

# WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

## Israeli Official meets with Chinese Official

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) — Avraham Tamir, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, met with China's ambassador to the UN, Li Lu Ye.

China does not have diplomatic relations with Israel and meetings between officials of the two countries are rare. The meeting lasted more than 90 minutes and focused on the current situation in the Middle East.

The Chinese ambassador told Tamir that his country is interested in bringing about a settlement to the Middle East conflict, and that China will not stand in the way of any comprehensive settlement in the region.

Tamir later told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that despite the decision by King Hussein of Jordan to break ties with the West Bank, a final solution of the Palestinian issue can not be found without the participation of Jordan.

## Relic from First Temple On Display

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A small ivory pomegranate verified to be the first known relic from the First Temple has gone on display at the Israel Museum.

The thumb-sized pomegranate, a "rimon," clearly bears the inscription "Belonging to

the Temple of the Lord, Holy to the Priests," and dates back to around the 8th century, B.C.E.

The rimon, which was acquired by the Israel Museum in Jerusalem for \$550,000, is less than two inches tall and one inch wide. Carved from a single piece of ivory, it has a flat base through which is cut a small hole.

The rimon may have topped the scepter of a high priest, according to instructions laid down in Exodus and Kings I. Rimonim were also used to adorn the high priests' robes.

## Two Early Synagogues Uncovered

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Two synagogues from the Talmudic period have been uncovered in the southern Hebron Hills region.

One of the ancient synagogues was found at Tel Maon, between Carmel and Susiya, and the other at the Anim ruins, located in the Yatir Forest.

## Italians to Sponsor Palestinian Kids

ROME (JTA) — Italian celebrities, town councils and businesses are intending to participate in a two-year program under which 1,000 Palestinian children in Israeli-administered territories will become long distance foster children of Italian sponsors.

According to the published

reports, the sponsors will each pay \$80 a month toward support of a child. The money is to be deposited in an Italian bank which is linked with a bank in Jerusalem.

## Finland to Sell Soviet Oil To Israel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Finland may soon begin selling excess Soviet oil to Israel, according to a report in the Israeli daily Haaretz.

According to the paper, an agreement to this effect has already been signed between the two countries, though the subject is being blacked out by both sides due to the sensitivities involved.

Israel's Energy Minister Moshe Shahal visited Finland last year and met with his Finnish counterpart in order to discuss the issue.

The paper wrote that a commercial agreement has now been signed between Finland and the Soviet Union, by which Finland will obtain 4.5 million tons of Soviet oil in excess of its own needs. The USSR will in turn permit the Finns to sell the excess oil on the free market.

## Israel Mum on Planned Satellite

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israeli officials declined to comment on a report in Time magazine that Israel is preparing a missile to launch its own surveillance satellite in low earth orbit.

According to Time, the satellite is designed to spy on military preparations and movements in the neighboring Arab countries. The "Shavit" (comet) missile was built by Israel's leading missile manufacturer, the Rafael weapons development authority, in collaboration with Israel Aircraft Industries.

If the report is true, Israel would become the world's eighth country known to possess a rocket strong enough to

put a satellite in orbit. An Israeli spy satellite would make the country independent of the U.S. in obtaining satellite intelligence.

## Israeli-owned Store Threatened

GENEVA (JTA) — A package delivered to an Israeli-owned jewelry shop here contained a letter signed by Direct Action, the French extreme left terrorist organization, threatening a bomb would explode unless all the jewelry in the windows was left in a bag outside.

A saleswoman there was given the parcel by a man police described as Arab-looking. The note said the parcel contained a bomb which could be detonated long distance, and that the shop, called Aviva after its owner Aviva Chaya, was under surveillance.

The saleswoman put the package on the pavement and alerted the police. An investigation has not yet determined who is responsible.

## Cross Removed from Marine Base

NEW YORK (JTA) — A federal district court judge in Washington ordered the removal of a 65-foot illuminated cross that has dominated the night sky over a U.S. Marine base in Hawaii for more than 20 years.

Judge Thomas Hogan's decision was a victory for the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, which contended in a lawsuit that the cross, as a religious symbol erected on government property and maintained by public funds, violated the constitutional prohibition against government-established religion.

## Italian Police Arrest Man Charged with War Crimes

ROME (JTA) — Italian police arrested Nazi war

criminal Anton Malloth, who has been sought by West German authorities for murder and torture of concentration camp prisoners.

Malloth, 76, was apprehended at the home of his wife and daughter in the northern Italian town of Merano, near the village where he grew up.

Malloth spent five years as an officer in the concentration camps of Litomerice and Terezin, in Czechoslovakia. In 1948, a Czech court sentenced Malloth to death in absentia for murdering one prisoner and torturing others.

Malloth was stripped of his Italian citizenship in 1956 because of his war record. He then obtained West German citizenship. In 1972, West German authorities issued an arrest warrant for Malloth's arrest. In 1983, he was located in Merano by Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal, who said that West Germany would certainly seek Malloth's extradition.

## Polish Defector Seeks Asylum

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Sygmond Ereneusz, the Polish dancer who defected at a folk dance festival in Haifa recently, has applied for political asylum in Israel. He gave himself up to well-known prisoners'-rights activist Herut Lapid of Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar.

When he appeared with Lapid at a press conference in Tiberias, Ereneusz denied that he defected to be with an Israeli woman and fellow folk dancer he met in Canada last year. He indicated, however, that he and the Jerusalem woman may indeed get married.

Ereneusz explained that he had been brought up a strict Catholic, but some years ago his grandfather informed him that his grandmother had been Jewish. Since then he had

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