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**ISRAEL SPEAKING WITH TWO VOICES
ON PEACE AND POLICY IN TERRITORIES**

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Israeli government appears to be projecting two conflicting policies on the unrest in the administered territories and the future of the peace process.

The discrepancy stems from the totally divergent views on the peace process held by Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leaders of the Likud bloc and the Labor Party respectively.

Both are pressing their cases on Washington, through emissaries and surrogates, and erupting at each other in vituperative exchanges at the weekly Cabinet meetings.

Shamir is sending Cabinet Secretary Eli Rubinstein, his closest political aide, to Washington on Monday for urgent meetings with Reagan administration officials and congressional leaders to explain Israel's policies and its recent actions in the administered territories.

Less than two weeks ago, Peres' close aide, Yossi Beilin, was in Washington for the same purpose.

Sources at the Prime Minister's Office, announcing Rubinstein's mission Sunday, linked it to Beilin's earlier trip. The implication was that Rubinstein would be conveying to Israel's major ally Shamir's significantly different views on the issue at hand.

Shamir himself has accepted an invitation to meet President Reagan at the White House on March 16. Yediot Achronot quoted him Sunday as saying that "during my visit to Washington I will propose ways to negotiate on political solutions which appear promising and realistic to me."

He added, "I will bring political solutions to Washington, excluding an international conference."

Peres has been campaigning vigorously at home and abroad in favor of an international conference that would serve as the framework for direct negotiations between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Much to Shamir's chagrin, the foreign minister appears to have made some headway among Western European leaders for this approach. He also appears to have swayed Washington to the extent that it has dropped its earlier objections to a conference in which the Soviet Union, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, would take part.

This past week Shamir and Peres were at loggerheads over Peres' latest approaches to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, whose own ideas about Middle East peace were rejected out of hand by Shamir.

Mubarak, an important player in the current Middle East diplomatic game, is touring Western capitals this week and is due Thursday in Washington, where he has promised to unveil his proposals.

Another close aide to Peres, Avraham Tamir, had secret talks in Paris over the weekend with Mubarak's political adviser, Osama El-Baz.

Tamir, who is director general of the Foreign Ministry, left Friday and was due back in Israel on Sunday to brief the foreign minister,

presumably on their exchange of views on the peace process and the Mubarak plan.

The Prime Minister's Office was furious. A spokesman said Tamir's trip was unauthorized and futile and that the prime minister learned about it only from the news media.

Little has been disclosed publicly about Mubarak's plan to bring calm to the administered territories. Peres reportedly briefed the Cabinet on it Sunday. According to unofficial reports, the Palestinians would refrain from all acts of violence in the territories for six weeks and Israel, concurrently, would freeze settlement activity.

Yosef Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, called the Egyptian proposals "totally unacceptable" in an army radio interview Sunday night.

Peres and Shamir also crossed verbal swords in the Cabinet Sunday over United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report on the situation in the territories. Peres found it "balanced." Shamir called it totally unacceptable.

Shamir and Peres met separately over the weekend with Theodore Mann and Henry Siegman, the president and executive director, respectively, of the American Jewish Congress, who headed a delegation of American Jews to Cairo, Amman and Jerusalem this past week. They met with President Mubarak and with King Hussein of Jordan.

Siegman told reporters, "We explained to both Arab leaders that they have to deal with the prime minister, not just with Mr. Peres and the Labor Party. Both said they wanted to keep out of Israeli politics as far as possible," he reported.

The same wish may apply to visiting West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who had separate meetings with Peres and Shamir and encountered a "deep divide," according to media reports.

**THOUSANDS OF ISRAELIS PROTEST
TOUGH POLICIES IN THE TERRITORIES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Tens of thousands of Jews and Israeli Arabs took part Saturday in coordinated demonstrations in Nazareth and Tel Aviv to protest the tough measures taken by Israeli security forces against Palestinian disturbances in the administered territories and to demand an end to the Israeli occupation.

The mass rally in Nazareth, the largest Arab city in Israel, drew between 20,000 and 40,000 participants, according to its organizers, the National Committee of Arab Local Councils. It was addressed by Eli Shimoni, representing Israel's Peace Now movement.

Peace Now held a torchlight parade and demonstration outside Tel Aviv's City Hall that evening, addressed by, among others, Nimr Al-Husseini, mayor of the Arab town of Shfaram and chairman of the Arab committee.

The marchers in Nazareth carried black placards bearing the names of 38 Palestinians they claimed have been killed by the Israel Defense Force and border police since unrest began in the Gaza Strip and West Bank on Dec. 9.

They shouted and chanted slogans, demanding that the government stop the killings, beatings and deportations and that Israel pull out of

the territories.

For all the fervor, the demonstration was peaceful. Only one scuffle broke out when a few youths raised Palestinian flags, an act forbidden by Israeli law, which the Arab organizers of the rally swiftly put to an end.

In Tel Aviv, between 20,000 and 30,000 marchers trekked from the Israel Museum to Malchai Yisrael Square, where Peace Now activists, intellectuals and leftist politicians mounted a platform in front of the municipal building to urge peace negotiations, an end to the IDF's tough policies and territorial concessions for peace.

The speakers said the continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip meant the rioting would go on. They also said that assaults with rifles and clubs were debasing and humiliating Israeli youth.

The American poet, Allen Ginsberg, who fathered the "beat" generation more than 30 years ago, read one of his protest poems.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, as author of the IDF's policies, was the chief target of the protestors in both Nazareth and Tel Aviv.

Arab Quits Labor Party

Arab Knesset member Abdel Wahab Darousha dropped a political bombshell in Nazareth when he announced he was quitting the Labor Party, because it has become a "rubber stamp" for Rabin's policies.

The defense minister also received a verbal lashing from his party's elder statesman, former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, who declared in a statement to the Jerusalem Post over the weekend that Rabin's policies in the administered territories are an "insult to intellect and morality."

Eban, who chairs the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, told the Post, "To advocate beating rioters as a substitute for shooting at them is dangerous. It implies that there was no necessity to use live ammunition to kill people in the first place."

Eban was referring to the orders that went out to the IDF troops in the territories to pursue demonstrators and vigorously beat them. The rationale as stated by military sources was that stone-throwers could not throw stones if their hands or arms are broken.

"It is an insult to intellect and morality alike to create the illusion that the beating of rioters will restore calm," Eban said. "Meanwhile, we run the risk that the sticks and the thrashing will become the symbol for Israel."

He denounced "the defense minister's angry rhetoric and the wretched baton he waves" which "has sent reverberations around the world. Israel's Jewish and non-Jewish friends alike are embarrassed. . . It is high time to reappraise our security tactics," Eban said.

Darousha's announcement was a more immediate blow to the Labor Party, which is already campaigning for Arab votes in the Knesset elections next November. The Arab Knesset member said he would remain in Parliament as an independent one-man faction while trying to organize an Israeli Arab political party.

He said he hoped it would serve as an alternative for Arab voters who cast their ballots for either Labor or for one of the two predominantly Arab leftist parties, the Progressive List for Peace and the Hadash Communist Party, neither of which have any influence in Israeli politics.

UNPRECEDENTED CURFEW LIFTED IN EAST JERUSALEM NEIGHBORHOOD By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Police lifted a curfew on an Arab neighborhood in East Jerusalem Saturday night, 24 hours after it was imposed because of rioting.

The area affected was A-Tur, on the Mount of Olives, which has about 1,000 Arab inhabitants. The curfew was the first to be applied to any part of Jerusalem since the city was unified after the 1967 Six-Day War. It had immediate political implications.

Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem daily Al-Fajr, one of a group of Palestinian leaders who met Sunday with visiting West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, said the curfew proved that East Jerusalem was an integral part of the West Bank.

Israel, which has formally annexed East Jerusalem but not the West Bank, has always drawn a distinction between the capital, where Israeli law applies, and the territories, which are run by a civil-military administration that applies Jordanian law to the Palestinian inhabitants.

The curfew on A-Tur was lifted due to the intervention by Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem, who was clearly disturbed by it. But police officials warned they would not hesitate to clamp curfews on any part of the city where rioting breaks out.

The rioting at A-Tur, which is a tourist attraction because of its vantage point on the Mount of Olives, followed the end of the Moslem Sabbath on Friday evening.

The city had been quiet most of Friday. A small demonstration on the Temple Mount, site of some of the holiest Islamic shrines, ended without police intervention.

Bottles And Burning Tires

But by evening, A-Tur was ablaze with burning tires, blocking the road to the Jerusalem Intercontinental Hotel. Bottles and stones were hurled at passing cars.

According to police, each time they removed roadblocks, new ones were erected. As the situation deteriorated, police drove through the neighborhood in jeeps, using bullhorns to order all residents into their homes.

The curfew remained in force throughout the night and all day Saturday, as city officials negotiated with local Arab leaders for a commitment that the rioting would not be resumed.

Jerusalem Police Chief Yosef Yehudai said, "I hope all residents of East Jerusalem will understand the message. If they don't let us live in peace, neither will they."

Kollek was angered because the police acted without consulting him. He maintained that unrest in the city can be handled without resorting to curfews, a holdover from the British Mandate's emergency regulations, which are not applied in Israeli territory.

The situation was relatively calm elsewhere over the weekend. But soldiers wounded an Arab youth with rubber bullets during a demonstration Sunday in Ramallah.

Curfews were lifted at most refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, but not on the biggest of all, Jabalya, which has about 50,000 inhabitants.

A curfew also remained in force in some parts of the large refugee camp at Rafah at the southernmost end of the Gaza Strip.

REFORM LEADER URGES ISRAEL TO CEASE 'INDISCRIMINATE' BEATINGS

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The leader of the congregational body of Reform Judaism on Sunday urged Israel to halt what he called the "indiscriminate beating of Arabs" by Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

In a cable to Chaim Herzog, president of Israel, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, called the Israeli policy of using pre-emptive corporal punishment to quell Palestinian unrest "an offense to the Jewish spirit" that "violates every principle of human decency" and "betrays the Zionist dream."

"Far from bringing order, it will only increase the cycle of violence and intensify hatred," said Schindler of the policy, which was launched last week.

The policy already has drawn criticism from the U.S. State Department, which a spokesman said last week "was disturbed" by its adoption. Over the weekend, Israeli soldiers were reported seen beating Palestinians in street clashes and during house-to-house searches.

In his cable, Schindler acknowledged that "every proposal by governments, international organizations and Israel itself to resolve the refugee situation has been rejected for four decades."

But the new policy, said Schindler, would serve only "to shift responsibility for the neglect and abuse of the Palestinians from the Arabs to the shoulders of Israel."

"Clearly, the decision must be yours," wrote Schindler. "Still, we owe you the truth as we see it. . . . We plead with you to bring this madness to an end."

Schindler has been one of the most outspoken of major American Jewish leaders since unrest in the territories erupted more than a month ago.

In December, the Reform leader released a statement, later amplified in an op-ed piece published in *The New York Times*, saying the outbreak of violence "should shock Israel's government" into ending the status quo in the administered territories.

500 DEMONSTRATE AT ABC TO PROTEST MEDIA COVERAGE

By Marlene Goldman

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- More than 500 demonstrators, spanning a city block in front of ABC headquarters, broke the silence today against what they consider one-sided press coverage against the State of Israel during the current unrest in the administered territories.

Carrying signs demanding the news media to "show victims of Arab terrorism," and asking "Where's the media when Jewish mothers bury their young?" the protesters charged that the media play to the Palestinians as the underdog.

"There has been an unmistakable effort on the part of television, and to a slightly lesser extent print media, to convey a uniform impression of the recent disturbances taking place in these areas," said Dr. Kenneth Kelner, president of the Manhattan Chapter of the Zionist Organization of America and organizer of the rally.

He objected to portrayals that Israel is "unjustifiably occupying the territories it won in the 1967-Six Day War and for no reason is using

violence against the Arab inhabitants who only want to live in peaceful independence."

The latest example of what protesters consider biased coverage occurred last Monday evening on ABC's *World News Tonight*, when anchor Peter Jennings compared Israel with South Africa in connection with the disturbances in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

One demonstrator held a dummy of Jennings hanging on a pole by his tie, calling him a "killer of truth."

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith complained about the report last week in a letter to ABC News President Boone Arledge. In the letter, the league's national director, Abraham Foxman, noted that while "South Africa is a state founded on racism," Israel governs Palestinians "because of a war forced on it by the Arabs in 1967."

But it is the media in general, not just ABC, according to Kelner, that hide biased coverage behind double-standard reporting in the statement "We expect more of Israel."

Kelner began organizing the rally about 10 days ago, before the ABC broadcast. At the rally, ZOA distributed a fact sheet detailing other one-sided and inaccurate broadcasts by the CBS, NBC, ABC and CNN television networks.

ARABS EARMARK FUNDS FOR WAR OF ATTRITION AGAINST ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Arab League has decided to fund a war of attrition against Israel, to be waged by a newly established Palestinian underground in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to reports from Tunisia on Sunday.

The foreign ministers of the 21 Arab League member states gathered at league headquarters there for an emergency meeting on the situation in the territories. They decided that every Arab country would be obligated to contribute substantial funds for the war, said the reports, which were attributed to inside sources.

The new underground leadership, which attended the meeting, took a secret oath of allegiance to the Palestine Liberation Organization, the reports said.

But instead of going through the PLO, the funds will be transferred through United Nations relief agencies in the territories. According to the reports, a U.N. representative was present at the meeting.

The monies are intended to help the local population endure prolonged strikes and disturbances, the reports said.

PLO chief Yasir Arafat, addressing the foreign ministers, was quoted as saying, "We have found the weak point in the Israeli occupation. Arab blood will overcome Israel's guns and powerful war machine."

SOLDIER DIES AFTER BORDER CLASH

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- An Israeli soldier died Sunday at a Haifa hospital of wounds he received Jan. 19 in a clash between his Israel Defense Force patrol and terrorist infiltrators in the upper Galilee panhandle, south of Kibbutz Manara.

Pvt. Yonatan Baranes will be buried Monday in Pardes Hannah, his home town.

**GROUP VOWS TO TAKE HOSTAGES
IF CANADA DEPORTS TERRORIST**

By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- A terrorist group in Lebanon has threatened to take Canadians hostage if the government deports Mahmoud Muhammad Issa Muhammad, a convicted Palestinian terrorist scheduled to appear in Toronto federal court Monday for a deportation hearing.

The External Affairs Ministry issued an advisory to Canadian citizens not to travel to Lebanon. It estimates there are 500 to 1,000 Canadian nationals in that country, including persons holding dual citizenship.

A foreign news agency in Beirut reported over the weekend that it received the threat in the form of a letter from a hitherto unheard of group calling itself "The Strugglers for the Liberation of Palestine."

Issa Muhammad entered Canada a year ago after obtaining an immigrant visa under false pretenses from the Canadian Consulate in Madrid. He is a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

In 1970, a Greek court convicted Issa Muhammad of the 1968 bombing of an Israeli airliner at Athens airport, in which one man was killed. He was sentenced to 17 years and 5 months in prison, but was freed a year later in a hostage exchange.

John Turner, head of the opposition Liberal Party, declared that "Canada cannot give in to terrorist threats. Proceedings should continue."

Deputy Immigration Minister Jerry Weiner told the House of Commons last week that Issa Muhammad "may either leave voluntarily or as a result of a deportation order. Our objective is to get this man out of the country."

**LEV FURMAN RECEIVES EXIT VISA;
LERNER, IOFFE BOUND FOR ISRAEL**

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Lev Furman, a 13-year refusenik from Leningrad, received an exit visa Friday for himself, his wife, Marina, and their 10 month-old daughter, Aliya, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported here Sunday.

Two other long-term refuseniks, Professor Alexander Lerner, a computer scientist, and Professor Alexander Ioffe, a mathematician, are due to arrive soon in Israel, according to reports from Tel Aviv.

Lerner, who was fired from his teaching post when he first applied for an exit visa 16 years ago, left Moscow for Vienna Sunday, accompanied by his son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. They are scheduled to arrive in Israel on Monday.

Ioffe, dismissed from his Moscow University post 12 years ago after applying for a visa, was due Sunday night. He has a teaching and research job at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, which has been kept open for him for 10 years.

Similarly, Lerner will take a job that has been awaiting him at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot.

Furman, 40, was a low level technician at a Soviet research institute when he quit his job 14 years ago, before applying for permission to leave the Soviet Union. He was refused on grounds that he possessed state "secrets." In the interim, he became one of Leningrad's leading Jewish activists and an unofficial teacher of Hebrew.

**KEMP RAPS U.N., BACKS ISRAEL
IN PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN STOP**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Saying that the United Nations "has bent over backwards to attack Israel," Republican presidential candidate Jack Kemp told Jewish leaders Thursday that if elected president, he would veto any United Nations resolution that would "in any way condemn Israel."

Speaking at a forum sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the congressman from Buffalo, N.Y. outlined his proposed foreign policy agenda. It includes a call for a bilateral defense treaty between the United States and Israel and a widening of the Camp David peace process to include Arab countries in addition to Egypt.

He did not discuss domestic issues.

Kemp, who has enjoyed conservative Jewish support for his efforts on behalf of Israel and Soviet Jewry, is trailing Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas and Vice President George Bush in presidential election polls.

The candidate called his pro-Israel stance as a member of Congress "the American thing to do," and assured the leaders that despite what he called "a direct frontal attack on the legitimacy of Israel" by politicians and the news media, the Jewish community is not alone in its support of Israel.

He said the present situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank was "a new phase of Arab rejection of Israel and a new phase -- now internal -- of an assault that's decades old."

As president, said Kemp, he would push for a bilateral defense treaty that would "formalize" the U.S-Israel relationship and a "reaffirmation" of the Camp David peace process that would allow, he said, for bilateral negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Kemp, presently a senior Republican member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, said as president, he would tie the sale of sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia and other Arab states to their participation in the peace process.

Opposes Soviet Role

In addition, he said he would not favor a Soviet role in the peace process, because of its support of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Kremlin's wish to "keep the cauldron smoldering in the Middle East."

On the subject of the PLO, Kemp said he favored the closing of its office in Washington and its observer mission at the United Nations in New York.

The congressman said he favors a "prompt, prudent" response to terrorism and that he supports the United States raid on Libya in 1986. Following the bombing of U.S. Marines headquarters in Lebanon in 1985, the U.S. military "should have gone into the Bekaa Valley and taken out the Syrian-backed terrorist camps," he said.

Kemp reiterated his support for the free emigration of Soviet Jewry and said there should be no repeal of the 1974 Jackson-Vanik legislation, which bars most-favored-nation treatment to countries that do not permit free emigration. Nor does he support "new treaties with the Soviet Union until it accords with (the) Helsinki" international human rights agreements.



COURT RULES JERUSALEM CANNOT BAN SHOWING OF FILMS DURING SABBATH

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- The secular community here won a major victory Sunday when a local court struck down a city ordinance banning the commercial screening of films on the Sabbath.

But the ruling is expected to intensify the bitter dispute between ultra-Orthodox and non-observant Jews over strict enforcement of Sabbath observance. The municipality, which has been seeking a compromise between the two communities, plans to appeal.

The religious bloc in the Knesset reacted angrily to the court's decision. Former Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz, leader of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party, called it a "breach of the status quo on religious affairs." He indicated the religious parties would demand that the Knesset enact legislation restricting public entertainment on Friday nights.

The case developed when the municipality brought charges against two Jerusalem movie theaters for screening films on Friday nights in violation of a local ban. Judge Ayala Procaccia rejected the charges on grounds that issues involving freedom of religion and conscience are the province of the Knesset, not the City Council.

Mayor Teddy Kollek has been walking a thin line between the demands by the Orthodox for total enforcement of the Sabbath and the secular community's claim of an individual's right to decide how to spend Israel's one non-working day. While Kollek agrees that Jerusalem's "special character" should be preserved by keeping "commercial cinemas" closed on Friday nights, he would allow films at private clubs, such as the local Cinematheque.

He said Monday that he would continue to pursue that line. "Both sides will have to make concessions to coexist in this city," he said.

At the same time, he blamed the "fanatical behavior" of the ultra-Orthodox for provoking a sharp reaction from the secular community. For more than a year, Jerusalem has been the scene of rock-throwing and pitch battles in the streets as ultra-Orthodox Jews attempted to prevent the non-observant from entering cinemas.

Observers here expect the violent demonstrations to intensify. According to one legal authority, Professor Baruch Bracha, the local court's decision was in line with the basic approach of Israeli jurisprudence -- that limitations on the freedom of the individual for religious reasons can be imposed only by the Knesset.

IN NEW YORK, SHAMIR EMPHASIZES THEMES OF HIS AMERICAN VISIT

By Yitzhak Rabi and Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel spoke throughout the city Sunday and Monday reiterating the major themes of his six-day U.S. visit -- his invitation for direct peace negotiations with King Hussein of Jordan and opposition to an international Mideast peace conference, his call for Jewish immigration

and for a solution to conflicts over Jewish identity, and support for Soviet Jews.

Addressing a Monday luncheon of the Foreign Policy Association at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Shamir warned that an international Mideast peace conference, with the participation of the Soviet Union and under the auspices of the United Nations, "would be a step away from peace."

"Israel would be arraigned against a host of countries whose positions on an Arab-Israeli settlement, we believe, are mortally dangerous to us," he contended.

"An international conference can only result, therefore, in one of two ways: an Israeli capitulation and total withdrawal to the pre-1967 borders, which is a prescription for war; or an Israeli walkout, which is a prescription for diplomatic isolation and world censure of Israel."

'De Facto Peace' With Jordan

Asserting before 250 people that Israel and Jordan have been having a "de facto peace," Shamir said he believes that a formal peace agreement with Jordan could be reached through direct negotiations.

In the questions-and-answers period following his speech, the premier said Israel has no objection to the participation of Palestinian Arabs in the peace talks between Israel and Jordan.

Shamir added that the Soviet Union cannot expect to play a role in reaching a peaceful solution between Israel and the Arabs until it renews its diplomatic relations with Israel. The Soviet Union broke diplomatic ties with Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War.

In a Monday morning meeting with the New York Board of Rabbis at the Regency Hotel, Shamir addressed the issue of Jewish identity, saying Israel accepted all Jews.

"Every Jew, with absolutely no exception, is welcome to Israel and becomes an Israeli citizen under the Law of Return," he said, which grants automatic Israeli citizenship to all Jews who seek it.

He added, however, that "there is a need to reach agreement on the recognition of conversion to Judaism. This should be done by consultation and a search for an understanding and agreement."

A Call To Expand Settlements

On Sunday night, upon receiving the Theodor Herzl Gold Medallion from the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), Shamir declared that Israel must "expand and strengthen" its settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district.

Addressing more than 150 people at the Regency Hotel, Shamir stated: "We have sunk our roots in every part of 'Eretz Israel' -- from the Golan to Eilat, from the Mediterranean to the Jordan. We have established more than 200 villages and communities in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza district. They have to be expanded and strengthened by an influx of population."

He brought up many of these same points that evening before a receptive crowd of 2,000 at Queens (N.Y.) College. But as he spoke, an equally large crowd of Hasidic men, who came by bus

from the Satmar, Viznitz, Pupa, Zehlem and Vein Hasidic communities of Brooklyn and upstate New York, were protesting outside.

Their rally was organized by the Central Rabbinical Congress of the U.S.A. and Canada, a Brooklyn-based coalition of Hasidic sects founded by the late Satmar rebbe, Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum, according to spokesman Rabbi Yitzhok Glick.

Congress members are opposed to the State of Israel on religious grounds. The organization staged a similar rally last month during a visit by Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

On Sunday, the demonstrators set up a speaker's platform and loudspeakers on two flat-bed trucks, and participants carried signs reading "The rotten ideology of Zionism is in opposition to our Torah" and "Shamir does not speak for Jews."

Similar slogans were spray-painted on the sidewalks surrounding the college, and some witnesses reported that eggs were thrown in the direction of the auditorium.

According to police, security was especially tight for the prime minister's visit after the demonstration's organizers alerted police that as many as 15,000 Hasidim might attend. No arrests or serious incidents were reported, according to a police spokesman.

The demonstrators could barely be heard inside the auditorium, where Shamir was interrupted 21 times by applause during his 30-minute address. However, he also was interrupted by an elderly man in a long gray beard, light suit and red yarmulke who shouted, "What about beating people up in Jerusalem?"

Shamir did not acknowledge the remark, which may have referred to charges of police brutality by Israel's ultra-Orthodox Jews, whose demonstrations against what they call the desecration of the Sabbath by secular Israelis often end in confrontations with the police.

The Queens speech was sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York.

During his visit, Shamir also met in Washington, D.C., with President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, and spoke in Miami Beach, Fla., to the 56th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations. He was scheduled to leave for Israel Monday night.

BEGUN PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST, BUT PLANS TO LEAVE SOON FOR ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Long-time refusenik Iosif Begun was among at least a score of Jewish activists who were placed under house arrest and had their telephones disconnected for several hours Sunday. Reports from Moscow said the house arrests would be "for at least one day."

But Begun contacted the Israel Defense Force radio by phone Monday morning. He said his telephone was reconnected Sunday evening but did not say whether he was still under house arrest.

These developments occurred some hours after Begun spoke to the newspaper Maariv by telephone Sunday to report that his son, Boris, with his wife and children, have been promised exit visas by the Soviet authorities. He said the entire family will be coming to Israel soon.

Begun had been among a group of at least 20 activists who planned to protest outside the Soviet Foreign Ministry's press center in Moscow

against the recent increase in officially condoned anti-Semitism in the USSR.

The KGB learned of the plans and its agents swooped down on the activists' homes. The activists had requested permission for a demonstration several weeks ago, but were turned down and canceled their plans at that time.

Begun himself was granted an exit visa a few months ago, but refused to leave without the rest of his family. This gave rise to reports that he intended to remain in the Soviet Union to work for the right of Jews to practice their religion and culture without hindrance or harassment.

But Begun denied the reports. His son, Boris, was refused a visa because his in-laws would not sign a document consenting to their daughter's departure from the country. They have still not signed it.

But, according to Begun, Boris was summoned to OVIR, the Soviet emigration office, over the weekend and told that he and his family would get visas. Begun told Maariv he had no idea why the authorities decided now to allow his son to leave.

COURT UPHOLDS VANUNU CONFESSION, SAYS HE MUST BE TRIED IN ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Former nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu, on trial for treason, lost two important appeals in Jerusalem district court Sunday.

The court rejected his claim that he cannot be tried in Israel because he was brought here by illegal means. It also upheld his confession, which Vanunu's lawyer, Avigdor Feldman, said was invalid because it was obtained under duress.

Vanunu, 33, is charged with having given the Sunday Times of London data on Israel's alleged nuclear weapons capabilities and photographs of the nuclear facility at Dimona in the Negev where he was once employed.

Vanunu disappeared from his London hotel on Sept. 30, 1986. He claims that a day later he was seized by Israeli agents in Rome and taken to Israel against his will. The Israeli authorities initially denied knowledge of his whereabouts, but admitted several weeks later that he was in their custody, though they insisted he came to Israel voluntarily.

According to his lawyer, Vanunu confessed to the charges shortly after his imprisonment here while in a confused state of mind, unable to contact a lawyer or his family. But the court found otherwise.

It was the second setback for Vanunu. The court ruled a week ago that government officials cannot be subpoenaed to testify for the defense and that the defense must present its case in closed court. The trial has been conducted in closed court since it began last August. It was suspended last month because of the illness of one of the three presiding judges. It is scheduled to resume Dec. 1.

SLA SAYS UNIFIL NOT STOPPING TERRORISTS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Sharban Barkat, deputy commander of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army has accused the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) of allowing terrorist infiltrators to pass through the zones it controls in southern Lebanon.

COMPROMISE ON TABA DISPUTE ELUDES ISRAELI, EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATORS

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Delegates from Israel, Egypt and the United States met here Sunday and Monday in a final attempt to reach a compromise in the Israeli-Egyptian dispute over ownership of Taba before the issue goes to binding arbitration.

Apparently no agreement was reached and the case will go before an international panel of arbitrators, beginning next February.

Taba is a tiny strip of beach on the Red Sea near the Israeli resort city of Eilat. Both Israel and Egypt claim it. It is the only major boundary dispute between the two countries since they signed their peace treaty on March 1979.

Participants in the meetings here were Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry; his legal adviser, Robi Sabel; and Gen. Oren Shachor. The Egyptian delegation was headed by Nabil El Arabi, Egypt's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva. The United States was represented by Abraham Sofaer, legal adviser to the State Department.

HOUSE BANS SALE OF STINGERS TO MAJOR NON-NATO ALLIES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- The House of Representatives voted last week to ban the sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to any country that is not a member of NATO or designated a "major non-NATO ally."

The House approved the ban by a 322-to-93 vote. The Senate, however, is unlikely to approve such a ban in light of tight scheduling before it adjourns in December. "I don't think it's going to happen," said Tom Pines, legislative assistant to Rep. Lawrence Smith (D-Fla.), who supported the ban.

The ban would not apply to Israel or Egypt, both recently designated as major non-NATO allies, or to Turkey.

Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-N.Y.) urged unsuccessfully during the debate that the amendment be modified to allow Stingers to be sold to Bahrain and to any other country providing the United States with access to military facilities. The administration is considering selling Stingers to Bahrain.

Bahrain's Cooperation 'Essential'

Bahrain "is the headquarters for our Mideast force and whose cooperation is really essential in terms of our capacity to maintain our fleet in that part of the world," Solarz said.

In addition, the House voted to prohibit the sale or transfer of F-15E aircraft to Saudi Arabia, although it permitted the sale of earlier, less sophisticated models. It also stipulated that Saudi Arabia may not have more than 60 F-15s at any one time.

The foreign aid authorization bill, which will likely not be completed until mid-December, provides Israel with \$3.1 billion in aid over each of the next two fiscal years.

Should Congress not approve the budget agreement reached last week by congressional and administration negotiators to meet the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction targets, aid to Israel could be cut by 7 to 8 percent, or by roughly \$230 million.

EGYPTIANS MAY HAVE SAVED ISRAELI ENVOY FROM ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Egyptian security forces saved the Israeli ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sasson, from possible assassination by a 15-man hit squad financed and controlled by Libya, according to a report Monday in Maariv by its Arab affairs correspondent Sheffi Gabai.

Gabai wrote that the assassination attempt was disclosed when captured members of the terrorist gang were put on trial Sunday in the military court for state security. But eight of the terrorists apparently managed to escape from Egypt.

Gabai quoted the Egyptian prosecutor as saying that the assassination squad belonged to the Nasserite Organization, which operates openly in Egypt and was responsible for bombing the Egypt-America Bank in May 1986.

It planned a series of politically motivated assassinations of diplomats in Egypt and attacks on foreign institutions. The prosecutor has demanded life sentences at hard labor for the terrorists, Gabai reported.

But he did not link the hit men to another terrorist group, the "Egyptian Nasserite Revolution," whose members are in custody but not yet put on trial. That group is headed by Amad Halad, son of the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

It is believed responsible for the fatal shooting of an Israeli woman employed by the Israel Embassy in Cairo and the wounding of three other embassy employees in a machine-gun ambush outside the Cairo Trade Fair on March 19, 1986.

Halad is reported to have been expelled from Egypt.

REPORT ESTIMATES 2.7 MILLION SOVIET JEWS

By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- A Foreign Ministry official has estimated there are 2.7 million Jews living in the Soviet Union, a figure at variance with the 1.5 million claimed by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres a month ago.

The report, submitted to the Cabinet Sunday by ministry staffer David Bartov, also appeared to challenge Peres' argument that the diminishing number of Jews in the USSR made it urgent for Israel to try to renew diplomatic ties with Moscow.

According to Bartov, most Jews who have left the Soviet Union emigrated during the past 20 years, when there were no diplomatic relations with Israel. Of the 300,000 Soviet Jewish emigres since 1958, 170,000 came to Israel, most of them after the 1967 Six-Day War when the Russians broke diplomatic relations, he said.

GREEK OFFICIAL SETS ISRAEL TRIP

ATHENS, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias will make an official visit to Israel from Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at the invitation of Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, it was announced here Friday.

The visit will be the first by a foreign minister of Greece to the Jewish state. Observers believe it is a step toward establishing full diplomatic relations between the two countries. Israel is represented here only on the consular level.

SANCTIONS MAY HARM EFFORTS TO AID ETHIOPIA'S JEWS, CONGRESSMAN WARNS

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- The chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Africa has warned that proposed congressional sanctions against Ethiopia could hurt the ability of the United States to help Jews in Ethiopia.

Sanctions "if imposed, might very well jeopardize the access and network of support that have been created," Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Mich.) told the National Council of Jewish Women last week.

Wolpe received two awards from the NCJW, during its four-day Washington Institute, for his support of Ethiopian Jewry and opposition to apartheid in South Africa.

The 600 participants were briefed by Secretary of State George Shultz; Richard Murphy, assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs; and Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs.

The sanctions bill, co-sponsored by Reps. William Gray III (D-Pa.) and Toby Roth (R-Wis.), would revoke most-favored-nation status for Ethiopia, bar new loans or investments, and ban coffee imports. The bill's few dozen supporters include three Jewish members of Congress, Reps. Lawrence Smith (D-Fla.), Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) and John Miller (R-Wash.).

Wolpe said there has been "a fall-off" in relief funds from organizations seeking to aid the estimated 20,000 Ethiopian Jews.

Plight Gaining Prominence

He also noted that the plight of Ethiopian Jews wishing to emigrate and be reunited with families in Israel has gained significant political prominence over the past year.

Wolpe charged that between 13 and 37 Jews in Ethiopia have been arrested in 1987 for unspecified reasons, and may be brought to trial.

So far, the Ethiopian government has resisted diplomatic efforts aimed at reunifying Ethiopian families. Of the 8,000 Ethiopian Jews who have been relocated to Israel, there are 1,500 children who left parents behind, Wolpe said.

He said the Ethiopian government has argued that permitting Jews to leave "would establish a precedent that would lead to other ethnic groups pressing to depart." He added that "this is a serious blockage that somehow must be resolved."

Discussing the need to increase fund-raising for Ethiopian Jewry, he said that Ethiopia has estimated a shortfall of 1.5-million tons of grain this year, considerably more than the 1985 peak of 1.2 million tons. Wolpe noted that the Gondar province, where many Ethiopian Jews live, was not as hard hit as other major provinces such as Tigre or Eritrea.

Thus far, the United States has committed 115,000 tons of grain, Wolpe said. The State Department fiscal 1988 authorization bill, now in conference, would set aside \$25 million for resettlement to Israel, primarily for Ethiopian Jews.

ARAB MUNICIPAL WORKERS STRIKE TO PROTEST FINANCIAL CRISIS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Israeli Arabs began a mass civil disobedience campaign this week to dramatize the mounting financial crisis in

their municipalities, which they claim the government has failed to redress.

The Arab municipalities estimate a budget deficit of \$16 million. Most have not paid salaries for two months and they cannot meet their bills.

Some 46 municipalities have gone on strike. Arab mayors and municipal employees plan to go to Jerusalem Wednesday to hand in their keys at the offices of the Interior Ministry. Arab schools are expected to shut down Wednesday as part of the protest.

Ibrahim Nimer Hussein, chairman of the Arab Mayors Committee, said the prime minister and other ministers have promised repeatedly in the past year to help meet the pressing needs of the Arab population. "But they have failed to do so because they treat us like second-class citizens," Hussein charged.

Government officials admit the Arab townships are entitled to aid and said they would receive it "within a matter of days." But according to Hussein, the mayors no longer believe the promises of the ministers and officials.

PALE AND THIN, 74-YEAR-OLD BEGIN PRAYS AT WIFE'S GRAVE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 23 (JTA) -- Former Premier Menachem Begin made a rare public appearance Friday -- at the Mount of Olives cemetery to recite "Kaddish" at the grave of his wife Aliza on the fifth anniversary of her death.

Begin, 74, looking pale and thin, walked to the grave on the arms of his daughters Hassia and Leah. He was joined by his son, Binyamin Zeev Begin. He stood unsupported during the 25-minute memorial service, then departed with silent nods at the many well-wishers present. He engaged in no conversations.

Until his sudden retirement in 1983, Begin was the fiery leader of the Herut Party who was relegated to the fringes of Israeli politics until his Likud bloc won the national election in 1977, ending 30 years of Labor Party rule. Even in 1983, he was still grieving deeply for his wife, and was said to be bitterly disillusioned over the Lebanon war.

Since then, Begin has lived as a semi-recluse in his home in the Yefe Nof neighborhood of Jerusalem. He leaves his residence only for the annual memorial service for his wife or to take treatment at a hospital.

An Avid Reader

Although reportedly in poor health, he reads avidly and listens to the radio, according to his longtime aide and confidant, Yehial Kadishai, who visits Begin daily. Kadishai says the former premier keeps himself abreast of current affairs.

However, Begin declined to be interviewed by the army radio this month on the 10th anniversary of the historic visit to Jerusalem by the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

That visit culminated in the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, which both leaders signed in Washington in March 1979. For that accomplishment, Begin and Sadat shared the Nobel Peace Prize.

* * *

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated Thursday, November 26, because of the Thanksgiving Day postal holiday.



**BY PLANE, BY TRAIN, BY AUTOMOBILE:
100,000 COULD ATTEND SUMMIT RALLY**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- No one is giving exact figures, but if current travel plans pan out, as many as 100,000 demonstrators will descend on Washington Dec. 6 for "Freedom Sunday for Soviet Jews."

That figure includes Jews arriving on some 60 airline flights, many of them chartered for the day; thousands of buses; and from parts of the country as far away as Seattle, Wash. and with Jewish communities as small as that of Duluth, Minn.

Organizers of the mobilization, who include members from most of the major national Jewish organizations in North America, are already saying it will be the largest demonstration for Jewish causes ever held in the nation's capital.

It is certainly this year's most galvanizing event in organized, North American Jewish life, with communities canceling and rescheduling events planned months ago for next Sunday.

The United Jewish Appeal, for instance, has moved its National Campaign Cabinet meeting from New York to Washington so that UJA leaders can participate in the demonstration.

And in Boston, the Jewish community has canceled its Super Sunday fund-raising event and plans to turn out at least 1,000 people for the Washington rally. Demonstrators will travel by train, aboard two chartered planes and on at least 20 buses. Hillel groups on area campuses are busy signing up students for the trip. The event has "really struck at young people's hearts," said Philip Perlmutter, executive director of the JCRC of Greater Boston.

Kansas City Sending 300

In Kansas City, Mo., 300 people are already signed up for spots on three chartered planes. On Monday, Natan Sharansky spoke at a rally there that kicked off a week of activity, including noon-hour vigils and a Soviet Jewry Shabbat. According to Judy Hellman, associate director of Kansas City's Campaign to the Summit committee, Jewish delegates will be joined by non-Jewish students from Corning, Iowa; two student representatives elected by the William Jewel Baptist College in Liberty, Mo.; and leaders of three farming associations in Missouri and Kansas.

San Francisco is also planning a week of activities, in addition to sending a delegation to the rally. The first will be a vigil in Union Square on Dec. 6, according to Ruthellen Harris and Dan Hoffman, co-chairs of the Bay Area Summit Task Force.

Twenty people will travel the 3,000 miles from Washington state to Washington, D.C., according to July Balint, chairperson of the Seattle Action for Soviet Jewry. And the Duluth delegation will number 11, according to Gloria Vipullo, administrator of the Jewish Federation and Community Council there.

Foreign participants are expected from Israel, the Netherlands, Mexico, Great Britain, France and other countries. Chartered flights will leave Montreal and Toronto for Washington, and

seats have already been reserved by people in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Saskatchewan. The Canadian Jewish Congress estimates that 500 Canadians will make the trip.

But while the representation of small and distant communities attests to the excitement generated by the event, mobilization organizers are depending on the Northeast corridor for sheer numbers.

New York Spending \$1 Million

The UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York has allocated \$1 million to produce attendance. At least four planes will be chartered and hundreds of seats have been reserved on commercial flights. Five-hundred buses will make the trip. The Coalition to Free Soviet Jews has set up a special hot line for bus information in the New York area: (800) 328-5727, ex. 20.

New Jersey's Jewish communities will send at least 200 buses, and a freedom Train will leave Newark with 1,500 people, including New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean and U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

Baltimore has chartered 135 buses, and Philadelphia has reserved at least that many. Philadelphia Mayor W. Wilson Goode has declared Dec. 6 "Summit Sunday" in the city. "We hope to get 10,000 people," said Marian Levine, director for Soviet Jewry at the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia.

In Washington, the Board of Rabbis has announced a goal of turning out 50 percent of its congregational membership, which could yield as many as 15,000 people.

It also falls on the Washington community to accommodate the day's thousands of visitors. According to Jerry Strober, spokesman for the Campaign to the Summit committee, shuttle buses will serve Washington's three airports and Amtrak's Union Station. The committee is also creating the battle plan that will enable hundreds of arriving buses to discharge passengers at the Ellipse Sunday morning, and pick them up again near the Mall late that afternoon.

If all goes according to plans, a one-mile march will begin at the Ellipse at 1 p.m. and proceed down Constitution Avenue. At 2 p.m., a rally will begin in the area of the Mall.

Five Ex-Prisoners To Speak

Five former prisoners of conscience will appear at the rally: Yuli Edelshtein, Ida Nudel, Vladimir Slepak, Sharansky, and Mikhail Kholmiansky. Joining them will be Vice President George Bush, Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, Israel Ambassador Moshe Arad, and Helen Jackson, widow of the late Sen. Henry "Scoop" Jackson and a founder of Congressional Wives for Soviet Jewry.

Also speaking will be Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry; Rev. Aric Brouwer, general secretary of the National Council of Churches; and Bishop William Keeler, representing the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The organizing committee has declined to estimate how many will attend. But it is certain it will surpass the crowd of 12,000 who gathered in

Washington for the June 1973 visit of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, while falling somewhat short of the 300,000 who attended last year's Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry in New York and heard an address by the recently free Shadransky.

One Group Against Rally

While there is some debate in the Jewish community about the goals of the event, only one major Jewish group has openly come out against it, while a second, smaller group is planning an alternative demonstration near the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada is urging Jews not to take part in the demonstration or support it, quoting the late Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, who felt mass demonstrations could only arouse the anger of the Soviet authorities.

Meanwhile, the New York-based Center for Soviet Jewry will stage its sit-in at the Soviet Embassy in order to "intensify the tone of the rally," as its leader, Rabbi Avi Weiss, told the Washington Post.

ISRAEL AGAIN URGES DIRECT TALKS AS U.N. DEBATES PALESTINIAN ISSUE By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- Israel declared here Tuesday that the Palestinian issue can be solved only through direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors, on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Addressing the General Assembly's annual debate on the Palestinian question, Ambassador Yohanan Bein, the deputy permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations, urged the Arab governments and Arab leaders not to use any longer "their Palestinian brethren as an instrument of politics and hostility." He called on them instead to have the courage to break with the past and negotiate directly with Israel.

A solution of the Palestinian question should be "based on mutual respect for the rights of Israelis and Arabs alike," Bein said. He added that a solution of the problem is in the interests of all parties concerned and of the international community as a whole.

Bein stated that in view of the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, the Palestinian question is clearly "not the core, not the central conflict in the Middle East." He said that "within the framework of these negotiations (between Israel and the Arab countries), the Palestinian issue can find its proper and agreed solution.

"The peoples of our region have now within their grasp the lever by which they can transport themselves into a new era of confidence and peace," the Israeli envoy declared.

He said it was Israel's hope that other countries would follow Egypt's path toward peace with Israel. "Israel, for its part, will continue to place peace at the head of its national priorities," Bein said.

But he stressed that any peace settlement in the region cannot ignore the fact that an "exchange of populations" took place between Israel and the Arab countries. He said that since Israel was founded in 1948, and mostly in the months immediately thereafter, 1 million Jews fled the Arab countries and some 800,000 of them settled in Israel.

He noted that 600,000 Arabs left Israel. "If we are to pursue the search for a possible settlement, we cannot think in terms of reversing these parallel movements of masses of people, Jews and Arabs. We must be guided, instead, by the successful experience acquired in other parts of the world in integrating refugees in new lands," Bein said.

WAR CRIMES FILES OPENED TO PUBLIC By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- The United Nations war crimes archives, containing files on more than 40,000 suspected Nazi war criminals and their collaborators, was opened Monday to governments and individual researchers and historians.

The opening of the archives is expected to help locate and bring to justice many war criminals who have found shelter in various countries around the world.

The archives are located on the 12th floor of an office building at 345 Park Avenue South at 25th Street in Manhattan. They contain hundreds of cartons of files.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who announced the opening of the files a few weeks ago, said that governments and researchers will be granted access only to microfilm versions of the files and not the original documents.

The opening of the files was announced by the secretary general after an 18-month campaign by Israel to allow free access to the archives for governments and individuals wishing to scrutinize the files.

Individuals who want to enter the archives have to submit an application through their government to the United Nations.

A spokesman for Israel's U.N. Mission said that Israeli citizens who want to examine the files can receive an application for that purpose at the Israeli Mission.

EUROPEANS PREPARED TO PLAY ROLE IN MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS By Yossi Lempkowitz

BRUSSELS, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said here Monday that the European Community is prepared to play an active and significant role in the Middle East peace process.

"My country will act in this direction," Genscher said at the regular meeting of the foreign ministers of the 12-member states of the European Economic Community. West Germany will assume the rotating presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers for the first six months of 1988. It is presently held by Denmark.

While the assembled ministers issued no formal statement, diplomatic sources said they reiterated the European Community's support for an international conference for Middle East peace.

They enthusiastically welcomed the outcome of the Arab summit conference in Amman, Jordan two weeks ago, particularly its agreement to allow Arab countries to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt, broken when Egypt signed its peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

The ministers expressed hope that this would lead to the reinstatement of Cairo as a member of the Arab League, from which it was suspended after making peace with Israel.

**DUTCH PERFORMANCES CANCELED
OF PLAY SAID TO BE ANTI-SEMITIC****By Henrietta Boas**

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- A reputedly anti-Semitic play that has been the center of a raging controversy in Holland for the past two months has been withdrawn by its sponsors.

