of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Spain, the representative body of Spanish Jewry and affiliate of the WJC, addressing the WJC American Section on July 13 in New York. On Mr. Toledano's right is Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis, chairman of the Section; on Mr. Toledano's left, Mr. Elan Steinberg, executive director of the Section. (photo by Hella Moritz)

Cultural Festival in Vienna

The Jewish Welcome Service of Vienna in association with the World Jewish Congress is sponsoring a multi-faceted Jewish cultural festival that will be the largest ever in post-war Vienna.

It is being held under the patronage of Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger and WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman. The Jewish Welcome Service is headed by Dr. Leon Zelman.

Entitled "Versunkene Welt" or "The Disappeared World," it will include an exhibition of photographs of Jewish life in pre-war Eastern Europe and an exhibition of the series of "Portraits of Jews of the Twentieth Century" by Andy Warhol, both to be held at the Kuenstlerhaus, October 29—December 1; an exhibition of over 50 films on Jewish themes from around the world, to be held November 15-29, and to be highlighted by the presence of film directors Sidney Lumet of the U.S., Marcel Ophus of France, and Peter Lilienthal of West Germany; and a conference of scholars on the theme of "The World of Yesterday, 1815-1944," to be held November 19-22.



Israel Branch, spoke on behalf of the WJC at the Beth Hatefutsoth opening in August of the exhibition on "The Story of the Jews of Hungary."

● Mr. Yitzhak Korn, Dr. Elizabeth Eppler and Mrs. Anita Olamy represented the WJC at the annual Nahum Goldmann lecture on September 2, sponsored jointly by the WJC and the Beth Hatefutsoth. Prof. Yirmiyahu Yovel spoke on "The Jewish People and the Experience of Power," and the newly elected director-general of the Beth Hatefutsoth, Dr. Aharon Doron, spoke on Goldmann's personality and contribution to the Jewish people.



Above, Mr. Greville E. Janner, QC, MP, newly elected head of the World Jewish Congress (Europe) and president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, addressing the WJC American Section in New York on August 28. L to R: Elan Steinberg, executive director of the Section; Israel Singer, executive director, WJC; Will Maslow, vice-chairman, Executive Committee of the American Section; Mr. Janner.

In his remarks, Mr. Janner referred to the number of votes gained in the recent elections for the European Parliament by the fascist National Front and warned of serious danger threatening European Jews from the extreme right and extreme left. Europe's sharp economic downturn was pushing many of the disadvantaged into extremist camps of the right and left. The image of the Holocaust was receding, he said, so that people no longer had a guilt complex about Jews. The diminishing sympathy for the Jewish condition was one of the reasons for his pessimistic outlook. (photo by Hella Moritz)



Ambassador Moshe Gilboa, director of Diaspora Affairs in the Israeli Foreign Ministry, briefed the leadership of the American Section on September 24 on the current state of the Jewish communities of Ethiopia, Iran, Syria and Yemen. Above, L to R: Elan Steinberg, executive director of the Section; Ambassador Gilboa; Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis, chairman, American Section; Rabbi Joseph Karasick, chairman, American Section Executive Committee.

ISRAEL

● Dr. S.Z. Abramov, Mr. Yitzhak Korn and Mrs. Anita Olamy of the Israel Branch represented the WJC at the meeting in June in Jerusalem of the Zionist General Council.

● Ambassador Yitzhak Harkavi, honorary consultant to the WJC, hosted a luncheon in Jerusalem on July 18 in honor of the one-time chairman of the former WJC Uruguayan Section, Rabbi Dr. Fritz Winter, and Mrs. Winter.

● On August 23, Mr. Yitzhak Korn, co-chairman, Israel Branch, chaired a luncheon in honor of Rabbi Dr. Heszl

Klepfisz of Panama, recipient of the Latin American Jewish Congress 1981 Prize for Jewish Intellectual Merit.

● Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, co-chairman of the WJC Governing Board, WJC Executive Director Israel Singer, Dr. Stephen J. Roth, director, Institute of Jewish Affairs, Mrs. Anita Olamy, acting director of the WJC Jerusalem office, and Mr. Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC American Section, met in Jerusalem in August with Dr. Michael Heymann of the Central Zionist Archives, to discuss the future of the WJC archives.

