

Israel Receives Three Advanced U.S. Fighter Bombers, The First Of 75 Such Aircraft Ordered By Israel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Three Advanced F-16C fighter bombers flown by American pilots, landed at an airbase "somewhere in Israel" after a flight from Texas. They are the latest additions to the Israel Air Force and the first of 75 such aircraft ordered by Israel at a cost of \$3 billion.

A welcoming group at the air base was headed by Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Defense

Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Air Force Commander Gen. Amos Lapidot and other senior officers. Shamir said these planes and those to follow will make an "important contribution to defending Israel's goals."

Their sale to Israel, the only country apart from the U.S. to have the F-16C, was an expression of the firm bonds of friendship between Israel and the

U.S., Shamir said. He added, "The U.S. knows that we are in the forefront of the defense of democracy in this part of the world."

The F-16C, manufactured by General Dynamics, is an improved version of the F-16A and F-16B which have been in the Israel Air Force since 1980 and already tested in combat, including clashes with Syrian MIGs.

The F-16C, called the "Fighting Falcon," is a single-seater plane. It and its two seat counterpart, the F-16D

which is along the 75 to be delivered to Israel, are powered by General Electric F110 engines which are more powerful than the Pratt and Whitney F100 engines which propel the F-16A and B.

The new planes have better electric and electronic systems and carry a heavier load of bombs and missiles. The manufacturer has incorporated highly sophisticated equipment developed in Israel, including air frame, a computer memory and advanced radar.

The aircraft are priced at about \$40 million each and are considered a rival to the Lavi, Israel's second generation fighter plane designed and built by Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI). The U.S. has been urging Israel to abandon the Lavi project on grounds of excessive costs and the advanced F-16s have been proposed by the Pentagon as an alternative. The Lavi prototype had its first test flights last month.

Lapidot said, after accepting the three F-16C, that the Air Force would go ahead with its preparations to absorb the Lavi but would continue to fly the F-16s. He said he personally thought that the Israel Air Force should have both a locally produced plane and imported aircraft.

Phil Donahue And Soviet Refuseniks

(Continued from page 3)

1,000 emigrated in all of 1986.

Arguments Turned Against The U.S.

Donahue was challenged by a Jewish military officer, who asked why he was not concerned about the Palestinians. "We are all internationalist; we all must be equal, the Americans, the Jew, the Palestinians."

Another said that instead of worrying about Soviet Jews "why are you not concerned about the fate of the poor Blacks" in the U.S. He charged that many of the Soviet Jews living in New York's Brighton Beach section "are suffering, they are hungry."

When another suggested that only 20 percent of the Jewish emigrants have gone to Israel with most living in New York and Canada, Donahue replied "why do you care?"

He said he was willing to concede that the Jews in the audience were "happy," free to pursue their careers and free of prejudice, but asked why they were angry when he raised the real plight of the Jews who wanted to leave and were being persecuted for that.

While the broadcast may have revealed to some the Soviet Union's desire to hide the real situation of Soviet Jewry, whatever opportunity there was to demonstrate the real situation for thousands of Jews was lost. Perhaps there was never a chance since it is impossible to bring the give-and-take of the Donahue show to a totalitarian society.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Sudanese authorities have recently detained 54 Ethiopian Jews who crossed the border into Sudan, according to a Sudanese newspaper which was quoted here by Al Hamishmar.

Temple Beth Am Sisterhood



For the first time in the history of Temple Beth Am, the slating and official installation of officers of the Sisterhood was on February 13, 1987, at the Center for Religion and Life at UNLV. The permanent officers are as follows: President, Frances K. Copeland, Executive Vice President, Toby Daum, Hospitality Vice President, Harriet Donitz, Membership Vice President, Evelyn Pillisher, Recording Secretary, Lillian Wallace, Corresponding Secretary, Frances Goldman, Treasurer, Susan Gerecht. The next Sisterhood meeting is March 3, 1987 at 7:30 P.M. in the Center for Religion and Life at UNLV, 4765 Brussels Avenue. The board meeting will be on March 26, 1987 at 7:30 P.M. also at the Center for Religion and Life at UNLV. Phone: 645-8844.

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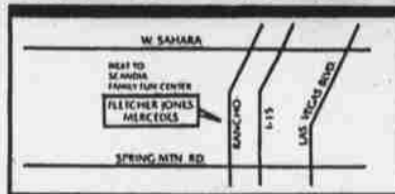


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