The decision was announced at a news conference here Monday night by Paul Sonke, director of the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy. He said the play by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, titled "Garbage, the City and Death," will not be performed publicly, for the time being, adding that "protests by a vociferous part of the public had condemned the play before it could have been seen."

The scheduled Nov. 18 premier at Rotterdam's Lantern Theater was canceled before the curtain rose when Jewish demonstrators occupied the stage. The theater management cleared the 250-seat house for safety's sake, because of the furor raised by disappointed members of the audience.

On Monday, theaters in Arnhem, Utrecht and Haarlem, where the play was to have been performed during the next few days, also announced it was canceled.

The play was opposed by virtually the entire Jewish community of the Netherlands and many non-Jews, including the 40,000 member "Christians for Israel," a Protestant organization. Its supporters accused those who wanted to ban it of "cultural censorship."

The heat of the controversy was apparent on the night of the aborted premier, when Professor Lou de Jong, a historian, told a group of young Jews demonstrating peacefully outside the theater that the way Jews were portrayed in it by the late West German playwright was akin to the violently anti-Semitic newspaper *Der Stuermer*, published by Julius Streicher during the Nazi era. One of the play's principal characters is an exploiter known as "the rich Jew."

But Rob Weber, assistant director of the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy, the play's sponsor, likened the way Jews prevented its performance to book-burning by the Nazis.

Dutch Politicians Take Stands

Although Dutch politicians at all levels initially took a neutral stand on the issue, they eventually became embroiled in it. Premier Rudolph Lubbers of Holland said at his weekly news conference last Friday that it is impossible to forbid a performance under the Dutch constitution.

He added, however, that he did not mean this particular play should be performed and said that if it were, he himself would "certainly not go to see it."

Justice Minister Frits Kotthals Altes of the Liberal Party made a radio appeal the day before the scheduled premier, urging actors in the cast not to go on. He was promptly attacked by the Christian Democrats, the Labor Party and the "Democrats 1986" party for undue interference with freedom of expression.

The future of the play remained uncertain after the canceled premier. A private performance was given Saturday night, restricted to the Theatrical Academy and representatives of the Jewish community and guests invited by both sides. It was followed by a discussion that lasted into the early hours of Sunday morning.

But no minds were changed. Jews who saw the play insisted that it promoted anti-Semitism even if the work itself was not anti-Semitic. The Theatrical Academy maintained that the play aimed to combat anti-Semitism.

Sonke promised a decision by Monday and after further consultations with the cast, announced its withdrawal.

Similar Scenario in W. Germany

These developments in Holland closely parallel events in West Germany two years ago. The play was to have opened at the Kammerspiel Theater in Frankfurt on Oct. 31, 1985. The performance was canceled when about 30 local Jews marched on stage with a banner accusing the producers of "subsidizing anti-Semitism." A few days later, a private showing was held for theater critics, after which the German impresarios withdrew the play.

The play was performed in New York last year. The Dutch version was produced by Johan Doesburg, a recent graduate of the Theatrical Academy, as a graduate project.

Doesburg said in an interview in the newspaper *De Volkskrant* Tuesday that he could understand the reaction of the Jews in Frankfurt, in a country where so many had suffered at the hands of the Nazis. But he could not understand the commotion in Holland.

Meanwhile, it was learned here Friday, much to the surprise of all concerned, that the Fassbinder play is currently being performed in Copenhagen without protests from the Jewish community there.

A spokesman for the community, Hermann Rubeizky, and the chief rabbi of Denmark, Bent Melchior, explained in a Dutch television interview that Danish Jewry had suffered relatively little during the Nazi occupation -- mainly because they were rescued by the Danes -- whereas more than 100,000 Dutch Jews were deported to death camps.

That apparently accounts for the different reactions in the two communities to the Fassbinder play.

**NEGOTIATIONS TO RESOLVE
TABA DISPUTE SHIFT TO PARIS****By Tamar Levy**

GENEVA, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- Israel and Egypt, assisted by the United States, are continuing their efforts to reach a settlement of the Taba border dispute before the case goes to a panel of international legal experts this winter for binding arbitration.

Separate meetings were held here Saturday, Sunday and Monday between the Israelis and Americans, the Egyptians and Americans and later between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations. Their talks shifted to Paris on Tuesday.

Although Israel, at Egypt's insistence, agreed to binding arbitration last year, the door was left open to conciliation -- meaning compromise -- which Israel clearly prefers. At stake is ownership of Taba, a small strip of beach on the Red Sea near the Israeli resort city of Eilat.

Meanwhile, both countries are preparing for arbitration. Each has submitted volumes of documents and maps in support of its respective claims. More will be submitted in February. The arbitration panel is scheduled to open its hearings in March and is expected to reach a decision by next July.

NEW BOOK CONCLUDES THAT WALDHEIM MUST HAVE KNOWN ABOUT ATROCITIES

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Nov. 24 (JTA) -- Kurt Waldheim, as an intelligence officer in the German army in the Balkans during World War II, sat in on the planning meetings held by his commanding general, Alexander Loehr, and therefore must have known about atrocities against civilians and the deportation of Greek Jews.

That is the conclusion reached by Swiss journalist Hans Peter Born in his just published book "Fuer Die Richtigkeit -- Kurt Waldheim" (Getting It Straight -- Kurt Waldheim), named for the sign-off Waldheim used to indicate he had proofread and checked documents. The book drew a strong protest Monday from the office of Waldheim, now president of Austria.

Loehr was hanged as a war criminal in 1947 for atrocities committed against Yugoslavian civilians and partisans. According to Born, Loehr did not make his decisions behind closed doors. A large circle of his officers, Waldheim among them, would be present. Sometimes certain actions were protested and were not carried out. But in all of his research, Born could find no protest emanating from Waldheim.

Born, an editor of the Swiss weekly Weltwoche, said he could not accept Waldheim's claim that his job was simply to forward decisions made by other officers. He concluded that Waldheim knew about the deportations of Jews, especially from the Greek islands of Rhodes and Corfu, which were arranged and coordinated by his unit.

Born said that while it is hard to prove the direct involvement of Waldheim in the deportations, a moral co-responsibility should be assumed. He said Waldheim participated personally in the interrogation of captured Allied commandos.

The book is expected to heat up the debate over Waldheim's Nazi past, which is currently under investigation by an international commission of military historians funded by the Austrian government.

The panel is expected to submit its preliminary report some time this winter and some of Waldheim's supporters are said to be increasingly nervous over its possible contents. The World Jewish Congress has dismissed the commission as a "whitewash."

Meanwhile, Waldheim's secretary issued a news release Monday responding to Born's book. It repeats the denial that Waldheim was ever in any way involved in the deportation of Jews, that he was an influential consultant to Loehr or that he interrogated prisoners of war.

CONSERVATIVE LAY PEOPLE, RABBIS AGREE TO DISCUSS DIFFERENCES

By Stephen A. Rothman

Jewish World of Palm Beach, Fla.

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 24 (JTA) -- The United Synagogue of America, the two-million-member association of Conservative congregations, passed two resolutions here last week designed to heal a rift with Conservative rabbis, and another that may have exacerbated a conflict with Conservative cantors.

Some 1,300 Conservative rabbis and delegates gathered at the Concord Hotel here Nov. 15-19 for the association's biennial convention, which included study, workshops and the celebration of United Synagogue's 75th anniversary.

The two rabbinic-related resolutions were adopted at the urging of Franklin Kreutzer of Miami, who was elected to a second two-year term as United Synagogue president.

One called for binding arbitration to resolve all disputes between rabbis, educators and cantors and their employers. The other urged a thoughtful review of the roles of lay and rabbinic representatives on the various joint commissions and committees that relate to Conservative movement affairs.

Under provisions of both resolutions, a task force of equal numbers of rabbis, lay persons and seminarians will work out the details for giving the laity a greater voice and for resolving lay-rabbinic disputes.

A report by the task force, to be chaired by Jewish Theological Seminary Chancellor Ismar Schorsch, will be delivered to each organization by June 30, 1988. Kreutzer said Schorsch, a rabbi, is sensitive to the concerns of both sides.

The resolutions came about in part because of the rift that developed between the Rabbinical Assembly, the association of Conservative rabbis, and United Synagogue. The assembly supported the lawsuit of a member against the United Synagogue over his recent dismissal from a job with the latter.

(However, a United Synagogue spokesman said that issue will be handled separately from other issues of arbitration.)

United Synagogue also passed a resolution that would allow it to set up its own cantorial placement organization. This came about because the Cantors' Assembly, an independent body within the Conservative movement, has refused to stop placing its cantors with congregations that are not affiliated with United Synagogue.

Currently, cantorial placements are handled by a joint committee of United Synagogue and the Cantors' Assembly.

Delegates overwhelmingly approved the measure, which was seen as necessary to keep congregations from disassociating with United Synagogue because they could receive its services without paying dues.

With a shortage of available cantors, Kreutzer said affiliated congregations should be considered first.

However, Cantor Saul Rosenbaum, vice president of the Cantors' Assembly, said the association didn't have the right to stop a cantor from taking a job that pays more money with a nonaffiliated congregation.

Rosenbaum said the key issue is the membership of the joint placement commission, which is now dominated by the Cantors' Assembly. He said United Synagogue wants increased representation on it -- an issue which Rosenbaum said the assembly is prepared to discuss.

Kreutzer noted that the resolution gives the assembly time to reconsider its position. However, if the laity has to set up its own placement service, then it will, he said.

Kreutzer also declared it was time for lay leaders to join with the rabbis in building the movement. "I am not blaming the rabbis for the decline in synagogue attendance or the high rate of intermarriage," he said. "It is not their fault.

"What we are saying is that if the tide is to be turned on both problems, then the rabbis must let lay leaders accept their role in addressing these problems. We believe the partnership will benefit us both. The 1,100 Conservative rabbis are not capable of doing it alone."

**MORE THAN 200,000 RALLY
ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY
IN MASSIVE D.C. GATHERING**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- More than 200,000 people packed the National Mall Sunday to demonstrate support for Soviet Jewry, in the largest Jewish rally ever held in Washington.

Jews and non-Jews, from throughout the United States and Canada, as well as Israel and other countries, urged Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to allow all Jews who wish to leave the Soviet Union to emigrate.

The demonstration came just 24 hours before Gorbachev was due to arrive in Washington for a two-day summit with President Reagan.

"The human rights issue is now a permanent part of the U.S.-Soviet agenda," Vice President George Bush declared at the rally, which opened with the sounding of the shofar and Pearl Bailey singing "Let My People Go."

Human rights "will be high on the agenda for the summit," Bush promised. "I will personally raise it with Mr. Gorbachev. I will not be satisfied until the promise of Helsinki is a reality."

Bush like other speakers pointed to Gorbachev's policy of "glasnost" (openness). "But openness begins at the border," he said. "Let's see not five or six or 10 or 20 refuseniks released at a time, but thousands, tens of thousands -- all those who want to go."

Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) also stressed that "glasnost may be all the rage in the media, but freedom is still the real issue" that ties together all of the other issues including arms control.

A Long Waiting List

This view was echoed by House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas), who said that openness includes "the open door. We rejoice that the number of those permitted to leave has increased over this year over the very low level of 1986. We note that the need is great and the list is unbelievably long."

Morris Abram, chairman of both the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, also stressed that glasnost has not applied to Jews.

"We want to believe that the release of highly visible refuseniks is not a publicity stunt, but we observe that in 1979 (Soviet leader Leonid) Brezhnev released six times as many Jews as Gorbachev in 1987," Abram said.

Many speakers noted that the Washington Mobilization was taking place 10 days before Chanukah. Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad called the Soviet Jews fighting for emigration "modern day Maccabees."

Recently released refuseniks, such as Natan Sharansky, Vladimir Slepak, Yuli Edelshtein, Ida Nudel, Mikhail Kholmiansky and Felix Abramovich, lit candles on a giant menorah.

Sharansky stressed that the issue is not whether Reagan is strong enough to force Gorbachev to change policies or whether Gorbachev will be willing to allow emigration.

"It is we, it is our struggle which makes governments in the free world strong," he said. "It is our struggle which can make the Soviet government willing to open the gates of the Soviet Union."

Sharansky stressed the need to continue the effort, noting that if Soviet Jews are not free, then all Jews are not free.

Who's Who Of Organized Jewry

The demonstrators included a virtual who's who of organized Jewry. But the backbone of the demonstration was ordinary Jews, many carrying banners urging freedom for Soviet Jewry, as well as signs designating their local synagogues.

One prominent Jewish official noted that this was the first time that every Jewish organization had cooperated in a single effort.

Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, declared that "the Jewish people is a diverse people. . . Let all those who would oppress us know that there are issues on which we stand as one."

Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, honorary chairman of the Summit Task Force, which organized the demonstration, said it took 20 years to bring about such a large gathering.

'Not Silent Today'

"It is now clear that had there been such a large demonstration of Jews and human solidarity of concern in 1942, 1943 and 1944, millions of Jews would have been saved," said Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor. "But too many were silent then. We are not silent today."

The distinguished novelist added that "some Jews are more famous than others, but all are equally worthy of redemption."

While Abram and others praised the "persistence" of the United States in pressing the Soviet Jewry issue, Yosef Mendelevich, a former prisoner of Zion, criticized the Reagan administration for arranging a meeting for Gorbachev with 60 American business leaders.

"We Soviet Jews Soviet Jews are outraged," Mendelevich declared. "The Soviets will get trade, loans, goods for nothing."

He urged "no trade, no aid. Until 60,000 each year will emigrate, each dollar sent to Russia is stamped with tears of Soviet Jewry."

100 Plan To Fast

It was announced at the rally that some 100 Jews throughout the Soviet Union plan to fast during the summit. Many speakers expressed outrage that Jews demonstrating in Moscow earlier in the day had been arrested.

"That's not glasnost, that's Joe Stalin," New York City Mayor Edward Koch declared.

The rally reminded many of the civil rights demonstrations of the 1960s. Mary Travers and Peter Yarow of the group Peter, Paul and Mary sang freedom songs in Hebrew, as well as the civil rights anthem "We Shall Overcome," as the crowd joined in.

In addition to Bush and Dole, other presidential candidates who appeared included Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.) and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

**COLORFUL, DEDICATED THOUSANDS
TRAVEL FOR SOVIET JEWRY RALLY**
By Andrew Muchin

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- It looked like a cross between a football game and a political convention, what with thousands of enthusiastic souls dressed in bright winter clothing and crowded around banners announcing their home state.

But the massive national rally for Soviet Jews at the Ellipse here Sunday sounded more serious and dignified than other mass events.

Many of the more than 200,000 Jews and non-Jews attended because they thought the rally would help their common cause: to impress upon the superpowers the need to improve the conditions of Soviet Jews.

"This is a big deal," said Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), who was standing with the 75 Iowa ralliers, primarily from Des Moines. He asserted the rally would be noted by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and would demonstrate to the Soviet people "about our American system."

"We want to get Gorbachev to get the Soviet Jews free," agreed Am Cohen, 10, of Annapolis, Md.

"Ralliers" came from as far as Hawaii and as near as the neighborhoods of the nation's capital, which produced an estimated 50,000 people. The amplified sound of the rally didn't travel even that far, as the rear half of the crowd heard only the most loudly emphatic of the speakers' statements.

Four Jews flew from Winnipeg, Manitoba, each symbolizing 100,000 Soviet Jews unable to emigrate, according to Hillain Kroft.

Cleveland, Savannah and Tulsa

Cleveland sent 1,500 people, most by bus. Three hundred flew from Los Angeles, 85 from Savannah, Ga., and 30 from Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla.

The Savannah delegation included two non-Jews, among them Marie Daniels, director of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. She said her presence fit in well with her organization's goals of support for distressed Jews. "They don't have any other voice but our voice," she said of the Soviet Jews.

Standing beside her in the dense but cheerful crowd was Steve Bieringer, who said he works for the AFL-CIO labor federation out of Colorado.

"The labor movement has a strong stake in the freedom of people around the world," he explained. "That includes Soviet Jews." He estimated that 500-600 union members were present.

He was holding a small union logo, but many other ralliers came with signs created especially for the day, most of them announcing support of a particular refusenik or of Soviet Jews in general.

First Rally For Some

Some of the signs were made by children. The four members of the Goldman family of Baltimore wore on their backs cardboard six-pointed stars that announced, "Free Soviet Jews." The stars were designed by 11-year-old Rachel. She noted that she was "happy" to attend her first rally, because "we might get people out."

Melissa Vigorito, 17, of Erie, Pa., wore on the back of her jeans jacket an elaborate magic-marker sign declaring, "You have the key, you

have the power."

Chaim Gartman of Rockville, Md., held a green-lettered sign that announced in Spanish, "Let the Soviet Jews leave." He didn't speak Spanish, he admitted, receiving help for the sign from his son's Spanish teacher.

His explanation? "So everyone could understand," he said. "I want everyone to know."

The white painter's caps worn by the Detroit delegation of hundreds sported a similar sentiment. The 119 people from Texas marched under the Lone Star flag, and dozens of others carried Israeli or American flags.

The rally was the first public demonstration for most of the thousands of children present. Ralliers older than age 50 acknowledged that they, too, had never participated in a mass event.

However, a few people said they had attended the 1963 civil rights march at the same site, featuring the "I Have a Dream" speech by the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

And Lester Pines, one of about 80 people from Madison, Wis., said he had attended a mass protest against the Vietnam War in 1969, also at the Ellipse. He described the Sunday rally as less confrontational and more universally felt.

He also noted that "This demonstration shows there's more to the Jewish community than New York City."

Surveying the representatives of Syracuse, N.Y.; Palm Springs, Calif.; and Fort Wayne, Ind.; he said, "There are all these very active Jewish communities in smaller cities."

Sunday, at least, no one would disagree.

**AT DEMONSTRATION IN MOSCOW,
REPORTS OF ARRESTS AND BEATINGS**
By Susan Birnbaum

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- A number of Soviet Jews were beaten and arrested, and an American correspondent was detained, when some 200 burly men calling themselves "peace protesters" disrupted a "Freedom Sunday" rally in Moscow, according to news sources and reports reaching the Soviet Jewry groups demonstrating here Sunday.

The specifics about the protest in Moscow were still sketchy at press time, but it was known that two Jewish activists were arrested, several beaten and 27 "unaccounted for" following the protest in front of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, according to former refuseniks as well as the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

The demonstrators not accounted for apparently "disappeared" en route to the demonstration on Smolensky Square and are presumed to have been detained by police or KGB, former prisoner of Zion Yuli Edelshtein told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at Sunday's rally.

Arrested by the KGB and detained for four hours was Cable News Network bureau chief Peter Arnett, an American citizen. Arnett and his camera crew were roughed up and their equipment damaged when they turned their cameras away from the "peace protesters" and on the handful of Jewish activists, according to CNN.

Arnett said his attackers were presumably plainclothes security police and "Muscovites holding peace signs." CNN and the State Department lodged protests.

The attack was "a warning signal to Western news organizations" that the Soviets "will not tolerate political dissidents on the streets," Arnett told CNN.

Asked about the arrests Sunday morning on NBC's "Face the Nation" program, the Soviet Union's foremost expert on America refused to provide details. But the expert, Georgi Arbatov, head of the USA-Canada Institute of the USSR, said the incident should not be used by Westerners to "throw sand in the face of the summit" meeting this week between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Edelshtein, 29, who arrived in Israel in July and is now working as a Hebrew teacher there, said the incident in Moscow "means that Gorbachev is testing us (to see) how far we can go without (making) real changes.

"It means a lot of people are not misled and not deceived. And our message to Gorbachev is that we won't let him get his place in the community of free countries without solving the problem of Soviet Jews for real."

Edelshtein said Soviet Jewry activists here who engage in peaceful protests "also help," because "our struggle is not one-colored. It is multicolored." He emphasized this was true "as long as the struggle stays nonviolent."

"I appreciate all the efforts" made by Soviet Jewry activists in the United States, said Edelshtein, referring to passive arrests and demonstrations in front of cultural events, as well as organized and sanctioned demonstrations by mainstream groups. "We must remind them all the time that we are not content."

(New York correspondent Andrew Silow Carroll contributed to this report.)

SUNDAY'S RALLY ONE OF A STRING OF PEACEFUL PROTESTS PLANNED

By Susan Birnbaum

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- Refusenik Sabbath preceded Freedom Sunday here.

It was a series of peaceful demonstrations and day-long prayers outside the Soviet Embassy and the offices of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline--two of the most visible properties of the USSR. The protests will continue for most of the week, while Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is here for his summit conference with President Reagan.

The SSSJ along with the North American Jewish Students Network organized the events. They began at the embassy at 3:30 p.m. Friday with a refusenik kiddish, followed by a Sabbath eve service at 4 p.m. outside Aeroflot.

There was a Saturday morning minyan at the airline office and a day-long prayer vigil ending with a havdalah service 6:30 p.m. Saturday, which brought Refusenik Sabbath to a close.

'Refusenik Embassy' Planned

Plans call for setting up a "Refusenik embassy" at Aeroflot Monday, sponsored by Network and supported by the SSSJ. Former prisoner of Zion Yosef Mendeleovich will serve as "chief ambassador" and other former refuseniks as "consuls."

During Refusenik Sabbath, the demonstrators obeyed the local ordinance that prohibits demonstrations closer than 500 feet from a foreign mission. This Tuesday, however, a brief demonstration will be held inside the imaginary line. The demonstrators will submit to arrest, by prearrangement with the District of Columbia police.

The same groups plan to demonstrate Thursday while Gorbachev is speaking to 60 American business leaders at a meeting arranged by Secretary of Commerce C. William Verity.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES:

UPS AND DOWNS OF JEWISH EMIGRATION LINKED TO U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- For nearly two decades, Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union has risen and fallen -- not predictably like the tides, but in a discernable pattern of sharp ups and downs that seem to be linked to the state of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Observers will argue whether the Nixon-Kissinger policy of detente was responsible for the highs of 1972 and 1973, when Jewish emigration soared to almost 35,000 a year, or whether passage of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment to the Trade Reform Act of 1974 caused it to drop to barely 13,221 the following year.

Jackson-Vanik, also known as the Freedom of Emigration Amendment, denies most-favored-nation trade status to the Soviet Union and the Communist bloc countries, which restrict the right of their citizens to emigrate.

But the amendment provides that the restrictions can be waived year-to-year if the president and Congress find there is a significant change in these restrictive policies.

More Jews left the USSR in 1976 than in 1975, and Jewish emigration again hit 16,736 in 1977 and nearly 29,000 in 1978. Supporters of the Soviet Jewry movement in the United States maintain that Jackson-Vanik was instrumental in the release of many tens of thousands of Jews, because it is the clearest and most effective expression of America's commitment to the fundamental principle of free emigration -- and the Soviets recognize this.

Peak Year Was 1979

The all-time peak year was 1979, when 51,320 Jews were permitted to leave the Soviet Union. But in 1980, the figure slumped below 22,000. Many attribute this to President Jimmy Carter's objections to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Relations between Washington and Moscow soured with the onset of the Reagan years. As the diplomatic temperatures approached freezing, the allowed departures of Jews from the Soviet Union fell dramatically.

In 1981, the total was 9,447. In 1982, only 2,688 Jews were permitted to leave. The nadir was reached in 1984, when only 896 Jews emigrated. In 1986, the number was 914, an improvement but hardly an upswing.

But the picture has brightened suddenly this year. So far, 7,250 Jews have left the Soviet Union since January, the most in any single year since 1981.

Again, the barometer appears to be the state of U.S.-Soviet relations. President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will hold their third summit meeting -- the first in the capital of either superpower -- and this time they are to sign a treaty reducing intermediate range nuclear ballistic missiles.

The pact is earnestly sought by both leaders. Reagan has pledged that human rights, including the right to emigrate, will be high on the agenda of his two days of talks with Gorbachev.

The thousands of Jews and others who poured into Washington Sunday for the massive pre-summit demonstration hope to impress the Communist leader and bind Reagan to his commitment.

ISRAELI AND AMERICAN THINKERS DEBATE VIABILITY OF DIASPORA

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- Rephrasing a question put to American and Israeli scholars at a two-day conference held here last week, author Charles Silberman quoted the 137th Psalm: "How do I sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?"

Quite well, answered the author of last year's controversial "A Certain People," which argued that the American Jewish community has succeeded -- in terms of spiritual health and social and political acceptance -- as no diaspora community has succeeded before.

Not surprisingly, Israeli political scientist Shlomo Avineri had a very different answer to the same question.

"Off-key" best summarizes the response of the author of an equally controversial analysis of American Jewry. Last spring, Avineri's "open letter" in the Jerusalem Post, written at the height of the Jonathan Pollard spy case, accused American Jews of having a "galut mentality" as they "cringed in fear" of charges of dual loyalty.

Thus the battle lines were drawn, in a meeting sponsored by the B'nai Zion fraternal order and entitled "The Coming of Age of American Jewry -- A Zionist Perspective."

The conference, held Dec. 1-2, could as easily have been called "The Coming of Age of Zionism -- An American Perspective," since the speakers spent as much time debating the centrality of Israel as they did the vitality of the diaspora.

American participants included Silberman, former Brandeis University Chancellor Abram Sachar and sociologist Steven A. Cohen. The Israeli speakers were Avineri, novelist Amos Oz and Bar-Ilan University Chancellor Rabbi Emanuel Rackman.

Diaspora As Essential As Israel

Speaking at the Tuesday morning session on "Is America a Galut?", Silberman drew on theological and historical precedents to argue that diaspora Jewry is as essential a component of Judaism as is the Jewish state.

At the heart of the religion, he said, is the idea of dialectic and paradox. Conflict not only characterizes the relationship between Israel and diaspora Jewry, he argued, but provides the very rationale for the continued existence of the diaspora side-by-side with the Jewish state.

"The genius of our tradition is that these tensions are always perpetuated, never resolved," said Silberman. "Judaism is not an either/or religion, but requires both sides of the dialectic."

Silberman then quoted the morning blessing recited by religious Jews, in which God is blessed for creating in human beings "many passages and vessels," organs and ducts, all of which perform in inseparable harmony.

A new blessing is needed, said Silberman, to celebrate "the interconnectedness of the Jewish national body, the interdependence of Israel and the diaspora. We need each other, not to support Israel's military, not to make American Jews feel Jewish, but because we are of the same flesh."

Israel Not As Dependent As Believed

Responding to Silberman, Avineri did not deny the interconnectedness of the Israeli and world Jewish communities, but he did say that the perception of need may not be equal between the

two. Avineri maintained that whereas diaspora Jewry relies on support of Israel to unify its usually divided constituency, Israel is not as dependent on the largeness of world Jewry as is often believed.

The former director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry drew gasps from the audience when he compared Israel's annual budget -- \$25 billion -- with the \$3 billion it receives in American foreign aid and the three-quarters of a billion dollars it receives from world Jewish philanthropy.

"Israel's three-and-a-half million Jews carry the burden of the remaining billions, while all of world Jewry represents only 2 percent of the budget," said Avineri.

He maintained that overemphasis of the financial link has added to the conflict between Israeli and diaspora Jews, and said the "cash nexus" needs to be replaced by a "people nexus." A "people nexus," he said, demands that aliyah becomes a priority in America and Israel, with Jewish students and families being encouraged to spend at least a year in Israel.

Avineri appeared forthright in describing Israel's drawbacks -- saying it was neither the safest nor the most pleasant place to live. But he said that Israel offered what no other country could: Jewish autonomy and a Jewish population "whose lives don't depend upon the goodwill of others.

"Jews in Israel have self-determination," he continued. "Whatever is wrong is wrong because of us. We have no one else to blame."

'Spiritually Disastrous' Diaspora

At the Tuesday afternoon session, novelist Oz echoed Avineri's words, but with a stern twist. "Yes, it may be dangerous to live in Israel, but to live in the American diaspora can be spiritually disastrous," said the author of "In the Land of Israel" and "A Perfect Peace."

Oz said that while American Jewry produced outstanding Jewish individuals -- writers, artists and scholars -- as a community it could not match the "collective creativity" of Israel, whose elements include the Hebrew language and the kibbutz.

In response, sociologist Cohen stood up for achievements by American Jews, including their political sophistication and influence on Washington's foreign policy.

But Oz, like the other Israelis at the symposium, remained firm. "Israel is the Jewish stage, while the diaspora is the auditorium," he said.

(Yitzhak Rabi also contributed to this story.)

AN APPEAL FOR ANNE HENDERSON POLLARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- Three members of Congress have written to the director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons urging that an outside medical specialist be allowed to treat Anne Henderson Pollard, who is serving a five-year prison sentence as an accessory in the possession of classified information.

In their letter to the director, J. Michael Quinlan, the legislators note that Pollard "suffers from biliary dyskinesia, an extremely rare, painful and difficult-to-treat gastro-intestinal disease" which leaves her "almost constantly bent over with severe abdominal and chest pains."

The signatories are Reps. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), Bruce Morrison (D-Conn.) and William Hughes (D-N.J.).

**U.N. ORDERS INVESTIGATION INTO
400 MISSING WAR CRIMES FILES**

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar ordered a full investigation Tuesday into reports that more than 400 files are missing from the U.N. war crimes archives.

Perez de Cuellar acted after the New York Post published a report Tuesday by Uri Dan, its Mideast correspondent, that the previously sealed war crimes files have "mysteriously vanished." Dan was the first journalist allowed access to the files since the secretary general ordered them opened to the public Nov. 23.

The director of the archives, Alf Erlandsson, confirmed Tuesday that 432 files have "somehow disappeared." The secretary general said he has appointed Richard Foran, U.N. assistant secretary general for general services, to conduct the investigation.

According to a statement released Tuesday by a U.N. spokesman, the secretary general "was surprised and disturbed to learn, through press reports and for the first time, that a number of files of the United Nations War Crimes Commission archives are missing." The archives are stored in a building in midtown Manhattan.

Immediate Investigation

The spokesman said the investigation would start immediately and, he believes, will be concluded quickly. The results will be made public.

He said that, among other things, it will "seek to determine whether the files in question were separated from the archives while they were in U.N. custody, or whether they were ever received by the United Nations when it was first given custody of the archives" in 1947 by the now defunct Allied War Crimes Commission.

The U.N. spokesman said the investigation will try to determine "whether the files in question concern 'adjourned or withdrawn cases' which were filed separately." These may be files that at one point or another were legally withdrawn from the archives for reasons not specified.

The files contain documents on more than 40,000 people suspected of committing war crimes during World War II. Until last month, the files were accessible only to the governments of U.N. member states. The secretary general, who has sole custody of the files, ordered them opened to scholars, researchers, historians and other members of the public.

This was a major victory for Israel, which had been campaigning vigorously for more than a year to make the files accessible to the public. The Israelis finally prevailed on the 17 former members of the War Crimes Commission to grant their assent.

'A Shocking Development'

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, who led the effort, said Tuesday, "The revelation of missing files is a shocking development. It means that vital information concerning the greatest criminals in history may have been destroyed. It proves again the

importance of releasing these documents from the veil of secrecy that has shielded them for many years."

In his report in the Post, Dan did not say what files he was looking for. He reported that "numerous microfilmed files were marked 'Missing Registered Number' " and that they included Yugoslavian documents relating to the wartime activities of President Kurt Waldheim of Austria.

He said Erlandsson confirmed that the missing files included 123 submitted by France; 51 by Britain; 20 by Yugoslavia; two by the United States and an undetermined number by Belgium. All concerned charges of atrocities committed by Germans.

Netanyahu said the missing files might be retrievable "from other sources" since the U.N. records are summaries of documents in various national archives.

**HUMAN RIGHTS, ARMS CONTROL
TOP REAGAN-GORBACHEV AGENDA
By David Friedman**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Human rights was at the top of the agenda as President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev began their three-day summit conference at the White House Tuesday.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said human rights and arms control were the two issues discussed during a nearly hour-long meeting between the two leaders and then at a longer session which included top Soviet and U.S. officials.

However, he stressed that the discussion was more of an "overview" of the issue, in which the two leaders expressed their opinions rather than dealing with specific concerns.

Reagan had mentioned human rights in welcoming Gorbachev at a ceremony Tuesday on the south lawn of the White House.

'Fundamental Issues'

"On the table will be not only arms reduction, but also human rights issues about which the American people and their government are deeply committed," the president said. "These are fundamental issues of political morality that touch on the most basic of human concerns."

Gorbachev did not mention human rights specifically, but noted that in addition to arms control, "we are also looking to a most serious and frank dialogue on other issues of Soviet-American relations."

Fitzwater said that two working groups were set up, one to discuss arms control and the other to consider the three other topics of the summit: human rights and regional and bilateral issues.

Fitzwater was not sure whether the working groups would make a public report. Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, who

In order to provide expanded coverage of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit and related activities on behalf of Soviet Jewry, today's Daily News Bulletin has been expanded to six pages.

shared the briefing with Fitzwater, said the usual practice is for the working groups to present brief summaries to the two leaders to use in their discussions.

While Reagan has promised to press for improvement in Soviet policy on Jewish emigration, as well as the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union, it is not clear that even if the Soviets agreed to change, it would be publicly announced at the summit.

Talks On Mideast Uncertain

Neither was it certain that the Arab-Israeli peace process would be among the regional issues to be discussed.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has proposed that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, including the United States and the Soviet Union, convene an international Mideast peace conference to lead to direct negotiations between the parties.

The Soviets did hint that they might hold a briefing on regional issues, although they did not say to reporters whether that would include the Mideast.

The highlight of Tuesday's meeting between the leaders was the signing of the treaty to eliminate medium- and short-range nuclear missiles.

Fitzwater said that to mark the signing, Reagan gave Gorbachev a pair of solid-gold cuff links, similar to the ones he was wearing, depicting the prophet Isaiah beating a sword into a plowshare. He noted that this was the theme of Reagan's address to the United Nations General Assembly in 1986.

In addition to the opening session, Gorbachev and Reagan met again in the afternoon and plan to hold two more meetings on Wednesday and a final session Thursday morning.

Reagan and his wife, Nancy, were set to host a state dinner for Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa, at the White House Tuesday night, and the Gorbachevs will host a dinner at the Soviet Embassy Wednesday night.

Gorbachev is also scheduled to hold meetings with Vice President George Bush, key leaders of Congress, American intellectuals and business leaders.

Before leaving Washington Thursday night, Gorbachev will hold a news conference at the embassy. Reagan is scheduled to address the nation over television Thursday night.

Tight Security

Security here is the tightest ever for a foreign visitor. The entire block in front of the Soviet Embassy is barricaded by concrete barriers, with sharpshooters stationed on rooftops. The curb lane of the street in front of the Madison Hotel, where the rest of the Soviet officials are staying, is also blocked off.

Except for a few selected pool reporters, most of the nearly 7,000 journalists from around the world covering the summit can not see the two leaders except on television at the press headquarters in the J.W. Marriott Hotel, about six blocks from the White House.

Washington residents are talking about not only the traffic inconveniences caused by the security arrangements, but also the strange sight of seeing the Soviet red flag with its yellow hammer and sickle flying on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House and draped on the Old Executive Office Building next door.

SOVIETS WON'T CONFIRM PLANS TO DISBAND ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE

By David Friedman and Susan Birnbaum

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- The deputy chairman of the Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public refused Tuesday to confirm reports here that the Kremlin is planning to disband the anti-Israel propaganda organ.

When asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency if the reports were true, Samuil Zivs, in Washington for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's summit meeting with President Reagan, chuckled and refused to comment.

But on Monday, Zivs told The New York Times, "No public organization can last forever." Reports of the Kremlin's plans to disband the committee, attributed to an unidentified American official, first appeared in the newspaper Tuesday.

Formed In 1983

The committee was formed in April 1983 at a time when anti-Semitic propaganda was proliferating in Soviet books, media broadcasts and newspaper articles. It has been used by Soviet authorities to counter activism by Soviet Jewish refuseniks and their supporters in the West.

"The Anti-Zionist Committee was a blunder when it was created, and never accomplished what the pre-Gorbachev rulers wanted to accomplish," Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Tuesday.

'Became An Embarrassment'

He said the committee became "an embarrassment" to the Kremlin, because of its "crude propaganda and heavy-handed approach. It did not deter Jews who wanted to leave for Israel and its propaganda was never bought in the West except by pro-Moscow apologists."

Shortly after the committee was formed, Zivs announced that nearly all Jews who wished to leave the Soviet Union had done so, that there was no Jewish problem in the USSR and no anti-Semitism. He later retracted the statement on emigration.

Prior to the 1985 summit meeting in Geneva between Reagan and Gorbachev, Zivs told the news media they were victims of "false propaganda," yet admitted that several thousands Jews still wanted to emigrate but could not be granted exit visas because of "state secrets."

Persona Non Grata

Zivs later became persona non grata in the United States, Goodman recalled, and was refused entry even though he had applied as a member of the Soviet Lawyers' Association at the urging of the American Bar Association.

Because the committee members "caused an obvious embarrassment in the West, they were excluded whenever possible from participating in meetings, even if they came under other sponsors," said Goodman. "It was obvious they were a liability in trying to project the new image of a new Gorbachev and a changing society."

Goodman said he would welcome the dissolution of the committee, "because maybe there will be less anti-Semitic pollution in the Soviet Union."

But he said its elimination would "not suggest, in and of itself, a real shift in terms of Jews living in the Soviet Union."

**SOVIET JEWS DEMONSTRATE,
POLICE TURN UP THE HEAT**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Groups of Jewish refuseniks have been demonstrating for exit visas this week in the Soviet Union, hoping to draw heightened attention to their plight while Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is in Washington for meetings with President Reagan.

Meanwhile, despite the avowed Soviet policy of glasnost, Soviet police and security forces apparently are increasingly cracking down on these demonstrations.

An estimated 100 refuseniks in several Soviet cities have declared a hunger strike for the duration of the summit meeting, according to Israeli Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arad, who was speaking to the Freedom Sunday rally for Soviet Jews in Washington, D.C.

On Tuesday, about a dozen Moscow refuseniks attempted to demonstrate outside the Foreign Ministry, hoping to meet with officials inside. However, the refuseniks were quickly arrested and charged with illegally demonstrating. Two long-time, active refuseniks, Natasha Khassina and Yuli Kosharovsky, were also charged with physically resisting arrest.

Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, said the police provided "witnesses" to "prove" the charge of resisting arrest. She added that the charges, or "protocols," can be used against these people any time for further arrests.

An additional participant, Alexander Feldman, a religious Jew, was arrested and released later Tuesday.

Singer said the demonstrators intend to go to the Communist Party headquarters Wednesday to "ask that all protocols be destroyed."

On Monday, about 30 refuseniks demonstrated at the Central Committee of the Communist Party. It was reported that nine were briefly detained.

On Sunday, refuseniks demonstrated in both Moscow and Leningrad. The Moscow demonstration was broken up by KGB toughs, who arrested at least two Jewish activists and beat several others.

All those arrested were released after several hours' detention, including an American newsman, Peter Arnett, Moscow bureau chief of Cable News Network.

In Leningrad Sunday, long-time refuseniks Lev and Marina Furman were forcibly arrested with their nine-month-old girl, Aliya. Lev received a jail sentence of 10 days in an unknown prison and Marina was fined 50 rubles. Aliya, who remained with her mother for several hours in jail, was not permitted to eat, according to Singer.

One of the demonstrators, a former prisoner of Zion, told Singer that the Furmans were part of a group of about 12 demonstrators, four of whom were beaten. Three bystanders, brothers Boris and Slava Flsburg and Mark Olchovich, also reportedly were arrested and received 10 days in jail.

Taken from their Moscow apartment and detained for several hours Tuesday were Anatoly and Gali Gennis, in-laws to Kosharovsky, and their three children. They were later released.

It was also reported that the apartments of Khassina and Kosharovsky have been under constant surveillance since Dec. 4, and that refusenik Judit Ratner-Bialy is under house arrest. Bialy was told Dec. 4 she would receive permission to

emigrate.

Said one observer to Singer, "Things are so tight, it's like the old days in Moscow."

**15 ARRESTED FOR PROTEST
NEAR SOVIET EMBASSY**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- While Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was meeting with President Reagan Tuesday, 15 Jewish demonstrators were arrested for protesting within 500 feet of the Soviet Embassy here.

The protesters, led by Rabbi Avraham Weiss and Glenn Richter of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ), had crossed police barricades set up two blocks away from the embassy.

Wearing tallisim, they sat near the embassy for five minutes, singing "Hatikva," "Am Yisrael Chai" and other Hebrew songs before police escorted them to a police bus. One of the protesters blew the shofar.

On Monday, just hours before Gorbachev arrived in Washington, the SSSJ and the North American Jewish Students' Network demonstrated outside the office of the Soviet Union's Aeroflot Airlines to protest the \$2 billion in loans from American banks to the Soviet Union each year.

Representatives of the groups placed dozens of fake checks of \$2 billion each payable to Gorbachev inside the security fence guarding the office.

Both the Tuesday and Monday demonstrations featured former Soviet Jewish refuseniks including Yosef Mendelevich, Leon and Anna Charny and Irina Dashevsky.

The former Jewish refuseniks who live in Israel did not cross the barricades Tuesday for fear that their arrests could jeopardize their right to visit the United States.

Also present were members of the Colorado Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry. Some of the Denver protesters wore sweatshirts saying "Glasnost-Shmasnost, Summit-Shmummit. Just Let Our People Go."

Both demonstrations focused on further restricting U.S.-Soviet economic ties until the Soviets live up to their obligations under the Helsinki human rights accords. The SSSJ and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews support a legislative proposal by Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.) that would allow President Reagan to suspend U.S. loans to the Soviet Union for reasons including national security or human rights violations.

At Monday's protest, Mendelevich was named the ambassador of the newly created Union of Struggling Soviet Refuseniks Embassy in front of Aeroflot. Mendelevich displayed a styrofoam key to symbolically open the Soviets' door to emigration.

Mendelevich said the Soviet government does not have "enough brains to consider any Jewish appeal" for increased emigration. He was referring to Gorbachev's comments Nov. 30 that the emigration movement is part of a U.S. conspiracy to create a "brain drain" from the Soviet Union.

Rabbi Weiss, national chairman of the SSSJ, called for the Soviets to release 60,000 Soviet Jews annually. Until then, he said, the United States should continue to adhere to the Jackson-Vanik amendment linking trade advantages to human rights policy.

To protest Gorbachev's scheduled meeting Thursday with U.S. business leaders, Weiss said he plans to stage a funeral procession Thursday in

front of Aeroflot to mark the "death of morality in American business."

Weiss also criticized U.S. politicians for not demanding at Sunday's rally that the \$2 billion in U.S. loans be linked to Soviet human rights policy, a position stated publicly Sunday by Mendeleovich.

On Tuesday, the Jewish demonstrators protested at the police barricades near the embassy alongside Ethiopian-Americans critical of Soviet ties with the Ethiopian government.

10,000 IN ISRAEL RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWISH RIGHTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- About 10,000 school children and Soviet Jewry activists packed the Yad Eliahu sports stadium here Monday night in a rally for the right of Jews to leave the Soviet Union.

They were addressed by the country's top leaders -- President Chaim Herzog, Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres-- who aimed their remarks at Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, now in Washington for a summit conference with President Reagan.

The rally here came a day after Freedom Sunday, which drew more than 200,000 people to Washington for a pre-summit demonstration on behalf of Soviet Jews. The event in Washington was attended by some of the most prominent former refuseniks, including Natan Sharansky, Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak, who flew from Israel for the occasion.

The highlight of the rally here was a broadcast telephone conversation from Moscow with Yuli Kosharovsky, a refusenik since he first applied for an exit visa 16 years ago.

Kosharovsky, an engineer and Hebrew teacher, thanked all those in Israel and the United States who are working for the cause of Soviet Jews. "We will succeed if we continue to work. We will immigrate to Israel," he said.

Responding in a voice that cracked with emotion, Shamir vowed to pursue his case. He declared that after the Washington rally, "The world must know that the Jewish people are a power, and we are no longer a people without an address. We no longer say let my people go, but let my people go home, to Israel, to the homeland."

Peres called on Gorbachev to dismantle not only missiles, but the "land mine of hatred" for the Jewish people.

Herzog said the issue of human rights "is the litmus test which will show whether the rulers in the Kremlin are indeed bent on a genuine reversal of policy and a new path."

"There is no doubt that new winds are blowing and that many hopes have been raised and await fulfillment," he said. Herzog demanded "no more gestures, no more tokens, no more declarations of intent, but deeds -- an actual change in the Soviet authorities towards the Jewish nationality in the USSR."

SHARANSKY SAYS BILINGUAL MAGAZINE COULD BRIDGE U.S.-ISRAEL GAP

By Susan Birnbaum

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Since his release from Soviet prison 20 months ago, Natan Sharansky has emerged as somewhat of a consultant, sometimes self-appointed, on major Jewish

issues resulting from his experience as refusenik, prisoner and new Israeli.

Speaking to the plenary of the United Jewish Appeal's National Campaign Cabinet Sunday night, following the massive rally here for Soviet Jews, Sharansky offered solutions to what he said was a continuing problem of disunity among American and Israeli Jews.

"I often have a feeling that we are two different nations," he said in front of his closest colleagues from his Moscow refusenik days, as well as an ample assortment of members of Congress, United Jewish Appeal leaders and Soviet Jewry activists.

"For many Israelis, America is a good place to raise money, and for many American Jews, Israel is a place they go to see what their money is being raised for."

As a result, he said, "American Jews don't understand Israeli Jews" and vice versa.

Sharansky suggested the creation of an English-Hebrew magazine "with an editorial" that both communities would read, and identical Jewish education programs for children in both countries with student exchanges also offered.

He said the estimated cost of the magazine -- \$2 million to \$10 million -- was worth it. "We cannot have two separate people," Sharansky said. "And all this giving and taking is all we have between us."

Turning to the issue of Soviet Jews, Sharansky suggested that it would be "absolutely normal" to create a special UJA fund to bring former refuseniks to the West to speak to Jewish groups and government figures.