● Dr. Zalman Abramov, chairman,

NEWS: Around the World

Austrian Foreign Minister Meets With American Section

Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz of Austria was the guest of the World Jewish Congress at a meeting hosted by President Edgar M. Bronfman in New York on October 3. The meeting, attended by three dozen prominent American Jewish leaders, was held under the auspices of the WJC American Section chaired by Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis.

Among the subjects discussed were Austrian policy toward the Middle East, the issue of Soviet Jewry, East-West relations, developments at the United Nations, programs to counter anti-Semitism and efforts to bring Nazi war criminals to justice. Accompanying the Foreign Minister was an Austrian delegation which included the Ambassador to the United States, the Consul General and the U.N. Ambassador.

Mr. Gratz, who has just assumed the post of Foreign Minister after eleven years as Mayor of Vienna, is the Honorary President of the Jewish Welcome Service in the Austrian capital which, its Director Leon Zelman pointed out, has begun an intensive educational effort to offset anti-Semitic sentiment in the country.



Above, L to R: Mrs. Frieda S. Lewis, chairman of the American Section, Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz, WJC President Edgar M. Bronfman, WJC Executive Director Israel Singer. (photo by Bill Figueroa)

Asian and Pacific Jewish Leaders Meet in Singapore

Representatives of Jewish communities of Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan and Korea attended a conference of the Asia Pacific Jewish Association (APJA) in Singapore on September 9. The conference was the second since the APJA's inception 1980.

The agenda focused on survival and education. The president of the Association, Mr. Isi Leibler of Australia, said that the survival of the small Jewish communities in the region depended on ensuring that Jewish children received education both in Jewish religious values and in the

concept of *K'lal Yisrael*, the unity of the Jewish People.

With the exception of Australia, New Zealand, India and Singapore, the Jewish communities of the region tend to consist of temporary residents, there for economic and other reasons, and without close ties to the state in which they reside. This, the delegates reported, does not make for active participation in a community's struggle to transfer Jewish identity to its youth.

Australian Jewry plays a leadership role in educational programs for such small communities. □

LATIN AMERICA

● On August 22, the Latin American Jewish Congress organized one of its periodic meetings with intellectuals on "Jewish Life in Democratic Society." Three university professors introduced the discussion: Gregorio Klimovsky (science), Bernardo Beiderman (law) and Leon Silberstein (psychology).

● Manuel Tenenbaum, director of the LAJC, gave the initial lecture of a series at Belgrano University, the most important private university in Argentina, on "History of Jewish Thought in the 18th Century."

● Ing. Gregorio Faigon, president of the Latin American Jewish Congress, and Mr. Manuel Tenenbaum, its director, met in July with the chairman of the Latin American Bishops Conference (CELAM) and discussed the strengthening of relations between CELAM and the LAJC. It was agreed that the two bodies would hold a Latin American Jewish-Catholic encounter before the end of this year.

● During their visit to Buenos Aires, Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Singer attended a reception given in their honor by the Latin American Jewish Congress at the home of the president of the Buenos Aires Kehilla, Mr. Luis Perelmutter, where they met a number of leading Argentine personalities from government and the legislature. Also, they addressed a banquet attended by 130 Jewish leaders.

● In Sao Paulo, Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Singer met with prominent figures from the Brazilian mass media, with the officers of the Jewish Confederation of Brazil and a group of community leaders.

● In Caracas, Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Steinberg met with the leadership of the Confederation of Venezuelan Jewish Associations and later met with the press who gave prominent coverage to the visit.

Despite frowns from Arab allies, Spain moves toward ties with Israel

By Richard Beene

Special to The Journal-Constitution

MADRID, Spain — Spain is slowly moving toward establishing diplomatic relations with Israel despite signs that such action could jeopardize Madrid's special relationship with the Arab world, a bond that has provided a boom for the Spanish arms industry.

Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez describes the lack of formal ties with Israel as an "abnormal situation" and says the two countries could exchange ambassadors early next year.

Spain is the only Western European nation that does not recognize the Jewish state, a holdover from the 36-year dictatorship of Gen. Francisco Franco, whose death in 1975 ushered in a new era of democracy.

The generalissimo wanted nothing to do with Israel — Spain was an

early supporter of Nazi Germany during World War II — and Israel was not eager to recognize a fascist state that sent volunteers to fight alongside Hitler's troops on the Russian front.

But since Franco's death, Israel has been anxious to normalize relations and Gonzalez has made it clear it is only a matter of time before the two countries exchange ambassadors.