In addition, he said, such a reservoir would also avoid the pitfalls of rival Soviet Jewry activist groups. "Why do we need all this competition?" he asked. "Why shouldn't we make it centralized?"

"One says we must solve the question in Washington," he continued. "The other says we can solve the problem in Moscow. The most normal way is to solve this problem in Israel."

Sharansky said that he, as well as Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, are involved with the rudiments of a UJA program that would provide money for housing via direct contributions "without any bureaucracy."

"It's only an idea and there are still very serious barriers," he said. But, he told the U.S. Jewish leaders, "It is you who can push us."

Also on Sunday, the American Jewish Committee presented Sharansky its American Liberties Medallion for being a "courageous defender of Jewish dignity."

PERES SAYS HE REGRETS SUMMIT NOT USED FOR MIDEAST PEACE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the World Zionist Congress Tuesday that he regretted the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Washington was not used to launch Israeli-Arab peace negotiations under the aegis of the two superpowers.

Peres drew catcalls from rightwing hecklers and warm applause from supporters when he referred to the controversial idea of a mini-summit of Israelis and Arabs to be held in congruence with the meetings now taking place between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev -- an idea he proposed to the Reagan administration last month.



U.N. ATTEMPTS TO THWART MOVE BY CONGRESS TO CLOSE PLO OFFICE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar sent a letter Monday to the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, saying that the world body opposes a congressional move to close the Palestine Liberation Organization's observer mission in New York.

The letter, sent to Vernon Walters, conveyed the U.N.'s "legal position" that the PLO's observer mission cannot be closed under existing international agreements, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday.

A resolution to close the PLO's offices in Washington and New York was adopted 11-8 last Thursday by a House-Senate conference committee. The measure, which previously had passed the full Senate, is part of an amendment to the State Department authorization bill for the next fiscal year.

Both houses have to vote again on the amendment before it becomes law. Sources in Washington said they expect this to happen later this week or next week.

D.C. Office Still Open

The State Department has already ordered the PLO to close its information office in Washington, but it opposes closing the observer mission to the United Nations in New York. A federal district court has upheld the order closing the Washington office, but it has remained open, pending appeal to a higher court.

The PLO was invited to set up an observer mission to the United Nations in 1974 with the adoption of U.N. General Assembly Resolution 3273. "As such they are covered by sections 11, 12, and 13 of the headquarters agreement of June 26, 1947," according to the U.N. spokesman.

These sections say that the United Nations may not impose "any impediments to transit to or from the headquarters" of "persons invited" by the United Nations and requires the United States to grant visas to all such people.

The Arab nations are considering asking the World Court in The Hague to rule on the legality of closing the PLO observer mission in New York, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

Commenting on the report, the U.N. spokesman said: "It is too early to speculate about the submission of this case to the International Court of Justice, since the decision of the Congress is not yet law, and the U.S. has not made clear how it intends to implement this decision."

Israeli diplomats on Tuesday praised the congressional move to shut down the PLO office here. Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "We welcome the congressional decision, which should be taken as an example by all countries that terrorists cannot dwell in the midst of civilized society. It is high time that the U.N. expel the PLO from its ranks altogether."

VIOLENCE IN GAZA LEADS TO STORMY DEBATE OVER TERRITORY'S STATUS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Israel may soon have to come to grips with the problem of the Gaza Strip -- whether the continued occupation of that territory of less than 200 square

miles with an Arab population of 600,000 is essential to Israel's security and worth the cost of maintaining law and order there.

The issue moved to the fore this week following another fatal stabbing of an Israeli citizen, Shlomo Takal, 45, who was knifed in the back of his neck in the main square of Gaza on Sunday.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Monday that the Gaza Strip should be demilitarized under Israeli supervision and the Jewish settlements in the territory dismantled. About 2,000 Jewish settlers live in the Gaza Strip and are as militant as their 50,000 compatriots who live in the West Bank.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir blasted Peres' proposal Tuesday, assuring his Likud Knesset faction "it will never be." He said it was "hard to understand people who want to put Israel on the operating table" during this week's summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

While the future status of the West Bank is at the core of the split between right and left in Israel, many Israelis of both camps feel that Israel's interests in the Gaza Strip, though vital, are of short-term value.

Eliahu Ben-Elissar, a prominent member of Likud's Herut wing, who was Israel's first ambassador to Egypt, admitted recently that the densely populated Gaza Strip, where over half the Arab population lives in refugee camps, is more of a nuisance than an asset.

The territory was seized from Egypt during the Six-Day War in 1967 and has been a trouble spot ever since.

Demographic Argument

Peres used demographic arguments to support his views. "Very soon there will be one million Arabs in the Strip. Where will you settle them? In the Negev?" he asked the Knesset committee members.

Peres' remarks triggered a new confrontation with right-wingers. Tehiya leader Yuval Neeman, at a news conference Tuesday, denounced Peres' suggestion that Jewish settlements be dismantled. He maintained that the suggestion itself would lead to more violence in the territories, which he said are filled with terrorists who feel they can get away with anything.

Tehiya announced it would introduce a motion of no confidence in the government to protest the "deterioration of the security situation in the territories."

The Likud faction on the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee said it would summon Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin to reply to complaints that the IDF was no longer effectively combatting terrorism and subversion in the administered territories.

Meanwhile, security forces continued to search for Takal's assailant. Most of the suspects detained for questioning have been released and the curfew imposed on downtown Gaza Sunday was lifted Tuesday morning.

Takal's murder was the latest in a series of assaults on Israelis in Gaza in the past year. Yisrael Kitaro, a 43-year-old taxi driver from Ashkelon, was fatally stabbed there on Oct. 7, 1986. Ten days earlier, on Sept. 27, Haim Azran, 35, also from Ashkelon, died of knife wounds inflicted while he was shopping in the Gaza marketplace.

ARMY EXEMPTIONS FOR YESHIVA STUDENTS COME UNDER SCRUTINY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Public attention was focussed this week on the sizable number of yeshiva students exempted from military service. Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres agree it is unfair and does not serve the national interest.

Shamir said over the weekend that "the wholesale exemption of yeshiva students from service is splitting the nation in two." Peres proposed that exemptions should be reduced to the number necessary to maintain the religious schools, not make them a haven for draft dodgers.

He told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Monday that "the criteria for exemptions have apparently changed since 1977, and we ought to examine the reasons why."

Israeli law requires that all able-bodied citizens serve in the armed forces when they reach the age of 18. Men are required to serve for 3 years and women for 2 years. But yeshiva students are excused as long as they pursue their religious studies.

A Knesset subcommittee study of Israel Defense Force documents showed that exemptions for yeshiva students increased after Likud came to power in the 1977 Knesset election. Ezer Weizman, then a Likud defense minister, raised the number of exemptions because the first Likud government depended upon the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Israel party for its Knesset majority.

From 150 to 17,000

Peres recalled that in 1948, when he was director general of the Defense Ministry, David Ben-Gurion, who was premier and defense minister, put him in charge of military exemptions. The number of requests then was for 150 to 200 yeshiva students out of a total Jewish population of 650,000.

"If today, the number of students exempted is 17,000, it's a very serious matter," Peres said.

Rabbi Menachem HaCohen of Labor, who chairs the Knesset subcommittee investigating the issue, said the IDF's figures "prove that 20,000 yeshiva students of military age are today exempt from regular and reserve service."

Another subcommittee member, Yossi Sarid of the left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement, said that the exemptions law has enabled "60,000 healthy yeshiva students to become battlefield deserters" since the state was founded.

Recently the rabbinical court in Jerusalem refused to appoint Ezra Basri, a candidate for dayan -- religious court judge -- because he had feigned mental illness to evade military duty in 1957. It was also disclosed that many of the recently appointed military chaplains never did their compulsory military service.

CATHOLIC-JEWISH TIES ENDURE, DESPITE THE JOLTS OF 1987

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- The ongoing dialogue between Catholics and Jews has proven strong enough to withstand several severe shocks that jolted relations between the two faiths during the past year, a leader of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States said here Monday.

"While 1987 was a turbulent year in Catholic-Jewish relations, nevertheless, the delicate

fabric of the new relationship that Catholics and Jews have been weaving in patient dialogue for the past 20 years, in this country and throughout the world, remained intact," according to Dr. Eugene Fisher, executive secretary of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Waldheim Audience Mentioned

Fisher, speaking before the American Jewish Committee's Interreligious Affairs Commission, mentioned among other events, the audience Pope John Paul II granted Austrian President Kurt Waldheim last June.

The meeting aroused Jewish ire because of Waldheim's alleged involvement in the deportation of Greek Jews and link to other atrocities during his service as a German army officer in the Balkans during World War II.

The Catholic leader also referred to "the recent controversy" touched off by remarks attributed to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Vatican Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith, in an interview published Oct. 24 in the Italian weekly magazine *Il Sabato*.

The cardinal was quoted as saying that while the basis of Catholic dialogue with Judaism is respect between the two religions, Catholics must also pursue the "theological direction" that "the faith of Abraham... finds its fulfillment" in the reality of Jesus Christ.

Interview Outrages Jews

The interview outraged Jewish leaders and prompted the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith to demand a clarification from the Vatican last month.

In a telegram to Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, head of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, the ADL's national president, Abraham Foxman, and Rabbi Leon Klenicki, director of its interreligious affairs department, protested that Ratzinger's "expressions take the dialogue (between Catholics and Jews) back to the Middle Ages and appear contrary to the spirit of Vatican II and Pope John Paul II's statements on Judaism."

A statement released shortly afterward by Willebrands' office said the intention of Ratzinger's remark was to expound the view that Christians should acknowledge their Old Testament heritage and that the Catholic Church respects Jews and their "own faith and expectations."

Fisher told the AJCommittee commission Monday that "the real story of the events surrounding Cardinal Ratzinger's interview" is that "a clarification was needed. A clarification was asked for, and within days, a clarification was given."

Deepened The Relationship

Fisher maintained that "The recent months of controversy have deepened the entire Catholic-Jewish encounter, and, indeed, ironically, have strengthened the entire endeavor."

Rabbi A. James Rudin, national interreligious affairs director of AJCommittee, said that a number of "shocks, jolts and surprises have severely tested Catholic-Jewish relations."

"But I have been enormously heartened by the positive strength of Catholic-Jewish relations in the United States, and I have been gratified by the important leadership role that the American Catholic bishops have played throughout this year of crisis," he said.

**ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTS DINITZ
CHAIRMAN OF WZO EXECUTIVE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and a former ambassador to the United States, was elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive by a substantial margin at the 31st World Zionist Congress here Monday.

He defeated his Likud challenger, Science and Industry Minister Gideon Patt, by a vote of 310-220. The election was by secret ballot.

In his victory speech, Dinitz urged President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to put human rights at the center of their agenda for the summit that begins Tuesday in Washington.

He also pledged to reduce waste and duplication in the WZO and Jewish Agency departments he will be administering. Dinitz is virtually certain to be selected for the parallel post of Jewish Agency Executive chairman. He received the unanimous endorsement last week of the powerful overseas Jewish philanthropists on the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

His promise to improve the workings of the WZO-Jewish Agency bureaucracy seemed to be in direct response to President Chaim Herzog of Israel, who called for a radical "soul searching" on the part of the WZO in his speech at the festive opening of the congress Sunday night at the Binyanei Haoma convention hall here. Herzog spoke critically of "duplication, narrow interests, and inefficiency" in the WZO.

The outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency chairman, Leon (Arye) Dulzin of Likud's Liberal party wing, also appeared to tailor his valedictory address to the theme sounded by Herzog.

Agency Should Not Handle Absorption

Dulzin urged that the Israeli government take over operative responsibility for immigrant absorption in its entirety, instead of the present blurred responsibilities between the Jewish Agency and the Absorption Ministry. He said the WZO-Jewish Agency should confine itself to encouraging and facilitating aliyah.

Dinitz's relatively easy win over the Likud candidate was expected. He was supported by a powerful coalition the Labor Party put together with the Confederation of General Zionists, in which Hadassah is dominant; the Conservative Zionist movement, Mercaz; and the Reform Zionist movement, ARZA.

The Conservative and Reform Zionists had indicated they could not support Patt because, among other things, he voted in the Knesset in favor of the Orthodox-inspired amendment to the Law of Return, which would invalidate conversions performed by non-Orthodox rabbis.

Dulzin also called on Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leaders of Likud and the Labor Party respectively, to agree between themselves before next year's Knesset elections that the Law of Return will not be changed. "We in Israel ought not to take an internal political action whose ramifications affect the entire Jewish community," he said.

Peres, who attended the opening session of the congress, pledged that the Labor Party would oppose any change and would support the removal of that divisive issue from the national agenda for the next 10 years.

Dinitz's election did not end the politicking at the congress. The other members of the WZO Executive have to be chosen, each of whom will head a department. Traditionally, the key post of treasurer goes to the party of the losing candidate for chairman.

Some observers here believe that Labor will make an effort to relegate Likud to relatively minor portfolios. But it is unclear from the election results whether Labor can in fact muster the necessary strength to exclude Likud.

Kaplan Takes Stand On Aliyah

Mendel Kaplan of South Africa, the recently elected chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, emphasized aliyah in his address to the congress Sunday night. He urged every Zionist leader to set a personal example in that regard.

"Either you make aliyah, or you are no leader," Kaplan declared. He has a home in Israel, but spends part of the year in Johannesburg. He vowed that as head of the Board of Governors he would work closely with the WZO and strive for full cooperation.

Akiva Lewinsky, the outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency treasurer, told the congress Monday that the Jewish Agency debt has been reduced by \$185 million and stands now at \$200 million. He said without that achievement, there could have been no absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants and no massive aide to agricultural settlements in recent years.

Lewinsky had been the Labor Party's original candidate for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. He dropped out of the race after the diaspora Jewish philanthropists announced in October that they wanted new blood and would not support him.

In his report to the congress, Lewinsky said that the WZO-Jewish Agency work force has been cut 26 percent over the last 10 years and that some of the salaries are well below the national average.

On Sunday, Hadassah President Ruth Popkin was elected to the prestigious post of chairman of the congress, defeating Raya Jaglom, president of WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization. The vote, by a show of hands, represented a victory of the Labor coalition over the Likud bloc.

**ORGANIZERS OF 'FREEDOM SUNDAY'
SAY ITS SUCCESS DEPENDS ON SUMMIT**
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The organizers of Sunday's demonstration for Soviet Jewry on the National Mall expressed satisfaction Monday at the large turnout, but stressed that the real test of whether the Washington Mobilization was a success will come at the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Hereafter the Soviets can never say that

this is a small movement or is a movement confined only to Jews," Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jews, the organizing agency for the demonstration, said at a news conference here.

"It is a national movement" and the crowd Sunday included Americans and Canadians of all races and religion," Abram said.

Gorbachev arrived in Washington late Monday afternoon and begin three days of talks with Reagan on Tuesday. The first major event is expected to be the signing of the INF treaty eliminating intermediate range nuclear forces.

Abram stressed that most American Jews support the treaty, but declared "the summit will fail" if it "does not make significant headway" on other issues, including human rights, as Gorbachev and Reagan said they would when they announced the summit date.

Only Modest Gains

Secretary of State George Shultz said Monday that the United States expects only modest gains in the areas of human rights and regional issues. "We will make progress, but it won't be enough," Shultz said in a television interview on NBC's "Today" show.

Abram stressed that in addition to emigration, the Soviets must also allow Jews to practice their religion freely, teach Hebrew and form communal organizations. He also urged an end to the jamming of Voice of Israel broadcasts.

Abram, who also serves as chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, received a cable Monday from Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel, praising Sunday's rally.

"The great demonstration that you and your colleagues held in Washington is a testimonial of the strength and the moral weight of American Jewry and of the unity of the Jewish people," Shamir wrote.

"Your moving cry, 'Let My People Go,' echoed throughout the corners of the world," Shamir said.

"It brought home to many governments and peoples the resounding message that the Jewish people will not stand by and permit their brethren in the Soviet Union to be cut off from their people and from the land of their forefathers," he added.

Jacqueline Levine, chairperson of the Washington Mobilization, said at the Monday news conference here that the rally is "a remarkable demonstration of the unity of our community and tells us that on significant and crisis issues, we are indeed one."

Gorbachev Remarks Drew Crowd

Levine said that until last week, the organizers had only expected about 75,000 people to participate. But she noted that about 250,000 were there Sunday, which she credited to Gorbachev's Nov. 30 interview on NBC-TV in which he took a hard line on emigration.

"Gorbachev's interview aroused people's ire and the desire to be part of something that could possibly change the course of history," she said.

The Voice of America broadcasted the demonstration to the Soviet Union. Yuli Edelshtein, a former refusenik, said he spoke to people in Moscow who expressed their appreciation for the turnout.

Another former refusenik, Ida Nudel, said she would never have believed that there could be

such a large number of demonstrators for Soviet Jewry.

Soviet's Reaction Noncommittal

One of the first official Soviet reactions was a noncommittal one Monday from Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, who shared a briefing with White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

"I don't think it was an anti-Soviet demonstration," Gerasimov said when he was asked for his view. "It was a demonstration on one issue, on the issue of Jewish emigration. As I understood it, those who took part in the demonstration wanted to make the point and I think they did."

But Tass, the official Soviet news agency, denounced the freedom rally. Speeches accusing Moscow of anti-Semitism are "monstrous for their unfairness" and grossly distorted reality, the news agency said Monday.

The Arab League also protested. "For the United States to inject this issue at this time will further add fuel to the already explosive situation in the Mideast," Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League representative in the United States, said in a statement released here.

Several participants at Monday's news conference expressed concern that the summit could result in a new trade agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, particularly since Commerce Secretary C. William Verity has arranged for Gorbachev to meet with 60 American business leaders on Thursday.

No Relaxation of Jackson-Vanik

Abram stressed that the Jewish community is united in opposing any relaxation of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, which links most-favored-nation benefits for the USSR with increased emigration, unless the Soviets allow at least 50,000 Jews a year to emigrate as it did in 1979. The Reagan administration is on record as opposed to any softening of the legislation.

But Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, stressed that the concern was over providing the Soviets benefits not covered by Jackson-Vanik, such as untied bank loans.

Cohen called for "linkage" between human rights advances and improved relations. She urged Reagan to tell Gorbachev that the Soviets must "earn the economic, trade, cultural and technical advantages which they desire so badly and they will earn them by demonstrating a willingness to change and not by simply denying their need to change."

Taking a similar line was Helene Drobenare, Soviet Jewry chairperson for the North American Jewish Students Network. She said that if Reagan agrees to increased trade without such linkage "Dec. 7 will be once again a day that will live in infamy."

Edelshtein said that the Soviets have themselves raised the linkage issue. He explained that refuseniks have been told in Moscow that if agreements are reached with the United States they might be allowed to emigrate sooner.

Martin Stein, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, pledged that the struggle will continue until "every Jew who lives in the Soviet Union is permitted to live freely as a Jew or to leave freely" for Israel.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel also contributed to this report.)

**EAST BERLIN PROSECUTOR PROTESTS
LIGHT SENTENCES FOR NEO-NAZIS**
By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The state prosecutor in East Berlin has appealed against the relatively light sentences given by a district court there to four neo-Nazi thugs convicted of acts of violence last week.

The prosecutor contended that the one- to two-year prison terms were not consistent with the nature of their offenses.

The four, members of a "skinhead" group, broke into the Zion Church in East Berlin on Oct. 17, shouting "Jewish pigs" and "send the Jews to the gas chambers." They injured several congregants, some seriously, and damaged property.

The Zion Church, a Protestant denomination, is friendly to East Berlin's tiny Jewish community with which it maintains a running dialogue. The prosecution had demanded sentences of up to four years.

The trial was unusual inasmuch as it was the first public admission by the East German authorities that neo-Nazis are active in the Communist Democratic Republic of Germany. They still maintain, in conversations with Western reporters, that the right-wing extremists were influenced by "subversive elements" in West Germany.

The "skinheads," youthful roughnecks who wear Nazi-like uniforms, are a phenomenon that has surfaced recently in Western countries, including the United States. Most of them are aggressively anti-Semitic.

So far, the Jewish community in East Berlin has not been disturbed, but it is apprehensive. It sent observers to the trial of the four thugs.

**SEARCH UNDER WAY FOR KIDNAPPERS
OF DUTCH JEWISH ACTOR AND ACTIVIST**
By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- A search is underway in Holland and Belgium for three Dutch neo-Nazis who allegedly kidnapped a Dutch Jewish actor, Jules Croiset, in the Belgian city of Brugge (Bruges) last Wednesday.

Croiset, 49, escaped his captors on Thursday. He described them as two men and a woman between the ages of 20 and 30, both of Dutch nationality. He said he was held in an abandoned factory near Charleroi, south of Brussels, subjected to anti-Semitic epithets and forced to swallow sleeping pills.

Croiset had been particularly active in the campaign by Dutch Jews and non-Jews to prevent the performance in Holland of a reputedly anti-Semitic play by the late West German playwright Rainer Werner Fassbinder. The play, "Garbage, the City and Death," was withdrawn by its sponsors, the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy, last month as a result of the widespread protests.

Since then, many Dutch Jewish families have received threatening telephone calls. Following the kidnapping of Croiset, Justice Minister Frits Korthals Altes of the Netherlands ordered police protection for members of the Jewish community.

A previously unheard of group calling itself the Netherlands Fascist Youth Organization has claimed credit for the kidnapping.

Croiset said his abductors did not speak of the Fassbinder play. He said they tore a Star of David from his neck and painted a swastika on his chest.

Croiset said he has been the target of

threatening phone calls before and after his kidnapping. One anonymous caller told him, "All Jews must die," the actor said in a television interview here.

The police said they have received about 200 tips as to the identity and whereabouts of the kidnapers. So far, the only clue is a metallic-colored Citroen D.S. car.

While the withdrawal of the controversial play was considered a victory for Dutch Jews and the many non-Jews who supported them, there has been a strong backlash in Holland. It has come from highly respected members of Dutch society and prominent journalists, who have accused the Jewish community of blocking freedom of expression and "cultural censorship."

Jewish groups who attended a private performance of the Fassbinder play said it may not be anti-Semitic, but could encourage anti-Semitism. One of the principal characters, a slumlord and exploiter, is portrayed as "the rich Jew."

Richard Stein, chairman of "Stiba," the Foundation for Combatting Anti-Semitism in Holland, expressed doubt that Croiset's kidnapers belong to the extreme right wing. Such extremists rarely refer to themselves as "fascist," he noted. He also thought it strange that neo-Nazis would demand a performance of a Fassbinder play. The playwright was an outspoken anti-fascist.

The Anne Frank Foundation here has urged the minister of justice to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate anti-Semitism in Holland and take legal actions where appropriate.

(Brussels correspondent Yossi Lempkowitz also contributed to this report.)

**RABIN SAYS ONE WAR CANNOT END
TERRORISM OR RESOLVE CONFLICT**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Israeli youths Monday against the "illusion" that one powerful blow could solve the Middle East conflict or eradicate terrorism.

Addressing high school students in Ramat Gan, Rabin said, "We have never had a war which ended all wars, and we can never have such a war. There can be no single war or operational battle which can eradicate terrorism."

He added, "I know it's nice to think so, to create expectations. But that's not the truth. There has been no one war to end all wars."

Rabin may have been referring indirectly to Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, which was supposed to clear Palestinian terrorists out of that country and establish peace with the Beirut government. Neither objective was achieved.

The defense minister referred to the fatal stabbing of an Israeli, Shlomo Takal, in the central square of Gaza on Sunday as a serious example of terrorism in the administered territories, carried out for nationalistic or religious reasons. He said, however, that despite the difficulties of combatting terrorism, some 80 percent of all serious terrorist attacks have resulted in the arrest and punishment of the assailants.

Rabin said that at least two Arab countries -- Syria and Iraq -- are capable of waging chemical warfare. He said there was a third country, as well, which he declined to name.

But every Arab country and Arab ruler should know that the use of chemical weapons against Israel would bring devastating retaliation, Rabin said.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
TERRORIST ATTACK SEEN AS SYRIAN
MOVE TO RE-ESTABLISH CREDIBILITY**
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The recent terrorist attack by a lone assailant who crossed the Israel-Lebanon border on a hang-glider and killed six Israeli soldiers is an attempt by Syria to rebuild its credibility in the Arab world, an expert on terrorism asserted in an interview here last week.

According to Lt. Col. Raanan Gissin, former deputy spokesman of the Israel Defense Force and the senior liaison officer with the foreign press in Israel from 1982 to 1986, Syria wanted to demonstrate with this terrorist attack that it is "the leading force in the armed struggle against Israel."

Syria, Gissin explained, came out as a "total loser" from last month's Arab summit meeting in Amman, Jordan. Not only did King Hussein of Jordan receive "a green light" by the end of the summit to continue with the efforts to reach a settlement with Israel, but Syria also found itself with only Libya opposing the resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt, Gissin noted.

"Syria found herself after the summit almost isolated in the Arab world. In addition to the other factors, Syrian isolation in the Arab world was magnified by its support of Iran in the Iran-Iraq war.

"Syria needed something to demonstrate a semblance of leadership in the Arab world," Gissin continued. "This is why President Hafez Assad (of Syria) allowed the terrorists of Ahmed Jibril, who heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, which is headquartered in Syria, to launch the attack against Israel," he said.

No Hermetic Seal On Border

In Gissin's view, the terrorist suicide mission proves that Israel cannot seal its border with Lebanon hermetically. He contended, however, that the perpetrator, who sailed over the electrified fences of the Lebanon-Israel border in a hang-glider powered by a small bicycle motor, succeeded in his mission "by a fluke," because he was actually spotted by the IDF radar. Only a failure of the guards to heed the warning that was issued enabled the terrorist to kill six soldiers and wound seven others.

Gissin disclosed that in the last six months, more than 150 terrorists have been killed in the Israeli-controlled security zone in southern Lebanon and on the Israel-Lebanon border by the IDF and the South Lebanon Army, which is backed by Israel.

In addition, various terrorist organizations in Lebanon have attempted 35 attacks on IDF and SLA targets in southern Lebanon in the last 12 months, Gissin said, pointing out that the SLA lost more than 40 troops since September 1986 in clashes with terrorists.

Asked about the possibility of a war between Israel and Syria in the near future, Gissin replied: "Syria is interested in bolstering its image as a leading force in the rejectionist front against Israel, but at the same time she does not want to escalate the confrontation to a full war."

Syria, the former IDF spokesman asserted, knows that as long as the Iran-Iraq war is continuing, the Arab world is not ready to join ranks against Israel, and Syria alone, which is having

severe economic difficulties, will not go to war with the Jewish state under such circumstances.

But Syria, Gissin said, remains "the No. 1 military danger" against Israel. He said that Syrian military might includes 4,100 modern tanks, more than 650 MiG jet fighters, including the sophisticated and new MiG-29, some 150 missiles and chemical weapons that Syria manufactures itself. Syria, he added, has 400,000 regular troops in its army.

Gissin could not give information about the size of the Israeli military. But according to the London Institute on Strategic Studies, the IDF has 3,800 tanks, 600 airplanes and 500,000 soldiers in time of full mobilization of all the troops in reserve.

Gissin predicted that terrorist incidents against Israel will increase with any attempt to reach a peace settlement between Israel and Jordan.

But he noted, at the same time, that in the last year, there has been a marked decline in hard-core terrorist activity within Israel proper and the territories administered by Israel since the 1967 Six Day War. He said that from January to August 1987, there were 274 terrorist incidents in Israel and the territories, compared with 448 terrorists incidents in the same period in 1986.

**ARAB-OWNED ELECTRIC COMPANY
LOSES CLIENTS IN JERUSALEM**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Thirteen Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem that have received their electric power from the Arab-owned Jerusalem District Electric Co. for the past 20 years, have been linked to the Israel Electric Corporation's national power grid.

The switch, which began at 11 p.m. Sunday and was to be completed by Monday evening, went smoothly despite the Arab utility's refusal to cooperate. More than 300 IEC employees carried out the carefully planned operation, watched by some 1,000 border police who were mobilized for the occasion.

The Jewish neighborhoods were built since the 1967 Six-Day War. They received their power from the Arab company under a 60-year-old concession dating from the British Mandate.

The concession, which permits the Arab company to serve other communities, expires at the end of this month. The Knesset just voted to extend the concession for 12 years on condition that the Arab company reduce its number of clients to overcome its \$25 million debt. The money is owed mainly to the IEC, from which it buys 95 percent of its power.

The Arab-owned company will continue to supply some 70,000 households in Jerusalem's Arab suburbs. Power to West Bank settlements, military bases in the territory and Jewish neighborhoods in the Old City, will be switched to the IEC grid at a later date.

The Arab electric company is the largest public institution in the West Bank. It had been receiving generous financial assistance from the joint development fund operated by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization until two years ago, when a rift developed between the two partners.

The financial assistance enabled the company to expand beyond its needs. Its financial difficulties are attributed to poor management and obsolete equipment.

**CONGRESSIONAL PANEL FINDS ISRAEL'S
MAJOR ROLE IN U.S. ARMS SALES
TO IRAN ALWAYS HAD U.S. APPROVAL**
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- While Israel had a major role in opening and continuing the controversial sales of U.S. arms to Iran, the United States government bears the basic responsibility for the policy, according to the congressional committees that investigated the Iran/Contra affair.

The 690-page report by the Senate and House select committees, released Wednesday, also finds Israel was not involved in the diversion of the profits from the sale of arms to Iran to the Contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

The report clearly confirms that Israel sought and received explicit approval from the Reagan administration for every step in the selling of arms to Iran in the effort by the United States to achieve an opening with Iran and gain the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

The Israel Embassy had no comment, but Yosef Gal, the embassy spokesman, pointed to the comments by Israel Premier Yitzhak Shamir in The New York Times Wednesday.

Shamir said Israel had no regrets about its participation in the American effort. "It was done by a common decision of our Cabinet and we are convinced that our policy was a correct one," Shamir told the Times. "We did it together with the United States, and I do not see any reason to regret it."

Shamir also denied that Israel was selling arms to Iran, but said the government has no control over what some Israeli businessmen may be doing.

Reagan Called Responsible

The Senate-House committees concluded that the responsibility for the Iran/Contra affair lies with Reagan, because even if he did not know that funds for the arms sale were being diverted to the Contras, "he should have."

"The president created or at least tolerated an environment where those who did know of the diversion believed with certainty that they were carrying out the president's policies," the report said.

Six Republican House members and two Republican senators issued a minority view that Reagan and his staff could be faulted only with mistakes in judgment that were not unconstitutional or improper, as the committees had concluded.

On Israel's involvement, the report said Reagan and his advisers placed "great weight" on Israel's sponsorship of the Iran initiative and the use of Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian businessman, as an intermediary because "Israel has taken a strong stand against international terrorism and Israeli intelligence services are among the most respected in the world."

(In a reaction Tuesday in anticipation of the report, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in Jerusalem that, "Perhaps the minority (of the congressional committee) may feel we were a

friend who was too energetic in our offers of help, but no one can say we had any intentions other than to help the United States to free the hostages. That is what was at the basis of this operation.")

The main report noted that Robert McFarlane, then Reagan's national security advisor, sent Michael Ledeen, a consultant to the National Security Council, to Israel to seek cooperation on intelligence about Iran "because of dissatisfaction with CIA capabilities."

Ledeen testified that the then Israeli premier, Shimon Peres, told him that Israel's intelligence on Iran was also inadequate.

Israel's Needs Said To Be Understood

The report also noted that the United States was under no illusions regarding Israel's motives. "The Israelis strongly advocated the initiative, viewing it as a joint U.S.-Israel operation, and were willing to give the United States deniability -- so long as it did not subject them to criticism by Congress and the Secretary of State (George Shultz) was fully informed," the report said.

It added that both McFarlane and his successor, Rear Adm. John Poindexter, told the Israelis that "since Israel -- and not the United States -- was selling to Iran, U.S. policy was not being violated."

Ledeen had testified to the committees that Peres had told him in May 1985 that Iran had requested arms, but he "would not do this unless he had explicit American approval for it." Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin had also demanded that Shultz be informed.

The committees concluded in the report that "the president was under no illusion that the interests of the United States and Israel were synonymous. As early as June 1985, Secretary Shultz had pointed out to McFarlane that Israel had little to lose by promoting the initiative; it had no policy against arms sales to Iran, and, given the hostility of most of its neighbors, Israel was more willing to gamble on the prospects of changes in the Iranian government.

"No foreign state can dictate the conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Superpowers make their own decisions. And the United States did so in this instance. Nevertheless, Israel's endorsement of the Iran initiative cannot be ignored as a factor in its origin or in its continuation."

The minority view also stressed that while Israel was promoting the Iran initiative for its own national interests, "we believe the U.S. government responsibly made its own judgments, and its own mistakes."

Cleared On Diversion Of Funds

On the diversion of funds to the Contras, the committees heard testimony that after the Israeli shipment of TOW missiles to Iran in November 1985, the Israelis told Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, then an aide on the National Security Council, to use profits from the sale for "whatever purpose he wanted." North then decided to use the funds for the Contras, according to testimony.

North told the committees that at a meeting in Washington in January 1986, Amiram Nir, the

Israeli premier's advisor on counterterrorism, suggested using the profits to replenish the Israeli TOWs sold to Iran and for joint Israel-United States anti-terrorist activities, including the release of hostages.

North also testified that the diversion of the funds to the Contras was suggested to him by Ghorbanifar at a meeting later that month as a means of convincing the United States to continue the initiative.

However, the committees reported that at a meeting with Israel Defense Ministry officials in December 1985, North said the United States wanted to generate profits from the sale of arms to Iran to help finance the Contras.

The report noted that testimony on this came from one of the Israelis who took notes, while two other Israelis, who did not take notes, could not recall North's remarks. North has denied making the statement.

The Republican minority view faulted the committees for accepting this testimony since the Israeli government did not allow key Israelis in the affair to give sworn depositions.

However, at a press conference releasing the report, Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), the committee's Senate chairman, and Warren Rudman (R-Vt.), the committee's ranking minority member, praised Israel as being most cooperative with the committees.

Israel had given the committees a written historical chronology of its involvement in the Iran initiative.

The report by the committees does not officially end the Iran/Contra affair. An independent counsel, Lawrence Walsh, is presenting evidence to a federal grand jury. North and Poindexter are identified as targets of possible prosecution.

The Israeli government is fighting an attempt by Walsh to subpoena David Kimche, former director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, as well as Nir and two Israeli private arms dealers, Al Schwimmer and Yaakov Nimrodi.

SHAMIR REPORTEDLY WILL SEEK TALKS DIRECTLY WITH KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel plans to make a dramatic appeal to King Hussein of Jordan to enter into direct peace negotiations with Israel.

It will come during a speech he will deliver at the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations Thursday night in Miami, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned Wednesday.

Shamir will call on Hussein to open talks with Israel now, in light of the recent Arab summit meeting in Amman, Jordan. The summit showed that Egypt is no longer isolated in the Arab world because of its peace treaty with Israel, Shamir's media and communications advisor, Avi Pazner, said at a special briefing for Israeli correspondents here.

He said Shamir would note that seven Arab countries have resumed diplomatic relations with Egypt since the summit, returning it to the Arab fold, even though Cairo has full diplomatic relations with Israel.

Pazner said that when Shamir meets with President Reagan at the White House Friday, he will concentrate on the issue of Soviet Jewry in view of next month's summit meeting in Washington between Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail

Gorbachev. He will convey to the president his view that Soviet Jews, as a nationality, should receive the right to repatriation, Pazner said.

According to Pazner, Shamir also will discuss the issue of American aid to Israel with Reagan, but will approach it by urging that the United States share with Israel the "strategic burden" in the Middle East.

But he emphasized that Shamir considers his speech to the CJF as the major statement of his six-day visit to the United States. Pazner said the speech will last 40 minutes and will be in two parts -- the political part, which will include his appeal to Hussein, and a part devoted to the concerns of the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

TWO CONVICTED FOR VIOLATING RIGHTS IN MURDER OF ALAN BERG

By Chris Leppek

Intermountain Jewish News

DENVER, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- Alan Berg was killed because he was a Jew and a radio personality, a U.S. district court jury decided Tuesday in convicting two white supremacists of civil rights violations in the murder of Berg, a Denver radio talk-show host.

The jury, having deliberated for 10 hours over two days, convicted Bruce Pierce and David Lane. Acquitted of the charges were Richard Scutari and Jean Craig, as the jury apparently heard no evidence clearly linking them to the crime.

All four are former members of the white supremacists group known variously as the Silent Brotherhood or The Order.

Prosecutors had contended throughout the trial that Pierce was the triggerman in the June 1984 murder and that Lane drove the getaway car. Scutari's role was never clearly established during the trial. Craig had been accused of trailing Berg for the group in the weeks before the shooting.

The 12 jurors began deliberation Monday in the unexpectedly rapid trial. They examined a complex set of legal conditions to determine whether the defendants deprived Berg of his civil rights in the slaying which, under federal law, must include not only the act of murder but the intent to kill Berg because of his Jewish religion, and the fact that the murder prevented his exercise of free speech.

The Cases

The prosecution, which relied largely upon the testimony of other Brotherhood members, tried to prove that the four's actions were part of a conspiracy to overthrow the U.S. government through counterfeiting, robbery and assassination of prominent American Jewish figures.

Defense attorneys pointed to inconsistencies in testimony from a number of government witnesses and cast doubt on the witnesses' credibility since several gained lighter sentences from earlier racketeering convictions in exchange for their testimony in this trial.

They also argued that Berg could not be considered Jewish in the context of this trial since, even though born of Jewish parents, he was not a practicing Jew and had claimed on the air to have had doubts about the existence of a god.

Prosecutors countered that Silent Brotherhood members, however, used their perception of Berg as a Jew as a primary motive for their crime.

**ISRAELIS FRET ABOUT DECREASED U.S. AID;
PERES REPORTS A U.S. OFFER CONTINGENT
ON JOINING MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE**

JERUSALEM, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- Israeli officials are increasingly concerned that drastic cuts in American aid to Israel may be in the offing because of Washington's need to cut the huge federal deficit, made more urgent by the rapid decline of the U.S. dollar and the Oct. 19 stock market crash.

Israel presently receives \$1.8 billion in military aid from the United States and \$1.2 billion in economic assistance each year, a total of \$3 billion, all in the form of grants. Haaretz reported Wednesday that the United States Information Service has distributed a position paper saying that aid to Israel may be cut by 8.5 percent in the next fiscal year.

The possibility of curtailed aid is considered one of the main reasons for Premier Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington this week, where he is expected to raise the issue with members of Congress and the Reagan administration. He is scheduled to meet with President Reagan at the White House Friday.

But Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that the administration is ready to commit itself to continue the present level of aid if Israel agrees to "direct negotiations with an international opening."

He was referring to the plan he favors for direct negotiations with Jordan and possibly other Arab states and the Palestinians within the framework of an internationally sponsored peace conference.

Peres Reports Offer Of Memo

Peres, speaking to a group of visiting American B'nai B'rith leaders, said the Reagan administration was prepared to sign a memorandum of understanding with Israel defining the nature and limitations of an international conference.

It would also, according to Peres, assure Israel that U.S. aid would be continued at least at its present level even beyond the term of the Reagan administration, which ends in January 1989.

There is precedent for an outgoing administration to bind its successor to certain foreign policy undertakings. A memorandum of understanding formulated in 1975 pledged that the United States would not talk to or have any contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization unless it recognized Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

The memorandum has applied through the Carter and Reagan administrations. But officials at the Israel Embassy in Washington were reported Wednesday to have misgivings over what appears to be a trade-off of continued American assistance in return for Israel adopting a certain policy.

Those officials point out that there has never been a linkage between Israeli policy and American aid.

The 1975 pledge, however, was part of a package whose main point was Israel's withdrawal from key areas of Sinai, which it continued to hold after the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Israel eventually returned all of Sinai to Egypt under terms of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, signed in Washington in March 1979.

The State Department had no comment Wednesday on Peres' report of the Reagan administration's offer. The issue of an international

conference has sharply split Israel's coalition government.

A spokesman for Shamir said Tuesday that the prime minister had no knowledge of any offer from Washington of a memorandum of understanding. But, the spokesman added, such a document would be irrelevant because an international conference will never take place.

Shamir, for his part, is expected to discuss in Washington how the United States and the Soviet Union, at their summit meeting in Washington next month, can contribute toward advancing negotiations between Israel and the Arab states.

**LIKUD SAYS PEACE CONFERENCE IDEA
HOLDS UP SHAMIR-HUSSEIN NEGOTIATIONS
By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- The ongoing dispute between the Labor Party and Likud over an international conference to serve as a framework for direct peace negotiations between Israel and Jordan surfaced in the Knesset again Wednesday.

The controversial formula was also the subject of remarks at a different forum by Mustafa Khalil, former prime minister of Egypt, who is visiting Israel to mark the 10th anniversary of the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's historic trip to Jerusalem.

Khalil made clear his belief that direct negotiations cannot take place without an international conference, the position taken by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader.

Prospect Of Conference Blamed

But Ronni Milo, speaking for Likud, sharply attacked that concept during the Knesset debate Wednesday. He contended that Premier Yitzhak Shamir and King Hussein of Jordan could have been by now engaged in direct peace negotiations were it not for certain Israeli politicians who cling to the idea of an international conference.

According to Milo, Hussein has shied away from direct negotiations because the Laborites are promoting an international conference. "Hussein is well aware of the situation. Therefore he will not engage in direct negotiation when he is being offered an international conference," Milo said.

But Labor M.K. Aharon Harel quoted the opinion of Egyptian officials that an international conference was the only road to direct negotiations. He warned that unless the peace treaty Israel signed with Egypt in 1979 is expanded to include other Arab countries, the 10 years of peace with Egypt could, "God forbid," turn into a "passing episode."

Khalil, who was prime minister when Sadat came to Israel and later when the Camp David accords were being negotiated, spoke before the Center for Peace in Tel Aviv. He told his audience it was a "waste of time" to try to convince Jordan and the Palestinians to retreat from the resolution adopted at the recent Arab summit meeting in Amman which endorsed an international conference.

"How can Hussein and the Palestinians, after accepting the resolution in the last Arab summit of negotiating under an international conference, come back and say that we are going to change our position and try to pick up from where we stopped?" Khalil asked.

He said neither Israel nor any other party would suffer from an international peace conference, which could convene "very soon."

APPEALS COURT RULES CHABAD CAN KEEP REBBE'S LIBRARY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- The Appeals Court for the Second Circuit in Manhattan Tuesday unanimously upheld a federal district court decision that awarded the library that belonged to the sixth Lubavitcher rebbe, Rabbi Joseph Schneersohn, to the Lubavitch movement.

The imbroglio pitted Barry Gourary, grandson of the sixth rebbe, against the organized Lubavitch, or Chabad, community.

Gourary, a Montclair, N.J., businessman who is not a member of Chabad, had claimed part of the library had been left him by virtue of a will his grandmother, Nechama Dina Schneersohn--the sixth rebbe's widow -- left at the time of her death in 1970.

In it, she wrote that the 50,000-book library was the property of herself, her two daughters, and her grandson. Chabad, however, claimed it was entitled to the library because it was communal property.

In April 1985, Gourary was seen on a video surveillance system taking books surreptitiously from the library, located at Chabad worldwide headquarters in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, N.Y.

He had taken more than 400 books and manuscripts and sold more than 100 to rare book dealers in the United States, England, Switzerland and Israel, at a personal profit he claimed was \$186,000.

Chabad went to court to restrain Gourary from selling more books, and he countered with a suit claiming ownership of the library. In January, federal Judge Charles Sifton awarded the library to Chabad.

Chabad repurchased many of the works at prices in excess of that amount. The remaining books and manuscripts were placed in escrow. These will now be returned to the library.

Found To Be Communal

In the original 41-page decision, handed down Jan. 6, 1987, Sifton found it "inescapable" that the library was the property of the Lubavitch community, "held in trust for the benefit of the religious community of Chabad Chasidism."

Gourary and his mother, Hanna Gourary, the sixth rebbe's daughter, had appealed the decision on two grounds: that Schneersohn had left the library to them, despite a 1946 letter in which he said the books were communal property; and that they had been improperly denied the right to a jury in the original trial.

In the appeal, Gourary and his mother referred to the 1946 letter, an important piece of evidence in the original trial.

The letter was from Schneersohn to an American scholar and bibliographer, Dr. Alexander Marks, former chief librarian at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. In it, the rebbe had asked Marks' help in getting the library out of Poland.

Sifton had called this piece of evidence "one extraordinary letter," and much of his decision rested on this piece of correspondence.

In it, Schneersohn had requested "that as a renowned authority on the subject, you should please write a letter to the State Department to testify on the great value of these manuscripts and books for the Jewish people in general and particularly for the Jewish community of the

United States to whom this great possession belongs."

The Gourarys claimed that the rebbe had written the letter only to enlist the government's help in bringing out his books, not to state that they belong to the community.

During the first trial, YIVO scholar Lucjan Dobroszycki had testified that post-war Polish-American relations were good and that Poland would have facilitated the return of the library to this country sooner had it been the rebbe's personal possession. Thus, no subterfuge would have been needed.

The appeals court also concluded that a trial on an "equitable issue," with no demand for damages, does not call for a jury. In addition, it was concluded that Gourary's request for a jury had not been filed on time.

The collection, which Chabad spokesman Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky described as being of "incalculable value," contains books and manuscripts on Hasidism and Kabbalah by the various Lubavitcher rebbes. Included in the collection, but not taken by Gourary, is a siddur said to have been the possession of the Ba'al Shem Tov, 18th-century founder of Hasidism.

Secular, Not Religious, Court

The case was remarkable in that it was taken to a secular court of law rather than a rabbinic court, and because it revolved around a dispute between members of the same Lubavitch family that has led the Chabad movement for more than 200 years.

Krinsky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Tuesday that "hundreds of thousands of people all over the world eagerly awaited this decision, and we're enormously delighted with the verdict."

No appeal is planned.

Much of the library was sent to America from Poland in 1946, with other books and manuscripts following in 1971 and 1973. (A sizable portion of the Lubavitch library remains in Russia, where the movement originated, stored away in museums and libraries, unavailable to the Jewish community.)