It was only after Franco's death that Spain opened a consulate in Jerusalem and Israel was allowed to establish a small trade mission in Madrid attached to the United Nations World Tourist Organization.

"For the first time, the Spanish government has made plans to overcome the anomaly in our foreign policy," Gonzalez said recently.

"It is true that we have very good relations, in general, with the Arab countries. When the decision is taken to establish relations with Israel, in

defense of our legitimate national interests, we hope our friendship with the Arab countries will not suffer.

"At times," Gonzalez added, "the abnormal situation of not maintaining relations with Israel creates a privileged position for Spain with the Arab countries. But at the same time, Madrid has been excluded from discussions of Middle East affairs."

The special relationship between Spain and the Arab world is deeply rooted in 800 years of Moorish rule in Spain. Its legacy is an enormous influence in Spain's language and culture.

The sense of shared history has been translated into steadily growing trade that has provided a boom for Spain's armaments industry.

The Arab world became one of the largest buyers of Spanish-made weapons, and some officials fear the Israeli question could jeopardize a lucrative market. In the first three

quarters of 1983, Spain exported \$2.5 billion in goods to the Arab world while total imports came to \$5.2 billion, mostly in oil.

In contrast, trade between Spain and Israel is relatively insignificant. More often, they are competitors in the world market for the sale of oranges and other fruits and vegetables.

Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Libya are the major Arab investors in Spain, with large holdings in real estate, housing and tourist-related industries.

On Spain's Costa del Sol, the Saudi royal family maintains a palatial vacation home.

Spanish exports to Arab countries include steel, trucks, heavy machinery, chemicals and, increasingly, military hardware.

Saudi Arabia currently buys \$150 million in Spanish arms annually and Madrid is looking to increase that to

\$250 million by the end of next year. The Saudi armed forces already are equipped with Spanish-built C-212 medium-haul Aviocar light transport planes and C-101 training aircraft.

Spain also hopes to sell the Saudis, and possibly Jordan, recoilless cannons, Tereul rocket launchers, armored personnel carriers, a new light battle tank, grenade launchers and other small arms.

To what extent this growing trade partnership, vital to the fledgling Spanish arms industry, could suffer by the recognition of Israel is not known. But the Saudis have made no secret of their disapproval.

"It would have been one thing to establish relations with Israel in 1948, but now it would look like a prize for occupying southern Lebanon and for the massacres in Beirut," one Arab diplomat said.

A Spanish-language publication issued at the Saudi Embassy in Madrid

addresses the question more harshly: "Do you want to establish relations with a racist, fascist and terrorist state?"

Gonzalez encountered similar opposition during a four-day state visit in February to the Middle East, where he met with Saudi King Fahd, Jordan's King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat.

While Gonzalez insisted he had come under no pressure from his Arab hosts, Saudi Arabia and Jordan made it clear they would not look favorably on formal ties between Spain and Israel.

Arab diplomats appear resigned to the fact that Gonzalez will move ahead with his plans to recognize Israel, but refuse to say if Spain will be punished by its Arab trading partners for doing so.



Reuters

British subjects being evacuated from Aden in Southern Yemen yesterday on boat from the British royal yacht Britannia.

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Prime Ministers of Israel and Spain Hail New Links

THE HAGUE, Jan. 19 (Reuters) — The Prime Ministers of Spain and Israel today hailed the establishment of diplomatic relations between their countries as a historic step that could contribute to peace in the Middle East.

The Prime Ministers, Felipe González of Spain and Shimon Peres of Israel, made their statements after four hours of talks at The Hague.

The two countries announced on Friday that they would set up diplomatic relations and open embassies.

Spain, which did not recognize Israel under Gen. Francisco Franco's leadership, had hesitated over the step since his death in 1975 for fear of harming its close relations with Arab countries.

'A Bridge Between Us'

Mr. Peres said Spain could use its position to the advantage of all. "With the benefit of balanced and friendly ties with all be parties in the conflict," he said, "it can serve as a bridge between us, thus contributing to the peace process in the Middle East."

Undersea Volcano Erupts

TOKYO, Jan. 19 (AP) — Smoke rising to about 13,200 feet was sighted this afternoon off Iwo Jima in the Pacific Ocean, apparently the result of an undersea volcanic eruption, the Japanese Navy reported. The site was believed to be the Futokuokanoba undersea volcano, about 31 miles southwest of Iwo Jima, which is 840 miles south of Tokyo.