Chabad originally went to secular court in August 1985 to obtain a restraining order to prevent Gourary from selling any more books from the library. There is no provision in Jewish law for immediate enforcement of a restraining order.

Krinsky, who was plaintiff in the original case, said the matter was taken to secular court because "according to Jewish law, when matters cannot be reconciled in a beis din, the "Shulchan Aruch" -- the Code of Jewish Law -- not only permits the use of a secular court, but encourages it, for the sake of justice."

He stressed that it was without question that Schneersohn lived his life according to Orthodox Jewish law and would not have left the library to his wife. His sole intent was to bequeath the library to the Lubavitch community, he said.

WEST GERMAN COURT BANS NAZI SONG

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 18 (JTA) -- A court in Oldenburg has banned the "Horst-Wessel Lied," a marching song of the Nazi SA associated with violence against Jews.

The court overruled a lower court decision in Lingen that allowed the tune to be performed with the original lyrics.

ANOTHER ARAB KILLED AS ISRAEL TRIES TO EASE SPATE OF UNREST

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- One Arab was killed and nine were wounded as violence continued in the Gaza Strip and West Bank Monday. But Israeli authorities said the situation in the administered territories was relatively calm and under control after a week of rioting that some officials described as a civil revolt.

The disturbances of the past week are acknowledged to have been the worst in recent years and politicians of the Labor Party and Likud are each accusing the other of responsibility for allowing conditions to deteriorate so precipitously.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department expressed "serious concern" Monday over the situation and blamed the trouble on the lack of a peace agreement in the region and Israel's "occupation" of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

At the United Nations, meanwhile, the Security Council prepared to meet Monday night for the second time in four days, to discuss the situation.

While Israeli authorities sought to ease tensions, Arabs rioted Monday in the northern Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis. An unidentified Arab of about 25 was shot to death after he attacked an Israel Defense Force patrol with a gasoline bomb. Four other rioters were wounded.

Maximum Restraint Ordered

The IDF has been under orders since late last week to exercise maximum restraint. An investigation into the Khan Yunis incident was promptly held and the soldiers were found to have "acted properly" in the circumstances.

In a bizarre aftermath, the dead man's body was snatched from the hospital morgue, displayed in the streets by demonstrators and returned to the morgue.

Elsewhere in the Gaza strip, soldiers at a roadblock wounded four young Arabs who attacked them with rocks.

One Arab was slightly wounded Monday in a clash with the IDF in the West Bank. Youths hurled rocks at army patrols in the narrow alleys of the Nablus casbah. They were dispersed by tear gas. Meanwhile, a curfew was lifted at the Balata refugee camp near Nablus early Monday, only to be reimposed later when rioting broke out in the camp.

Officials of Israel's civil administration in the territories met with local Arab leaders to try to calm the unrest. But Arab municipality officials apparently have little control over what happens in the refugee camps where pro-Palestine Liberation Organization activists are said to be the source of unrest.

The authorities are hoping to convince merchants in the territories to reopen their shops, which have been closed for several days, and to prevail upon Arab workers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to return to their jobs in Israel.

About 60,000 Arabs from the territories have failed to show up for work in Israel, according to a report Monday in Al Hamishmar. The paper said

the effects of the strike are felt mainly at construction sites and in municipal services, such as street cleaning and garbage removal, in which many Arabs are employed.

Labor, Likud Trade Charges

Meanwhile, the coalition partners continued to clash over short-term and long-term policy in the territories. Leaders of Likud's Herut faction accused the Labor Party of aggravating the ferment in the West Bank and Gaza by its "low profile," "know-nothing" policies.

They claimed that "quiet and security will be restored only when it is made clear that Likud policy will be the one to determine the future of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza."

Laborites responded sharply, charging that Likud policies were hindering any advance toward negotiations for peace.

But Premier Yitzhak Shamir got in the last word Monday. He attributed the unrest to the "defeatist reaction of certain circles" and charged that "there are those among us who believe that if we return to the 1967 borders, the Arab world will embrace us with love." The premier spoke at a meeting of Rafi, a dissident faction that split from the Labor Party long ago when it was headed by Premier David Ben-Gurion.

A dispute arose on another front Monday. According to a report in Haaretz, Uri Porat, director general of the Israel Broadcasting Authority, charged that television coverage of disturbances in the territories was abetting Arab propaganda.

Porat spoke at a meeting with senior TV news department personnel. He criticized a segment of Saturday night's newscast in which an Arab interviewee claimed that "the army is to blame for everything" and an army officer was asked repeatedly by the reporter, "if it was not possible to prevent incidents," Haaretz reported.

The paper also said there was wide agreement at Sunday's Cabinet meeting that the news media were "inflating" the situation in the territories.

NEW PACT GIVES ISRAEL STATUS AS NATO ALLY OF UNITED STATES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci signed a memorandum of understanding Monday that boosts Israel's status to the equivalent of a NATO ally of the United States.

The agreement, signed at the Pentagon at the beginning of Rabin's three-day visit here, provides for the United States and Israel to carry out joint military research and development programs. It also allows Israel to bid on military sales to the Pentagon on the same basis as NATO members.

Israel joins a select group of five major non-NATO allies of the United States that also comprises Australia, Egypt, Japan and South Korea.

The memorandum takes on new importance in the wake of Israel's agreement, under pressure

from the United States, to cancel development of the Lavi jet fighter. The new pact is expected to help save many of the Israel Aircraft Industry jobs lost by the cancellation.

Pentagon sources noted that the memorandum is the latest in a series of cooperation agreements with Israel since the 1970s, including the four-year-old memorandum on strategic cooperation.

After the signing Monday, Rabin and Carlucci held a meeting that included a working lunch. Rabin also had separate meetings with the civilian secretaries of the military branches as well as with Gen. Colin Powell, President Reagan's national security adviser; Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead; and former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Rabin also has scheduled a series of meetings with individual members of Congress and with officials of General Dynamics Corp., manufacturer of the F-16 jet fighter, which Israel agreed to substitute for the Lavi.

The defense minister will address the Brookings Institution, a Washington-based think tank, on Wednesday morning before visiting the U.S. Military Academy at West Point on his way back to Israel.

PERES CALLS ON U.S. AND SOVIETS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR MIDEAST PEACE

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday night he hopes President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will follow up the progress made at their historic summit meeting last week by joining efforts to reach peace in the Middle East.

"It is essential to demilitarize not only warheads, but also war roots -- to settle conflicts, global and regional, diplomatically, peacefully," Peres declared in an address to Yeshiva University's 63rd annual Chanukah convocation and dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

"We do not expect President Reagan or Chairman Gorbachev to negotiate for us," Peres said, "nor do we expect them to impose solutions upon the parties. They should contribute, not dictate. They should legitimize the opening of negotiations between the parties."

Peres, who has been calling for an international peace conference with the participation of the United States, the Soviet Union and the three other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, did not mention an international conclave in the course of his speech.

But he did call on the Soviet Union to renew its diplomatic ties with Israel. The Soviet Union severed its diplomatic relations with Israel during the 1967 Six Day War.

'Let Them Be Jewish'

Peres said that Israel asks the Soviet Union to give its Jews "their basic human rights; to let them be Jewish and to let them join their brethren in their own homeland."

Continuing, the Israeli minister remarked: "We tell the Soviet Union that the establishment of diplomatic ties between our two countries is not an ultimatum nor a prize. It is a normal channel of communication."

As for the U.S. role in bringing peace between Israel and its neighbors, Peres said: "The U.S. helped bring Egypt and Israel together. It can help to do the same with Israel and Jordan so

a solution can be found to the Palestinian problem."

Appealing for unity among the different branches of Judaism, Peres told the more than 1,000 guests of the Orthodox university, "We must build a society that maintains our togetherness, though we may be divided in our views." He called for a pluralistic but united Israel.

'Welcome All Jews'

"The Law of Return should welcome all Jews to come and permit expression to their understanding of Jewishness within the shared home of Israel," Peres said. "It is for this reason that I call for the widest spiritual expansion of our intellectual territory and for the greatest ingathering of exiles in our historic homeland."

"We have to ask both religious and secular Jews: 'Can we exist without each other? Can we erase different streams in history simply because our generation tends to become impatient? Can we face the future divided? Did we come to rebuild our homeland together and to live separately?' Oneness -- yes; domination -- no."

At the convocation, Dr. Norman Lamm, Yeshiva University president, conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws degree upon the Israeli leader.

Peres left Sunday night for a one-week official visit to Brazil and Uruguay. This is the first visit by an Israeli foreign minister to these countries in the last 15 years.

The keynote speaker at the dinner was Jehan Sadat, widow of former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who told the audience her recollections of Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem 10 years ago.

HUSSEIN SAYS HE REFUSED OFFER TO MEET WITH AN ISRAELI LEADER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- King Hussein of Jordan told a Beirut newspaper that he rejected an offer to meet with an Israeli leader during the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Washington last week, Davar reported Monday.

Davar quoted the newspaper A-Safir, which said Hussein explained that he turned down the idea because it would lead only to interim settlements, rather than a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict by means of an international conference.

He would not confirm reports that he plans to have secret meetings with Israeli leaders. He insisted he is prepared to hold a political dialogue with Israel only within the framework of an international conference.

The Jordanian monarch is rumored to have held secret talks in London earlier this year with Shimon Peres, Israel's foreign minister. During a speech earlier this month to the World Sephardi Federation, Peres made reference to the talks, appearing to confirm for the first time that they took place.

Hussein expressed hope that Egypt would participate in such a conference to dramatize its disassociation from the Camp David agreement calling for autonomy for Palestinian Arabs.

The Jordanian ruler also indicated that he was willing to resume political cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization if the PLO agreed to renounce terrorism and move toward political negotiations for a peace settlement on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

**VERDICT ON SUMMIT STILL OUT,
SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS SAY**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Leaders of Soviet Jewry groups across the board are less than pleased with the outcome of last week's summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, because of an apparent lack of progress in the area of human rights.

But there is a divergence of opinion on what may come in the future. Most of those interviewed believe that, like it or not, Gorbachev came away from Washington with the realization that he will have to deal with the issues of human rights and Soviet Jewish emigration, because Americans will simply not let him forget it. These people believe that time will tell what decisions Gorbachev may have privately made last week.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and one of the most confrontational of Soviet Jewry activists, believes that "human rights suffered at the summit." The issue, he said, "was dealt with in a perfunctory, quick manner."

Weiss focused on the meeting between Gorbachev and business leaders following the summit, which "sent the wrong message to Moscow. It tells the Soviets that America is not prepared to back up its rhetoric on human rights with action.

"Tragically, the Jewish community shares the blame," he said. "We can't expect the president to use American trade muscle with the Soviets if we don't insist that he do so."

No 'Instant Gratification'

David Harris, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, who served as national coordinator of the massive "Freedom Sunday" rally on Dec. 6, called the summit "discouraging for people who expected instant gratification." But now the Soviets "have to weigh their next step in this area very carefully with respect to Soviet Jewry and how they proceed.

"If they are going to remain recalcitrant, hostile and disingenuous in their public statements, as Gorbachev was, it's going to create a serious cloud over the future direction of Soviet-American relations," he said. "The challenge for U.S. policymakers is to adhere to the hitherto oft-stated policy of balanced progress in the four substantive areas of bilateral relations.

"Until now, the United States has insisted on a balanced progress in the areas of arms control, regional issues, human rights and bilateral issues," Harris explained. "The Soviet Union, on the other hand, has sought to detach and emphasize arms control and bilateral issues to the exclusion of human rights, with little more than lip service to human rights and regional conflicts," he said.

Harris also believes the business meeting was a mistake and that "over the next several months, American efforts to sustain its policy of balanced progress will be challenged as never before, primarily by Moscow, but also perhaps by a number of American interest groups."

Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, concludes that "The summit was a disappointment. If there are going to be any changes affecting Soviet Jews, they will have to happen. . . as we go into

an election year and a follow-up summit in Moscow," he said.

Goodman pointed out that the Dec. 6 rally "helped to create a sense of good will in Washington among our political leaders." He said Gorbachev "will have to reconcile himself to that reality if he wants a normal relationship with our country."

Most optimistic was Abraham Bayer, international affairs director of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, which is responsible for organizing Jewish communities across the country.

Reagan Made Good On Promise

Bayer praised Reagan for making good on his promise to press Gorbachev on the Jewish emigration issue. "Human rights was the first issue before he spoke about anything else," Bayer said, "and he raised the issue of the rally to prove the deep-felt concern of the American people."

Remember, Bayer said, "nothing happens all at once in the Soviet Union. You don't push a button and someone gets free. That would go against their character, because that would mean that a superpower could be pressured." He said that what has happened in the past is that over a period of time, "things begin to happen" and the doors open up.

Bayer hopes that "Gorbachev, being a very practical man, realized finally that this issue will not go away. If this visit didn't convince him about this, then I don't think anyone will."

Above all, Bayer pointed to the "incredible byproduct" of the summit, an increased "feeling of Jewish solidarity. It showed that every stripe, every different persuasion, all united, put this together.

"I've never experienced such a Jewish feeling of solidarity. I'm not sure, it may be that the American Jewish community got more out of this than Soviet Jewry," he said. "Gorbachev may have been able to achieve more Jewish unity than we've been able to do ourselves in the past year."

**CANADA TALKING WITH 9 NATIONS
FOR TESTIMONY IN NAZI CASES**

By Michael Solomon

TORONTO, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Justice Minister Ramon Hnatyshyn is negotiating to allow Canadian investigators to take sworn testimony in the courts of nine nations that can be used to prosecute 22 alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada, it was learned Monday.

The new Criminal Code allows Canada to try its citizens for crimes committed on foreign soil, but only after sworn testimony is collected in the countries concerned, according to William Hobson of the Justice Ministry. The testimony, on video tape, may be presented as evidence in Canadian courts.

He said the justice minister is negotiating with the governments of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Israel, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and West Germany for permission to take testimony about the suspects.

Hobson was recently in Hungary, where he gathered information that led to formal charges against the first of the suspects, Hungarian-born Imre Finta. The 76-year-old restaurateur was arrested in Hamilton, Ont., on Dec. 9 and is free on \$100,000 (Canadian) bail pending an appearance in federal court this Friday.

Finta was the first suspect whose name was made public. He was identified by Sabina Citron, head of the Holocaust Remembrance Association, and several other Holocaust survivors as a former captain in the Honveds, a mounted police unit in Nazi-controlled Hungary during World War II, who tortured and murdered Jews and looted their possessions.

The Justice Ministry has charged that Finta oversaw the confinement and transportation of 8,615 Jews to concentration camps in Hungary, Austria and Poland in 1944 and that he is guilty of manslaughter in the deaths of an unspecified number of Jews.

His trial is expected to begin early next year, but no date has been announced. "We are working as quickly as we can," Hobson said.

BOMB THREAT EMPTIES DUTCH MEETING AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- A bomb threat emptied a meeting hall here of some 800 people, mainly non-Jews, who gathered Saturday night to protest the recent upsurge of anti-Semitism in Holland.

The anonymous telephone warning was received near the end of the meeting. No bomb was found, but the threat seemed to underscore the reason for the gathering.

It was sponsored by all of Holland's political parties, many trade unions, artists organizations and the Netherlands Council of Churches. It was held in Moses House in Amsterdam's historic old Jewish Quarter.

Speakers warned against complacency in the face of the anti-Semitic backlash that followed a successful campaign last month by the Jewish community and many non-Jewish allies to prevent the performance in Holland of a reputedly anti-Semitic play by Rainer Werner Fassbinder.

Dick Dolman, chairman of the Second Chamber of Parliament, was the principal speaker at the gathering. He referred to crude manifestations of anti-Semitism such as anonymous telephone threats to Jews and the brief kidnapping by young Dutch fascists of a Jewish actor, Jules Croiset, who was active in the campaign against the play, "Garbage, the City and Death."

He also referred to prominent figures in Dutch society and respected journalists who accused Jews of cultural censorship. "The rats are coming out of their holes again. But what causes concern are not, in the first place, these rats, but the wise men who take the view that the Jews should not always be so hypersensitive," Dolman said.

DEMJANJUK TRIAL CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON NAZI I.D. CARD By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- A problematic identification card appears to be the crucial piece of evidence in the trial of alleged war criminal John Demjanjuk, now in its 10th month in Jerusalem district court.

The prosecution says it proves the 66-year-old Ukrainian-born, retired automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio is the brutal Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible," who operated the gas chambers.

The card bears a photograph, allegedly of Demjanjuk at about age 22. It is said to have

been issued to him at Trawniki, an SS camp in Poland where volunteer prisoners of war from the Red Army were trained for guard duty at Treblinka and other camps.

The card was obtained from Soviet sources. Defense lawyers insist it is a KGB forgery and have produced expert witnesses to back them up. The latest, who took the stand Monday, is a Turkish-born American anthropologist, Professor Yasser Mehmed Iscan, a specialist in the human skeleton from the University of Florida.

Iscan was called to refute the testimony of an expert witness for the prosecution, Professor Patricia Smith, who was questioned several months ago. At that time, Smith showed the court a video montage to demonstrate that the card is authentic. She said there was a very high probability that the photograph is genuine.

Iscan who disputed this, showed the court how superimpositions on the Trawniki photograph of recent photographs of the accused indicated differences. He said he used this method when called on by the Florida police to compare an unidentified skull with a photograph on a driver's license.

Iscan spent most of his time on the stand establishing his professional credentials. He said he was called upon regularly by reputable journals of anthropology to scan articles submitted to them for their expertise.

The professional standing of another expert witness for the defense, Anita Pritchard, was cast in doubt earlier this year when she collapsed under cross examination by the prosecution. She later attempted to commit suicide.

POLES APOLOGIZE FOR REMARK, AVERTING JEWISH-ISRAELI BOYCOTT By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Prompt apologies by Polish officials and the news media last weekend averted a threatened boycott by Israeli and other Jewish groups of ceremonies in Warsaw next April marking the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

The apologies were for an item published in Trybuna Ludu, the official organ of the Polish Communist Party, that contained anti-Israeli overtones. The item, transmitted abroad by PAP, the Polish news agency, claimed that the Polish committee organizing the ceremonies was concerned over "the current dangerous revisionist and neo-Nazi trends in the Federal Republic of Germany as well as the possible consequences of Israel's policy of expansion."

The Israeli government and the World Federation of Former Jewish Fighters, Partisans and Concentration Camp Inmates protested to Warsaw. Federation President Stefan Grayek, who was in Warsaw, complained to Gen. Jozef Kaminski, chairman of the organizing committee.

Following the protests, Trybuna Ludu on Friday amended its earlier report and stressed that the anniversary ceremonies would honor the valor and contributions of Jews to the ultimate victory over Nazism.

He wrote that he "deeply regrets the incident and begs forgiveness for the inaccuracies" in the report published in Trybuna Ludu and transmitted by PAP.

Up to 4,500 expected Jewish visitors from abroad might have canceled plans to attend the Warsaw commemoration had a rift developed between the Polish and Israeli governments.

ISRAELI DELEGATION GRANTED PERMISSION TO VISIT MOSCOW

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Israeli officials seemed elated Tuesday by the announcement in Moscow that an Israeli diplomatic mission will be allowed to visit the Soviet Union.

It will be the first such mission to the USSR in the more than 20 years since the Soviet Union broke diplomatic relations with Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War. A Soviet consular mission has been in Israel for the past seven months.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres welcomed the news, according to statements from the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry respectively.

The three-member Soviet consular mission arrived in Israel last June. Shamir was inclined at the time to reject it unless a similar Israeli delegation was invited to Moscow. But the premier subsequently waived that condition.

The Soviets' visas were due to expire Jan. 31. They were extended last week until mid-February. Now, however, they may be extended for a longer period, in light of Moscow's decision. Israeli officials had made it clear in recent days that this time Israel would demand reciprocity.

The announcement in Moscow was made Tuesday morning by Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov.

He told a news conference that no date has been set for the Israeli visit, but that a timetable was discussed at an unannounced meeting Tuesday in Helsinki, Finland, between Soviet representatives and an Israeli delegation. He did not elaborate.

According to Gerasimov, the purpose of the Israeli mission would be to acquaint itself with the work of the Dutch Embassy in Moscow, which has been representing Israel's interests in the Soviet Union for more than two decades. He denied, however, that the visit would be a precursor to the re-establishment of diplomatic ties between Israel and the Soviet Union.

Gerasimov stressed that could come about only after a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Soviet consular delegation, which has offices in Tel Aviv, came here last June to examine Soviet property and review the status of Soviet nationals living in Israel. The property is mainly that of the Russian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem. Most of the Soviet nationals here are monks.

ISRAEL TAKES TOUGH STEPS IN GAZA, BUT RESTRICTS USE OF LETHAL FORCE

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Israel has resorted to tough measures to prevent a renewal of disturbances in the administered territories. But the use of lethal force has been curtailed.

In the Gaza Strip, civil administration officials assisted by Israel Defense Force officers have cut off electricity, water and telephone service for thousands of Palestinian residents of refugee camps that are under tight curfew, Haaretz reported Tuesday.

IDF officers have been ordered to see that no water reaches residents of the camps, which have been the primary trouble spots in recent weeks.

According to a military source quoted by Haaretz, "The objective was to show the residents who is in charge, as it were, in the Gaza Strip, so that they wouldn't think they can rule the area. It is clear we are in charge," the source said, adding that the system has "worked well" since it began several days ago.

In the West Bank, IDF soldiers have received orders to take the offensive against demonstrators and beat them vigorously when they are caught.

Another senior official expressed concern about permitting soldiers to pummel rioters, but said it is the only practical solution that works.

At the same time, the IDF has received explicit instructions limiting the use of live ammunition against demonstrators.

They have been forbidden, for example, to open fire on rioters who hurl gasoline bombs. The previous practice had been to shoot to kill in those circumstances.

Gen. Amram Mitzna, army commander of the central sector, issued orders two days ago that soldiers may use live ammunition only in emergency situations, must aim at the legs of the rioters and may not use expanding bullets, which explode on contact, causing massive injuries.

Soldiers also may fire only with the approval of their unit commander or another senior officer present.

The IDF has been patrolling in larger units in recent days to avoid situations where a single soldier finds himself alone, facing a crowd of demonstrators, and opens fire out of fear. The new orders call for the use of rubber bullets, followed by a charge in force when an IDF unit is surrounded by rioters.

'We Will Act With Force'

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who visited Ramallah and surrounding villages in the West Bank on Tuesday, vowed, "We will act with force, with strength, with blows to stop violent demonstrations."

Although Rabin's entourage, which included reporters, was pelted with stones at one point, the defense minister stressed that the territory has been quiet.

No disturbances were reported Tuesday. No roads were blocked with burning tires. The IDF has succeeded in overcoming violence and keeping the roads open, the defense minister declared.

The only continuing breach of order is a passive one -- the almost total commercial strike by Arab merchants and shopkeepers in East Jerusalem, now in its 10th day.

But ending the strike and getting people back to work is not high on Israel's order of priorities, Rabin said. "If they do not want to market their products, that is their problem. They should not come weeping about shortages later," he said.

He acknowledged, however, that there was a need for a political solution to the Palestinian problem and it can be found only at the negotiating table.

But the basic condition for negotiations must

be the restoration of order. "I know that various factors in the Arab world and in the territories are trying to continue the unrest. But it won't help them," Rabin said. "Through violence, they'll achieve nothing."

Premier Yitzhak Shamir spoke in a similar vein Tuesday, addressing high school students in Bnei Brak, the religious township north of Tel Aviv. The Arab states must realize that the current riots in the administered territories are not a sign of Israel's weakness, he said.

Restraint Misinterpreted

"The riots are continuing because we have shown restraint in the use of arms. The Arabs see our restraint and think it is because of their strength. The IDF must persevere and show these (Arab) youths that if they have the chutzpah (cheek) to attack us, it is not a sign of their strength," Shamir said.

He added, "People in Israel must understand that this is the reason for the riots. Our only motivation is our desire for peace."

Rabin, speaking to reporters in Ramallah, referred to the fact-finding visit of United Nations Undersecretary General Marrack Goulding.

The IDF denied Goulding entry to two refugee camps in the Gaza Strip last week, because they were under curfew. Rabin said, however, that Goulding had the right to visit refugee camps, because United Nations organizations are working in them. But he drew the line against foreign parliamentary delegations.

The defense minister expressed outrage over the arrival of a group of parliamentarians from Brazil to investigate conditions in the camps. "Let them examine first the situation in the slums of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro," he said.

It was reported from Geneva, meanwhile, that the International Committee of the Red Cross is sending the head of its Middle East department, Michel Amiquet, to visit the administered territories. He leaves Wednesday and will return to Geneva with a report on the situation. He is scheduled to meet with Rabin.

NEWS ANALYSIS: NO END IN SIGHT TO NEW WAR OF ATTRITION IN TERRITORIES By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- On the 45th day of violence in the administered territories, Israel and the Palestinians are caught in a war of attrition, with no end in sight.

The battle ground is the same, but the weapons are different. Israel uses force, arrests, deportations and curfews. The most prominent Palestinian weapon is not, as it might seem, the stones thrown by the youths, but rather the general strikes.

As of Tuesday, the strike was felt throughout the administered territories. Most conspicuous was the general strike in East Jerusalem, which was observed despite warnings by police they would take action against the striking shopkeepers.

The affect of the strike on the Israeli economy is marginal. Many Arabs, mostly residents of the West Bank, have been showing up for work inside Israel. The closed stores therefore cause inconvenience and loss of income mostly to the Arabs themselves.

But while they pay this price, the Arabs are also sending Israelis a message of unprecedented

solidarity, which embraces the left and right, the young and the old generations, the religious and the secular camps.

Israel is not free to use all the means possible in this war. Premier Yitzhak Shamir reiterated Tuesday that Israel's undertaking not to use excessive force limits its ability to put an end to the riots. World pressure, the watchful eyes of the news media and internal criticism have forced the security forces to use as much restraint as possible.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin favors "beating" rather than shooting. But even as he spoke, a villager of Mazraa A-Sharkiya, near Ramallah, was wounded, apparently from a rifle shot during a violent demonstration.

One can safely assume that technically, Israel could have suppressed the "national uprising," as Arab nationalists like to describe it, much sooner, but with much more bloodshed.

Instead, Israel seems to have opted for more moderate measures to deal with the unrest, assuming that in this war of attrition it has longer staying power than the Palestinians.

The Palestinians are well aware of the importance of time. The longer they can keep the issue of the territories high on the international agenda, the more prospect they have of creating political momentum.

So far, they seem to enjoy the support of world public opinion. This is apparently why, according to one report, Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat instructed his supporters in the territories to refrain from terrorism, for fear that it might swing world sympathy back to the Israelis.

But Arafat is not in control of the situation. Moreover, as events in the past few weeks have shown, there is no one single force that runs the show. In fact, part of the success of the Palestinians to perpetuate the momentum of the "uprising" is due to the general, popular nature of the events.

But reserve Gen. Aharon Yariv, head of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center of Strategic Studies, warned this week that the situation could easily deteriorate from a war of stones to the use of firearms.

RED CROSS ASSISTING DEPORTEES By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Four Palestinian activists deported by Israel last week have found shelter in the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, a spokeswoman for the Geneva-based organization reported Tuesday.

The spokeswoman could not say how long they will remain there. But the Red Cross delegates at the office have agreed to pass messages between the Palestinians and their families in the Israeli-administered territories, she said.

The four deportees, all from the West Bank, were the first of nine Palestinians ordered expelled by the Israeli military authorities on Jan. 3. They were deported to Lebanon on Jan. 13, after waiving their right to appeal to the Israeli Supreme Court.

Deportation orders have not yet been implemented against a fifth Palestinian from the West Bank. Four from the Gaza Strip have appealed to the Supreme Court. Deportation proceedings against them were halted Sunday, when the court issued a temporary stay.

**POPE SPEAKS OUT ON HOLOCAUST,
ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS**

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II took an opportunity Sunday to personally condemn an Israeli confrontation with Moslem worshipers last Friday, but also to express deep feeling for the victims of the Nazi Holocaust who were killed, he said, just because they were Jews.

In an extraordinary give-and-take session with the press, the pope said both Jews and Palestinians had the right to a homeland and called on both sides in the Middle East conflict to work together for peace.

The pope, however, did not utter the word Israel, but referred only to Jews. The Vatican does not recognize Israel officially.

The pontiff made the remarks during a visit to the offices of the Foreign Press Association, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. During the visit, the pope delivered a brief speech, then took several questions from the floor.

A Tunisian journalist asked the pope for his thoughts on an incident last Friday on Jerusalem's Temple Mount, when police fired tear gas at Moslem worshipers. The pontiff responded, "I think my opinion is clear, even without being explicit."

"Certainly one cannot accept in any way... the attacking of people at their prayers," he added.

Israel has disputed reports that police at the scene fired tear gas into Moslem mosques and only entered a mosque to rescue an officer who had been dragged inside by rioting Palestinians.

The pope also said he was deeply aware of the implications of the Holocaust and noted he spoke of this when he met last September with American Jewish leaders in Miami.

"I profoundly feel the reality that is called the Holocaust, the Shoah. I feel it deeply," he said.

"I come from a country in which this thing took place brutally during the Second World War," the pope continued. "It was genocide, genocide. They were exterminated for the very fact of being Jews, of belonging to this people."

A people that has endured such suffering have a right to a homeland, the pope went on to say. He noted that at his meeting with Jewish leaders in Miami, "I stated clearly that the Holy See supports their (the Jews) right to have their own homeland, but at the same time supports the same right of another people, these Palestinian Arabs, to have their own homeland."

He called for Jews and Arabs to come together and negotiate a peaceful solution to their conflict. "These two sides are morally invited--more than invited -- to take up this problem, to resolve a situation that is so painful."

**GREEK LEADER MEETS WITH ARAFAT,
TAKES TOUGH STAND ON ISRAEL**

By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou of Greece played host to Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat here Tuesday.

After a two-hour meeting at Arafat's hotel, the two held a news conference at which Papandreou sharply criticized Israel for the way it deals with the Palestinian problem and the recent

disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He referred to Israel's "fascist occupation."

Arafat's visit to Greece was arranged some time ago, but went unannounced for security reasons, according to government spokesman Yiannis Roubatis. The PLO leader landed at the Elefsina military base before noon and was flown by helicopter to the luxurious Astera Hotel in Vouliagmeni, a suburb of Athens.

Papandreou was waiting for him there and they met immediately behind closed doors. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and the minister of police, Giannis Skoularikis. A brief statement issued afterward said Arafat and the Greek officials discussed the situation in the administered territories.

They also discussed the convening of an international Middle East peace conference in light of the fact that Greece will assume the rotating presidency of the European Community Council of Ministers on July 1.

Papandreou spoke briefly at the news conference. He said that "Israel and its supporters thought that after 20 years of occupation they (the Palestinians) would accept their plight. But they were completely wrong."

He noted that this time there are "forces within Israel that are against the fascist occupation and that is to their credit."

He said that even Jewish organizations around the world do not agree with the Israeli government's handling of the disturbances in the occupied territories.

Papandreou pledged that he and the Greek people will support the struggle of the Palestinian people and that the Greek government intends to take the initiative in the European Community and at the United Nations to find a solution to the problem through an international conference.

Arafat said that within the context of an international conference, he would accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which uphold the right of all nations in the Middle East to exist within secure, recognized borders.

HASIDIM HIT BY MORE THAN SNOWBALLS

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Police are investigating complaints of assault and harassment lodged by seven Hasidic Jews following what the police described as "a snowball confrontation" between Jews and blacks in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn early Sunday morning.

According to Officer Joe Gallagher of the New York City Police Public Information Bureau, the incident occurred at about 1:50 a.m. in the vicinity of Eastern Parkway and Kingston Ave.

Gallagher's information, received from the 71st Precinct, which covers the area, stated that approximately 40 blacks coming from a party observed approximately 10 Hasidic Jews. "A snowball confrontation ensued, escalating to rock and bottle-throwing. There were no injuries and no arrest," the police report said.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency also learned of the incident from Rabbi Yakov Lloyd, who identified himself as a leader of the Jewish Defense Group, a splinter group of the Jewish Defense League.

Lloyd claims he was instrumental in organizing armed neighborhood patrols in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn, following the fatal stabbing on Dec. 25 of a Hasidic Jew, Eli Wald.

JEWES NOW BELIEVE THE POLLARDS SUFFERED 'INJUSTICE,' FAMILY SAYS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- Public opinion in both Israel and the American Jewish community has been shifting in support of Jonathan Pollard and his wife, Anne Henderson Pollard, who are in jail for spying for Israel, members of the couple's family said Monday.

Jonathan Pollard, a former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, is serving a life term for passing classified documents to a renegade Israeli espionage team, while his wife is serving a five-year prison sentence for being an accessory to her husband's activities.

At a news conference here sponsored by the National Coalition for Justice for the Pollards, Bernard Henderson and Morris Pollard, the fathers of the two convicts, claimed that in recent months there has been a "turnabout" in the feelings of many Jewish leaders, who now realize that "injustice" was done to the couple. They declined, however, to name any of the Jewish leaders who had changed their position.

According to Carol Pollard, Jonathan's sister, hundreds of letters are sent every month from Israel to her brother and sister-in-law. But prison authorities will not deliver the letters, she charged.

She announced that she and David Turner, director for the National Coalition for the Justice for the Pollards, are leaving for Israel this week for a three-week visit "to meet with the Israeli public and Israeli officials" to discuss the Pollard affair.

Asked to name the officials they are going to meet in Israel, and whether they requested a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Turner said: "We still don't know with whom we will meet. We will see anyone who is willing to see us."

Morris Pollard said that his son, who is jailed in federal penitentiary in Springfield, Mo., was transferred last week to a hospital room after being held against his will in the psychiatric ward of the prison for the last 10 months.

The father said he does not know why he was transferred to a hospital room, where he is in a solitary confinement, as he has been since his arrest two and a half years ago.

Bernard Henderson charged that his daughter is still denied proper medical care. She claims to be suffering from severe and rare digestive disorders.

'Weak And Hunched Over'

"She is very weak and hunched over with pain most of the time," Henderson said, claiming that she is denied medicine and she has developed recently "internal bleeding." Asked if there is a danger to her life, he replied in the affirmative.

Henderson noted that a federal district court judge on Dec. 6 rejected his daughter's request to be treated by her family doctors. He said that his daughter asked if she could be treated by an Israeli doctor, but "this cannot be done, according to the prison rules, since she is not an Israeli citizen."

Anne Henderson Pollard is serving her prison term in a federal prison in Lexington, Ky.

The National Coalition for Justice for the Pollards demands the immediate release from prison of Anne Pollard, who the groups says "is being held in jail on charges and under conditions

previously expected only from Nazi Germany or Soviet Russia during the Stalin purges."

The group also is seeking "the immediate reduction of Jonathan Pollard's prison sentence to time served, bringing it into conformity with the norms of punishment typically imposed in espionage cases involving an ally, or other non-Communist state."

POLISH GOVERNMENT SAYS CONVENT AT AUSCHWITZ WILL BE RELOCATED

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Jan. 19 (JTA) -- The Polish government has given written assurances that a Carmelite convent built on the grounds of the former Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp will be removed, in compliance with an agreement reached here last Feb. 22 between high-level delegations representing Jewish organizations and the Catholic Church.

Church officials in Poland apparently stalled on implementing the agreement. Visitors returning from Auschwitz have reported that no steps have been taken to remove the convent and that, in fact, the number of nuns in residence has increased.

The World Jewish Congress, which played a key part in reaching the agreement, was concerned. Gerhart Riegner, co-chairman of the WJC's governing board, visited the Polish minister of religious affairs, Dr. Wladyslaw Loranc, in Warsaw last November to raise the issue.

On Tuesday, Riegner made public a letter he received from Loranc, promising that the nearly year-old agreement will be implemented without further delay.

Riegner told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that church representatives in Poland claimed they could not act as long as they had no permission from the government. Loranc promised to make things move and, in fact, kept his promise, Riegner said.

Jews Were Distressed

The Geneva meeting last year followed longstanding expressions of deep distress by Jewish groups that a convent was located at a place where hundreds of thousands of Jews died in the Holocaust. Many ranking church officials in Europe expressed sympathy with Jewish concern over the issue.

The matter was raised by Edgar Bronfman, president of the WJC, when he met with Polish Premier Wojciech Jaruzelski in Warsaw in December 1985.

At the subsequent meeting in Geneva, it was agreed by all parties that the convent would be relocated and a new building would be erected just outside the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex to serve as a center of information, education, meeting and prayer for all faiths.

Loranc's letter to Riegner affirmed this. He said the archbishop of Krakow, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, has been informed of specific sites outside Auschwitz that are suitable for the projected center.

He stated in his letter, "This center will promote a climate of reflection and deep respect for all victims of the Nazi extermination and for their sufferings, which will forever remain symbolized by Auschwitz."

Riegner said he is now awaiting a decision on where it will be built, as well as the construction plans.

**TERRITORIES REPORTED QUIET,
THOUGH FILLED WITH TENSION**

By Gil Sedan

RAMALLAH, West Bank, Dec. 27 (JTA)-- The administered territories are quieter than they have been in a very long time, military sources told reporters here Sunday, as some 270,000 Arab students in the West Bank returned to their classes without incident.

The 1,200 Arab schools in the territory had been closed for the past five days, on orders of the Israeli authorities, after nearly three weeks of rioting, much of it by school-aged youngsters.

Commercial life also returned to normal in downtown Ramallah. Shops reopened and fewer troops were seen on the streets than at any time in recent days.

Nevertheless, Israeli security forces will remain in strength and in a high state of alert in the territories, at least through Jan. 1. That is the anniversary of the founding of Al Fatah, the mainstream terrorist group of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The occasion has triggered disturbances in the past.

But military sources cited the peaceful Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem and other Christian sites as evidence that calm has been restored and "we are in full control of the situation."

The calm is not without tension. A curfew was imposed on the Askar refugee camp after youngsters set fire to the local police station during a funeral procession. The Palestinian population anticipates more punitive measures.

More than 1,000 detainees are being held in West Bank prisons. Many have been transferred to prisons in Israel proper. Several hundred Palestinians were detained in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli military courts are preparing to try hundreds in both territories for various degrees of violent offenses, and many of the accused will face expulsion. The authorities admit they are concerned that mass deportations could touch off a new wave of disturbances.

An Arab student who talked to reporters in Ramallah's main square Sunday summed up local feelings. "Of course the situation is more quiet," he said. "The army is everywhere and there are massive arrests."

**SPEEDY TRIALS IN STORE
FOR RIOTERS IN CUSTODY**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Israel's military courts will seek speedy trials for Palestinians arrested during nearly three weeks of violent disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But the prisoners will not be denied their full rights under the law, Israel Defense Force Judge Advocate General Amnon Streshnov said Sunday.

Streshnov told reporters that some 200 criminal proceedings have opened so far against suspected rioters, out of more than 1,000 taken into custody in the territories. He conceded that the rapid pace of the trials was unusual, but noted that the scope of the violence had been

extraordinary too.

One of the first of the "fast trials" was held in a military court Sunday in Nablus. Of 34 defendants charged, all but three pleaded "not guilty." Two of the three, who confessed to rock-throwing, were sentenced to six weeks in jail. An eight-month sentence was given a 17-year-old youth who admitted he threw rocks at Israeli vehicles.

Other trials began Sunday in Dahariya, near Hebron, and in Gaza. Because of the abnormally heavy case load, employees of the military judicial system are working overtime.

But problems are developing. Defense lawyers in Gaza have been boycotting the courts for the past two weeks to protest the dragnet-style mass arrests. As a result, the accused have been forced to appear in court without legal counsel.

Little Time To Prepare Cases

The Palestinians' lawyers say the arrests were so fast and so numerous they had no time to prepare their clients' cases. Streshnov rejected that complaint. He said whenever a lawyer wanted a day or two for preparation, it was granted.

He pointed out that the law does not require an accused person to be represented by legal counsel, it merely gives him the right to be represented. He added that the trials would go ahead, regardless of the lawyers' boycott.

Widespread expulsions are anticipated to follow the trials. So far, no deportation orders have been issued. Streshnov assured reporters that those offenders ordered deported will have sufficient time to file appeals with Israel's Supreme Court.

The defense establishment was reported Sunday to be culling the lists of those arrested for sufficient evidence to order deportations that will stand the test of hearings before the high court. According to informed sources cited by the news media, the authorities are actively considering 15 to 18 possible deportations.

But the question has arisen of where the deportees will be sent. It is considered likely that Palestinians ordered deported from the West Bank would be sent to Jordan and those deported from the Gaza Strip would be sent to Egypt, which controlled that territory between 1948 and 1967.

Egypt, Jordan Reject Deportees

According to Davar, however, neither Egypt nor Jordan will accept Palestinians expelled by Israel. Osama El-Baz, political adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, made that clear to Abdul Wahab Daroushe of Labor, an Israeli Arab member of the Knesset, who visited Cairo last week, the newspaper reported.

Maariv reported that refusals by Mubarak and King Hussein of Jordan to accept deportees were in response to requests by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat.

Hadashot noted that the IDF has employed several methods of deportation in past years. In the early 1970s, deportees were given a few dinars (Jordanian currency), a white flag and sent on foot to Jordan.

Later, most deportees were sent across the Jordan River bridges and were met on the east

bank by Jordanian police, who placed them under arrest. Still later, after Jordan refused to accept deportees, Israel expelled rioters and agitators to Lebanon.

In past years, the legality of the deportations has been challenged by Arab mayors in the administered territories. In each case, the deportations were upheld by the Israeli Supreme Court.

While the mayors claimed violations of international law, Justices Moshe Landau and Yitzhak Cohen ruled that the 1945 Defense Emergency Act, promulgated under the British Mandate and retained by Israel, takes precedence over international law.

Controversy Over Ages

Another controversy has arisen, meanwhile, over the ages of the Palestinians presently in custody. According to Palestinian sources, 85 percent of the 500 to 600 arrested in the Gaza Strip are between the ages of 14 and 17.

An Israeli military source in the West Bank said most of the detainees are between 17 and 27. The source said the IDF was under strict orders not to arrest anyone under 12.

"There are only one or two detainees who are younger than 14, and they were arrested only after a specific approval by the legal adviser of the central command," the source said.

JEWISH LEADERS PRESS OFFICIALS ABOUT U.S. STATEMENTS ON UNREST By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- American Jewish leaders and key Reagan administration policymakers disagree "by 10 percent" in how they view Israel's handling of violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Their discrepancy revolves around Israel's use of live ammunition in quelling riots and its lack of riot police, said Abram after he and more than 25 Jewish organizational representatives met Thursday morning with four State Department officials.

They included Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead and Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Abram paraphrased Whitehead as saying "in emphatic terms" that the disagreements do not "in any way impair or impinge the close special relationship" between the two countries. Whitehead reassured the leaders that the close strategic relationship will continue, Abram said.

'Bump In The Road'

The Jewish leader termed the differences "merely a bump in the road" in relations between the United States and Israel. He also said that he has been "repeatedly" in touch with the Israeli government regarding its "image problem -- because of small bites on the television sets, which may not be representative of the true circumstances."

On the subject of Israel's handling of the unrest, Abram conceded that "it would be better if Israel had better equipment for dealing with riots."

But he asserted that U.S. criticism was too harsh, pointing out that when the Persian Gulf crisis erupted, "the United States didn't have minesweepers for the Persian Gulf. No military or

paramilitary or police force ever has the right equipment, in the right place, in the right time, under the right circumstances, in the right hands."

On the issue of Israeli soldiers fatally shooting rioting Palestinian civilians, Abram questioned whether it was reasonable for any government to use simply water cannon, shields and helmets "against persons who are engaged in a guerrilla war."

However, he added, "We have no doubt that there have been individual incidents in which a better trained force could have done the job with some degree of improvement."

Abram said he had requested the meeting to "express our very deep concerns with some of the statements" made by the White House and State Department on Israel's role in the violence. He said his primary concern was statements "equating" Israel's actions to those of the rioters.

He did not call for the State Department to retract any of its statements, but he did criticize past statements for failing to differentiate between "those who are responsible under international law, namely Israel, to produce and to control order in the territories, with those whose object is to uproot order and to create disorder and violence."

'Attempt To Overthrow'

"What we are faced here with is the attempt to overthrow not only the government of Israel in the territories, but the government of Israel in Israel -- it is an extension of terrorism," he said.

In specifying the conference's concerns, Abram asserted that U.S. statements have referred to the protestors as demonstrators. "They are not college campus protesters," he said. "They come with Molotov cocktails and gasoline bombs."

Abram said that the rioters' "purpose is not to make a point but to overthrow the rule which under international law Israel must continue in Gaza until some other rule is found," Abram said.

Abram called peace "the overriding concern," but said it cannot be pursued until order is restored.

SURVEY SHOWS FEWER ISRAELIS OPPOSE 'LAND FOR PEACE' IDEA By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- The percentage of Israelis opposed to yielding any land for peace is declining, according to an opinion poll published in Maariv Thursday. The survey's findings were compared with results of polls taken in October 1986 and April 1987.

At the same time, the percentage of Israelis ready to give up all of the West Bank and East Jerusalem for peace, though a small minority, has increased successively in the last three polls.

The poll, conducted by Dr. Micah Hof of the Modiin Ezrachi organization, asked the question "Do you support a peace agreement with Jordan in which Israel would have to make a commitment to evacuate areas of Judaea and Samaria?"

In response, 44.4 percent of the respondents said they were not prepared to yield any land, compared to 46.4 percent last April and 47.7 percent in October 1986.

But 5.6 percent said they were prepared to yield all of Judaea and Samaria, including East Jerusalem, which Israel has annexed. The comparative figures are 4.4 percent for last April and 3.1 percent for October 1986.

**INFILTRATION FROM JORDAN RAISES
QUESTIONS ABOUT BORDER'S SECURITY**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- The infiltration of three Palestinian terrorists into Israel from Jordan Friday night has raised questions about security along the normally quiescent Israeli-Jordanian border.

Israeli authorities still believe King Hussein is doing his best to prevent terrorist activity from Jordanian soil, according to a report in Hadashot Sunday. Terrorist leaders are exerting pressure on him, but the king is standing fast. He has informed the United States that while Palestine Liberation Organization offices are open in Amman, their activity is restricted, Hadashot reported.

Nevertheless, Friday's infiltration, though short-lived, was unnerving. The three terrorists were captured alive after a brief shoot-out with security forces, shortly after they crossed the Jordan River near Maoz Chaim and Bet Shean, south of the Sea of Galilee. One of the three was wounded.

It was the first infiltration since Nov. 25, when a lone Palestinian riding a motorized hang glider, crossed the Lebanese border into upper Galilee and killed six Israel Defense Force soldiers at a military base and wounded seven, before he was shot to death.

Maariv reported Sunday that the three terrorists belong to the Palestine Liberation Front, a group headed by Mohammed (Abul) Abbas, who masterminded the October 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in Egyptian waters.

According to Maariv, the infiltrators traveled from Iraq to Amman, where they were given Kalachnikov assault rifles and other equipment and briefed on their mission. The head of the PLO military staff, Khalil Al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, was in Jordan at the time, Maariv reported.

Al Hamishmar quoted Gen. Amram Mitzna, IDF commander of the central sector, as saying after the infiltration that the Jordanians are working to prevent terrorist activity aimed at Israel.

**PROSECUTION, BUT NOT CONVICTION,
EXPECTED FOR 4,000 SUSPECTED NAZIS**

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Proceedings have begun against 4,000 suspected war criminals as a result of information obtained from the recently opened United Nations war crimes archives in New York, the Office for the Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in Ludwigsburg announced Friday.

But it is unlikely at this late date that more than a few of the suspects will be brought to trial and, if so, convicted. A spokesperson for the Ludwigsburg office told reporters that the U.N. files came much too late for effective investigations and proceedings that could result in convictions.

The files, compiled by the Allied War Crimes Commission after World War II, contain dossiers on more than 40,000 suspected war criminals. They were placed in custody of the U.N. in 1947 and remained sealed to all but the governments of U.N. member states. They were opened last month after a year-long campaign by Israel to make the files available to scholars, historians, researchers,

journalists and other members of the public.

The Ludwigsburg spokesperson said the United Nations "told us for years that they could not release the files for legal or political reasons and that has made our job much more difficult and certainly contributed to certain disappointments."

Nevertheless, after receiving the files, the Ludwigsburg office added 10 experienced prosecutors to its staff and opened proceedings.

Most of the files refer to persons who are either deceased, missing or already convicted. Of the 4,000 who were traced, most are aged and may be too sick to be put on trial, the spokesperson said.

Moreover, witnesses are either dead or too old and ill to stand the emotional and physical hardships of giving testimony. Under the circumstances, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to obtain convictions, the spokesperson said.

**EAST GERMAN COURT IMPOSES
HEAVIER SENTENCES ON NEO-NAZIS**

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- An East Berlin district court judge Thursday lengthened the sentences imposed by a lower court on four young neo-Nazis who were involved in a major anti-Semitic incident.

The prison terms were changed from 14 to 18 months in two cases and from two to four years in two others. The four youths, whose names were not released, burst into the Protestant Zion Church in East Berlin on Oct. 17 shouting, "All Jews to the gas chambers," "Pig Jews" and other offending slogans.

They attacked congregants, severely injuring several of them. The church is known for its activities in promoting a Christian-Jewish dialogue and is a center for ecological and peace groups which criticize or oppose the Communist regime in East Berlin.

The youths' original sentences were described by the official press here as "minor, outrageous," and the state prosecution immediately appealed the penalties.

The trial amounted to the first public admission that neo-Nazi groups were operating in East Germany. But Communist officials still maintain that the neo-Nazi groups are the product of "capitalist" influence from neighboring West Germany.

POLICE DISCOUNT BIAS IN SLAYING OF HASID

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- New York City police say they have no evidence that the slaying early Friday of Eli Wald, 39, a Hasidic Jew from Brooklyn's Borough Park section, was a "bias incident."

Wald, a postal worker, was stabbed repeatedly as he was returning home from work, police said. His body was found at 1:10 a.m. near his home at 936 51st St., which he shared with his wife and their baby daughter.

Detectives have found no weapon, no suspects and no motive for the incident, according to Officer Peter O'Donnell, a Police Department spokesman. He said Wald may have been killed resisting a robbery attempt.

But a wallet, still containing \$2 in cash, as well as a wristwatch and knapsack, were found on Wald's body, police said.

WELL-KNOWN WEST GERMAN TV PERSONALITY RESIGNS AMID FOCUS ON HIS NAZI PAST
By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Commentators and observers are listing any number of reasons for the downfall of Werner Hoefler, for 35 years one of West Germany's best-known television journalists, who resigned Dec. 22 because of new revelations about his Nazi past.

The question was raised because Hoefler's journalistic endeavors for the Nazis were exposed many times over the years and it was no secret that he was a Nazi party member from 1933, when Hitler came to power, through the end of World War II in 1945.

Hoefler, 74, quit two weeks after the latest expose of his past appeared in the mass-circulation weekly *Der Spiegel*. He lost the confidence of the 41-member board of the Cologne-based WDR television station, which broadcast his popular "Internationaler Fruehschoppen" (International Eye-Openers) interview show at noon every Sunday since 1952.

The press and public are asking, why now? According to leading commentators, the decisive factors were the recent changes in consciousness about the Nazi era and *Der Spiegel's* focus on the Hoefler story.

The magazine piece dealt with Hoefler's writings in the Berlin Nazi daily "12 Uhr Blatt" in 1943, and specifically his praise of the execution by the Nazis of a Jewish pianist, Karlrobert Kreiten.

Hoefler has claimed repeatedly in the past that the most offensive parts of the article were written by someone else and inserted by Nazi zealots.

But *Der Spiegel*, published in Hamburg, quoted from other articles written by Hoefler to show his comments on the Kreiten case were not atypical. The magazine also interviewed experts who questioned Hoefler's claim that his article was rewritten.

Paradoxically, Hoefler's politics, like *Der Spiegel's*, have been left-liberal for years. The show he moderated was a forum on controversial issues for foreign journalists, including a number of Israelis, of all political hues. Hoefler frequently came under attack from the right wing.

He was also vigorously attacked in the past by the Vienna-based Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal. But a leading French-Jewish political scientist, Alfred Grosser, has been among his most ardent defenders.

The WDR board gave Hoefler until March 21 to "clarify" the charges contained in the *Der Spiegel* story. But Hoefler, who will be 75 that month, chose instead to resign. Some observers believe his resignation is what WDR had in mind and used the latest expose to force the issue.

DEBATE AMONG EAST BERLIN'S JEWS CENTERS ON HOW TO APPROACH THE YOUNG
By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- A controversy has surfaced within East Berlin's tiny Jewish community over how to approach the several dozen young Jews who lately have showed interest in Judaism and in seeking their Jewish roots.

Peter Kirchner, chairman of the community, believes they must be confronted with the choice of "joining in or staying out" of the official community. But the new rabbi of East Berlin,

Isaac Neumann, its first rabbi in 22 years, insists that no pressure be brought to bear on young people attracted to Judaism.

The quarrel involves a Jewish community that is minuscule. There were 400 officially registered Jews in all of East Germany in 1985, about half of whom lived in East Berlin. In 1984, the community numbered 800, half in East Berlin.

Neumann, writing in the West Berlin leftist daily *Tageszeitung*, said his primary concern was that the young men and women grasp Judaism and practice whatever they understand. "Whether one is a member of the community or not, this is certainly not decisive," he said. He added that it was up to the rabbi to decide.

Neumann, 65, was born in Lodz, Poland and after years in Nazi concentration and labor camps, immigrated to the United States in 1950. He was ordained there in 1958 and served as a rabbi in Champaign, Ill.

He assumed his rabbinical post in East Berlin last September after prolonged negotiations between American Jewish organizations and the East German authorities. He is presently vacationing in the United States.

Some sources in East Berlin said his visit abroad during Chanukah was due to friction with the community chairman and some of his closest colleagues. He hinted in his *Tageszeitung* article that their differences are broader than the question of young Jews seeking their heritage.

Neumann wrote: "I insist on free access to all Jews. If there is no such free access, I am not interested in this community."

DINITZ STRESSES DIASPORA'S IMPORTANCE
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz, the new chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, offered two axioms to members of the combined WZO-Jewish Agency staff at a meeting here Sunday.

He said the very existence of the Jewish state in the future will depend on its links with diaspora Jewry. And he said the existence of the WZO-Jewish Agency will depend on "turning it into an efficient organ, so that we do not find ourselves in the future all together on a sinking ship."

Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and a former Israeli ambassador to the United States, was elected head of the WZO at the 31st World Zionist Congress held here Dec. 6 to 10. In his keynote address, he stressed the need for efficiency and restructuring.

Only confidence and close cooperation between management and staff can achieve these goals, he told the staffers Sunday.

As for the ties binding Israel with Jews overseas, Dinitz observed that 4 million Jews in Israel cannot ensure the state's survival indefinitely without being a part of the worldwide Jewish experience and existence.

SURGEONS IMPLANT SILICON VERTEBRA

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Doctors at the Hadassah-Hebrew University hospital at Ein Kerem have replaced a middle-aged woman's cancerous vertebra with a hand-sculpted silicon facsimile.

The surgeons said they believed this was the first time this procedure has been performed anywhere in the world. Bedridden before the operation, she now can sit up in a wheelchair.

COURT ORDERS THAT NON-ORTHODOX CONVERT MILLER BE LISTED AS JEWISH

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court gave the Interior Ministry seven days on Monday to register non-Orthodox convert Shoshana Miller as Jewish or show cause why it failed to comply with a court order to do so issued a year ago.

The high court acted a day after the ministry agreed reluctantly to register three other non-Orthodox converts within 14 days rather than answer their appeal, which had gained the support of Attorney General Yosef Harish.

Non-Orthodox circles here hailed both developments as significant progress in their efforts to prevent the Orthodox religious establishment from amending the Law of Return, allowing Israeli citizenship to all Jews who seek it. The amendment would recognize only halachic (Jewish legal) -- in other words, Orthodox -- conversions.

But the two chief rabbis, Mordechai Eliahu and Avraham Shapira, joined other rabbinic authorities in denouncing the Supreme Court's decisions as unwarranted interference in halacha.

Miller's case established a precedent for the registration of non-Orthodox converts as Jews. Miller, an American immigrant who was converted to Judaism by a Reform rabbi in the United States, won a lengthy court battle in 1986 for status as a Jew.

The Interior Ministry was forced to issue her an identification card, but it stamped the word "convert" next to the designation of Jewishness. This raised a storm of protest, even among some Orthodox scholars who found the qualification repugnant and a stigma prohibited by Jewish law.

The Supreme Court ordered a new ID card for Miller. In the interim, however, she returned to the United States to take care of her sick father, and the matter of the new card became moot. Nevertheless, Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz, leader of the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party, resigned in protest against the court's ruling.

Miller Not Even Registered

The ministry has since been under the nominal stewardship of Premier Yitzhak Shamir. It was learned later that the ministry, relieved of its immediate obligation to issue a new ID card to Miller, also did not heed the court order to enter her in the population registry as Jewish.

That default led to Monday's ultimatum by the high court. Miller, whose father died recently, told the Jerusalem Post in a telephone interview that she may return to Israel.

Attorney General Harish, citing the Miller case, said last Friday he could see no reason why three other non-Orthodox converts, Gail Moscowitch, an American, and Claudia and Julia Varella, both of Brazil, should not be registered as Jews.

Harish had been scheduled to defend the Interior Ministry against the trio's appeals. But Yehoshua Kahana, director of the ministry's population registry, announced Sunday that he would comply in view of the attorney general's opinion.

SHAMIR CLARIFIES HIS STANCE ON NEW U.S. PEACE PROPOSALS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir has apparently satisfied his Likud colleagues that he has not wavered from his longstanding position on the administered territories, in face of the new American peace initiative in the Middle East.

Many in the Herut wing of the Likud bloc, which Shamir heads, expressed anger and dismay after Shamir seemed to express support Sunday for the American plan, which envisages some form of autonomy -- referred to as "interim arrangements" -- for the territories to take effect "within a few weeks."

Shamir was quoted as saying the plan was the best way to "protect" Israel's presence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and the future of Jewish settlements there.

This was seen by Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, Housing Minister David Levy and other Herut hard-liners as a deviation from the party's position that the only acceptable autonomy was that outlined in the 1978 Camp David accords -- as interpreted at the time by the Likud-led government of Premier Menachem Begin.

But Levy, who also holds the rank of deputy premier, told Voice of Israel Radio on Monday that Shamir had clarified his views and that there was no longer "fear or unclarity" with respect to Likud's stand.

He said the American proposal to introduce a "stepped-up autonomy" would be rejected by Likud, because it amounted to "paving the road to the return of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip to foreign rule."

No Deviation From Camp David

Sources close to Shamir stressed that the premier sticks to his view that negotiations could be based only on Camp David-style autonomy. They said that while he welcomed the renewed American involvement in efforts to reach a settlement, he would not deviate from the Camp David accords.

Despite his conciliatory nod toward Shamir, Levy criticized the premier for not having consulted the Likud ministers before he reacted to the new political developments.

"I don't want to hear in the media that the prime minister is preparing replies to the American proposals," the housing minister said.

Levy met earlier with the heads of Jewish settlements in the territories. He assured them that contrary to statements made by Labor ministers, settlement activity has not been suspended.

He said there was no de facto decision to stop settlement and promised that his ministry would strengthen existing settlements.

Leaders of the settlers movement held lengthy discussions in recent days with Shamir, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other key ministers on the security situation in the territories. The talks were prompted by the firebomb attack Sunday night on the car of Dov Kalmanovich, a 32-year-old accountant from Beit-El, who was driving through El-Bireh, near Ramallah.

**SHULTZ GIVES FEW SPECIFICS
ON NEW U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE****By Howard Rosenberg**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration continued its silence Tuesday about the recent U.S. Middle East peace initiative, with Secretary of State George Shultz declining to be more specific with the House Foreign Affairs Committee than to note that it focuses more on substance than procedure.

While it has been widely reported that the initiative calls for interim local autonomy measures for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, there has been no official description from spokespersons at the State Department or White House.

Speaking Tuesday at a hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Shultz would only say, "We've had so much emphasis on process that substance has got too little attention."

He said the initiative arose from the "greater willingness to think afresh" by parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The new, substantive approach is a "new blend of ideas that have been around," Shultz said, speculating that it "might relax peoples' attitudes about procedures."

On the question of the U.S. position toward Israel's handling of riots in the territories, Shultz explained that the United States vetoed Monday's U.N. resolution criticizing Israel's handling of the crisis because an affirmative U.S. vote would not have been "productive."

The secretary explained that the administration is trying to resolve its differences with Israeli policy "directly" with the Israelis.

He did note the U.S. opposition to Israel's deportation of four Palestinians by saying "those people belong in jail, not deported."

He also used the occasion to praise Israel for having a "vibrant democracy," noting the massive protests within the Jewish state opposing Israel's methods of riot control. "Those voices have been speaking," the secretary said.

Shultz also announced that Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, will soon travel to the region.

**UNREST CONTINUES, AS RABIN
AFFIRMS POLICY ON BEATINGS****By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Unrest continued in the West Bank on Tuesday, but on a smaller scale than earlier in the week, probably because of severe wind and rain storms that kept most people indoors.

Nevertheless, three Israelis were injured by glass splinters in several stone-throwing attacks in the territory. Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a bus causing slight damage, but no casualties. A truck and a bus were set on fire Monday night to prevent them from carrying Arab workers to jobs in Israel.

Several schools and colleges in the West Bank were ordered closed Tuesday because their reopening Monday after the semester break was accompanied by rioting. Curfews were imposed on the Arab town of Kalkilya and the nearby village of Habla.

East Jerusalem was quiet Tuesday, but the general strike by merchants and shopkeepers there continued into its fourth week.

Militant Jewish settlers opened a new front. A convoy of 20 cars from West Bank settlements drove through the Arab town of Anabta on Tuesday night with horns blaring.

They were protesting the roadblocks put up Monday and the stoning of Israeli vehicles on the Tulkarm-Nablus road. A resident of Anabta was fatally shot by Israel Defense Force soldiers Monday.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin affirmed Tuesday that his policy of ordering IDF troops to pursue and severely beat Arab troublemakers has proven effective and will continue. He told an audience of high school students that beatings were preferable to shootings.

But the IDF is still using live ammunition. Two Arabs were shot to death and three were wounded in clashes Monday.

Don't Blame Soldiers

Rabin stressed that as the minister in charge of security for the entire country, he and the government bore responsibility for his policies. He said individual soldiers should not be blamed by those who found the beatings distasteful.

The public debate over Rabin's policies seems to have faded in recent days. But jurists here have pointed out that beatings are legal only in self defense or to disperse violent demonstrations. In any other instances, they are illegal and soldiers have the right to disobey illegal orders, they said.

The Gaza Strip was quiet Tuesday. A general strike was in force in Gaza and in Khan Yunis, at the southern end of the territory. The El-Bureij refugee camp remained under curfew. But schools were open as usual and thousands of Arab workers went to their jobs in Israel.

The IDF announced Monday that it recently uncovered four terrorist cells that were planning attacks in the Gaza Strip and in Israel proper. A military spokesman said 10 bombs and dozens of pounds of explosives were discovered.

According to the spokesman, one of the cells, made up of residents of the Jabalya refugee camp, bombed vehicles in Kiryat Malachi and Rehovot in Israel last year and attacked an IDF patrol in Gaza.

Another cell attacked an IDF patrol in Gaza last November. The remaining two are suspected of blowing up buses in Rafah in the Gaza Strip in December and January.

**JUSTICE PREVAILS IN TERRITORIES,
SAYS ISRAELI MILITARY JUDGE****By Yitzhak Rabi**

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Israeli military authorities have prosecuted 1,200 Palestinians since the disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip began more than eight weeks ago, according to Brig. Gen. Amnon Straschnow, the judge advocate of the Israel Defense Force.

In a news conference here Monday, Straschnow disclosed that of those prosecuted, 600 have been convicted, 10 acquitted and 580 who pleaded not guilty are in prison awaiting the continuation of their trials.

Straschnow, who is responsible for administering Israel's system of military justice both within Israel and in the territories, said that the IDF sees to it that "justice is done" in bringing the accused to trial and that "the basic rules of procedure and the due process of the law are carefully observed."

**REFORM RABBIS ISSUE STATEMENT
DEPLORING BEATINGS POLICY**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the rabbinical body of Reform Judaism, issued a statement Monday saying it "deploras" the Israeli policy of beating Palestinian Arabs as a method of controlling unrest in the administered territories.

The statement, passed by the CCAR executive board by a vote of 17-3, and released by Rabbi Eugene Lipman, the group's president, says, "The policy of deliberate beatings ordered by Defense Minister (Yitzhak) Rabin in the territories" is "beyond the bounds of Jewish values."

In addition, the statement calls on all parties, "including the Arab states, to convene a peace conference on the Middle East."

The CCAR statement is the second by an American Reform body to criticize the Israeli policy, which was announced two weeks ago by Rabin. The defense minister said at the time that Israel would use "might, force, beatings" to quell the rioting.

On Jan. 24, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, representing 810 Reform congregations, issued a statement calling the beatings policy "an offense to the Jewish spirit."

Since that statement appeared, Jewish organizations have been split over whether American Jewish leaders should publicly criticize Israel.

A number of rabbis who voted in favor of the CCAR statement did so with reservations, the group said. Rabbi Alfred Gottschalk, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform seminary, went as far as to disassociate himself publicly from the statement.

Reached at his office in Cincinnati, Gottschalk said that he agrees with "three-quarters" of the statement, including its criticism of the beatings, but that "this is not the time to take this position," when Israel is receiving harsh criticism from around the world.

**AJCOMMITTEE PRESIDENT URGES
NEW CONSENSUS ON TERRITORIES**

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Theodore Ellenoff, president of the American Jewish Committee, has called on Israelis to begin a "national examination and quest for answers" in response to the Palestinian unrest and reach a new consensus on the administered territories.

In an open letter published in Tuesday's Jerusalem Post and in the Hebrew newspaper Davar, Ellenoff expressed the support of American Jewry for the Israeli people as they and their government confront "the upsurge of violence in the territories."

"The events of the past six weeks have not divided us," he wrote.

The letter was addressed to the people of Israel "because American Jewry -- at least that portion on whose behalf I am empowered to speak -- feels an intense and personal affinity for you and, at a critical time such as this, we ought to be direct and precise."

Of the rioters, he said, "We can hope that they will seek to translate their non-explosive energies into coherent political goals, realistic demands which Israel has always proclaimed its readiness to negotiate."

He asked the Israelis to consider how they

will act on the violence. He said he hoped "this candid realism will translate itself into new ideas and a new and forthcoming consensus on the future of the territories."

In an interview in New York, Ellenoff said his letter was intended to show that "The commitment here is full and solid. However, in connection with state policy, it offends (American Jews) in a serious way, and we want you to know that.

"It is always clear that the Israeli government understands the short range and, of course, the long range necessary to deal with the Gaza insurgency."

He said American Jews "know how wholeheartedly the citizens of Israel support the policy of dealing with civil disobedience and insurrection in Gaza. Nevertheless, it appears to be a shortsighted policy which lacks imagination."

**ROME'S JEWS CONCERNED AFTER
PROTESTORS FIGHT JEWISH YOUTH**

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Leaders of the Jewish community here have requested an urgent meeting with Interior Minister Amintore Fanfani following fist fights between young Jews and pro-Palestinian leftists outside the main synagogue in the historic ghetto here Saturday evening.

Six people were injured before police broke up the melee.

The Jewish community has charged that the leftists deliberately entered the ghetto after a march and mass rally for the Palestinian cause in downtown Rome.

The rally, sponsored by the ultra-left Proletarian Democracy Party, drew more than 8,000 people from all over Italy. The party secretary, Giovanni Russo Spina, said his people entered the ghetto by mistake on their way to their buses and were set upon by Jewish youths.

The party issued a statement later saying it opposed all forms of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitism had no part in the spirit of the rally.

According to a communique issued by the Jewish community, about 30 leftist demonstrators gathered at the main synagogue at about 7:30 p.m., some 90 minutes after the rally had ended. Some wore kaffiyehs, the traditional Arab head-dress, and carried Palestinian flags. They shouted pro-Palestinian and anti-Semitic slogans.

The statement said this deliberate anti-Semitic provocation led to the fight with Jewish youth.

Rome's Jews are especially sensitive and protective of the ghetto area since a terrorist machine gun and grenade attack on the main synagogue in 1982 that left a 2-year-old Jewish child dead.

They are concerned now over an anti-Semitic backlash in Italy because of the measures Israeli troops have taken to quell disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, has held several meetings on this subject in recent weeks with leaders of Italy's major political parties.

Some leftist parties have been extremely vocal in support of the Palestinians. Communist Party leader Alessandro Natta visited Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat in Tunis last week. But the Communists have assured Zevi that they share her concern over renewed anti-Semitism in Italy and will help fight it.

HISTORIAN TO CHECK TELEGRAM SAID TO LINK WALDHEIM, DEPORTATION

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- An international commission of historians examining the military activities of Kurt Waldheim likely will delay preparation of its final report, scheduled for Feb. 8, because a member flew to Yugoslavia on Monday to check a new document.

The document reportedly implicates the Austrian president directly in the deportation of civilians to Nazi-run camps while he was an officer in the German army in the Balkans during World War II.

Manfred Messerschmidt, a West German member of the panel, was asked before flying to Belgrade if the document would prove Waldheim is a war criminal. He replied, "Definitely, this is the document that brought him closest to war crimes so far."

It was brought to light last week by the West German news weekly *Der Spiegel*, which plans to publish it Sunday. *Der Spiegel* bought it from Dusan Plenca, former head of the Belgrade Institute for Military History, who gave the magazine a sworn statement as to its authenticity.

The document was found in an archive in Zagreb, according to Plenca, in a hitherto unknown file of the Croatian puppet state, known as the Ustasha government, set up by the Nazis when they invaded Yugoslavia in 1941. The Ustasha army cooperated closely with the Germans.

The document is a telegram sent by an Ustasha officer in 1942 in which he refers to a request made by Lt. Kurt Waldheim to deport 4,224 persons from the municipality of Korsara in Bosnia, now a region of Yugoslavia.

In the summer of 1942, the German army undertook its first major retaliatory measures against the civilian population for the activities of partisans and resistance fighters. About 68,000 civilians were killed, including children.

According to *Der Spiegel*, an unspecified number of Jews were among the civilians allegedly ordered deported by Waldheim to concentration camps in Yugoslavia or forced labor camps in Norway. Few survived.

A spokesman for Waldheim, Gerold Christian, has called the document an obvious forgery. Plenca insists it is authentic and has threatened to sue Waldheim and Christian for impugning his credibility.

An editor of *Der Spiegel*, Hans Peter Martin, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on Tuesday that "We did all the checking on can do. To us the document looks correct."

INOUYE SEEKS TO RESCIND \$8 MILLION SET FOR YESHIVAS

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- Conceding "an error in judgment," Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) announced Monday he would seek to rescind the controversial \$8 million allocation he inserted in the 1988 federal spending bill to build yeshivas in France.

The money was to be provided to Ozar Hatorah, a New York-based Orthodox Jewish organization. Discovery of the allocation provoked an outcry from across the political spectrum.

Inouye was charged with inserting the provision into the \$600 billion continuing resolution without debate. "I did not sneak this legisla-

tion into law," he said during a speech in the Senate chamber. He contended that the matter was deliberated on various occasions in public.

The senator also denied that the budget line may have been influenced by a \$1,000 campaign contribution from New York real estate developer Zev Wolfson, who is a supporter of Ozar Hatorah.

"I have been accused of actions which are 'shabby and self-serving,'" he said. "Some have even said that I sold my reputation and my honor for \$1,000."

Others have raised the separation of church and state. Inouye said later that "frankly, I do not consider questions about church and state. Persecution is persecution, whether it be against Baptists in the Soviet Union, Protestants in North Korea, or Catholics in Poland."

He said the beneficiaries of the \$8 million were to be French Sephardic Jews from North Africa who "have not been absorbed or assimilated. Though many have been in France for years, they remain refugees."

Since appropriations bills in Congress must originate in the House of Representatives, Inouye asked Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), chairman of the House counterpart to his subcommittee, to introduce the rescission measure there.

Obey introduced the bill Monday. The House is scheduled to vote on the measure later this week. A two-thirds vote is required in both houses for rescission.

ACLU Files Suit

On Monday, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed suit in New York District Court against the State Department, charging the allocation violated the constitutional principle of the separation between church and state.

Edwin Baker, an ACLU staff attorney, said Tuesday that while the suit would be moot if Congress rescinds the allocation, the ACLU may restructure the suit to challenge the State Department program from which Inouye allocated the \$8 million.

That program -- known as American Schools and Hospitals Abroad -- has administered tens of millions of dollars since the early 1970s to U.S. organizations, such as Ozar Hatorah, that in turn build religiously affiliated hospitals and schools abroad.

Samuel Rabinove, legal director for the American Jewish Committee, welcomed Inouye's decision. Rabinove added that he was willing to recommend that AJCommittee consider joining the ACLU's lawsuit should it only challenge the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program.

ISRAEL SELLS SHARE OF FUEL COMPANY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (JTA) -- The government sold its 75 percent interest in the Paz fuel oil group Monday to an Australian-based investments conglomerate.

The \$95 million deal was the biggest to date in the government's program to sell its industrial assets to private investors. Finance Minister Moshe Nissim said the proceeds would be used to reduce the national debt, not to expand the budget.

He signed the deal in Jerusalem Monday with Australian millionaire Jack Lieberman, who said, "We see this as the first in a series of investments in Israel."

Lieberman heads the JGL investment group.

**CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE CAMPAIGN
GETS MIXED REVIEWS FROM ARABS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- A four-stage civil disobedience campaign in the administered territories was announced here Thursday by East Jerusalem journalist Hanna Seniora.

He said it would begin Friday with the ultimate aim of ending the Israeli occupation by making it "unprofitable." But judged by the lack of response in the Palestinian community, the project may be stillborn.

Seniora, the editor of the Arabic daily *Al Fajr*, met with foreign correspondents. He had intended to hold a full-scale news conference. It was deferred until Friday and then canceled, because, according to Seniora, "the authorities prevented a number of people from taking part."

But it may well have been Arab skepticism about the campaign that forced its cancellation. Several leading Palestinians played down the importance of the move. Hikmat al-Masri, the Israeli-appointed mayor of Nablus who is deputy speaker of the Jordanian Parliament, said Seniora's announcement was "symbolic" and had no practical significance.

Seniora said the campaign would take the form initially of a boycott of Israeli-made cigarettes. He observed in that connection that the late Indian independence leader Mohandas Gandhi "started off with salt, and the Palestinians will start with cigarettes."

The second stage of the campaign is to begin two weeks later, when Palestinians in the territories stop buying Israeli soft drinks. Then they will stop paying taxes. The final stage, according to Seniora, will be an Arab boycott of their jobs in Israel.

Claiming that Israel earns \$200 million in annual revenue from the administered territories, Seniora said, "In order for the occupation to end, it should become unprofitable."

Seniora initiated the campaign earlier this week, along with Mubarak Awad, founder and head of the Center for the Study of Non-Violence in East Jerusalem.

Awad Doesn't Show Up

Awad, who was not present at the meeting with reporters, is a Jerusalem-born naturalized American citizen. Last month he was ordered deported, but strong pressure from Washington prevailed on the Israeli authorities not to implement the order.

Seniora declined to name other Palestinians he said were behind him. But he insisted that a majority of the population in the territories would support the boycott. He stressed it was voluntary.

"This is something that is not being forced on anyone. It is up to the free will of every person. I believe that at the moment, with the present situation, the people are ready for such a move," he said.

Israeli authorities do not seem disturbed by Seniora's campaign, but are watching it closely because of his stature in the Palestinian community. Jerusalem police were reportedly trying to determine whether the call for civil disobedience

was illegal. Police Minister Haim Barlev met with a group of Palestinians earlier in the week to warn them against inflammatory statements.

The boycott call seems to represent a change of attitude on the part of Seniora, who has argued in the past that the best way to advance the Palestinian cause is to work within the Israeli system.

Last year he announced he might stand for election to the Jerusalem City Council. He dropped the idea after getting negative feedback from the Palestinian community. His name came up last year as a possible Palestinian representative on a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to negotiate peace with Israel. The delegation never materialized and the peace move remains stalemated.

U.S. SENATOR PELTED IN WEST BANK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- U.S. Sen. John Chafee (R-R.I.) was pelted with stones Thursday while visiting the Kalandiya refugee camp, north of Jerusalem. He was accompanied by the U.S. consul from East Jerusalem and United Nations officials.

Israel Defense Force troops broke up the disturbance with tear gas.

Unrest continued elsewhere, though on a smaller scale than in recent days. Police use tear gas to disperse Arabs who erected roadblocks on Saladin Street, East Jerusalem's main thoroughfare, from where they threw rocks at Israeli vehicles.

Five Arab youths were arrested in Beit Hanina, north of Jerusalem, after they pelted an Egged bus with stones. A 17-year-old girl was injured and hospitalized.

The IDF announced, meanwhile, that 15 more residents of the administered territories have been placed in administrative detention. They can be held for up to six months without formal charges.

**U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP
'UNSHAKABLE,' SHULTZ DECLARES**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz said Thursday in his 1988 "State of the State Department" speech that the U.S.-Israel relationship is solid.

"Israel is a democratic country seeking stability and peace and the ability to pursue its destiny, and we support that country and we support those objectives and we work closely with Israel," Shultz said.

"Problems come up from time to time; we resolve those problems. Occasionally we disagree, but through all of that this relationship, as I said, is unshakable."

The secretary said the U.S. vote Tuesday in favor the United Nations Security Council resolution criticizing Israeli deportation of Palestinians from the administered territories should not be interpreted "as meaning anything else. In fact, I suppose the ability to differ occasionally with a friend shows the depths of that friendship."

Shultz did, however, reiterate his opposition to Israel's use of "lethal means" to maintain law

and order.

He also repeated his call for direct peace negotiations between Israel and Arab countries and support of an international peace conference that would lead to direct negotiations. "The whole history of the Middle East shows that violence -- terrorism, war -- just has not worked," Shultz said. ". . . It is negotiations that work."

Shultz met for an hour Wednesday with Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and other Jewish leaders to discuss developments regarding Soviet Jewry that occurred at the summit meetings here last month between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The National Conference of Soviet Jewry (NCSJ), which Abram also chairs, presented Shultz with its 1987 year-end analysis of the situation. It notes that 8,155 Jews left the Soviet Union in 1987 compared to 914 in 1986, but far less than the 51,320 exiting in 1979.

It also points out the de-emphasis of the Soviet requirement of a request by first-degree family abroad in order to receive an exit visa.

But it declares that the "Soviet Union is alone among major developed nations" in routinely denying emigration requests because of knowledge of state secrets.

Other developments the report cites include the opening of the first kosher take-out restaurant in Moscow in decades and the sanctioning of Hebrew courses in Baku, a city in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

It also mentions the first symposium ever held in the Soviet Union -- in Moscow -- on the emigration process for Soviet Jews.

But it also criticizes the KGB's crackdown on a Soviet Jewry rally in Moscow preceding the Washington summit meetings.

Overall, the report expresses the NCSJ's uncertainty whether "these limited developments" signal a real Soviet policy modification. "At best, despite some positive and welcome changes, the measures taken in 1987 serve to highlight the fundamental problems which Soviet Jews continue to face."

Abram said afterward that Shultz expressed disappointment in "the failure to have advanced the emigration figures substantially and in the failure of the Soviets to give relief to the large number of secrecy cases."

But, he continued, "the secretary of state and the president are making an ultimate effort in this field." Shultz, according to Abram, told them that Soviet Jewry "will be at the top of the agenda in Vienna in the (upcoming) review process under the Helsinki Accords and also in the summit in Moscow."

Abram said they also discussed Israel's deportation policy. He told reporters that "it is questionable and murky" whether deportation of a handful of Palestinians would violate the Fourth Geneva Convention, signed in 1949.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said as recently as Tuesday that Israel's procedure violated international law.

Abram said the convention "was designed to deal with the issue of mass deportations such as for slave labor or extermination."

Abram also stated that "those who face expulsion are getting fairly minor punishment as compared for example to capital punishment, which is permitted under the Geneva Convention."

ISRAEL OPPOSED TO GOULDING MISSION, BUT PERES WILL MEET HIM ANYWAY

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has decided to meet with U.N. Undersecretary General Murrack Goulding, who left for Israel Thursday to review the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, an Israeli spokesman said here Thursday.

But in Jerusalem, Israel Television reported Thursday night the Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office said that it would try to prevent Goulding from touring the territories.

A U.N. spokesman said that Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has decided to send Goulding "to Israel and the occupied territories in order to discuss the situation there," as requested by Security Council Resolution 605, adopted Dec. 22.

The Israel Mission to the United Nations issued a statement on Goulding's departure Thursday saying it rejects Resolution 605 and particularly the section stipulating the envoy's mission. The statement said Israel considers the visit "an intervention in internal security matters under the sole jurisdiction of the Israel government."

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, conveyed a similar message to Perez de Cuellar in a meeting Wednesday on Goulding's mission.

Israeli diplomats said Thursday that Foreign Minister Peres will explain, during his meeting with Goulding, why Israel rejects Resolution 605.

AS IT CRITICIZES ISRAEL, EUROPE SEEN AS READY TO ADVANCE PEACE

JTA Staff Report

Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Western European nations, having criticized Israeli handling of Palestinian riots in the administered territories and Israeli deportation orders against nine Palestinians, seem to be considering renewed involvement in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West Germany will visit Syria this month and possibly Israel as well. West German diplomats say Genscher will explore whether and how the European Community could advance peace prospects. The EC has urged the convening of an international Mideast peace conference.

The heads of the 12 EC nations are expected to issue a statement on the Middle East at their special February meeting in Brussels. West Germany this month assumed the rotating chairmanship of the EC's political institutions.

Delegations of Arab ambassadors have met with virtually every European government over the past weeks to demand strong condemnation of the deportations and the handling of the unrest.

And European criticism of Israel mounted this week. In The Hague, Israeli Ambassador Zeev Suffoth was summoned by Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek on Wednesday.

Van den Broek expressed his government's "extreme concern" about the deportation orders issued against nine Palestinians Sunday and about Israel's action in the territories in general. He also urged Israel to enter into an international Mideast conference.

The U.N. Security Council voted Tuesday to demand Israel to refrain from the deportations.

On Thursday, the French Socialist Party

appealed to Israel to drop the deportations and "condemned the brutal oppression against demonstrators." The party, led by President Francois Mitterrand, is France's friendliest toward Israel.

The party's executive committee noted that the deportations are "contrary to international law" and warned that transgression of the Geneva Conventions may adversely affect Israel's image in France and Western Europe.

A fellow traveller, German Social Democrat Party leader and parliamentarian Hans-Juergen Wischnewski, also recently protested to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over the use of live ammunition by Israeli security forces during demonstrations by Palestinians.

Twenty-four Palestinians have been shot dead.

The highly publicized protest by Wischnewski, who heads the Middle East Committee of the Socialist International, was seen as a direct affront to a "brother party" in Israel.

A French investigatory commission also criticized Israel's riot control in a report issued Wednesday night. Three French attorneys, headed by Jean-Louis Weil, a Jew, said that during their recent tour of the territories they saw dead and wounded hit by large-caliber bullets.

The commission, which is linked to various left-wing movements, claimed that many of those arrested "were severely beaten" before they were taken to court.

British Criticism

A British Foreign Office official, David Mellor, had said Monday during a tour of the Gaza Strip that conditions were "appalling" and "an affront to civilized values."

Israel's ambassador to Belgium and the EC, Avi Primor, reacted on Belgian radio Thursday with a message of understanding.

He said it was "normal" that Mellor was "shocked by what he saw in the refugee camps of the Gaza Strip" during his first trip to Israel.

But he added that Israel has "built new cities and new housing" in Gaza, ". . . but this move has been opposed for political reasons, by the Arab countries."

He noted that the British supported the PLO-backed U.N. Security Council resolution Tuesday. "The British should make a decision: Do they want us to do something to improve the life conditions of these refugees, or do they condemn us for doing this?"

In Rome, the Vatican's newly invested Latin rite patriarch of Jerusalem, Monsignor Michel Sabbah, a Palestinian, said last Friday that he could not foresee a speedy end to the tension in the Middle East.

(Contributing to this story were correspondents David Kantor in Bonn, Edwin Eytan in Paris, Yossi Lempkowitz in Brussels and Ruth E. Gruber in Rome.)

GRAFFITI AROUSE WARNINGS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN ITALY By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The appearance of swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti in Rome, Milan and Bologna this past week has prompted warnings of an upsurge of anti-Semitism among Italians, especially the far right.

Leading Italian newspapers and commentators attributed the graffiti to neo-fascist groups. So say they were roused by the daily media coverage

of tough measures the Israeli security forces have taken to quell Palestinian rioting in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Alfonso di Nola, a prominent historian, told the newspaper Corriere della Sera that "intolerance against Jews is increasing in Italy." He observed that "every time Israel enters into conflict with the Palestinians, there is an upsurge of racism."

According to Di Nola, "In Rome, the graffiti appear mainly in areas where there is a strong fascist presence." Slogans such as "Burn Jews" and "Jews to the ovens" have been spray-painted or scrawled on walls along Rome's Via Ottaviano and in Milan and Bologna. They often are accompanied by swastikas or the symbols of right-wing and neo-fascist groups.

These slogans have appeared on the walls of a Jewish school in Milan and on shops. Voce Repubblicana, the official newspaper of the Republican Party, attributed them to the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement (MS). The paper spoke of a "lynching" mentality and "anti-Jewish reflexes" almost everywhere.

Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, said that "with the end of the (Christmas/New Year) vacations it will be necessary to reinforce vigilance in the schools." The Italian Federation of Jewish Youth condemned the "manifestations of intolerance and discrimination" and called "on all responsible powers" not to underestimate the seriousness of "the reappearance of anti-Semitic phenomena."

Luciano Tas, editor of the Jewish community newspaper Shalom, told Corriere Della Sera, "The mass media contribute to heighten the climate with false and provocative reports."

Letter Of Warning

Israel's ambassador to Italy, Mordechai Drory, apparently anticipated the situation. Ten days ago he sent letters to leading Italian newspapers expressing concern over their coverage of events in the Israel-administered territories. He warned this could lead to dangerous anti-Semitic manifestations.

"There is great hysteria in the way in which disorders in the occupied territories are presented," Drory complained. "When Israel and its people are dealt with, many passions are unleashed which are translated into uncontrolled violence." His letter was published in several newspapers.

When President Francesco Cossiga of Italy visited Israel last month, his trip became controversial because it took place while disturbances were occurring in the territories. Cossiga met with Palestinian representatives as well as Israeli officials.

Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, who supports the Palestinian cause but also affirms Israel's right to exist in security, has expressed disapproval of Israel's treatment of the recent disorders.

In an unrelated development, an Israeli diplomat was invited, for the first time, to attend a Vatican ceremony in St. Peter's Basilica.

Myron Gordon, who is accredited to the Italian government (the Vatican has no diplomatic relations with Israel), joined representatives from 15 Arab organizations including the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Arab League at the ordination by Pope John Paul II of Michel Sabbah, the first Palestinian to be appointed patriarch of the Latin Rite in Jerusalem.

**LEBANON LODGES COMPLAINT AT U.N.
AGAINST RECENT ISRAELI AIR RAID**
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Lebanon complained to the United Nations on Thursday that Israel, in its Jan. 2 attack on terrorist bases in Lebanon, "bombed some blocks of flats near Sidon" killing at least seven members of one Palestinian family.

Lebanon stopped short of calling for an official meeting of the Security Council to condemn Israel, but said nonetheless that it reserves the right to call for such a meeting.

Diplomatic sources told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a decision on whether to convene a Security Council meeting would be reached Thursday night.

The complaint was made by Rachid Fakhoury, Lebanon's ambassador to the United Nations, in a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The letter was dated Jan. 5 and circulated here Thursday.

According to the Lebanese envoy, the Israeli attack last Saturday "has resulted in a total of 26 deaths, dozens of wounded and substantial material damage."

Fakhoury charged that Israel's actions and policy "violate all legal principles and all humanitarian values and has already brought innumerable disasters and untold suffering upon the Middle East as a whole and on Lebanon in particular."

If Lebanon decides to request a meeting of the Security Council, it would be the third Security Council session aimed at criticizing Israel in the last three weeks.

On Dec. 22 the Security Council strongly deplored Israel for its handling of the riots in the administered territories. On Jan. 5, the council requested that Israel refrain from deporting Palestinians.

**JEWISH GROUP URGES VATICAN TO AVOID
'ANOTHER EPISODE OF CONTROVERSY'**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- An international Jewish organization has sent a letter to the Vatican urging Catholic officials to "seek to avoid another episode of controversy" during the pope's announced visit to Austria in June.

The letter, approved Wednesday by member agencies of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), makes no specific reference to a possible second meeting between the pope and Austrian president Kurt Waldheim.

However, it reiterates an agreement reached during a meeting between Jewish representatives and senior Catholic officials at the Vatican last summer, at which the Jews voiced their dismay over the audience the pope gave Waldheim at the Vatican last June.

That agreement laid the groundwork for exchanges between Jewish officials and Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican secretary of state, in order to "avoid future misunderstandings."

The letter is addressed to Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, president of the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews.

The letter did not request a meeting with Casaroli about the pope's visit to Austria, because of uncertainty about Waldheim's future as Austria's president, according to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, chairman of IJCIC and director of interna-

tional relations for the American Jewish Committee.

Waldheim is under investigation by an international commission concerning his activities as an officer in the German army in World War II, and is facing increasing pressure within Austria to step down as president.

"It would be inappropriate to engage in any discussion that will be speculative about what will happen in June," said Tanenbaum.

**STUDENT CONFERENCE CRITICIZES
INACTION ON ETHIOPIAN JEWRY ISSUE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The International Jewish Students Conference on Ethiopian Jewry closed here Thursday with an urgent appeal to Jewish organizations all over the world to mount an intensive campaign for the right of Jews to leave Ethiopia.

The appeal was contained in "The Ashkelon Platform on Ethiopian Jewry," which the participants signed after hearing some of the most scathing criticism ever voiced publicly of the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency for their handling of the twin problems of Jewish emigration from Ethiopia and the absorption of the immigrants after they arrive in Israel.

The conference, held in Ashkelon, moved to President Chaim Herzog's residence in Jerusalem for its final session.

It was attended by more than 250 students from 20 countries, other leading figures from abroad, Israeli officials and representatives of the Ethiopian emigre community in Israel.

Ashkelon, a coastal city south of Tel Aviv, hosted the conference. Its mayor, Eli Dayan, pointed out that Ashkelon had been "the gateway for the aliyah of Ethiopian Jews during Operation Moses."

"Operation Moses" was the code name given the clandestine movement of Jews from Ethiopia to Israel two years ago. Between November 1984 and March 1985, some 8,000 Jews trekked by foot from Ethiopia into neighboring Sudan from where they were flown, via Europe, to Israel under a secret agreement reached with the Sudanese authorities.

The operation was halted abruptly after leaks to the news media embarrassed the Sudanese government, which ended the flights.

Somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 Jews were left behind in Ethiopia. The figures were not exact because the last census taken in Ethiopia in 1976 is considered unreliable.

Many of the Ethiopian Jews who reached Israel have family members still in Ethiopia suffering from famine and harassment by the local authorities.

Mayor Dayan of Ashkelon, speaking at the conference, blasted government and Jewish Agency leaders for what he called their silence and inactivity on the issue.