The Israeli Prime Minister, who began a 10-day tour of the Netherlands, Britain and West Germany, was due later tonight to meet with a leading American official, Richard W. Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Mr. Peres said there would be no early breakthrough in the peace process because a proper forum for peace negotiations and the representation of Palestinians remained to be settled.

[Mr. Peres also said he felt that King Hussein of Jordan "is serious in his attempt to bridge over the differences at the source" of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Associated Press reported. King Hussein met with Mr. Murphy, the American official, in London on Saturday.]

Mr. González said establishing full relations with Israel was part of Spain's opening itself to the world after its isolation in the Franco era.

Asked if the new relationship would expose Spain to guerrilla attack, he said his Government could not give guarantees, but was committed to combating terrorism.

The abduction of three Spanish Government employees in Beirut Friday had nothing to do with his Government's decision, he said. The three are still being held, and callers in Beirut have linked the kidnapping to demands for the release of two Lebanese Shiite Moslems held in Spain for an attempt to kill a Libyan diplomat.

The two Prime Ministers met amid heavy Dutch security after flying to a

naval air base near The Hague this morning.

In Algiers, the official Algerian daily El Moudjahid said today that Spain's decision had jeopardized its traditional role as a bridge between Europe and the Arab world.

Kuwait announced today that it was recalling its ambassador in Madrid to discuss Spain's ties with Israel.

The Netherlands was hosting the meeting between Mr. Peres and Mr. González in its capacity as president of the European Economic Community, a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman said. All other countries in the community have relations with Israel.

Mr. Peres will stay in the Netherlands for two days for talks with Dutch leaders before going to Britain and West Germany.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10036 (212) 556-1234

The New York Times (ISSN 0362-4331) is published daily. Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Times, 229 W. 43d St., New York, N.Y. 10036.

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Enrique Tierno Galván Dies; Madrid Mayor After Franco

By JOHN T. McQUISTON

Enrique Tierno Galván, a Spanish intellectual who was Socialist Mayor of Madrid and a leader of the peaceful transition to democracy after the rule of Generalissimo Franco, died yesterday of cancer. He was 67 years old.

Mr. Tierno was elected in 1979 on the ticket of the Socialist Workers Party, which he helped found the year before by merging sometime-rival Socialist factions. He won handily, and assumed office as the first leftist Mayor in four decades.

His administration was credited with governmental innovation, reversing the decay and unregulated growth that had marred the city, polluted its air and choked it with traffic.

He cleaned up the Manzanares River, halted the demolition of historical buildings and presided over the cultural rebirth of the city. Even his critics conceded that he made Madrid a more pleasant place to live in.

Fought on Republican Side

Mr. Tierno was born in Madrid in 1918. He fought on the Republican side in the Spanish Civil War from 1936 to 1939 and was a longtime opponent of the Franco dictatorship.

After earning a doctorate in law, he was a professor of political science at the University of Salamanca from 1953 to 1965, when he was dismissed on the ground that he had joined students in anti-Government demonstrations.

During his academic tenure, in 1961, he was among seven intellectuals who were acquitted on charges of having conspired to overthrow Franco.

After his dismissal, in the late 1960's and early 70's, he defended political cases and, at one point, spent a month in jail between periods of self-imposed exile in the United States, where he taught at Princeton, Bryn Mawr and the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan.

"Franco called me a corruptor of youth," Mr. Tierno he later recalled.

In 1976, a year after Franco's death, Mr. Tierno was among educators who regained their chairs at universities in Spain. He became full professor with life tenure at the University of Salamanca.

In May 1983, Mayor Tierno won reelection to a second term. He overwhipped his right-wing challenger, with his party capturing almost twice as many seats as the Popular Alliance opposition party.

He was one of the more popular big-city mayors in Western Europe, displaying wit, erudition and old Castilian-style cordiality.

He is the author of more than 20 books with titles ranging from "Democracy, Socialism and Liberty" to "The Scotist Assumptions in the Political Theory of Jean Bodin." He loved Latin, in particular, the clean, intricate style of Tacitus, the Roman historian.

Mr. Tierno's body was taken to City Hall in Madrid to lie in state. He will be buried today at the Almudena cemetery in Madrid.

He is survived by his wife, Encarnación Pérez Relaño, and a son, Enrique.



The New York Times

Enrique Tierno Galván

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BRIEFING: Spain hedges her bets

González drags his feet on ties

ADAM FEINSTEIN
London

Now that Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Labour Party leader, is established as his country's Prime Minister, Israel and Spain look, at first sight, closer than for a long time to establishing diplomatic relations.

Mr Peres is a close personal friend of Mr Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, and they are colleagues within the Socialist International.

Israel is one of the very few countries with no diplomatic representation in Madrid, virtually the only thing she has in common with North Korea and Albania.

The main reason for Spain's refusal to establish ties with Israel is the economic one: Madrid feels she needs her Arab friends.

Mr González is all too aware of the violence of the Arab states' reaction in 1977, when Dr Mario Soares, Portugal's Socialist Prime Minister, announced that his country was establishing diplomatic links with Israel.

He should also be aware of the fact that Dr Soares remained undeterred, with the result that Lisbon now enjoys full relations with Israel.

Spain has taken the Arabs' side in every one of the conflicts in the Middle East.

Plans laid down

After the death of General Francisco Franco in 1975, Mr José María de Areilza, the first Foreign Minister under King Juan Carlos, laid down plans for a *rapprochement* with Israel.

However, these plans were dashed when Mr Adolfo Suárez, who became Prime Minister in 1976 and brilliantly eased the country through the difficult transition period, extended a warm welcome to Yasir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in Madrid in 1979. The PLO has an officially recognised office in the capital.

In a speech to the Algerian Parliament last year, King Juan Carlos said that the González Government wanted diplomatic recognition of Israel to come as part of a package solving the whole Palestinian problem.

Apart from the need for Arab capital, oil and arms, Spain has offered a number of other pretexts over the years for her reluctance to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

One is the question of the status of Jerusalem. Spain has not looked at all favourably on the idea of a city containing many important Christian sites being the capital of a Jewish state.

However, since well before Franco's death, Christian considerations have become less and less important in making political decisions.

In any case, even prominent Spanish Catholics are now at the forefront of calls for the establishment of full diplomatic relations with Israel. They include Mr Manuel Fraga Iribarne, the leader of the main



Mr Felipe González

Opposition party, Alianza Popular (Popular Alliance). "Ya," the staunchly Catholic daily, has also supported ties with Israel.

Bearing in mind, however, that Jerusalem also houses two of Islam's most sacred religious sites, Spain has been reluctant in the past to offend the Moslem inhabitants of her last remaining enclaves in Morocco — Ceuta and Melilla.

The third reason that Spain has given in the past for not looking positively on links with Israel is the least known and most intriguing.

It relates, amazingly, to Gibraltar. The British occupied the Rock in 1704, and their possession of the territory was confirmed by the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht. Under the treaty, however, Britain agreed to respect Spanish sensitivity and gave a pledge not to bring into Gibraltar any Jews or Moslems.

When Jews and Moslems did gradually return to the Rock, Spain considered that Britain had violated the treaty. For a long time, Spain felt that she could not recognise the State of Israel, while simultaneously invoking the anti-Jewish section of the Treaty of Utrecht in her dispute with Britain over Gibraltar.

There are reasons to expect the Socialist Government to push harder for links with Israel, though admittedly nothing has come of the encouraging noises made by several Ministers, including Mr González himself.

Frequent visitor

Mr González is a frequent visitor to Israel and knows the country well. He is on record as saying, before the Socialists took power in 1982, that Spain should recognise all countries. In November, 1983, Mr González met Mr Edgar Bronfman, the president of the World Jewish Congress, in Madrid.

One of the Socialists' most fervent supporters of ties with Israel is Mr Enrique Múgica Herzog, a Jew, who is one of his party's deputies for the Basque province of Guipúzcoa.

Mr Múgica has been tipped as Spain's first Ambassador to Israel, if and when diplomatic relations are established.

Despite the lack of these relations, however, technical and cultural ties have been steadily increasing. Although the two countries are rivals in the citrus industry, a matter which concerns Israel greatly in view of Spain's planned entry into the European Economic Community on January 1, 1986, Israel water experts have been called into Andalucía, Spain's southernmost region, to help to solve the crippling drought problems there.

Last year, Iberia and El Al, the national airlines of Spain and Israel respectively, signed an agreement launching direct flights between the two countries.

Nevertheless, it remains to be seen whether Spain, the only country in Western Europe without any form of diplomatic relations with Israel whatsoever, can emulate her northern neighbour, France, and combine good relations with both the Jewish state and the Arabs.



King Juan Carlos