Calling the absorption of Ethiopian Jewry in Israel a "disaster" and a "Zionist failure," he said it was a "disgrace" that no members of the Cabinet or the Jewish Agency bothered to attend the gathering, which dealt with these problems.

But President Herzog told the conferees that "the government is in fact doing a great deal."

Yosef Abramowitz, chairman of the World Union of Jewish Students, said "It is the responsibility of the Jewish student world to make Ethiopian Jewry an issue."

POPE JOHN PAUL II MAY MEET WITH WALDHEIM IN AUSTRIA**By Andrew Silow Carroll and Andrew Muchin**

NEW YORK, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II will meet with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim during a visit to Austria scheduled for June 23 to 27, according to unconfirmed news reports from the Vatican Tuesday.

The pope also will meet, on June 24, with Austrian Jewish leaders who protested his controversial audience at the Vatican with Waldheim last summer, the reports said.

Arrangements for the visit were apparently made during Waldheim's audience at the Vatican last June. John Paul II first visited Austria as pope in 1983.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, chairman of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) and director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee, said Tuesday evening that a papal meeting with Waldheim is not certain, because Waldheim may face pressure to resign from office before June.

An international commission of historians is studying Waldheim's activities as a lieutenant in the German Army during World War II, when he allegedly was involved in deportations of Greek Jews to Auschwitz, among other crimes.

Waldheim has repeatedly denied that he was involved in war crimes.

"If Waldheim still remains in office, then clearly the Austrian government would expect (the pope) to meet with him," Tannenbaum said.

The Jewish leader said IJCIC will meet Thursday to discuss alternative proposals to a papal-Waldheim meeting, which the group will transmit to Vatican officials.

"We don't want a repetition of the tumultuous events of the summer," he said.

Regarding the upcoming visit, Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, suggested in a statement that the pope use the visit to "give public expression to his views on the Holocaust and its dreadful and continuing lessons to all mankind."

In a separate statement, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said he hoped the pope would "not repeat the overly lavish praise for Mr. Waldheim when they met last summer, and which appeared to absolve the former U.N. official of the charges that have been made against him."

Waldheim is a former secretary general of the United Nations.

Schindler called for a meeting of Austrian Catholic clergy to discuss anti-Semitism. He also said the "best suggestion of all" would be for Waldheim to resign the presidency before the pope arrives, and thus "spare the Austrian people and the pope himself the embarrassment of another meeting" with Waldheim.

In April, the U.S. Justice Department formally barred Waldheim from visiting the United States as a private citizen, saying it had sufficient evidence to suspect him of involvement in Nazi war crimes.

ARABS WILL URGE SECURITY COUNCIL TO BLOCK DEPORTATIONS FROM ISRAEL**By Yitzhak Rabi**

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Representatives of Arab states here are circulating a draft Security Council resolution demanding that Israel refrain from deporting any Palestinians from the administered territories, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned Tuesday.

The Security Council was expected to meet Tuesday night or Wednesday morning to discuss the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where violent disturbances have broken out in recent weeks.

The Security Council meeting was requested by Jordan. But according to sources here, the main force behind the request was Egypt, the only Arab state to have a peace treaty with Israel.

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, cut short his vacation in Israel and is enroute to New York to attend the session.

The draft resolution, backed by the Arabs and the Palestine Liberation Organization, calls on Israel to abide by the Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, which protects the rights of civilians in time of war.

It is intended to bring the weight of the Security Council to bear on Israel to rescind deportation orders issued Sunday against nine Palestinian activists alleged to have been ring-leaders in the disturbances, which began Dec. 9 and have continued sporadically ever since.

The resolution would be the second aimed against Israel since Dec. 22, when the Security Council voted 14-0 for a resolution strongly deploring Israel's handling of riots in the territories. The United States, which has the power to veto any Security Council resolution, chose to abstain from voting.

The Dec. 22 resolution also called on Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar to send an emissary to Israel to examine conditions in the territories and to study prospects for implementing the resolution's recommendations.

The Israeli newspaper Yediot Achronot reported Tuesday that the envoy, Marrack Goulding, is expected to arrive in Israel at the end of this week. Goulding is U.N. undersecretary for Middle East affairs.

AS VIOLENCE FLARES IN GAZA, ARABS PLAN CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE CAMPAIGN**By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- The Gaza Strip, quiet for the past few days, erupted with new violence Tuesday, resulting in the death of a Palestinian in Khan Yunis, where Israeli soldiers battled stone-throwing youths.

It was the second Palestinian fatality since Sunday at the hands of Israeli security forces, and passions seethed throughout the territories.

In addition, Israel is faced with an Arab civil disobedience campaign being organized by two prominent Palestinians in East Jerusalem. As a harbinger of this latest move, groups of Arab women all over the West Bank demonstrated

Tuesday against the "suppressive measures" by the Israelis.

The Gaza Strip, where serious rioting broke out last Dec. 9 and continued unabated for nearly three weeks, was quiet Tuesday morning. But later in the day, IDF soldiers were attacked with rocks in Khan Yunis, in the southern end of the territory.

One soldier was struck in the face. The officer in charge opened fire to rescue his men who were surrounded. One of the stone-throwers was killed and seven were wounded.

News of the clash spread swiftly over the territory. Four IDF soldiers were slightly injured by rocks in Gaza. A resident of Gaza's Nasser neighborhood was wounded in an encounter with other soldiers.

South of Gaza, 10 Arab youths barricaded themselves in a mosque and stoned Israeli forces.

Regret Expressed

Military sources expressed regret over the loss of a life in Khan Yunis, but said that according to an initial investigation, the soldier who fired the fatal shot acted in accordance with regulations.

That was not the case Sunday, when a 25-year-old Palestinian woman, Haniye El-Zarawneh, was shot to death while hanging laundry on the roof of her home in the Al-Ram neighborhood, north of Jerusalem.

The soldier in that case, who was firing into the air as he chased stone-throwers into the courtyard of the Zarawneh family home, was suspended from duty along with his commanding officer for acting contrary to regulations.

The two deaths, less than 48 hours apart, may touch off a new round of violent disturbances in the territories, Israelis fear.

IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that each additional person killed in the territories ignites further tension. He said the security forces were under strict orders to exercise maximum restraint.

But the prospects of a civil disobedience campaign in the West Bank and Gaza Strip may in some ways be a greater ordeal for Israeli forces than violent confrontations.

The first reaction in official quarters was that the campaign would "simply not work," although the mere announcement of it was troubling.

Seniora Behind Initiative

The initiative was taken by Hanna Seniora, the widely respected editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al Fajr, and Mubarak Awad, founder and head of the Center for the Study of Non-Violence in East Jerusalem.

Awad, a Jerusalem-born American citizen, was recently ordered deported from Israel. But strong pressure from Washington prevailed upon the Israeli authorities not to implement the order.

Seniora told reporters Tuesday that the civil disobedience campaign could include refusal to pay taxes and boycotts of Israeli products and jobs in Israel. He said it could be described as a non-violent "civil rebellion... to send a message that the occupation cannot continue for very much longer."

Other possible participants in the campaign include Bir Zeit University Professor Sari Nusseibeh; the deposed mayor of Hebron, Mustafa Abdul Nabi Ntash; and lawyer Jonathan Kuttab.

Seniora said he and other public figures would hold a news conference Thursday to announce the initiative.

Meanwhile, Premier Yitzhak Shamir responded Tuesday to a cable from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak protesting Israel's behavior in the territories. Shamir blamed the unrest on terrorist organizations and charged that the Arab countries were perpetuating the poor conditions in the refugee camps deliberately.

He handed his message to the Egyptian ambassador in Tel Aviv, Mohammad Bassiouny. The envoy, emerging from his meeting with Shamir, told reporters "We are against killing, because there are a lot of ways to keep security, but not by the use of live bullets."

U.S. CONDEMNS DEPORTATIONS, SAYS IT IS NOT SOFTENING STANCE

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- The State Department on Tuesday termed Israel's deportations of Palestinians a violation of international law.

"We consider them a violation of that Fourth Geneva Convention," Redman said, referring to the 1949 treaty setting international standards for treating civilians in occupied areas.

The State Department has previously taken that position. In its February 1987 report on human rights practices, it stated, "The United States holds the view that Israel is an occupying power in these territories and, therefore, that its administration is subject to The Hague regulations of 1907 and the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilian populations under military occupation."

Reacting to Tuesday's killing of a Palestinian in the Gaza Strip by Israeli soldiers, Redman said the United States "deeply regrets" the incident.

"People on both sides should pull back and consider the impact of confrontations, violence and the use of deadly force on the chances for a just and lasting peace in the region," he added.

In a separate briefing Tuesday, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater contested press reports Monday that the State Department has become less critical of Israel.

The New York Times and the Washington Post reported Tuesday that the State Department had "muted" its public criticism of Israel.

The papers apparently based their reports on Redman's decision not to deliver a lengthy statement in reaction to Israel's decision Sunday to deport nine Palestinians from the administered territories and the killing the same day of a Palestinian woman on the West Bank.

Fitzwater said Tuesday that Redman's statement "was misinterpreted a little bit, because the language was almost the same as it has been the previous days."

He reiterated the administration objections to deportations of Palestinians, as well as Israel's use of lethal force.

The State Department official said it is not necessary for the United States to publicly criticize Israel on a "daily basis."

In a separate development, Fitzwater announced that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would meet with President Reagan in Washington on Jan. 28.

Mubarak, who last visited the United States in September 1985, will arrive in the United States Jan. 26 and will leave Jan. 30.

**BRITISH ENVOY CREATES A STIR
WITH REMARKS ON GAZA CONDITIONS**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- A British diplomat who visited the Gaza Strip on Monday has created a stir here and in Israel by remarking that conditions in the territory are "appalling" and an "an affront to civilized values."

The remarks were made by David Mellor, minister of state for foreign affairs, who arrived in Israel on Sunday and took a "private" tour of the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Monday, before commencing his official visit that evening by meeting with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The British Foreign Office, which sent him on the trip, seemed embarrassed by Mellor's public description of conditions at the Jabalya refugee camp as "shocking and inhuman" and his harassment of an Israel Defense Force officer before television cameras.

Speaking to reporters in Gaza, Mellor said, "It is appalling that a few miles up the coast (in Israel) there is prosperity, and here there is misery on a scale that rivals anything anywhere in the world." He urged that "something has got to be done."

"The Israeli authorities cannot duck their responsibility to these people," Mellor said, referring to the Palestinians.

"It is shaming that money is flowing out of this area into Israel but money is not being put back in," he added.

Lead News Item

His harsh, outspoken criticism of Israel was a lead item Tuesday in British radio, television and newspaper reports. Pro-Israel members of Parliament, such as the Labor Party's Douglas Hoyle, plan to question Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe as to what extent Mellor's views reflect government thinking.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Tuesday, "It is not for us to comment on what Mr. Mellor says. We are not going to get into a public debate with the Israelis."

It was pointed out, nevertheless, that Mellor's remarks were in full accord with the foreign secretary's view that Israel's reputation was damaged by "repressive" actions in the territories.

Lord Immanuel Jakobovitz, chief rabbi of Britain and the Commonwealth, said Monday night that Jews and Israelis all over the world were "agonizing over the situation no less than Mr. Mellor."

But Jakobovitz, in his first public statement since he was elevated to the House of Lords on Jan. 1, questioned whether Mellor had been fair or helpful in the way he described the problem confronting Israel in the territories.

Mellor, 38, moved to the Foreign Office after serving as minister of state at the Home Office, where, according to British observers, he showed a flair for publicity and a knack for antagonizing people.

Before leaving for Israel last week, he said on BBC radio that "the time is right for there to be an international conference, under the aegis of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, to try to thrash out, once and for all, the future of the occupied territories."

(Jerusalem correspondent David Landau contributed to this report.)

**ISRAELIS SPLIT OVER WHETHER
TO COOPERATE WITH U.N. INQUIRY**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- The leaders of Israel's unity coalition government seem to be at odds over whether to cooperate with a special United Nations envoy due here this week to examine conditions in the administered territories, Yediot Achronot reported Tuesday.

The emissary, U.N. Undersecretary for Middle East Affairs Murrack Goulding, was dispatched to Israel by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in compliance with a Dec. 22 resolution of the Security Council that strongly deplored Israel's handling of recent disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and demanded an on-the-spot investigation.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres announced he would meet with Goulding to explain Israel's opposition to the resolution, adopted by a vote of 14-0 with the United States abstaining.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Monday he was undecided. But Likud sources have already assailed Peres for his willingness to cooperate with the U.N. envoy, which they claimed would "snowball" into further U.N. intervention in the territories.

Goulding is expected to visit the West Bank and Gaza Strip and have working meetings with Palestinian leaders, including Fayz Abu-Rahamal of Gaza; Hanna Seniora, an East Jerusalem newspaper editor; and Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem, Yediot Achronot reported.

The paper said he would report back to Perez de Cuellar and may propose the appointment of a special U.N. supervisor for the administered territories.

According to Yediot Achronot, however, the secretary general did not release a statement at the United Nations on Goulding's trip, indicating he preferred not to give it too much public attention.

**KNESSET MEMBER IS TARGET
OF LATEST LETTER BOMB**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Police warned the public again Tuesday not to open suspicious looking mail after a Knesset member reported receiving a letter bomb at his home here.

It was the 11th, or possibly 12th, such device to reach Israel since Dec. 30, when a letter bomb mailed from Istanbul injured two residents of Or Yehuda near Tel Aviv.

On the same date, postal workers detected nine other letter bombs before they were delivered. All were safely defused and the public was immediately alerted. Photos of the letter bombs appeared in the press and on television and manual mail sorting replaced mechanical sorting at post offices all over the country because the devices are more easily detected by hand.

Member of Knesset Menachem Porush of Agudat Yisrael told Israel Radio that he became suspicious of a large, white envelope with a stiff card inside while he and his secretary were opening his mail Tuesday. The envelope bore the name of N. Nissim and a return address in Istanbul.

According to Porush, his secretary opened it, but did not remove the card -- a Christmas greeting. The device did not explode. Police confirmed that it was similar to the earlier letter bombs, all of which were sent under the same

name and return address.

The police are also searching for a letter bomb reported a week ago by a Givatayim resident who said he thought it was junk mail and threw it into a trash can without opening the envelope.

The Israeli police are maintaining close contact with the Turkish authorities and Interpol, the international clearinghouse for information on criminals and criminal activity. They said the letter bombs received in Israel, the first since 1972, contain several grams of explosives, not enough to be lethal but sufficient to cause serious injuries to face or hands.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel contributed to this report.)

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS' CHILDREN MULL OVER THE JEWISH FUTURE

By Susan Birnbaum

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- The International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors looked toward the future during a conference here last week that examined topics such as interfaith relations, the meaning of Israel, the implications of the Holocaust, anti-Semitism and assimilation.

More than 300 people, most of them children of Holocaust survivors and some from such far-flung places as Venezuela and Israel, came to the University of California at Los Angeles for three days to examine "Jewish Identity in the 21st Century: A Challenge for the Post-Holocaust Generation."

The conference was organized in cooperation with the Second Generation of Los Angeles.

"We are closer today to the 21st century than to the years of the Holocaust and we are at least as responsible for determining our future as we are for the remembrance of the past," explained Menachem Rosensaft of New York, founding chairman of the network.

Keynote speaker Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, professor of religion at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.J., brought the audience to its feet with his charge that commemoration of the Holocaust is becoming "a substitute religion. . . for Jews who find it easier to counter-punch on anti-Semitism so that they do not have to make the hard choices" about their own Jewishness.

He also cautioned Jews involved in discussing the Holocaust with the Vatican that the church "wants to live down this record during the Nazi era and much of the Jewish establishment has been playing along with it. . . Don't you dare negotiate about the Holocaust. It's not within your competence."

Catholic-Jewish relations were further discussed by a panel that included Tikkun magazine editor Michael Lerner. He criticized attempts by the Vatican to withhold recognition of Israel over political issues as "incredible hypocrisy."

"We Jews jumped from the burning building of Europe and unfortunately in jumping we landed on some Palestinians," he said, "and I think its incumbent on Israel to take away some of the hurts of the Palestinians. But I think it's incredible chutzpah for the church to say this, because it was the church who set the fire."

In Lerner's view, the utterance of two mere sentences during the Holocaust would have exonerated the church: "It is an absolute imperative that Catholics save Jews"; and "Those Catholics who do not will be excommunicated."

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, lamented that Israel has become too much the focus of Jewish identification for too many Jews. For example, he noted, when asked to name their leaders, Jews in Uruguay or Argentina invariably gave the names of Israeli government leaders. "And it is our own fault," he said.

Avraham Burg, adviser on Israeli-diaspora affairs to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, sparked a vigorous debate by his personal observation that "at least a quarter of a million American Jews should make aliya."

He contended that "a Jew cannot fully experience his Jewishness anywhere but in Israel."

The problems of assimilation also were of overriding concern at the conference. Chaim Seidler-Feller, B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation rabbi at UCLA, said that although anti-Semitism may exist on college campuses as a result of anti-Israel feelings, "that is not so much the question as the drop in Jewish involvement."

Hertzberg said he was "terribly frightened" of assimilation. "You have a mission. . . to stop the assimilationist clock," he told the conferees. "...Remember your loved ones who are no longer alive, and try to live as you would have lived had you been in dialogue with them."

SALE OF HITLER PAINTING PROTESTED

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 5 (JTA) -- A watercolor Adolf Hitler painted in Vienna in 1910 was sold for \$36,000 at a New Year's Day auction here, the World Jewish Congress reported.

The sale triggered an angry but peaceful demonstration by some 25 people against "the celebration of an evil man who's well known for his mass murder, not well known for his art."

The 9-by-15-inch painting, signed by Hitler, depicts a church, a bridge and a horse-drawn carriage in old Vienna. It was auctioned by the Den of Steven Gallery, which obtained it from a retired Ford Motor Company executive who insisted on remaining anonymous.

The purchaser was Dr. Donald Wright, a Louisville physician. The protest was organized by J. Mary Sorrell of the New Jewish Agenda.

The demonstrators marched outside the gallery chanting "Their ashes for Den of Steven's profits," a reference to the 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

ETHIOPIA SAID TO TRY ABOUT 20 JEWS JTA Staff Report

TEL AVIV, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Ethiopia put about 20 Jews on trial last month for their involvement in attempting to immigrate to Israel, Israeli Immigration and Absorption Minister Yaacov Tsur said Monday.

His comments were reported in the newspaper Maariv, which added that nothing more is known of their fate. Tsur said that most of the defendants had worried relatives in Israel.

A spokesperson for the American Association for Ethiopian Jews in Chicago said Tuesday that 14 Jews are in Ethiopian jails for attempting to immigrate to Israel or aid others' immigration. Their trial had been rumored to begin for the past month, but as of two days ago an Ethiopian source knew of no such trial, the spokesperson added.

An estimated 10,000 to 20,000 Jews remain in Ethiopia and are prohibited from emigrating.

DIASPORA LEADERS REJECT LIKUD CANDIDATE FOR WZO TREASURER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- The leading diaspora philanthropists on the Jewish Agency Board of Governors on Sunday night unanimously rejected the candidacy of Knesset member Haim Kaufman of Likud for the post of World Zionist Organization-Jewish Agency treasurer.

Kaufman, who already had received his party's nomination, responded angrily Monday morning, complaining that the vote was "clearly a political move, not concerned with my full qualifications for the job."

In another move, the philanthropists accepted the candidacies of two Labor Party contenders for the post of head of the WZO-Jewish Agency Aliyah Department: Uri Gordon and Uzi Narkiss.

The Labor Party voted last week to nominate Gordon, but the outcome of that vote was kept secret until the candidates were reviewed by the diaspora leaders.

Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the WZO-Jewish Agency Executive has come under strong pressure in recent days to fill various key WZO-Agency portfolios, an arduous task the World Zionist Congress failed to deal with as it broke up in discord early in December.

The posts are normally filled through elections during the congress, but the selections are subject to the "advice and consent" of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

Last November, the Board of Governors exercised that prerogative before-the-fact, rejecting another Labor candidate for the chairmanship that Dinitz eventually won.

Because Labor received that post, the Likud has been promised the treasurer's post. Because of the philanthropists' veto, it now must come up with another candidate. The diaspora leaders are said to prefer another member of Likud's Herut wing, Knesset member Gideon Gadot.

Likud politicians are threatening that Herut will secede from the WZO-Jewish Agency Executive unless the party gets all the portfolios it is demanding. In addition to the treasury post, the party is insisting on the chairmanship of either the Aliyah or Youth Aliyah departments, as well as the co-chairmanship of the Settlements Department.

Meanwhile, Rabbi Richard Hirsch, the new chairman of the Zionist General Council, has warned Dinitz that not filling the vacant posts is becoming detrimental to the agency. The Zionist General Council is the WZO governing body between quadrennial Zionist congresses.

BILL WOULD ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES TO BAN SABBATH ENTERTAINMENT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- The Cabinet approved a draft law Sunday, to be presented to the Knesset, that would give municipal councils the right to ban Sabbath entertainment within all or part of their statutory boundaries.

The vote was 17-2, with Minister-Without-Portfolio Yitzhak Peretz of the Sephardic Orthodox party Shas voting against, because he felt the proposed legislation did not go far enough to enforce public observance of the Sabbath. Absorption Minister Yaacov Tsur cast the other negative vote, because he thought the draft law to be excessively coercive.

In another move affecting religious concerns, the Cabinet voted Sunday that daylight savings time will be observed in Israel from April 10 to Sept. 4. What Israelis refer to as "summer time" will be in force between those dates for the coming three years.

The 147-day period was a compromise between those ministers who wanted the full 205-day summer time, in force throughout virtually the entire Western world, and religious ministers who oppose any tampering with the clock, complaining that it makes life more difficult for the Orthodox observing daily prayers.

PALESTINIAN GETS 30 YEARS FOR ROME AIRPORT ATTACK

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- An Italian court imposed a 30-year prison sentence Friday on Ibrahim Mohammed Khaled, sole survivor of a Palestinian terrorist gang that killed 16 people and wounded 80 in a machine gun and grenade attack on Leonardo da Vinci Airport near Rome on Dec. 17, 1985.

At the same time, the court pronounced life sentences in absentia on the terrorist leader known as Abu Nidal and his associate, Rashid al-Hamidia, who masterminded the Rome airport massacre and the almost simultaneous terrorist attack at Vienna airport, where four people were killed and 47 wounded.

Judge Felippo Antonioni, who read the verdict, explained the court's relative leniency toward Khaled, 20, for whom the prosecution had demanded a life sentence. It took into consideration the defendant's youth -- he was 17 at the time of the massacre -- and his subsequent cooperation with the Italian authorities.

Khaled, in his pre-trial testimony, provided detailed information about the preparation and execution of the attack and about Arab terrorist organizations in general. Although he refused to appear in court during most of the trial, his testimony was the basis of the prosecution's case and implicated Abu Nidal.

The plan, according to Khaled, was a mass hijacking of passengers at the check-in counters of El Al, Israel's national airline, and an American airline, TWA. They were to have been forced aboard a plane and flown over Tel Aviv where the planes were to be blown up in mid-air.

Said Israelis Fired First

Khaled claimed the terrorists opened fire in the crowded airport terminal, because El Al security agents spotted them and fired first.

The victims of the attack included five Americans, three Greeks, an Italian, an Algerian and two Mexicans.

The court said information provided by Khaled also led the authorities to a terrorist arms cache.

According to Khaled, the coordinated attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports were intended by Abu Nidal to discredit PLO chief Yasir Arafat's diplomatic offensives.

Abu Nidal, a shadowy figure in the terrorist underworld whose real name is Sabry al-Banna, is believed presently to operate from Syrian controlled areas of Lebanon and from Libya. He is also held responsible for numerous assassinations and assassination attempts aimed against Israelis in Europe and against prominent figures of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

NJCRCAC LEADERS DISAGREE WHY ISRAEL'S IMAGE DECLINING

By Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- A preliminary reading of the professional pulse-takers of the American Jewish community shows a divided diagnosis of Israel's deteriorating image abroad.

At the opening session Sunday of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council 44th annual plenary session here, some delegates said Israel's handling of Arab stone-throwers in the Gaza Strip and West Bank harmed its image.

Others blamed what they called the distorted picture presented by the American news media.

Some 450 lay and professional leaders, representing NJCRCAC's 113 local and 11 national agencies dealing with Jewish community relations throughout the United States, were on hand for the lively exchanges.

Plenary speaker Dr. Yossi Beilin, political director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry and an influential adviser to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, was less concerned with the image than the substance of Israel's policy.

He said the confrontations in the territories have forced both the United States and Israel to return the Palestinian problem back atop their agendas.

He said both countries, facing national elections this year, would have been content to maintain the status quo.

Beilin attributed the new Arab militancy in the territories to differing attitudes between generations.

"The older generation (of Arabs) could compare the occupation under Israel to that under Egypt or Jordan, which were worse," said Beilin.

The rock-throwing teen-agers, on the other hand, "compare Gaza and the West Bank to Tel Aviv and Haifa," he said.

Session moderator Burton Levinson, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, complained that he was "sick and tired of American Jews who take their case (against Israeli policy) to the general press. Too many Americans believe that this debate (among American Jews) is a sign of disunity."

On the brighter side, Levinson reported that an ADL poll taken in late January showed that support for Israel among Americans in general was as high as ever.

PR Classes Suggested

In some lively statements from the floor, a woman from Palm Beach, Fla., urged that all Israeli leaders attend an intensive course in public relations.

Beilin responded by saying Israeli leaders are aware of the image problems abroad, but added that "this is not a (public relations) question, we must solve real political problems."

Beilin was to have been joined at the session by Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, but at the last moment he was called for consultation by Secretary of State George Shultz.

The four-day plenary session will end Wednesday noon, after workshops and forums on AIDS, anti-Semitism, South Africa, black-Jewish relations, cults, Soviet Jewry, religious pluralism in Israel and other domestic and international issues.

SLIGHT DECLINE IN U.S. TOURISM TO ISRAEL REPORTED

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- U.S. tourism to Israel has declined slightly in reaction to the violent clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to Israeli travel professionals here.

But continued clashes could cause a dramatic drop-off in visits to the Jewish state, Moshe Shoshani, Israel's commissioner of tourism to the United States, said in an interview.

"The problem that we are facing is basically an image problem. Tourists are not afraid of going to Israel for safety reasons, but they might not want to travel because they perceive Israel's actions negatively," Shoshani said.

He said the disturbances have not directly resulted in "a significant number of cancellations of flights to Israel." However, he added the number of new reservations "is slightly less than what we expected."

Aviva Lavi, a spokeswoman for El Al Israel Airlines, said El Al has received about 1,000 new reservations in each of the last few weeks, "which is slightly higher" than the previous year at the same period.

She said El Al bookings for February and March 1988 are better than they were last year. The reason may be the celebration of Israel's 40th anniversary, she noted.

According to Shoshani, about 40,000 Americans visited Israel last December, when the Palestinian unrest began, an increase of 16 percent compared with the same month of the previous years.

Shoshani said that 1987 was one of the best years for tourism to Israel, with more than 1.5 million visitors. About 350,000 of them came from the United States, Shoshani noted.

The commissioner said that the forecast for 1988 is about 1.7 million tourists, 400,000 of them from the United States.

TABA CONCILIATION TALKS EXTENDED

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- Egypt and Israel have agreed to extend talks on resolving ownership of Taba in the Sinai until March 1, Israeli diplomatic sources in Geneva disclosed Friday.

According to the sources, the agreement came at the urging of American officials. But they said the countries were not close to a resolution.

The five-member international panel of arbiters established to resolve the Taba issue is scheduled to visit the tiny strip of land south of Eilat on Wednesday. The panel will enter Taba from Egypt and leave via Israel. Oral arguments before the arbiters are to begin March 14.

JANUARY INFLATION HIGHER THAN EXPECTED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA) -- The cost-of-living index rose by 1.6 percent during January, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced Monday.

It was the first monthly index based on a new "representative basket" reflecting current expenditures more accurately than the old basket prepared some years ago.

The January figure was somewhat higher than the 1.0-1.2 percent figure anticipated by economists and the banks.

**JEWISH SETTLERS KILL ARAB YOUTH
IN LATEST SPATE OF VIOLENCE**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Two armed Jewish settlers fatally shot a 16-year-old Arab boy and wounded another Monday at Beitin village, near Ramallah in the West Bank.

A second Arab youth was killed by an Israeli soldier whose weapon he tried to steal during a melee in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip.

Disturbances in the territories continued and concern was expressed in Israeli circles that the latest Arab fatalities might escalate the situation.

The two settlers, Arye Wallerstein, head of the Matei Yehuda West Bank Regional Council, and Shai Ben-Yosef, the council's security officer, were detained for questioning.

Gen. Amram Mitzna, army commander of the central sector, said an initial investigation indicated that they used their weapons in compliance with regulations that apply to the Israel Defense Force and armed settlers.

The two reportedly opened fire when their vehicle was blocked by burning tires and they were surrounded by rock-throwing youths. Regulations permit firing live ammunition in life-threatening situations.

The Gush Emunim, the movement of religious-nationalist militants in the West Bank, demanded the immediate release of the Matei Yehuda men and other Jews held in custody for shooting Arabs.

They also demanded a "Zionist response to Arab unrest" through the immediate establishment of more Jewish enclaves in Arab towns in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Bus Passenger Wounded

In other incidents Monday, a passenger was slightly injured when an Egged bus was stoned on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Curfews were imposed on several refugee camps in the area.

Arab merchants observed strikes in Hebron and Ramallah. Three rioters were detained in East Jerusalem. An Arab wounded in disturbances several days ago died Monday at Tel Hashomer hospital in Israel.

A senior military figure was quoted by the news media Monday as saying the IDF's prolonged presence in the administered territories put serious financial strains on the defense budget.

He also said that "despite the great differences" the situation in the territories "is beginning to resemble Lebanon -- large forces concentrated in the field and no one knowing how long we will be stuck there."

It is believed, moreover, that even if the security forces succeed in ending the violence, the IDF will have to concentrate more troops in the territories than were routinely sent there before general rioting broke out Dec. 9.

Zeev Schiff, Haaretz's defense affairs correspondent, reported Monday that the Cabinet plans to order collective punishment in the Gaza Strip. The populations of refugee camps and neighborhoods that are the worst trouble spots would be put under a general curfew, unable to work or go about their daily tasks.

The supposition is, according to Schiff, that the local populations will put pressure on the leaders of demonstrations to end the violence. But the plan entails considerable risk and could be counter-productive if the general population decides it has nothing more to lose and joins the rioters, Schiff warned.

International Attention Cited

Ron Ben-Yishai, military correspondent for Yediot Achronot, wrote Monday that the reasons the current wave of disturbances is lasting longer than any in the past are the attention commanded by the Palestinians in the international arena and the rivalry between groups associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization and religious fundamentalists for control of the Arab population.

Other factors are "the prolonged accumulation of destructive emotional energy in the territories which has not yet been fully released, and outside incitement by the PLO propaganda machine," Ben-Yishai wrote.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Israeli victims of Arab terrorist acts left for the United States on Sunday for the stated purpose of "balancing" American news media accounts of strife in the territories.

According to Meir Indor, a former Gush Emunim spokesman, the group was formed "in order to show the world the great suffering experienced by bereaved families in Israel. Israel is always being accused of causing terrorism and killing Arabs," he said. "The world must understand that rocks, bottles and knives kill people too."

Members of the group include Indor, who was wounded while serving as a medic in the Gaza Strip, and Abie Moses, whose wife Ofra and 4-year-old son Tal died of burns after a gasoline bomb struck their car in the West Bank last year.

The delegation hopes to appear on American television and address as many groups as possible during its stay in the United States. The group is scheduled to hold a news conference in New York on Wednesday.

In an unrelated development, Yossi Wertcener, an IDF draftee who refused to serve in East Jerusalem, was sentenced Sunday to 28 days in a military prison. Wertcener, as a high school student, signed a petition against military service in the administered territories.

**SHARP WORDS FROM SHAMIR
AS TENSIONS RISE IN EGYPT**

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir has struck back at President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt for his criticism of Israel's handling of disturbances in the administered territories and his charge that Israel violated the Camp David Accords when it annexed East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

The Prime Minister's Office noted in a sharp response Sunday that neither Jerusalem nor the Golan Heights were part of the 1978 Camp David agreements. And an angry Shamir took up the verbal battle directly before an audience here

Monday.

Shamir declared that Egypt was hypocritical in criticizing Israel for harsh measures because when Palestinians demonstrated on the Egyptian side of Rafah, the town bisected by the Israeli-Egyptian border, the Egyptian soldiers "didn't wait around. . . they started shooting."

He also contended that Mubarak was mistaken in calling for Israel to abrogate the Jerusalem and Golan moves. "That has nothing to do with Camp David," Shamir said.

He noted that the Egyptians under the late President Anwar Sadat were prepared to negotiate over the Camp David autonomy proposals after the controversial Jerusalem and Golan laws were passed.

The Jerusalem Law declared that united Jerusalem was Israel's capital. The Golan Law applied Israeli law to the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War.

Shamir's response came as concern was growing in Israeli circles over Egypt's increasingly strident criticism of the situation in the territories. Israeli correspondents in Cairo reported Monday that the mood there has worsened perceptibly in the last two days.

One journalist noted that pro-government news media are openly discussing the possibility of a rupture of diplomatic relations with Israel as Palestinian fatalities mount in the territories.

Maariv reported, meanwhile, that Egypt for the first time officially announced the arrest of an Egyptian citizen accused of spying for Israel. The suspect, a teacher, allegedly transmitted intelligence of utmost importance to the Israeli military establishment.

Maariv noted that until now, only opposition newspapers have reported the exposure of spy networks in Egypt working for Israel or the United States.

SHARON URGES SPEEDIER PROCESS OF DEPORTING PALESTINIANS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon believes the continuing disturbances in the administered territories can be abated if deportation orders against nine Palestinian activists are speedily implemented.

He called for legislation to hasten the judicial expulsion process in an address Sunday to a Herut Party meeting in Jerusalem.

During the meeting, Sharon formally joined the Herut Party's Jerusalem branch, raising speculation that he may run for mayor of Jerusalem next November at the head of a combined Likud-religious parties ticket.

Speaking on the deportation process, Sharon contended that if it could be completed in a day or two, demonstrations protesting the deportations would end, removing a major source of unrest.

Military review boards in Gaza and Nablus began hearings last week on appeals by the nine Palestinians ordered deported. If these appeals fail, the Palestinians have recourse to Israel's Supreme Court. Sharon did not make clear whether he favored abolition of the appeals process.

Other members of the Cabinet, such as Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Labor, have expressed the view in recent days that the disturbances in the territories are likely to continue for some time.

Rabin, who received a vote of confidence from the Cabinet Sunday for the defense estab-

lishment's tough response to rioting in the territories, told Tel Aviv high school students Monday that "if there is any explanation for what has been happening during the past month and a half, it is in the feeling of despair and frustration among the Arabs, in the world at large and possibly in Israel itself, which does not indicate any hope for the political process."

He made similar remarks last Friday in a speech to the Commerce and Industry Club here. He stated that violence in the territories reflects tensions that have been building there for more than 20 years and is not the result of incitement by Palestinian and terrorist organizations.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel contributed to this report.)

U.S. SAYS NO TO RESOLUTION ON AIR RAID By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- The United States has assured Israel it will veto any anti-Israel resolution that may come before the Security Council in connection with Lebanon's complaint against the Jan. 2 Israeli air raids on terrorist targets in Lebanon, diplomatic sources said Monday.

On Jan. 7, Lebanon requested a meeting of the Security Council. According to United Nations officials, the Security Council is not expected to meet Monday. Consultations are under way and the United States reportedly is trying to persuade Lebanon to withdraw its request.

The Americans offered assurances to Israel as efforts were being made to ease strains that developed between the two countries because of U.S. support for the Security Council's resolution of Jan. 5 calling on Israel to rescind deportation orders against 9 Palestinian activists.

On Dec. 22, the United States abstained when the Security Council voted 14-0 to condemn Israel for its handling of disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

IDF SAID TO HAVE LEARNED RIOT CONTROL By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force was neither trained nor equipped for riot control, but it adapted well when faced with the violence in the administered territories during the past month, according to Maj. Gen. Shlomo Errell, recently retired comptroller of the defense establishment.

Errell, a reservist and former navy commander, told a news conference Monday in Haifa that "the army never thought it would be called on to deal with the maintenance of order, to stand against events on the scale as we have experienced in the territories in recent weeks."

He observed that "a soldier, trained as a tank man or a gunner, is taught how to use the most sophisticated equipment and must also carry out reconnaissance and patrol duties in the (south Lebanon) security zone. And then, a fully trained 19-year-old boy like that is suddenly sent to Gaza and told to maintain order there.

"That's not a simple matter, it must be learned and the equipment must be matched specially for such activities. That's a new task for which the IDF was not trained," he said.

"But from what I can see of what has happened in recent weeks, and the speed with which it was carried out, the IDF has managed to adapt itself."

**BABBITT URGES INCREASED
U.S. LEADERSHIP IN MIDEAST**
By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, said here Thursday that the United States has "abdicated its leadership role in the Middle East" and should increase it.

Babbitt told a meeting of the Foreign Policy Association that "the United States has more leverage than ever before" in the region because of Israel's economic dependence on the United States and changes among Arab states.

He cited what he considered to be the declining regional influence of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad and the increasingly important roles played by Jordan and Egypt.

The candidate repeated calls made in previous campaign appearances for revitalization of the Camp David Accords as a way for the United States to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and individual Arab countries.

Babbitt called the present unrest in Israel's administered territories "stark reminders that the region cannot lapse into the status quo" and said the United States should help in the "search for accommodation that reconciles Palestinian aspirations for self-government with Israel's security needs."

According to his campaign literature, he has supported autonomy for Palestinians, but not an independent Palestinian state.

Babbitt, governor of Arizona from 1978 to 1987, has described himself as supportive of a strong relationship between the United States and Israel, which he has referred to as "the central end of U.S. policy in the region."

Babbitt said Thursday that he supports a general increase in foreign aid as "an investment in our security."

**ISRAEL SEEKS RECIPROCAL VISIT
FOR EXTENDING DELEGATION'S VISAS**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Israel is prepared to significantly extend the visas for members of a visiting Soviet consular delegation in exchange for a reciprocal Israeli visit to the Soviet Union, officials here confirmed Sunday.

They said that was the message delivered Sunday by Yossi Beilin, political director general of the Foreign Ministry, to the new head of the Soviet delegation, Georgi Martirosov.

The visas of the Soviet personnel expire Jan. 31, for which Israel reportedly is willing to grant a two-week extension. But a long-term extension would be conditional on Soviet permission for an Israeli delegation to go to Moscow, the officials said.

The Soviet delegation arrived here last June. Its stated purpose was to inspect Soviet property in Israel, mainly property of the Russian Orthodox Church here, and to review the status of Soviet nationals living in Israel -- chiefly church functionaries and women who married Palestinians studying in the Soviet Union.

The delegation stayed on, opening an office in Ramat Gan. It constituted the first Soviet diplomatic presence in Israel since Moscow broke relations with the Jewish state during the Six-Day War in 1967.

Some policymakers had insisted that Israel

immediately demand a reciprocal delegation visit to the Soviet Union in exchange for the Soviet team. But the Foreign Ministry's view prevailed that the first thaw in relations with the Kremlin would best be served by a gradual approach.

The view now is that the time for reciprocity has come. A Soviet spokesman in Moscow confirmed to a Jerusalem Post reporter in a telephone interview last week that the Soviet Union was "seriously considering" Israel's request to send a diplomatic delegation to Moscow.

In diplomatic parlance, "serious consideration" is a favorable advance on previous flat rejections of any possibility of reciprocity.

Israel, meanwhile, has informed the Soviet Union that it can retain its assets in Israel, Victor Harel, director of the Foreign Ministry's claims department, was quoted as saying by Davar last week.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel contributed to this report.)

**A FEW JEWS SUPPORTING LE PEN
IN BID FOR FRENCH PRESIDENCY**
By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Right-wing leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, who publicly dismissed the Holocaust a few months ago as a mere "historic detail," received a kiss on the cheek and a bouquet of flowers from "some of his Jewish backers" Sunday night at the close of his National Front party's convention in Nice.

The kiss and the flowers were bestowed by a young Jewish woman whose identity was not revealed. The scene was broadcast live on several French television channels. Reporters in Nice told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that they checked the woman's identity and confirmed she belonged to a local Jewish family.

Earlier, Le Pen formally announced his candidacy for president of France in the national elections scheduled for May. Surrounded by some 3,000 supporters and hundreds of French flags, he disclosed the names of 60 prominent personalities who have formed a committee in support of his presidential bid.

Two of them are Jews, Col. Jean-Charles Bloch and Robert Hemmerdinger, described as president and vice president respectively of "The National Committee of French Jews." The committee, set up by Le Pen's party, claims to represent an unspecified number of Jews who support the right-wing nationalist leader, often accused of anti-Semitism.

Block is a retired army officer who saw service in Indochina and North Africa. Hemmerdinger, a Paris businessman, has long been active on Le Pen's behalf.

Blames Left-Wing Press

During his main address to the convention, Le Pen denied he was anti-Semitic and blamed the "left-wing press (for) trying to make out of me something which I am not."

But a substantial majority of French Jews apparently are not convinced.

His flippant characterization of the Holocaust, during a Radio Luxembourg interview last October, infuriated Jews and non-Jews alike. Le Pen was forced to cancel an appearance at the British Conservative Party convention in November -- to which he had been invited by a Jewish member.

Two weeks ago, a self-proclaimed commando

group of Jewish youths raided the offices of National Hebdo, a relatively obscure Paris weekly supporting Le Pen's presidential ambitions. They left leaflets declaring they would not "tolerate anti-Semitic propaganda of a hoodlum like Jean-Marie Le Pen."

According to the latest public opinion polls, Le Pen would win between 8 and 9 percent of the popular vote in the upcoming elections. It would not put him in the Elysee Palace, political observers noted, but could give the National Front a swing vote in the event of a close race between the center-right party of Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and the Socialists led by incumbent President Francois Mitterrand.

KALMANOVITZ SAID TO BE THE LATEST OF SEVERAL SOVIET SPIES IN ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Electrified by the disclosure Sunday that prominent Russian-born Israeli businessman Shabtai Kalmanovitz was arrested last month as an alleged Soviet spy, Israelis eagerly sought more information about the man whose eventful career reportedly brought him into contact with the country's highest political and military figures.

According to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Kalmanovitz "was not the first spy for the Soviet Union caught in Israel" and may not be the last. The defense minister congratulated the security services for the arrest, which, he said, sends a message "to countries which are still in a state of war with Israel, such as Syria, Libya and other countries."

Kalmanovitz, 42, who immigrated to Israel in the early 1970s, was taken into custody Dec. 23 for the 15-day period allowed under Israeli law. His detention was extended for another 15 days by order of a Petach Tikva magistrate on Jan. 6.

But Israelis knew nothing of this until Israel television reported Sunday that he had appeared in court that day. The court imposed a total blackout on the police investigation. The exact charges against Kalmanovitz and the circumstances of his arrest remain unknown.

The news media are now delving into Kalmanovitz's varied and, in some cases, bizarre activities, which include diplomatic representation of Boputhatswana, one of the black "independent" states set up within the boundaries of the Republic of South Africa.

Mingled With Politicians

They are sifting through details of his relationship with Samuel Flatto-Sharon, the eccentric multimillionaire fugitive from French justice who served as a one-man Knesset faction from 1977 to 1981. During this time, Kalmanovitz served as his aide, a post that gave him the opportunity to mingle with Israeli politicians of high rank.

Newspapers are also tracking down former friends and associates of Kalmanovitz from an earlier time when he was employed by Israel's Labor Party.

Former Labor Knesset members remember him well. Although he held a junior position in the party, he apparently had easy access to Premier Golda Meir; her close aide, Yisrael Galili; former Foreign Minister Yigal Alon; and other ranking government figures during the early 1970s.

According to Mathilda Ghez, a retired Knes-

set member who once headed the Labor Party's immigrant and absorption section, Kalmanovitz was introduced to the top leaders by the late Benny Maharshak, a party veteran. Kalmanovitz "was a 'ben-bayit' (constant and intimate guest) of everyone," she said.

A Suspected 'Sleeper'

Kalmanovitz is suspected of being a Soviet plant or "sleeper," the Israeli news media reported Monday, citing unnamed security sources. In the parlance of the spy world, a "sleeper" is an espionage agent who integrates himself into the political and social world of a target country and leads a model life for years until being "activated" by his handlers in a foreign capital.

Davar's military correspondent, Tali Selinger, reported Monday that since the large waves of Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union in the 1950s, and particularly the early 1970s, Israel's security services have been alert for potential spies among the olim.

The assumption is that the Soviet authorities have planted more than one "mole" in Israel, Selinger wrote.

Al Hamishmar's military correspondent, Avi Benayahu, also suggested that Kalmanovitz may have been planted in Israel by the Soviets, who planned his integration into Israel society "down to the last detail."

Benayahu said this is the fourth time an incident of Soviet spying in Israel has been disclosed to the public. The first three instances involved Israel Bar, Aharon Cohen and Curt Sita, who were arrested between 1958 and 1961.

Rabin told high school students in Tel Aviv on Monday that Kalmanovitz "was not the first spy for the Soviet Union caught in Israel and not even the second -- and, if I am not mistaken, not even the third. I hope he will be the last one, though allow me to say I am not certain of that."

According to reports Monday, Kalmanovitz was arrested upon his return from a trip to the Soviet Union as a member of a delegation from Sierra Leone, a West African nation. He apparently had broad business interests in Africa, which he conducted from a five-story, glass-fronted office block on the Tel Aviv ocean front.

Reporters converged on the offices, which also house the Embassy of Boputhatswana, the South African puppet state ostensibly represented by Kalmanovitz. The journalists were greeted with tight-lipped silence by officials of the embassy and the companies with which Kalmanovitz is associated.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel contributed to this report.)

TEL AVIV STOCK EXCHANGE DROPS SHARPLY
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange took a nose dive Sunday, suffering the biggest losses since October. The general share index dropped by 2.52 percent and declines outnumbered gains by 369 to 17.

The index stood at 98.11 at closing. Shares valued at 19.83 million shekels changed hands.

Experts were divided over whether Sunday's plunge was a reaction to the 140-point decline on the New York Stock Exchange last Friday.

Those who thought it was recalled that the Tel Aviv exchange suffered its worst losses ever on the heels on the New York stock market crash of Oct. 19.

**SCANDAL OVER IRAQI PIPELINE
CREATES LITTLE IMPACT IN ISRAEL**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- The scandal brewing in Washington over a 1985 Iraqi oil pipeline project, involving U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese III and alleged bribes to Israeli officials, had little impact in Israel this weekend, where attention was riveted on the violence in the administered territories and evolving diplomatic initiatives to end it.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the proposed pipeline had been discussed during official U.S.-Israeli contacts and was brought to the attention of all the relevant ministers in the Israeli Cabinet.

The spokesman said that Israel had agreed not to interfere with the project. He said the ministers had discussed a U.S. request for guarantees, but no conclusions were reached on that point.

In Washington, special prosecutor James McKay, who has been investigating the attorney general, reportedly told the White House on Friday that Meese played an important role in the \$1.1 billion pipeline in which a close friend of his, E. Robert Wallach, had a financial interest.

Wallach was indicted on racketeering charges by a federal grand jury in December in a case involving the Wedtech Corp.

The 800-mile pipeline, never built, was intended to carry Iraqi oil to the Jordanian port of Aqaba, on the Red Sea, for shipment overseas. The idea was to bypass the Persian Gulf, where Iraq and Iran are locked in war. Syria, an ally of Iran, shut down Iraq's pipeline through its territory to the Mediterranean in 1982.

The Bechtel Corp., a San Francisco-based engineering services company that has undertaken many construction projects in the Middle East over the years, discussed the pipeline with Iraqi and Jordanian officials in 1984. The two Arab countries wanted guarantees that Israel would not sabotage the oil conduit, which would have passed close to its territory.

Close Ties To Peres

Bechtel enlisted Bruce Rappaport, described as a Swiss businessman, as a partner. Ostensibly, Rappaport had close personal relations with Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's Labor Party, who was prime minister in 1985 and is now foreign minister.

According to special prosecutor McKay, Meese was aware of plans, never consummated, to make payments to the Labor Party in exchange for Israel's approval of the project. Such payments would violate U.S. law against bribing foreign officials.

Rappaport, in an Israel Radio interview Sunday night, dismissed the allegation of intended bribery as a ridiculous, unfounded canard. He said he has known Peres for 45 years and the Labor Party leader would have "thrown anyone out of his room" who proposed an impropriety.

Rappaport said there had been no discussion in the United States of any favors or benefits to the Israeli government, to a political party or to any individual minister.

**NEW DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES
ON THE MIDDLE EAST REPORTED**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- A flurry of international diplomatic activity focussed on the Middle East captivated politicians here over the weekend. Nothing concrete has been announced and there was more speculation than substance in reports of what could or would transpire in the weeks ahead.

But both Premier Yitzhak Shamir of the Likud bloc and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Labor profess to be pleased with what seems to be energetic American involvement in the regional peace process.

The Americans, their attentions focussed urgently on the Persian Gulf situation during the past year, have been accused of lethargy with respect to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Now they appear to have been galvanized to action by the continuing violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Secretary of State George Shultz is expected to make a major policy speech on the Middle East this week. According to informed sources, he will revive President Reagan's September 1982 initiative, which was received with less than enthusiasm by Israel and subsequently shelved.

But Shultz is also understood to be pressing for proposals for immediate steps to negotiate self-government for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

There are also rumors that Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, who visited King Hussein of Jordan in Amman this weekend, might embark on a new round of shuttle diplomacy in the region.

Shultz May Play Role

Some sources said Shultz himself might undertake the mission. The precedent was established for American secretaries of state by Henry Kissinger in 1973 and 1974.

In Washington, Shultz has met in recent days with Israeli Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein, a close aide of Shamir, and with Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, who is a confidant of Peres.

Dinitz told the army radio in an interview Sunday that it would be wrong to think that the initiative now jelling in Washington would be limited to a new attempt to implement the autonomy provisions of the Camp David accords. Other elements are there too, Dinitz said, but he would not divulge details of his "long conversation with the secretary of state."

Shultz also met last week with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and two prominent Palestinians: Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem daily Al Fajr, and Fayez Abu Rahme, a Gaza lawyer.

Both partners of the national unity government have taken pains to express their satisfaction with the new spurt of American diplomatic activity. Shamir said he believes Shultz's thinking is "close" to his own.

"What is good for peace is good for Peres," a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said.

According to observers here, the U.S. government is plainly seeking to accommodate the differing points of view within the unity government and the divergences among Palestinian moderates.

There is to be an effort to implement the scheme for Palestinian autonomy, as advocated by Shamir, but in an expanded form, the observers say.

At the same time, there will be attempts to reassure Hussein and the Palestinians that negotiations over the final status of the administered territories will begin soon. The U.S. plan envisages some form of ceremonial international conference to give Hussein the protective umbrella he has always insisted upon before sitting down to negotiate with the Israelis.

Hussein will be in Paris on Tuesday. He is also going to Rome for a meeting with Pope John Paul II and then to Bonn.

Mubarak, having ended his official visit to the United States, is also heading for Paris, where he will have talks with President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

The Egyptian president unveiled a five-point plan in Washington last week to end the unrest in the administered territories and advance the peace process.

In Amman, meanwhile, high-level officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization are reportedly trying to work out a joint position with Jordan in advance of the new peace moves -- so far without success.

SEVEN WOUNDED IN UPSURGE OF VIOLENCE IN NABLUS, GAZA

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- Violence erupted anew in the administered territories over the weekend, following a week of relative calm.

At least seven Palestinians were wounded in clashes with the Israel Defense Force -- five in Nablus and two in Gaza. An Israeli soldier was injured by a rock thrown during a demonstration.

The worst trouble spots were Nablus, the largest Arab city in the West Bank, and the adjacent Balata refugee camp. Trouble began Saturday, when some 200 demonstrators marched on the local military government building. Some, their faces hidden by kaffiyehs, hurled rocks and bottles at troops and waved Palestinian flags.

They were dispersed by live ammunition after tear gas and rubber bullets failed. According to the IDF, five demonstrators were wounded. Arab sources reported 50 wounded and 20 more hospitalized for beatings or tear gas inhalation.

Nablus was declared a closed military area Saturday, as helicopters hovered over the city to pinpoint troublemakers. Journalists and television crews were ordered out of the city.

A curfew was imposed on three Nablus neighborhoods Sunday morning after Palestinians resumed throwing rocks and burning tires. The Balata refugee camp was under curfew for the second day. In Gaza, an Arab youth was seriously wounded in the chest when he was shot after trying to seize a soldier's rifle.

Minor incidents were reported elsewhere in the territories as hope evaporated in the defense establishment that the situation was returning to normal.

The new outbursts were attributed to nationalistic elements in the territories, who were said to be trying to keep the protests alive in

face of growing weariness among the population, especially Arab merchants forced to keep their shops closed, who are suffering financially.

The nationalist elements were not identified. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the weekly Cabinet meeting Sunday that the IDF has not discerned any new leadership in the territories. He said the Palestine Liberation Organization pretty much controls the population in the areas.

JEWISH SETTLER BADLY WOUNDED IN FIREBOMBING NEAR RAMALLAH

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- A Jewish settler from Beit-El in the West Bank was reported in "serious condition" late Sunday night after his car was firebombed and gutted by flames on a road north of Jerusalem.

The settler, whose surname is Kalmanovich, was hospitalized for severe burns on his face, hands, arms and legs. Serious concern was expressed here Sunday night that the latest terrorist act, coming at a time of renewed Palestinian violence in the territories, could trigger a rampage of revenge by infuriated Jewish settlers.

As Israel Defense Force unit combed the area of the attack near Ramallah in search of the assailant. The officer in command of the central sector, Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, visited Beit-El to try to calm tempers.

A similar firebombing on a West Bank road last April took the lives of Ofra Moses and her son, Tal, and severely burned three other members of the family, all from Alfei Menashe in the West Bank. After that incident, Jewish settlers raided the nearby Arab town of Kalkilya, shooting into homes and doing considerable damage to property.

Only last Friday, the alleged perpetrator of the April firebombing, Mahmud Adel Hussein Daoudy, 25, was arraigned in a Nablus court.

SECURITY COUNCIL TALKS ON UNREST CONTINUE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- The Security Council met here late Friday afternoon to continue its debate on Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report on the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Diplomats said that the Arabs are insisting on a tough anti-Israel resolution, while the United States has made it clear it will veto any such action. Negotiations are under way to arrive at a compromise that would avoid a U.S. veto, the diplomats said.

The council began debate last Wednesday on Perez de Cuellar's report, which was based on the recent fact-finding mission of Undersecretary General Marrack Goulding to the territories and Israel. Goulding undertook his mission in compliance with a resolution adopted by the Security Council on Dec. 22.

Addressing the council Thursday night, Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, charged that the report paid little attention to the violent nature of the disturbances and demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Instead, the envoy said, the report gave ample space "to anonymous, wide-ranging allegations" against Israel for which there was no evidence.

EGYPT HAS NOT LET UNREST DAMAGE TIES WITH ISRAEL, SAYS AJCONGRESS
By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- Despite its harsh denunciations of Israel's handling of unrest in the administered territories, Egypt has acted to minimize damage to its relations with Israel, according to a report issued last week by the American Jewish Congress.

The report cites Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's decision to retain Egypt's ambassador in Israel, despite recent pressure from home and abroad, and his softening of a previously rigid position toward the Arab-Israeli peace process as just two of the factors that have led to "considerably improved bilateral relations."

"There was substantial pressure from within Egypt and the Arab world to which (Mubarak) might have buckled under. We're gratified he did not," said Raphael Danziger, assistant director of the AJCongress Commission on International Affairs and co-author of the report with commission director Phil Baum.

The 36-page report was issued last week to coincide with Mubarak's meetings in Washington with President Reagan and other U.S. officials. The authors maintain that Egypt so far has avoided taking any drastic anti-Israel measures. They also note the following encouraging indicators:

- * Mubarak rejected a call from Egypt's Parliament to withdraw Mohammed Bassiouny, Egypt's ambassador to Israel, and to expel Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sasson from Egypt to protest the "oppressive measures" taken by Israel against Palestinians in the territories.

- * On Dec. 29, Egyptian security forces forcefully dispersed an anti-Israel demonstration by more than 1,000 students at Cairo's Ayn-Shams University.

- * Nine Arab countries resumed ties with Egypt last November without any Egyptian concessions on relations with Israel, indicating that the "peace treaty with Israel no longer compromised Egypt's position in the Arab world."

- * Egypt has backtracked from its insistence on full Palestine Liberation Organization representation in any peace negotiations and is calling for bilateral talks between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

- * An overall improvement in bilateral relations followed the Egyptian-Israeli agreement in 1986 to submit the Taba border dispute to binding international arbitration.

'Serious Irritants'

The report maintains that "serious irritants continued to mar" relations between the two countries. "The most upsetting is continued anti-Semitism in the Egyptian media," said Danziger.

Last week, on the eve of Mubarak's visit, the Simon Wiesenthal Center published a 160-page report documenting the extent of anti-Jewish expression in the government-sanctioned Egyptian news media.

The report, titled "Israel's Peace Partner-- A Survey of Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Press, 1986-1987," lists anti-Semitic newspaper and magazine articles, cartoons, book reviews, films, television programs and theater.

"Mubarak said he can't control the press," said Danziger. "There is a free press, but he can make more vigorous efforts to stop or at least reduce" the anti-Semitic content.

The AJCongress leader expressed the hope that the United States used Mubarak's Washington visit last week to "strengthen his resolve" to maintain a constructive role for Egypt in the peace process.

"It is important that they make it clear to Egypt to hold the line" in bilateral relations with Israel, he said.

NEW DOCUMENT ALLEGEDLY SHOWS WALDHEIM ORDERED 4,000 DEPORTED
By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- The authenticity of a document allegedly proving that Austrian President Kurt Waldheim deported more than 4,000 Yugoslavians from the Balkans during World War II was hotly disputed after its contents were reported on Austrian television Saturday night.

The document, in possession of the West German news weekly Der Spiegel, is an "urgent telegram" from a Col. Dragojlov to the command of the First Unit in the Bosnian town of Kozara in 1942. It states that Lt. Waldheim demands that 4,244 prisoners be sent on their way. Many of those deported, including children and elderly people, died in concentration camps.

Waldheim's spokesman, Gerold Christian, told the Austrian news agency APA that the document is obviously a forgery. According to Christian, Waldheim, who served in the Balkans as a Wehrmacht intelligence officer, never had the power of command and could not have ordered the deportation prisoners.

Christian said that the document had been offered to several foreign correspondents accredited to Vienna for a five-figure sum in U.S. dollars. Der Spiegel obtained it from the head of the Yugoslav military archives, Dusan Plenca.

An international panel of military historians is expected to render a report next month on their examination of Waldheim's military activities during World War II.

HOSPITALS HIT BY NEW STRIKE, AS SERVICE WORKERS WALK OFF JOB
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- About 12,000 patients were deprived of basic services at the government's 25 general, geriatric and psychiatric hospitals, which were hit over the weekend by a general strike of 10,000 service and clerical employees.

Relatives and friends of the patients were urged to bring them food and bed linens. The hospitals could not be reached by telephone because the switchboards were not staffed.

Cooks, laundry and maintenance workers, clerks and auxiliary helpers walked off the job to demand the same wages and fringe benefits received by their counterparts at hospitals run by Kupat Holim, the Histadrut's health care agency.

They claim the gap in wages ranges from 30 to 70 percent since the Histadrut employees won a new contract last year. The Health Ministry warned Saturday night that the country's hospital system, already hit by selective strikes by doctors and anesthesiologists, would collapse if the service workers' walkout continues for another day or two.

The strikers said they would not permit volunteers to replace them. But they agreed to allow patients' families and friends to bring food and other supplies on an individual basis.

SOVIET JEWRY GROUP DIRECTOR RESIGNS AFTER 17 YEARS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- Jerry Goodman, founding executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, has announced that he will leave the agency. Goodman, who helped organize the conference in 1971, said he intends to pursue other areas of professional endeavor.

Goodman announced his intention to resign at the group's executive committee meeting on Jan. 10. The news was reported by NCSJ Chairman Morris Abram the following day, at a meeting of the group's board of governors.

But the news was not made public until more than two weeks later. NCSJ press spokesman Jerry Strober said there was no particular reason for the timing of the announcement.

Goodman said that he was influenced in his decision by several important milestones in the Soviet Jewry movement, including the release of many long-term refuseniks whom he had personally known and the success of the Dec. 6 Freedom Sunday Mobilization in Washington.

Goodman will remain in his position until a successor is found and will serve as adviser to the search committee appointed by Abram to fill the job. Myrna Shinbaum, NCSJ associate director, remains in her position.

At the Jan. 11 meeting, the group's board of governors elected Goodman a life member of the executive committee, a move which he did not expect, Goodman said in a telephone interview.

Commenting on Goodman's announcement, Abram said, "Jerry Goodman has been the professional most responsible for placing the redemption of Soviet Jewry as a high priority in Jewish life. He has been a wise, intelligent and honorable executive to whom the movement owes a debt it can never sufficiently acknowledge."

'A Time Of Change'

Goodman, in his own statement to the executive committee, assessed the Soviet Jewry movement currently. "This is a time of change," he said. "We are on the threshold of new developments, and we must now build on the momentum and the energy of Freedom Sunday, throughout this country. I am certain that the NCSJ and the community will willingly accept this challenge."

Goodman described the outlook for Soviet Jews right now to be "a mixed bag. There are some positive signs; there are some problems that have to be resolved." He highlighted the situation of Yuli Kosharovsky, now the longest-waiting refusenik in the Soviet Union.

There are some indications that the emigration authorities are more stringently enforcing requirements that those applying to emigrate have first-degree relatives abroad. He described the Soviet moves as "a kind of antiseptic approach to curbing emigration. It doesn't include harassment, just strict adherence to laws which we find unacceptable to begin with."

At the same time, informal Hebrew classes are currently functioning without harassment from Soviet authorities, Goodman said. "They haven't approved Jewish cultural study groups, but (they) have not been harassed," he said.

In looking back at the almost 17 years he has been with the NCSJ, Goodman admitted, "I never thought Soviet Jewry would be a career; it was originally supposed to be a temporary job.

But nobody foresaw how the movement would evolve."

At that time, Goodman took a leave of absence from his job as European affairs director and Soviet Jewry specialist for the American Jewish Committee. "For the first couple of years, it was considered a temporary job, and I was considered on leave from the American Jewish Committee."

'Ransom Tax'

Between 1972 and 1975, he said, "There was an aura of great optimism. Then the Soviets introduced the 'ransom tax' -- the education tax -- of 1972 after the Nixon summit with Brezhnev, which led to the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, and everyone realized it was not going to be a 'quick fix.'"

He was referring to a heavy tax Soviet Jews were required to pay upon leaving the country, levied ostensibly to reimburse the government for the amount it had spent on the citizens' education.

Goodman's plans for the future are not definite at this time. He will work "where I can be most productive," he said. "I would like to explore other things. I just hope that they will be half as fulfilling or significant."

3,000 EVACUATED AFTER GAS EXPLOSION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- An explosion and fire at a gas tank farm injured two persons Saturday night and forced the evacuation of more than 3,000 residents of Kiryat Ata, near the Haifa Bay oil refineries and petrochemical industries complex.

Fire brigades from all over the Haifa area managed to contain the blaze, averting a disaster of catastrophic proportions had it spread to the adjacent refineries, where high octane gasoline and inflammable chemicals are stored.

According to firefighters, the explosion occurred while a tank truck was being loaded with cooking gas. The tank farm holds more than 1,000 tons of liquefied gas. Some trucks were loaded and others were waiting in line at the time of the blast.

Local officials have warned recently that the tank farm, owned and operated by the Paz Gas Co., lacked adequate safeguards against fire. The matter was taken to court several months ago by Kiryat Ata residents and the facility was ordered closed. The order was rescinded when Paz Gas undertook new safety measures.

Company officials insisted that the explosion had nothing to do with safety. They said the fault was an incorrect disconnection of a fuel pipe. However, Paz Gas promised that stricter safety precautions would be completed within three months.

UNIFIL STAY EXTENDED SIX MONTHS

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 31 (JTA) -- The Security Council unanimously agreed Friday to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for another six-month period, until July 31, 1988.

The vote was 15-0 with no abstentions. UNIFIL's current mandate expired on Sunday.

UNIFIL, a 5,811-troop U.N. peace-keeping force in south Lebanon, was established by the Security Council in 1978. Its mandate is up for renewal every six months.

**RATZINGER STRIKES CONCILIATORY
NOTE ON CATHOLIC-JEWISH TIES**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the controversial head of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, struck a conciliatory note on Jewish-Catholic relations Thursday morning when asked at a news conference here to give his perception of the Catholic view on Judaism.

Ratzinger, in New York for a biblical scholarship conference, said Catholics should "respect the point of view of our Jewish brothers," who do not see the New Testament "as a fulfillment."

His remark appeared to be a reversal of the position he expressed last October in a highly contentious interview with an Italian magazine. In it, he was quoted as saying that Catholic-Jewish dialogue should be based on the notion that "the faith of Abraham" finds its "fulfillment" in Jesus Christ.

But Thursday, Ratzinger, whose thinking is considered to be very close to that of Pope John Paul II, seemed to balance his previous comments with admiring reflections on Jews and Judaism.

"We must be able to read the Old Testament the way the Jews read the Old Testament, rather than always looking at it from a Christian perspective," he said.

The New Testament is, for Christians, "the key to understanding the Old Testament," he said. "I think especially that the argument of our theology is we should see it (the New Testament) as a partial fulfillment of the Old Testament." He added, "On this part I think we can really have a dialogue."

Ratzinger emphasized that Christians should respect the Jewish viewpoint on the Old Testament "just as I am sure they respect our position."

The cardinal was in New York for a two-day conference on modern biblical scholarship as the guest of a prominent Lutheran minister, Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, director of the Center on Religion and Society.

Met With Jewish Leaders

On Wednesday, Ratzinger met with some Jewish representatives as private guests of Cardinal John O'Connor, the archbishop of New York. Invitations were extended to some members of the International Jewish Committee on Interfaith Consultations.

But several members of the umbrella group declined to participate in the meeting, apparently objecting to the way in which it was arranged.

On Wednesday morning, members of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress, a member organization of IJCIC, met in special session and at that time decided to urge their members not to attend the meeting.

But those who declined to attend rejected the notion that they were "boycotting" the

meeting, as reported Thursday in The New York Times.

Among those who declined the invitation were Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, former chairman of IJCIC; Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International; Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly; and Rabbi Henry Michelman, executive vice president of the Synagogue Council of America, which is the American secretariat of IJCIC.

Wanted To Convey 'Distress'

Kelman said the Jewish leaders "wanted to convey their distress that the cardinal did not go through the normal channels which had been established throughout the last 20 years," particularly on "such a sensitive issue. . . . Instead, he took it upon himself to choose the Jews who would be invited."

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, current IJCIC chairman and international affairs director of the American Jewish Committee, was out of the country and did not attend the meeting.

Reached after his return to New York, Tanenbaum said he had "some concern that confusion developed about the channels," through which such dialogue should occur.

He said that normally, such contacts are arranged by "Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews, and IJCIC, which together have been working on these kinds of problems for about 20 years."

Michelman said that "as much as I deeply appreciated the invitation from O'Connor, and as much as I feel he was very sincere in his desire to bring Cardinal Ratzinger and Jews together, I felt that personally it was inappropriate for me to attend," because "meetings and consultations with Vatican officials are to be engaged with the consensus of IJCIC and the cooperation of the Vatican."

Rabbi A. James Rudin, AJCommittee director of interreligious affairs, who attended both the private meeting with Ratzinger and the news conference, declined to provide his assessment of the meeting.

Another IJCIC member who attended the private meeting, Judith Banki, associate director of interreligious affairs for the AJCommittee, said, "The decision to accept a private invitation graciously offered by Cardinal O'Connor didn't imply a total agreement with sentiments attributed to Cardinal Ratzinger."

Calling the exchange "helpful and constructive," Banki said she was satisfied that Ratzinger "did clarify his position on the Jews." She did not elaborate.

**EGYPT SEEKS IMPROVED ARAB-ISRAEL
COMMUNICATIONS, MUBARAK SAYS**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told President Reagan Thursday that Egypt has refused to concede to Arab pressure to recall its ambassador to Israel because "that would not solve the problem" of unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior administration official said.

At the Reagan-Mubarak meeting, which lasted more than an hour, Mubarak "spoke of the need for channels of communication between the Arab world and Israel," the official said. The talks focused on the Arab-Israeli peace process and the Iran-Iraq war.

The two leaders discussed Mubarak's five ideas to encourage peace in administered territories that he unveiled last week. The official said Mubarak described the five points to U.S. officials as:

- * Terminating violence in the territories for six months.
- * Ceasing construction of new Jewish settlements in the territories for six months.
- * Respect for fundamental and political rights of Palestinians.
- * Respect for international treaties that protect Palestinian rights.
- * Movement toward convening an international peace conference.

Mubarak told Secretary of State George Shultz on Wednesday that the five points are not an "integrated plan," but simply areas in which Mubarak felt progress should be made.

Reagan responded most specifically on welcoming the idea of the six-month moratorium on violence in the territories, the official said.

Reagan also mentioned that he would like to move "faster" in the peace process, but did not refer to Mubarak's other three points, the official said.

In discussing the role that an international conference might play, the presidents agreed to be "flexible" in considering issues of procedure and substance. The official said the United States is receptive to "a properly structured conference."

They did not discuss who would represent the Palestinian people at peace talks, but the official said Egypt has been calling on "the PLO to take certain moves to pull itself together." As an example, he said, "Egypt would like to see the PLO back in much better understanding with Jordan."

Aid Not Mentioned

The official said Mubarak did not suggest any cut in U.S. aid to Israel as a way of prodding it to the peace table, and said "in no sense is that what the Administration would contemplate."

He also said that Israel and Jordan are being briefed on the Reagan-Mubarak talks and emphasized that the United States and Egypt could not make great strides toward peace without the consent of other key nations in the region. He said the Reagan-Mubarak talks were not a "breakthrough."

Mubarak also invited Reagan to make a state visit to Egypt, the official said.

In the White House ceremony before their meeting, Reagan said the recent resumption of relations between various Arab countries and Israel "was a recognition that Egypt is again exerting the leadership role it has traditionally played in Arab councils."

He said "the danger of allowing the Palestinian problem to fester is evident and reinforces the urgency of moving toward negotiations."

Mubarak responded that "the continuation of occupation and oppression will bring lost hope and inflict damage on all the parties without exception. It will badly hurt American interests in the Middle East" as well frustrate peace efforts "at a time when we are looking for a breakthrough,"

he said.

He mentioned that "many governments are preoccupied this year with domestic matters and national events," an apparent reference to both U.S. and Israel elections this year that could distract attention from the peace process.

EBAN SPEAKS OUT AGAINST BEATINGS, THE OCCUPATION AND 'UGLY IDEAS'

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, in a slashing attack on the government's policies in the administered territories, warned Wednesday night that the continued occupation, not external threats, pose the greatest danger to Israel in its 40th year.

"Israel has never been stronger, more secure against external assault. The major peril that faces us comes from within ourselves," from the "folly" of trying to control the territories, Eban declared in an address to an emergency conference of the New Israel Fund at the YMCA in Jerusalem.

The New Israel Fund is an umbrella organization of some 40 Jewish and Arab groups promoting peace, coexistence and religious pluralism in Israel.

Eban, a Labor Party member who chairs the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said, "I cannot disguise the grief with which I have followed events. We have come to a very low point when the image of Israel -- albeit not totally accurate -- is that of a club being wielded by an Israeli soldier, face-to-face with a Palestinian civilian."

The occupation can only be maintained through force and a belief in the superiority of one people over another, ideas alien to Jewish tradition, Eban said. "If we want to maintain our rule, we have to give up prospects of peace, of a majority Jewish state, of normal international relations and of psychological health."

Won't Say He Wants Rabin To Quit

Eban, regarded by some as the nation's "elder statesman," did not call outright for the resignation of fellow Laborite Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, author of the Israel Defense Force's "iron fist" policy in the territories.

But asked if he thought Rabin should quit, Eban told reporters after the meeting, "If I was going to ask him to resign, I would not say it in the YMCA." Nevertheless, "there must be a change in policy and rhetoric," he said.

In a statement to the Jerusalem Post last Sunday, Eban denounced the defense minister's "angry rhetoric and the wretched baton he waves."

He blasted Rabin's policy of curfews and beatings for Palestinian demonstrators. "It is an insult to intellect and morality alike to create the illusion that the beating of rioters will restore calm," Eban told the Post.

In his YMCA speech, Eban warned that "The air of Israel is alive today with ugly ideas which once were marginal, on the outward lunatic fringe, and which are now creeping more and more toward the center."

"The occupation now weighs more heavily on Israel than it does upon the Palestinians," Eban said. "Deadlock, occupation hang around our necks like a millstone. We should liberate ourselves from them within conditions compatible to our security. It would be a service to Israel."

**AMIRAV SAYS HE IS RELIEVED
TO BE OUT OF HERUT PARTY**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Two days after Moshe Amirav quit the Herut Party, he felt relieved.

"It's like after a divorce," he said. "I have just ended a chapter in my life. Age is advancing. The bride is no longer as pretty. She complains that the bridegroom is too leftist, and he complains that she leans too far to the right."

Amirav, 42, tore up his Herut membership card Tuesday night, following 20 years in the movement. He did so after the party's High Court decided 3-2 to strip him of his seat in the Central Committee and to bar him from any other posts.

The court, chaired by Eliahu Lankin, former ambassador to South Africa, deliberated for four hours before reaching its decision. It rejected a sentence advocated by two of the judges to expel Amirav from the party altogether.

According to the charge sheet, Amirav met with people who have close ties with the Palestine Liberation Organization. It was referring to his talks last summer with Feisal Hussein, head of the Jerusalem Arab Studies Society, considered the senior PLO activist in the territories, and Dr. Sari Nusseibeh of Bir Zeit University.

Amirav also was charged with criticism of Premier Yitzhak Shamir's policies toward the peace process and with protesting outside the residence of Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon in the Old City in Jerusalem.

Amirav has never denied the charges, but he said that he met with the Palestinian personalities to advocate his own peace plan, which he argued was an extension of the autonomy plan by Menachem Begin, then the Herut leader.

Amirav charged that Shamir has led the party into "an ideological bunker with Goula Cohen and Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement." Cohen is the charismatic leader of the ultranationalist settlers' movement Gush Emunim.

When reports of Amirav's contacts were first published last summer, Amirav was considered a maverick. But the picture has changed somewhat. He was recently joined by a number of people, among them the national chairman of Betar, the youth movement of Herut.

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, who only recently returned to the party, took an even more extreme step earlier this month. He announced in a radio interview that he was ready to give up the territories in a final settlement. Although party leaders reacted angrily, no measures were taken against Lahat.

Amirav decided to quit the party, because he regarded the decision to strip him of his seat as a virtual expulsion. Interviewed Thursday in Yediot Achronot, he complained that others who think like him sit with their mouths shut and let Shamir be the "national stopper."

He mentioned specifically Labor and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katzav, and Knesset members Dan Meridor, Ehud Olmert, Meir Shitrit and Micha Reisser.

"I am surprised not that they did not come out in my defense, but that all think like me that Shamir is the national stopper and they just sit there quietly and don't send him home.

"Let them take anyone. Everybody else is better than Shamir," he said. "Let them take (Ariel) Sharon, (David) Levy, (Moshe) Arens, Dan

Meridor. This is a young movement. Rather than shake it, they prefer to sit quietly and soon they will make Shamir once again run for the premiership."

**NEW INTERRELIGIOUS GROUP TO BACK
U.S. SUPPORT OF PEACE CONFERENCE**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- The formation of an American interreligious organization to advocate a greater U.S. effort toward convening an international Mideast peace conference was announced here Wednesday.

The newly created U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East includes among its officers Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, vice president of the World Jewish Congress.

"There is a growing opinion -- moderate, middle-of-the-road opinion -- in the United States which feels that the Jewish-Arab conflict has to be settled by some form of partition," Hertzberg explained in an interview. "I am here because I don't want this stream of opinion to be taken over in an anti-Israel direction."

The rabbi said his role in the group will be to "keep it on track."

The organization had been in the works for more than a year, and held its founding meeting last June in Arlington, Va.

Its executive director, Ronald Young, was Middle East representative of the American Friends Service Committee, the Quakers, from 1982 to 1985.

Besides the international conference issue, Young said the group's other basic tenets include the rights of Israel to live in peace and of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

Young said the committee has held meetings in 15 cities, and that members of Congress have said the group filled a "moral vacuum."

Hertzberg, professor of religion at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., said the group will not judge past Israeli or Palestinian actions. "Otherwise the group would fall apart," he said.

The rabbi noted that the group's several hundred supporters include Imam W. Deen Muhammad, the son of Malcolm X, whom Hertzberg called the "legitimate heir to the Black Muslims" now headed by Louis Farrakhan. Hertzberg said "it's terribly important that a Black Muslim says 'I'm here' -- to be among the moderates."

Rabbi Eugene Lipman, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Reform rabbinic organization, is on the committee's board of directors.

Endorsing the organization are a number of prominent rabbis including Balfour Brickner and Marshall Meyer of New York and Harold Kushner of Natick, Mass.

Other endorsers are Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the Conservative rabbinic organization, and Rabbi Alexander Schindler and Albert Vorspan, president and senior vice president, respectively, of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Reform congregational organization.

'General Terms'

In an interview Wednesday, Vorspan said that for the group to remain together, it must continue "talking in very general terms and not getting in the blame business."

Vorspan stated that the group decided early not to define certain issues specifically, such as

who should represent the Palestinian people at a peace conference.

"The Palestinians are people, too. They've got to be dealt with," Vorspan said. "I'm giving it a shot because of a terrible sense that something different has to be done."

Hertzberg, in his JTA interview, discussed his current thinking on Middle East peace formulas.

He said he supports the concept of Palestinian self-determination in the territories. "I've said since the Six-Day War (in 1967) that if we hang on to the territories they will ultimately destroy either the democratic or the Jewish character of the State of Israel."

He said he has always favored an international peace conference and emphasized that the Camp David accords were achieved not bilaterally, but as a result of a "massive amount of American cajoling" of Israel.

Hertzberg said that on the issue of an international conference, "I have every right and obligation in the world to support the views of (Foreign Minister Shimon) Peres and not those of (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir."

The rabbi contended that should the PLO recognize Israel's existence and renounce the use of terror, it would have the right to belong to the peace process.

SPANISH-ISRAELI RELATIONS SUFFER FROM MEDIA BASHING

By David Kantor

MADRID, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Fears are growing here that the recent improvement in Israeli-Spanish relations will fall victim to what observers see as one of the strongest anti-Israel campaigns ever in the Spanish media.

The negative portrayal of Israel seen lately in most Western capitals goes far beyond harsh criticism in Spain. Even the most respected, mass circulation newspapers such as *El Pais* and *Diario 16* routinely equate Israelis and Nazis.

According to observers here, the situation in the administered territories seems to confirm some negative traditional Spanish stereotypes of the Jews. The Israelis, though still respected, are presented as the children of Hitler.

Spanish writers and leaders feel free to condemn Israel as a state that, in addition to its present ugly behavior, was built on expulsion and killing of Arabs in the first place. A Spanish paper recently published a cartoon showing a Hasidic Jew with two Arab children hanging in his locks of hair.

And trade union leaders who organized anti-Israel demonstrations referred to the situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a new Holocaust perpetuated by the Israelis.

Bucks A Trend

All this came in the middle of a dramatic resurgence of Spanish solidarity with the Jews. Spaniards have been giving increasing attention to the history of close Spanish-Jewish cultural ties. However, Spain still is planning major events to perpetuate the memory of the old Jewish community in this country.

Friends of Israel in this country are keeping a low profile for now. "It is hardly possible to defend Israel's handling of the Gaza and West Bank riots anywhere in the world," one of them said, "and there is certainly no way you can do it here."

"We can just sit down and wait for better times."

The Israeli ambassador here, Shlomo Ben-Ami, went twice on television to try to put things in a somewhat more balanced perspective. His appearance drew a wave of protests from Arab organizations, whose supporters have easy access to television.

Israel's minister of energy, Moshe Shahal, was shown a cold shoulder during his recent visit to the national convention of the ruling Socialist Party.

The party adopted a sharp condemnation of Israel, which Shahal described as "not even-handed."

'Not The Right Time'

Not that Shahal's efforts were expected to yield immediate results. "Spaniards are certainly interested in energy projects in Israel," one official said privately, "but this is certainly not the right time to go public with any kind of cooperation with Israel."

Spain is eager to draw on the Israeli experience in using solar energy for heating and other purposes. But politically, an observer added, Spain would be wise to avoid any announcements on starting or advancing projects in Israel.

The Israelis who are competing with the French here for a \$200 million deal to modernize Spanish fighter planes display the same kind of attitude.

They have not raised the matter publicly since the unrest in the territories began last month, and they certainly hope Spain will postpone making its decision.

WOODY ALLEN SAYS HE'S 'APPALLED' BY TREATMENT OF RIOTERS

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Film director Woody Allen sharply criticized Israel on Thursday for the harsh measures it is using to quell the unrest in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

He called on all those who care about Israel and its future "to speak out and use every method of pressure -- moral, financial and political -- to bring this wrongheaded approach to a halt."

Writing in an op-ed piece published Thursday in *The New York Times*, the famed director said: "As a supporter of Israel, and as one who has always been outraged at the horrors inflicted on this little nation by hostile neighbors, vile terrorists and much of the world at large, I am appalled beyond measures by the treatment of the rioting Palestinians by the Jews."

Continuing, Allen ironically asked: "I mean, fellas, are you kidding? Beatings of people by soldiers to make examples of them? Breaking the hands of men and women so they can't throw stones? Dragging civilians out of their houses at random to smash them with sticks in an effort to terrorize a population into quiet?"

Allen said he has "no sympathy for the way the Arabs have treated the Israelis. Indeed, sometimes you get the feeling you want to belt them -- but only certain ones and for very specific acts."

The film director said that he "can't believe" Israel's actions. "Are these the people whose money I used to steal from those little blue-and-white cans after collecting funds for a Jewish homeland?" he asked, adding "I don't know exactly what is to be done, but I am sure pulling out my movies is again not the answer."

**U.S., ISRAEL SAID TO SEEK
END TO POLLARD SPY AFFAIR****By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- The United States has proposed a "package deal" to Israel that would close the case of Jonathan Jay Pollard, the American convicted of spying for Israel, Maariv reported Thursday.

A U.S. federal prosecutor secretly visited Israel recently to try to arrange a deal, which is said to involve ranking Israelis associated with Pollard.

The 33-year-old former civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy was sentenced to life imprisonment on March 4, 1987. His wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, is serving two concurrent five year sentences as an accomplice.

Sources close to the Pollard case say U.S. officials are willing to "close the books" in return for certain Israeli actions. According to Maariv, the Americans want Israel to fire Rafi Eitan, executive director of Israel Chemicals, one of the largest and most prestigious government-owned corporations.

U.S. officials were outraged when Eitan, the former head of the Lekem secret spy ring that employed Pollard, was appointed to the chemicals post.

At the same time, Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, indicted in absentia as a co-conspirator in the Pollard case, was promoted to command Israel's largest air base in the Negev. Sella was forced to resign when the Americans announced they would have nothing to do with the U.S.-financed base while Sella was in command.

According to Maariv, the United States also wants the extradition law altered so that Israelis who allegedly break the law in the United States can be returned to the United States from Israel to stand trial. However, the United States is said to be willing to accept an understanding whereby Israelis convicted in the United States can serve their sentences in Israeli prisons.

Israel for its part, is asking the Americans not to revoke the immunity they granted Eitan and Yossi Yagur and Irit Erb, Israel Embassy employees who fled after Pollard was arrested in 1986. In addition, Israel insists that former Chief of Staff Moshe Levy and Air Force Commander Amos Lapidot be allowed to enter the United States without fear of arrest or investigation.

The officials apparently did not discuss the fate of the Pollards, although many Israelis and Americans have joined forces in their support, contending their sentences were too harsh.

Pollard's sister, Carol Pollard, 38, is visiting Israel this week seeking support for her brother and sister-in-law. Anne Pollard has been hospitalized with complaints of a painful digestive disorder, biliary dyskinesia.

Carol Pollard met Wednesday with Justice Minister Avraham Sharir, who told her he would make every effort to alleviate the Pollards' suffering. But he stressed he could not intervene in the American judicial process.

She visited the Knesset Monday, hosted by Geula Cohen of the Tehiya Party and 20 other members who resolved to establish an informal pro-Pollard lobby. She met briefly with Speaker Shlomo Hillel.

Sources close to Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon of Herut reported that he believes Eitan's resignation from Israel Chemicals might lead to a reduction in the Pollards' sen-

tences. Sharon was instrumental in securing the high-paying job for Eitan.

Maariv reported that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Attorney General Edwin Meese III always sought to play down the Pollard affair and are now involved in efforts to bring it to a close.

The paper also suggested that the resignation last year of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger may soften Washington's determination to punish Israel. Weinberger's testimony that Pollard's espionage activities gravely compromised U.S. security was considered partly responsible for his life sentence.

**B'NAI B'RITH TO EXAMINE
SETTING UP SHOP IN THE USSR**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith International decided Thursday to take the first steps toward establishing its presence in the Soviet Union.

At the same time, a letter was released from President Reagan to Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, pledging to "continue to press the human rights question," which for him "will always be a front-burner issue."

The B'nai B'rith board of governors, meeting at its headquarters here, made the decision based on the sense that a large majority of the estimated two million Soviet Jews would likely remain there because of Soviet emigration policy.

It is believed that no Jewish organization from abroad currently has an office in the Soviet Union.

The board voted that Seymour Reich, international president, "appoint a select committee to work with its European districts and its international council towards the goal of testing glasnost and establishing B'nai B'rith's presence in Moscow."

The board resolved to call upon the Soviet Union to live up to its international responsibilities under the United Nations human rights covenants and the Helsinki Final Act and eliminate all forms of intolerance.

It further appealed for international support of efforts to win the legitimate rights of Jews from Arab states, including compensation for property and assets and emigration.

**EX-REFUSENIK LERNER ARRIVES
IN ISRAEL, AFTER 16-YEAR WAIT**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Professor Alexander Lerner, a world renowned cybernetics expert who waited 16 years for permission to leave the Soviet Union, arrived Wednesday night in Israel, intent on resuming the scientific work from which he had been barred for almost two decades.

The 74-year-old widower was accompanied by his son, Vladimir; his daughter-in-law, Tanya; and his grandchild, Julia. Also with him was his daughter, Sonya, who has lived in Israel for the past 14 years. She flew to Vienna to meet her father and accompany him home.

Lerner's two other daughters were killed during World War II when the Nazis occupied Vinnitsa, the town where they lived.

"You can understand this is a great day for me," the famous scientist told well-wishers at a reception in the Avia Hotel near Ben-Gurion

Airport.

He said that "of course" he planned to continue his work in cybernetics "in Israel and for the good of Israel." He said he has several ideas that could be put to use for the benefit of the Jewish state.

Lerner is the author of 15 scientific books which have been translated into many languages, including Chinese and Japanese. Ostracized by the Soviet scientific community, he has turned in recent years to painting.

Lerner first applied for an emigration visa in 1971, but was repeatedly refused on grounds that he possessed state secrets.

As recently as last February, Lerner and eight other refuseniks were attacked in a Moscow newspaper article. The writer said he would never be permitted to leave because he was "a bearer of state and military secrets." But a month ago, the Soviet visa office notified Lerner that he had been granted an exit permit.

He is the third prominent refusenik to arrive in Israel within a week. On Jan. 20, throngs at Ben-Gurion Airport welcomed Iosif Begun and his family, who had also waited nearly 17 years for an exit visa. Begun, 55, an electrical engineer had been refused permission on grounds that he possessed "secrets."

On Sunday, Professor Alexander Ioffe, a mathematician who first applied to emigrate 12 years ago, arrived in Israel.

In New York, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry welcomed the news of Lerner's arrival, saying it was "gratified that Professor Lerner will at last be reunited with his daughter."

However, in a prepared statement, the group went on to say: "We must bear in mind that in granting his visa, the Soviet authorities are merely living up to their human rights obligations under the Helsinki accords and other international agreements. They must now demonstrate that they have created a consistent emigration policy, without artificial barriers, such as 'security' cases, if they are to develop normal relationships with other nations of the world."

AUTHOR JERZY KOSINSKI FINALLY COMES TO ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Jerzy Kosinski, the well-known, Polish-born, Jewish author who has lived in the United States since 1957, explained here Thursday why he has never visited Israel until now.

"You don't come to Israel the way you go to any other country, for a trip," said the 55-year-old writer. "You go with the very specific notion that you are going there to encounter, not the country, really, but a part of yourself which the country may wake up in you."

Kosinski, who lost his entire family in the Holocaust, came here to address a congress on the traditions of Polish-Jewish culture.

"I kept thinking one had to select the moment for coming to Israel when technically and spiritually one should be free to remain if one would choose so," he said.

In any event, he observed, he had not really waited so long to visit the Jewish state. "In terms of our history, it is a very short time actually -- 30 years."

Kosinski said that on the plane bound for Israel, "I kept thinking that I am only 55. How

sad it is that I cannot call my parents, or my uncles or other members of my family who may be in Warsaw or in Lodz or in Krakow and say, 'Hey, guess where I am. I'm following in the footsteps of (Yehuda) Halevy. I'm in Israel.' "

'REVISIONIST' BOOKSTORES RANSACKED

PARIS, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- A group calling itself the "Jewish Organization of Combat" took credit Wednesday for ransacking two Paris bookshops, one specializing in "revisionist" texts that deny the Holocaust occurred and the other in right-wing extremist literature.

The group said it hit the shops to protest the scheduled appearance of Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the far right-wing National Front Party, on a major political program to be broadcast on French television Wednesday night, the 43rd anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp.

Many Jewish groups and organizations of former deportees and resistance fighters have protested Le Pen's appearance on the program, particularly on this anniversary.

Le Pen, in a Radio Luxembourg interview last October, dismissed the Holocaust as a mere "historic detail," but he denies he is anti-Semitic. He recently announced he will be a candidate in April's French presidential elections.

THREE TEL AVIV JUDGES CHARGED WITH CORRUPTION, BREACH OF TRUST By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Three Tel Aviv judges will stand trial before a disciplinary court for charges of corruption and breach of trust, Attorney General Yosef Harish announced Tuesday night.

The judges are Ben-Shahar Harafai and Asher Arbel of the Tel Aviv district traffic court and Aharon Cohen of the magistrates court. Their names were made public at the insistence of other judges who feared all judges would be under a cloud if the trio was not identified.

The three have taken indefinite leave after consultation with top aides and senior police officers.

Details of the cases against the judges were given Tuesday night to Justice Minister Avraham Sharir and Justice Meir Shamgar, president of the Supreme Court. The specific charges were not disclosed, but the judges apparently are not accused of taking bribes or other monetary considerations.

It was disclosed at the same time that a veteran Tel Aviv traffic court clerk, Avraham Peli, was arrested six weeks ago on charges of accepting bribes, forgery and breach of trust.

Peli, who is in custody, is awaiting trial on eight counts, Israel Radio reported Wednesday. He is accused of accepting money and other favors from defendants in exchange for giving their cases "special attention."

According to the Israel Radio report, he arranged the court calendar to ensure that certain cases would be heard by judges known for lenient sentencing policies, helped defendants draft appeals and directly and indirectly approached judges on behalf of certain defendants.

Peli and a partner, identified as Yehuda Frankel, pocketed between \$500 and \$1,000 and sometimes "even more" for their services, Israel Radio said.

**PANEL MEMBER SAYS PROCEEDINGS
COULD BE BROUGHT AGAINST WALDHEIM**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- The report of an international commission of historians that investigated the wartime activities of Kurt Waldheim contains sufficient information to bring criminal proceedings against the Austrian president, according to Professor Yehuda Wallach, a Tel Aviv University military historian who served on the panel.

Wallach, who returned from Vienna, where the report was submitted to Chancellor Franz Vranitzky Monday night, defended it against charges of whitewash.

He said the commission's findings had been "falsified" in some media headlines that claimed that Waldheim received what was tantamount to exoneration from charges of his involvement in war crimes while serving as an officer in the German army occupying the Balkans during World War II.

"I believe there are enough details to warrant, even to require, the launching of a juridical process" against Waldheim, Wallach said.

"Our report provides a full and truthful picture," he told an army radio interviewer. "True, we say that Waldheim was a lieutenant, a staff officer, and thus could not give direct orders. But we determined categorically that he was close to the (illegal) activities, that he was a participant in the activities, that he contributed to illegal acts. . . He was close to war crimes."

Waldheim was charged with knowledge of and complicity in the deportation of Greek Jews and Yugoslavian civilians and atrocities against civilians and partisan fighters in Yugoslavia. But the commission's report found "no proof" that he committed war crimes.

Wallach said the commission's findings were that "he was part of a system, passing on orders and never trying to prevent the execution of illegal orders -- as did other officers in similar circumstances.

"Waldheim knew of such instances, and he knew nothing happened to these officers" who protected and tried to prevent the execution of illegal orders, he said.

Wallach acknowledged that the panel attributed a somewhat vague "degree of responsibility" to Waldheim. But the Israeli historian noted that it was for the Austrian people, not scholars, to decide whether he should remain in office.

He noted that the Austrian president "for years hid his past and recognized it only when he was forced to confront the facts."

In Vienna, Waldheim appeared on Austrian television late Monday night and reiterated his intention not to resign. Insisting that the panel had found him innocent of direct involvement in war crimes, the Austrian president, who served two terms as United Nations secretary general, stressed that he wants to continue to serve his country.

He insisted that his awareness that war crimes were taking place does not disqualify him. "Everybody knew something, one person more, the other less," he said. The historians said in their report that he had been a very well-informed

staff officer in the Balkans.

The Austrian news media was sharply divided along party lines with respect to the nature of the panel's report. The nationalist tabloid *Neue Kronenzeitung* headlined the fact that the historians found no personal guilt. But the Socialist daily *Arbeiterzeitung* said the panel found Waldheim was "an accomplice."

(Vienna correspondent Reinhard Engel contributed to this report.)

**SOFTENING OF WALDHEIM REPORT
ANGERS JEWISH LEADERSHIP**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- American Jewish leaders registered strong expressions of dismay upon learning that an international panel's report on the World War II activities of Kurt Waldheim had been revised at the last moment to exclude references to the Austrian president's "moral guilt" for war crimes he knew about but did nothing to prevent.

The 200-page report, issued in Vienna late Monday by an international commission of historians, found "no proof" that Waldheim was personally involved in the deportation of Jews from Greece, reprisals against Yugoslav partisans or other atrocities perpetrated by the German army unit he served with in the Balkans.

But the panel did say that Waldheim concealed and "even lied" about his Nazi past. And, according to Austrian press reports, the original version of the report said that the Austrian president must bear some "moral guilt" for violating his "human duty to stand up to injustice."

That passage, however, was apparently deleted from the final version of the commission's document, reportedly at the insistence of the Austrian Foreign Ministry. As word of this revision spread, Jewish leaders reacted strongly to the apparent attempt at censorship.

Immediately upon release of the report late Monday night, the president of the American Jewish Committee, Theodore Ellenoff, issued a statement saying his group "regrets that members of the Austrian government have decided to repress the findings" of the commission report.

"Rather than resolve any of the issues that have bedeviled Austria's standing in the international community, this decision to withhold the report will only serve to intensify suspicions and to sharpen controversy about the moral dimensions of Waldheim's presidency," Ellenoff stated.

"Waldheim may not be legally implicated as a Nazi war criminal who personally murdered innocent civilians," the AJCommittee leader said. "But his 'moral guilt' for denying his involvement and his lying for more than 40 years about his knowledge of war crimes in Greece and Yugoslavia is unarguable."

He said it is "now for the conscience of the Austrian people" to determine whether Waldheim "remains fit to represent as president the traditions and democratic values of the Austrian Second Republic."

But he said that for American Jews, "Waldheim must remain a moral anathema." He stressed, though, that "to us Waldheim is not Austria, and

Austria is not Waldheim." He urged a strengthening of ties with Austria.

The AJCommittee reaction was gracious compared to the searing statement made by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, professor of religion at Dartmouth and Columbia Colleges and a past president of the American Jewish Congress.

Hertzberg saw little saving grace in the Austrian people themselves, who he said contributed the largest proportion by far of all peoples to the population of SS officers and Nazi party members during World War II and who, for countless numbers of Jews, serve as the epitome of anti-Semites.

"My own reaction," he said, "is that the fight around Waldheim has become not a fight about Nazis who ran concentration camps, but about people who looked away, who walked away from the principle 'Thou shall not stand by the blood of your brother.'

"Contrary to a number of people who have said 'the issue is not Austria, it's Waldheim,' I see the opposite. He has campaigned in Austria on the proposition that he is just like the rest of the people."

Emphasizing that "there has never been a process of denazification and soul-cleansing in Austria," Hertzberg said he was interested in "the much more intricate moral question of what is the guilt of those who stood by when atrocities took place. Waldheim didn't only look away, he signed a few orders to get transports."

'Soul-Searching' Needed

Even if Waldheim stepped down from office, that act would not wipe the Austrian slate clean, the religion professor went on to say. "What is needed, rather, is a very substantial soul-searching in Austria and a real wrestling with its own home-grown anti-Semitism, and its own very powerful neo-Nazi party," he said.

This sentiment was echoed by the World Jewish Congress, the body that was instrumental in bringing to light Waldheim's Nazi past. Even before it had been made public that the report had been revised, WJC President Edgar Bronfman said, "This is a profound moral indictment of Waldheim and brings to the fore Austria's role in World War II in which it played a more than willing part in Nazism."

Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith, Monday night called on Waldheim to resign, even as the Austrian president and former two-term secretary general of the United Nations refused to do so.

Reich said the report "unmistakably showed the Austrian president to be a liar. He lied about his knowledge of crimes that had been committed and he lied about where he was during the killing or shipping of Jews and other civilians and partisans from Greece and Yugoslavia to concentration camps.

"Kurt Waldheim is a liability to the Austrian people. As president, he is supposed to be a good-will ambassador for his country," said Reich. "He would do Austria and the world a service if he resigned."

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said Tuesday, "The world didn't need a blue-ribbon panel to confirm that Kurt Waldheim is a liar."

Objecting to the commission's last-minute move to soften the report's language, the ADL leader called the panel's findings "a sham and a farce."

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SPLIT ON U.S. PEACE PROPOSALS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- The unity coalition government appeared divided Tuesday over a new American peace plan that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy is expected to present to Israeli leaders after he arrives here Tuesday evening.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Party, said the American plan was "still uncrystallized," but he would support the new initiative, even though he did not agree with every idea included in it.

Sources close to Premier Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the Likud bloc, said Shamir would inform Murphy that he is opposed to any acceleration of the autonomy process in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. That reportedly is one of the key elements of the American plan, intended to come to grips with unrest in the territories.

Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that Shamir has rejected his proposal that they sit down together with Murphy to discuss the new American peace initiative. There was no immediate comment from the Prime Minister's Office.

Haaretz reported Tuesday that the American plan includes an appeal to United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to convene the five permanent members of the Security Council and the parties involved in the Middle East conflict, for an international opening in Geneva, to be followed by direct talks for an interim agreement and eventually a final peace settlement.

Haaretz said that this was part of an agreement reached at a meeting Peres had with King Hussein of Jordan in London last April. The newspaper, quoting Jordanian sources, said Hussein insists that part of the agreement be carried out.

The international opening would take place within the year, according to Haaretz. If Murphy's talks with the various parties go well, the leaders of the two superpowers, President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev, will use the occasion of their next summit meeting in Moscow to call on all involved in the conflict to open peace talks.

Diplomats believe the key to success of the American move is the amount of pressure the Reagan administration exerts on Shamir when he visits Washington next month, the paper said.

Syrian Role Urged

In the aftermath of the Arab summit meeting hosted by Hussein in Amman last fall, the Jordanian ruler has demanded that negotiations with Israel must include Syria and Lebanon. Murphy has proposed that Syria participate in the peace initiative.

This may be why Murphy, the administration's top troubleshooter in the Middle East, visited Syria as well as Saudi Arabia on his current mission to the region. He is coming to Israel directly from Damascus.

Murphy's plans to visit Syria raised questions in Washington when his itinerary was announced last week. State Department policy had been to avoid high-level contacts with the government of Syrian President Hafez Assad because of its hard line toward Israel, its close relations with the Soviet Union and its complicity in international terrorism.

The United States has not officially dis-

closed its latest ideas for peace in the region. But some of the proposals were leaked over the weekend by high-level American sources, apparently members of Murphy's entourage, since the information came from the Persian Gulf region, where Murphy was visiting at the time.

According to those sources, the Americans want the Israel Defense Force to withdraw from the main population centers of the West Bank and Gaza Strip this spring. Palestinian elections would follow early in the summer.

This would amount to a rapid acceleration of the autonomy process that originated with the 1978 Camp David accords. The Camp David agreement called for a five-year transition period, after which negotiations would determine the permanent status of the territories.

But according to the American plan, now emerging, an international forum would be convened in December -- right after the November general elections in the United States and Israel -- to launch negotiations on the future of the territories. The participants would be Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians.

ISRAEL PROBES TWO ARAB DEATHS; SCATTERED VIOLENCE CONTINUES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- Sporadic violence continued Tuesday in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip as police investigated the deaths of two Arab youths whose bodies were found in the West Bank during the past 24 hours.

The circumstances of death were unclear in both cases. Palestinian sources claimed that Nabil Lateef Mahmoud Abu Khalil was shot to death by Israel Defense Force soldiers in Attil village near Tulkarm.

Jewish settlers are suspected in the fatal shooting of teenager Iyad Mohammed Aqel in Kadum village Monday. The settlers, from Kedumim in the Samaria district, reportedly claimed they were driving to Kadum to pick up Arab workers when, confronted by rock-throwers, they shot in self-defense.

Another Palestinian youth, Khader Tarazi from Gaza, died at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba on Tuesday of injuries believed to be the result of a beating by IDF soldiers.

Although news of his death triggered outbursts in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, the territories were relatively quiet Tuesday. Curfews remained in force in Nablus and Kalkilya and at several refugee camps.

The main trouble spot was East Jerusalem, where police arrested 21 Arab youths on suspicion of rock-throwing. A Jewish home in the Moslem Quarter of the Old City was pelted with rocks Tuesday. It is near the flat recently purchased by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon.

In addition, a tourist bus was hit by rocks near the Dung Gate entrance to the Old City. There were no injuries.

A curfew at Kalkilya, an Arab city near the old "green line," not far from the Israeli town of Kfar Saba, was imposed after riots broke out Monday night. Thousands of residents poured into the streets after unidentified men announced over a mosque's public address system that Jewish settlers had invaded the town. Troops used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

Kalkilya was the scene of a rampage by Jewish settlers last April after a settler's car was

fire-bombed on a nearby road, killing Ofra Moses and her 5-year-old son Tal.

Warnings that settlers were coming also brought thousands of residents of Halhoul, near Hebron, into the streets Monday night. The rumor apparently began after a stone-throwing match between Arab youths and settlers whose bus had been stopped outside the town.

Security sources believe warnings of an invasion by settlers is a new tactic used by Palestinian activists to stir riots in Arab population centers. Two cases of Jewish vigilantism have been confirmed -- one in the town of Anabta two weeks ago and the other in Hebron last weekend, where 50 Arab-owned cars were vandalized.

A curfew remained in force Tuesday in the Arab village of Anat, which lies within the Jerusalem municipality. Residents were allowed out of their homes for several hours to buy food. Twelve Molotov cocktails were reportedly found in the town Monday and two residents were arrested.

RABIN SAYS ISRAEL WILL BAR SHIP OF DEPORTEES FROM ITS WATERS

JTA Staff Report

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- Israel is expected to act within its rights under international law to bar from its territorial waters a ship that may be carrying several hundred Palestinian deportees and their sympathizers.

The vessel is scheduled to sail Wednesday from Piraeus, the port of Athens, and to reach Israeli waters over the weekend, according to the Palestine Liberation Organization, the voyage sponsor.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday that the ship would not be allowed to enter Israeli waters, but he refused to say what would be done should the vessel attempt to enter.

Israelis are sharply divided over how to counteract what appears to be a clever, well-timed international propaganda ploy by the PLO. Whatever transpires with the ship, it is feared here that the Palestinians will gain worldwide sympathy at a time when the Israel Defense Force is engaged in almost daily violent confrontations with Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir denounced the planned voyage as an "insulting affront. . . a hostile and dangerous act which endangered Israel." But there has been little support for a proposal by one of Shamir's closest aides, media adviser Avi Pazner, to meet the PLO ship at sea with an Israeli ship carrying the families of victims of Palestinian terrorist attacks.

The newspaper Haaretz warned that this would be "to play the PLO's game, with no chance of beating them at it." The Foreign Ministry also opposes the plan.

But it is not certain the ship will sail. PLO representatives, at a hastily called news conference at their office in Athens, were long on rhetoric but short on details. Apart from announcing that the ship will be named "The Return," they refused to say which nation's flag it would fly or its registered name.

The PLO claimed in Athens last week that it had chartered the 8,000-ton Greek car ferry Silver Paloma. The Greek government informed Israel that since the vessel met all safety and other requirements, nothing could be done to prevent its sailing.

But the owner of the Silver Paloma, the

Afroessa Line, which operates a regular service between Piraeus and Haifa, said the charter had not been signed and the voyage was cancelled. There were no reports that the PLO obtained another ship.

Denial Of Entry Called Legal

Meanwhile, Professor Yehuda Blum, an authority on international law, said Tuesday that if Israel announced officially it would deny the ship access to its territorial waters, the ship's master should take that as a warning and act accordingly.

Blum, a former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations and a member of the Hebrew University law faculty, told Israel Radio that a ship which seeks to enter a nation's territorial water in less than good faith can legally be prevented from doing.

"In this particular case, the passage would not be innocent because it is prejudicial to the good order of the coastal state and is an act of propaganda aimed at affecting the security of the coastal state," Blum said.

(JTA correspondents David Landau in Jerusalem, Jean Cohen in Athens and Hugh Orgel in Tel Aviv contributed to this story.)

STRONG ROBERTSON SHOWING IN IOWA MAY BRING RELIGION INTO CAMPAIGN By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9 (JTA) -- The surprise second-place finish by the Rev. Pat Robertson in the Iowa Republican caucus Monday is expected to arouse concern in the Jewish community that the drive for school prayer and other efforts aimed at the erosion of the constitutional separation of church and state will become a major issue in the 1988 presidential campaign.

While Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) won a major victory in Iowa with 37 percent of the vote, Robertson was assured of being a major factor in the Republican campaign when he received 25 percent of the vote, compared to only 19 percent for Vice President George Bush.

In addition to Bush, Robertson's showing also hurt Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.), who finished fourth with 11 percent of the vote.

As the campaign now moves on to the New Hampshire primary next Tuesday, Dole and Bush are still expected to be the leading contenders for the Republican nomination.

But the two will be seeking to win the support of the thousands of evangelical Christians Robertson is bringing into the Republican party, as will the other Republican contenders: Kemp, former Delaware Gov. Pierre du Pont IV and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig Jr.

This should become increasingly apparent when the campaign moves toward Super Tuesday, on March 8, when primaries or caucuses will be held in 20 states, half of them in the South.

Bush and Dole have supported voluntary prayer in the public schools, while Kemp has been in favor of silent prayer. But some observers believe that while the rhetoric will increase, Bush and Dole, especially, are not as ideologically committed to these social issues as is President Reagan. And it is noted that Reagan has been unable to get any of these measures approved in seven years.

Ironically, Robertson is expected to tone down his rhetoric as he becomes a larger factor

in the race. Since entering the campaign, he has played down his career as a television evangelist and has instead called himself a businessman.

"I'm going to reach out to all Americans," he stressed Monday night. "I don't want to be a candidate of some narrow sphere of interest."

Orthodox Jewish Vote

In a speech to the National Press Club last year, Robertson said that he expected to win support in the Jewish community, especially among Orthodox Jews, who he said share the same concern he does about moral issues.

Jewish organizations are not expected to take any public stand in the campaign. But there is concern that as Dole, Bush and Kemp seek to win over Robertson's evangelical voters, the rhetoric will heat up, causing fear in the Jewish community.

This could be a replay of the 1984 election, when many Jews, traditionally Democrats, were considering deserting the party because of the influence of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, until the Republican nominee, President Reagan, made several speeches attacking those who oppose prayer in schools as anti-religion.

Jackson, incidently, did well in the Iowa Democratic caucus, finishing fourth with 8.7 percent of the vote, more than four times the share he received in 1984, in a state that is less than 2 percent black.

This time around, the Democratic winner, by a narrow margin, was Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.), who captured 31.3 percent of the vote, trailed by Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.), with 26.5 percent, and Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, with 22.3 percent.

Jackson, like Robertson, is also counting on Super Tuesday to make his candidacy more viable.

Opposite Extremes On Israel

While all candidates have stressed their support of Israel, the two ministers take the opposite extremes on the Jewish state. Jackson has sought to improve his image in the Jewish community and has toned down his rhetoric on Israel.

However, he is still the most critical of any of the candidates and is the only candidate on record in favor of a Palestinian state.

At the same time, when the Des Moines Sunday Register asked all candidates about their views about a homeland the day before the Iowa caucus, Jackson, while saying he supports a homeland, stressed that "the details should be worked out by the parties themselves."

Robertson, on the other hand, replied that "there is an autonomous homeland already for Palestine and it's called Jordan."

The candidates for the most part have avoided the Middle East, particularly the current unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, except when they have been questioned about it. Most have voiced concern about the methods used by Israel, although they have expressed understanding for Israel's problems.

Mideast issues should begin to play a more important role in the campaign as the candidates begin to compete for Jewish votes in three Super Tuesday states with large Jewish populations -- Florida, Maryland and Massachusetts -- and in Illinois, whose primary is set for March 15.

The Mideast may even grab center stage with the approach of the New York primary on April 19.

ISRAELIS REACT CALMLY TO SOVIET THREATS REGARDING ISRAEL'S REPORTED TESTING OF NEW BALLISTIC MISSILE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA) -- Israeli officials reacted calmly to Soviet threats regarding Israel's reported testing of intermediate-range ballistic missiles that could be fitted with nuclear warheads.

A report in the Geneva-based International Defense Review, which claimed Israel had successfully tested the Jericho 2 missile in a 500-mile range, prompted the Soviet threats. Radio Moscow, in a Hebrew-language broadcast last week, said development of the Jericho 2 amounted to a provocation against the Soviet Union.

"Israel has thus turned itself into part of the nuclear confrontation between the powers," the broadcast said. The Soviets also warned that Israel would not enjoy a monopoly on deploying nuclear weapons in the area and would eventually pay the price for the development. The missiles could potentially reach Soviet targets in the Black Sea.

Puzzled Over Dual Soviet Policy

Israeli leaders puzzled over the apparent duality of Soviet policy towards Israel, noting that the threats came at a time when Soviet-Israeli relations seemed to be thawing out. A gradual increase in Soviet Jewish emigration, the release of Jewish political prisoners and the visit of a Soviet consular delegation to Israel this month all pointed to a warming of relations.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres stated last week in the Knesset that Israel agreed to the Soviet delegation's visit only after Moscow made certain concessions, such as the relaxation of emigration restrictions.

Peres, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin have all stressed that Israel has no interest in threatening Soviet targets and has only "defensive" interests, in Peres' words.

Friday night, Moscow toned down its threats with a Moscow radio Hebrew broadcast calling on Israel to support the Gorbachev initiative for the elimination of medium-range missiles in Asia. The broadcast encouraged Israel to join the initiative because Israel then would be able to live without fear of the Soviets stationing missiles in Arab countries.

The Sunday Israeli papers also reported the arrival of the first batch of advanced Soviet-made MIG-29 fighters landing in Syria next to stories about a visit by a Soviet church delegation to Jerusalem and a scheduled 1989 visit of the Red Army Choir and the Bolshoi Theater. (See related story.)

SOVIET MIGs IN SYRIA NOT SEEN AS IMMEDIATE DANGER TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, July 26 (JTA) -- Senior Israeli military sources stated Sunday that the MIG-29s Syria received last week from the Soviet Union would not constitute a qualitative change in the military balance of forces between the Israel

Defense Force and the Syrian army. But Syria's possession of the sophisticated aircraft would make it necessary for the IDF to find "operational solutions" to much more difficult and complicated challenges than in the past, the military sources noted. They pointed out that it will be a number of months before the MIGs are operational.

It is still not clear how many of the planes will be provided by the Soviets to Syria. Only a relatively large number of planes would constitute a significant change in the strength of the Syrian air force. Meanwhile, Soviet technicians have arrived in Syria to assist the air force personnel in learning to use the planes. The Syrian pilots who will fly the MIGs are to undergo training in the USSR.

In a related development, Moscow announced that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has decided not to supply Syria with ground-to-ground missiles. No reason was given for halting the scheduled shipment.

SHULTZ: ISRAEL CAN'T BE BLAMED FOR U.S. DECISION TO SELL ARMS TO IRAN
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz stressed Friday that Israel cannot be blamed for the Reagan Administration's decision to sell arms to Iran.

"We have to take responsibilities for our own action," Shultz said as he ended two days of testimony before the Senate-House committees investigating the Iran/Contra affair.

His remarks came as Sen. James McClure (R. Idaho) noted that Shultz has testified before other committees that the interests of the United States and Israel were not always the same in seeking the opening to Iran.

McClure has frequently extracted from witnesses that it was Israel that first suggested to the U.S. the initiative to Iran and sought to continue it when the U.S. was reluctant, although he stressed Israel had the "legitimate" right to pursue its national interest.

Shultz, who testified about his opposition to the sale of arms to Iran, explained his position on the relationship with Israel. "As everybody knows, I am a very warm supporter of a strong relationship with Israel," Shultz said. "I've worked on that very hard. However, I think we have to recognize that while our interests and Israel's interests are parallel in many respects, they are not always exactly the same. We have to be smart enough to see that. They have legitimate interests which are not necessarily exactly our interests and we have to recognize that fact."

"When it comes to undertaking something by the United States government, then we have to recognize also, however, that we're big boys and we have to take responsibility for whatever it is we do. We can't say that somebody else suggested it to us, therefore it's their fault."

HIJACKER OF AFRICAN JET WAS RELEASED FROM ISRAELI PRISON IN IRC EXCHANGE

GENEVA, July 26 (JTA) -- The hijacker of an Air Afrique jet who murdered a French pas-

senger here Friday was a prisoner in Israel who was released in 1985 under an exchange supervised by the International Red Cross. Hussein Ali Mohammed Hariri, 21, a Lebanese Shiite who reportedly has ties to other Lebanese terrorists, was imprisoned in Israel in 1984 on terrorist charges after being found with a hand grenade.

According to Swiss officials, Hariri, who commandeered the flight from Paris to Brazzaville, Congo, is from a Lebanese village near Tyre considered a stronghold of the Hizbullah, believed to be connected to adherents of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

His chief demand, according to the Tribune de Geneve, was the release from West German prison of the Hamadei brothers, being held for terrorist crimes. Swiss sources have described Hariri as being a "comrade in arms" of the Hamadei brothers.

The West Germans have said they will try Mohammed Ali Hamadei, 22, in Frankfurt Regional Court for the hijacking of a TWA jet in June 1985 and the murder of U.S. Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem. The United States has unsuccessfully fought to extradite Hamadei to stand trial in the U.S. for Stethem's murder. Hamadei was arrested in January in Frankfurt carrying three bottles of liquid explosive.

Hamadei's brother, Abbas Ali Hamadei, 26, was subsequently implicated in a rash of kidnappings of more Americans in Lebanon, as well as of West German nationals. The older Hamadei, who is a West German citizen, was then detained and interrogated, leading Bonn officials to a large cache of liquid explosives in the Saarland and on the French-German border. West German officials said he would stand trial in federal court on charges that may include his complicity in the kidnappings of two West Germans.

In addition, a third brother, Mohammed Abbas Hamadei, is believed to be security chief of the Hizbullah in the Beirut suburbs.

Terrorist To Be Put On Trial

Switzerland's president, Pierre Aubert, who is also Foreign Minister, said that Hariri would be put on trial for the hijacking and murder, which took place at the Geneva airport. A flight attendant was also wounded in the fray, from which the passengers escaped largely through their own devices before Swiss police could storm the plane.

Aubert said a chief reason Swiss authorities decided not to allow the plane to fly to Beirut, as Hariri had requested, was the presence on board of 64 French nationals. He said Switzerland feared the French would be held as hostage in Lebanon, adding to the six French hostages already being held in that country.

The Swiss president said Hariri would stand trial on charges of air piracy and murder, for which he faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

Hariri's capture marks the first time in recent years that Switzerland is holding a terrorist accused of murder who is tied to organized Middle East terrorism. Aubert said he could not rule out reprisals against Swiss citizens living in Iran or Lebanon. Many Swiss are married to Lebanese and some work in Lebanon for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In May 1985, under IRC supervision, Israel exchanged 1,150 Palestinian prisoners for three Israeli soldiers captured in the Lebanon war and held in Damascus by the Popular Front for the

Liberation of Palestine-General Command, headed by Ahmed Jabril. Among the Palestinians being held in Israel were accused murderers serving life sentences.

The exchange, which was preceded in 1983 by an exchange of six Israeli soldiers for 3,000 Palestinians, was hotly debated in Israel. Eight of the Israelis had been taken prisoner without offering resistance and there were demands in Israel that they be court-martialed.

NINETEEN ARRESTED IN SAN FRANCISCO SOVIET JEWRY PROTEST AT CONSULATE; THREE FACE FEDERAL CHARGES

By Tamar Kaufman

Northern California Jewish Bulletin

SAN FRANCISCO, July 26 (JTA) -- Nineteen protesters were arrested here Wednesday for blocking the gates to the Soviet Consulate, an action they said was an attempt to give the Soviet officials "trapped" inside the consulate a sample of what their government regularly does to Jews.

"For decades, the Soviet government has kept their Jewish community hostage, prisoners, trapped behind the Iron Curtain," explained Greg Smith, a vice president of the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews (BACJSJ) and one of those arrested. "It is time for the Soviet officials to understand what this experience is like."

The 19 protesters, many wearing prayer-shawls and skullcaps, prayed and sang Hebrew songs while, across the street, nine supporters carried three large banners. One proclaimed: "The USSR destroys families."

BACJSJ public affairs director Rusty Frank, who also was arrested Wednesday, explained that the civil disobedience was the result of a promise to two refusenik families, Lev and Inna Elbert of Kiev and Leonid and Ekaterina Glozman-Yuzefovich of Moscow.

Both families have relatives in Israel. The Yuzefoviches have been waiting for permission to emigrate for six years, the Elberts for 11.

'Life And Death' Matter

Smith contended the demonstration also was a matter of life and death. If the families are not allowed to leave the Soviet Union soon, he said, "we believe that they will resume their hunger strikes, which could very well be fatal considering the health problems of the people involved."

In March, Leonid Yuzefovich and both Elberts began 41-day hunger strikes that ended when they received word from Soviet emigration authorities that their cases would be reconsidered.

"Last week, the Yuzefovich family was turned down again," Frank said. The basis for the refusal is "state secrecy," which, according to the BACJSJ, denotes Leonid's "army service, as he never worked with any classified information or had security clearance."

Yuzefovich, a conscript, served as an officer in the regular army from 1972-74. The Elberts have not heard from the authorities. They also had been refused because of alleged access to classified information.

The civil disobedience "is something we do not do lightly," Smith added, "but we're concerned about saving lives."

BACJSJ director David Waksberg, who also was arrested Wednesday, said that he had told the refuseniks the previous week of the action planned on their behalf. Sixteen of the protesters who

sat down in front of the consulate were arrested on three California state misdemeanors -- unlawful assembly, refusal to disperse after a formal command and remaining at the place of a demonstration after having been asked to leave.

They were taken to the Hall of Justice here, fingerprinted, photographed and handed a citation to appear in court August 25. They were released on their own recognizance.

According to Officer Bob Davis, a police spokesman, the maximum penalty for these charges is one year in the county jail, a \$500 fine or both.

Federal Misdemeanors Charged

The other three protesters, who appeared before a U.S. magistrate Wednesday afternoon, were arrested on federal misdemeanor charges.

Their arrests occurred when a man with a Russian accent -- who declined to identify himself -- tried to enter the consulate, as did a mail carrier. Reuben Haller, a member of the BACSJ board, refused to let them pass. He was arrested by FBI agents, and Frank immediately took his place.

She, too, was placed under arrest, and when the third demonstrator, Tom Loos, took her place, he also was arrested. Haller, Frank and Loos were taken to the Federal Building here and charged with violating the so-called "hundred-foot rule," which among other things prohibits obstruction of foreign premises such as the Soviet Consulate.

Attorney Ephraim Margolin, who with Lawrence Gibbs represents all the protesters, reported that the three also were released on their own recognizance, and that they face a maximum penalty of \$500 fine, six months in jail or both. Their next court appearance is July 29.

Refusenik Leonid Yuzcfovich, 38, is a physician, and his wife is a French teacher and Hebrew teacher who last month gave birth to their fifth child.

Lev Elbert, 39, also is a Hebrew teacher, as well as a civil engineer. According to the BACSJ, he served a year in prison for alleged draft evasion. In addition, the family has been harassed continually by the KGB and their only son, Carmi, age 16, was beaten in school so severely that he suffered a concussion. After his release from the hospital, he was cared for by his mother, who is a physician.

ROBERTSON FORESEES STRONG SUPPORT FROM JEWS IN PRESIDENTIAL BID

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA) -- The Rev. Marion "Pat" Robertson, the television evangelist who probably will seek the Republican nomination for the Presidency, said Friday that he expects to have support in the Jewish community.

"I would anticipate, especially among Conservative and Orthodox Jews, I would have a tremendous body of support," Robertson said at a National Press Club luncheon. "I'm counting on it from everything I've seen."

His remarks were made in response to a question on whether he was seeking support among Jews and Catholics. He did not mention Catholics.

"I have been a supporter of Israel for years," he said. "I have been over there something in the neighborhood of 15 times."

Robertson noted that he has developed "a friendship with some key Jewish leaders in America," particularly within the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the United Jewish Appeal.

He said that a leading Jewish supporter of President Reagan in California is expected to back his campaign. His staff would not reveal his name.

Two Jewish Aides

Robertson said two of his key aides are Jewish -- Ben Waldman, executive director of the pro-Republican National Jewish Coalition during the 1984 Presidential campaign, who now is in charge of the West for Robertson; and Richard Pinsky, who heads the effort in the Southeast.

Waldman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that no major effort has yet been made in the Jewish community, but that it would come in the later stages of the campaign next year when the primaries are held in such states as New York and California, which have large Jewish populations.

Robertson, who moderates the "700 Club" television program on the Christian Broadcasting Network, reiterated Friday that he will officially announce his candidacy on September 17 if by then he has accumulated three million names on a petition urging him to run.

He did not discuss church-state issues Friday, the area where he is expected to find the most opposition to his candidacy from the Jewish community. But he did note that he expected the appointment of Judge Robert Bork to the U.S. Supreme Court, which he supports, would result in the overturning of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

ADL PROTESTS EXCLUSION OF JERUSALEM FROM WORLD CONCLAVE HOSTED BY KYOTO

NEW YORK, July 26 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has protested the exclusion of the city of Jerusalem from the forthcoming World Conference of Historical Cities to be hosted by the city of Kyoto.

In a July 23 letter to Japanese Ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga, ADL national director Abraham Foxman said that barring Jerusalem, which is "rich in cultural and religious history, serves the interests of those who seek the political delegitimization of Israel's capital."

The conference, which is scheduled in November, will be represented by 35 cities. The Kyoto City Council voted not to extend an invitation to Jerusalem. The ADL first raised the matter of Jerusalem's exclusion with the Japanese Embassy in Washington last May. But the Embassy has informed the ADL that the decision still stands.

Expressing "disappointment and dismay," Foxman said that barring Jerusalem "contradicts several of the conference's stated aims, including those of promoting 'international friendship' and contributing to world peace."

Kyoto's decision, he added, "is not an isolated instance of Japanese political bias against Israel." Foxman cited Tokyo's support of the Arab economic boycott against Israel and Japan's refusal to engage in scientific exchanges with Israel and promote cultural ties.

"We believe that the inclusion of Jerusalem in the Kyoto conference would be an important step in bettering Japanese-Israeli ties and we urge the (Kyoto) council to reconsider its exclusionary decision," Foxman said.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES
SHIFT IN FOCUS OF DEMJANJUK TRIAL**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA) -- The focus of the Treblinka war crimes trial will shift this week from "Ivan the Terrible," the bestial young butcher of Treblinka, whose exploits were recounted through months of gruesome evidence, to John Demjanjuk, the 68-year-old Cleveland grandfather, who is to take the witness stand in his own defense.

The scenes depicted will shift, too, from the Treblinka death camp to the barracks and battlefields of Gen. Andrei Vlasov's regiment of turncoat Russian soldiers, in whose ranks Demjanjuk claims he fought in the last years of World War II.

Ever since the U.S. immigration authorities first moved, in the 1970's, to strip the Cleveland auto mechanic of his citizenship, Demjanjuk has doggedly claimed he is the victim of mistaken identity, through a plot heinously hatched by the Soviet KGB in order to strike fear into the hearts of all those Ukrainian soldiers who switched sides after their capture by the Germans during the war, and subsequently managed to escape to the West.

Monday his version will finally undergo judicial scrutiny, as the Jerusalem district court opens the defense case in this five-month-old trial.

Near-Collapse Of His Defense Team

Apart from the massive weight of meticulous evidence amassed and submitted by the state prosecutor and his assistants during the long months of daily hearings, Demjanjuk must overcome, too, the near-collapse of his own defense team.

Earlier this month he informed the court definitively that he had decided to fire his long-time attorney, Mark O'Connor of Buffalo N.Y., for "incompetence."

Judge Dov Levin was plainly reluctant to accede to the defendant's insistent demand that O'Connor step down. He warned repeatedly that the defense would receive no further delays or recesses in which to prepare its witnesses.

But Demjanjuk was adamant. He had consulted, he explained, with his whole family, and they decided together that O'Connor was handling the case badly. They were looking for a top American trial lawyer. Their first choice, John Broadley of Washington D.C., had declined. Meanwhile their Israeli lawyer, Yoram Sheftel, would lead, supported by American attorney John Gill.

Charges And Counter-Charges

Sheftel, a relatively unknown Tel Aviv attorney, has been at daggers drawn with O'Connor almost from the moment when O'Connor hired him as his assistant. The court has on occasion criticized Sheftel for superficiality. O'Connor accused Sheftel of turning the family against him, after he has devoted six years of his professional life to defending Demjanjuk in the passionate conviction that he is innocent.

O'Connor, theatrical in style but always courteous, has won the grudging respect of the bench and of the public, following this traumatic trial on television and radio.

It remains to be seen now how the average Israeli will stomach the additional trauma of

hearing the alleged Nazi deathcamp guard defended in Hebrew by a fellow-Israeli.

Planned To Adduce 'Painful Evidence'

In his letter of resignation to Judge Levin, O'Connor wrote that he planned to adduce "powerful evidence" to the effect that the key Trawniki document is a forgery. This document, supplied to Israel by the Soviet authorities through the good offices of American oil billionaire Armand Hammer, purports to be Demjanjuk's SS identification card, issued to him at the SS training camp at Trawniki, where he trained for his gory duties at Treblinka.

O'Connor also wrote that he intended to put on the witness stand a man named Walter Dubowitz who would attest that he served as Demjanjuk's superior officer in the renegade army of Gen. Vlasov. He would also adduce evidence from two Soviet peasants who drank with "Ivan" and would testify that Demjanjuk is not "Ivan."

O'Connor implied that all this preparatory work would not now properly be used and presented by Sheftel and Gill. But that of course remains to be seen.

There has even been speculation here that without O'Connor, who is fiercely anti-Soviet, the defence might change its tack altogether, possibly even changing the defendant's plea or seeking a plea-bargain with the prosecution.

**CABINET OKAYS IN PRINCIPLE A
5-DAY WORK WEEK FOR CIVIL SERVANTS**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA) -- The Cabinet decided in principle Sunday to adopt a five-day work week for the civil services and authorized Finance Minister Moshe Nissim to negotiate the major change in Israeli labor relations with the Histadrut.

The Histadrut, in its latest round of wage negotiations, has made the five-day work week a major demand.

The Cabinet set several conditions for the change: the Histadrut must sign statewide work agreements for two years and must agree to manpower reductions in the public sector; the change will not require enlarging the state budget; and no salary increases or cuts in total number of work hours will result from the change.

Any agreement with the Histadrut is subject to the approval of the whole government. Some 14 ministers supported the change in the Cabinet session Sunday. Former Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai, Gideon Patt, Science and Technology Minister, and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, all of Likud, voted against the measure and four abstained.

Yisrael Kessar, Secretary General of the Histadrut, welcomed the decision as a step in the right direction.

CORRECTION

An article in the July 22 Bulletin incorrectly identified Hadassah as being part of the General Zionist Confederation. It is part of the World Confederation of United Zionists, which includes Bnai Zion and the American Jewish League for Israel. In addition, Hadassah has not endorsed anyone for the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization.

**BRITAIN ZEROES IN ON ALLEGED
NAZI LIVING IN SCOTLAND**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 21 (JTA) -- Britain may send officials to the Soviet Union to examine claims that a Lithuanian living in Scotland murdered more Jews in World War II than Klaus Barbie, recently sentenced to life imprisonment by a French court for crimes against humanity.

Officials conceded this was a possibility after receiving documents from the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center on the war record of Antanas Gecas, a 71-year-old retired mining engineer in Edinburgh.

Gecas is alleged to have ordered and participated in massacres of Jews in Lithuania where more than 200,000 were killed under the Nazis, many by members of special units of Lithuanian police in which Gecas has admitted he served. Gecas has repeatedly denied killing any Jews himself and says he was unable to prevent the activities in which his unit took part.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, Dean of the Wiesenthal Center, told a press conference that Britain has received eyewitness accounts allegedly proving Gecas' war crimes beyond doubt.

The evidence, including three signed depositions by wartime colleagues of Gecas, were gathered by a team from Scottish Television which went to Russia earlier this year. Their findings will be screened in Scotland Wednesday.

Thousands Of Pages Of Documents

The interviews and signed depositions by three wartime colleagues of Gecas were among a thousand pages of documents which representatives from the Wiesenthal Center presented to the British Home Office last Friday.

The Center claims to have provided the conclusive evidence the Home Office requested last year when it was given the names of 17 former Nazis who had fled to Britain after the war. The Home Office has established at least eight of those people named might still be alive in Britain.

At its press conference, the Wiesenthal Center said Britain would be considered soft on war criminals if it failed to act on the new evidence it received on former Nazis living in this country. It called on the government to conduct an inquiry into the new evidence, particularly against Gecas, and send investigators to the USSR.

The Home Office said later it was examining the material and did not rule out a mission to the Soviet Union. It denied it was being soft on war criminals. "The passage of time has not lessened war crimes in any way," an official said. "If we can prove that crimes have been committed and we are in a position to take action against the perpetrators, we will certainly do so."

Labor MP Greville Janner, a member of the House of Commons War Crimes Group, told the press conference he did not like trial by television and preferred a trial by court of law. "I believe the evidence is now very strong in the case of Mr. Gecas and that the allegations require

investigation by the Home Secretary without delay," he said.

VANUNU IS BACK IN THE PUBLIC EYE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Elaborate efforts to keep accused spy Mordechai Vanunu out of the public eye until his trial begins late next month, were foiled Monday by alert reporters and the prisoner's recalcitrance.

Vanunu, a former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility, was transported from prison to the Supreme Court for a closed hearing on his petition to allow publication of certain classified evidence in his case. Reporters who noticed that the courthouse was surrounded by large contingents of police, border police and Justice Ministry security guards, sensed something out of the ordinary.

Their suspicions were confirmed when a police van with white-painted windows pulled up to the rear entrance of the court. Vanunu emerged, his head and face covered by an oversized motorcycle helmet to prevent him having contact with the media. He shook his head violently, dislodging his helmet which he kicked aside. "Enough with these games," he shouted before surprised police guards hustled him into the court building.

Vanunu, 31, is accused of providing a British newspaper last year with information about Israel's alleged nuclear capabilities. He was seized abroad and brought to Israel last September 30, although Israel denied at the time any knowledge of his whereabouts.

When he was brought to Jerusalem district court for arraignment on December 28, he flashed a message to the media through the window of the prison van. The message, written on the palm of his hand, indicated he had been kidnapped by Israeli agents in Rome on September 30 and brought to Israel against his will. The incident embarrassed Israeli authorities who took pains to ensure that Vanunu would have no further contact with the press.

Vanunu pleaded not guilty to charges of spying and aiding the enemy in wartime. He has since insisted that certain evidence be made public. His lawyer, Avigdor Feldman, maintained that publication would not compromise national security. Prosecutor Uzi Hasson objected. Supreme Court Justice Gavriel Bach has yet to rule on the matter.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**LABOR PARTY SOURCES CONFIDENT****THEIR MAN WILL WIN TOP ZIONIST POST**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Akiva Lewinsky, nominated unanimously by the Labor Party Central Committee last week as Labor's candidate for the chairmanship of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, "is virtually certain of election" at the 31st World Zionist Congress to be held here in December, according to Labor Party sources.

They base their confidence mainly on the unpopularity of Likud among diaspora Zionists because of its support of the controversial "Who is a Jew?" legislation pressed by the religious parties in the Knesset.

They also cited the recent WZO elections in the United States in which Zionist parties dedicated to religious pluralism in Israel made significant gains at the expense of the religious parties and their rightwing supporters.

These sources acknowledged that there have been reservations about Lewinsky among some powerful circles in American Jewry. But, they told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, those circles, mainly the non-Zionist half of the Jewish Agency including the major fund-raisers, will "advise and consent" to Lewinsky's election "once they get to know him better."

Doubts Minimized

They said that doubts about Lewinsky, who is currently the WZO-Jewish Agency Treasurer, stemmed from "his image as an establishment figure and the desire to break away from establishment molds." The sources said Lewinsky is being urged to tour major Jewish communities in the U.S., and hold in-depth discussions with key leadership figures there. As for the rest of the diaspora, where Keren Hayesod, not the United Jewish Appeal, is responsible for fund-raising, "Lewinsky has no problems. He is known and liked," they said.

According to the Labor sources, the major Zionist parties, such as the General Zionist Confederation which includes Hadassah, the Zionist Organization of America and probably Mizrahi, will support Lewinsky at the Zionist Congress. They intimated that the Confederation and the ZOA already have pledged their support.

In the recent elections in the U.S. for Congress delegates, the Reform Zionist list (ARZA) and the newly formed Conservative list (MERCAZ) did especially well. Both had lobbied strenuously against the latest attempt by the ultra-Orthodox parties, with the support of Likud, to push through amendments to the law which would have defined a Jew according to Orthodox tenets and given the Chief Rabbinate sole authority to approve converts.

Nevertheless, Lewinsky would have a formidable opponent if Likud nominates Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's popular Ambassador to the United Nations, to oppose him. According to reliable sources, Netanyahu has not yet decided to run for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. He has intimated that he would like a Likud Knesset seat in the next elections. But it is not likely that the Likud leadership will offer him both the top Zionist post and a safe place on its Knesset list.

Labor Notes 'Sacrifices'

Labor sources contend that even if Netanyahu were to run for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship and distance himself personally from Likud's pro-Orthodox position on "Who is a Jew?" the issue of pluralism would be a top priority at the Zionist Congress, as it was in the election of delegates.

"We in Labor can say to the overseas delegates: 'We have made great political sacrifices in order to maintain our position on 'Who is a Jew?' How could you now contemplate betraying us and betraying that position?' a Labor source told the JTA.

The only declared candidate for the other top Zionist office -- chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors -- is Mendel Kaplan, the South African Jewish leader. According to well-placed sources, American Jewish leaders are reluctant to allow this prestigious appointment to slip away from American Jewry's control. An agreed-upon American candidate is expected to emerge before the next Board of Governors meeting in October.

The sources said that Irwin Field of Los Angeles would have the Board's wide backing. But he has declined to be drafted for personal reasons.

ELECTRONIC JOURNALISTS STRIKE

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA) -- Electronic journalists, demanding the same wage settlements just reached with newspaper reporters, blacked out radio and television Tuesday. Army Radio and Educational Television are not affected.

The strike, which began as a one-day work-stoppage to pressure the Israel Broadcast Authority, was extended for a second day and may continue until Thursday if no agreement is reached.

Several newspapers were struck last Friday for higher wages. New contracts were signed over the weekend by all but the independent daily Haaretz. The latter signed an agreement Tuesday after four days off the stands and will resume publication Wednesday.

LOWER RATE OF INFLATION EXPECTED

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Inflation is presently running at an annual rate of 18 percent but the next national budget will be based on an annual rate of 5-7 percent, Emmanuel Sharon, Director of the Finance Ministry, said Monday.

He said the lower rate would be adopted because the present rate, described as "medium," is not expected to continue. He said in the past, inflation tended to feed on itself if measures were not taken to curb it. The Treasury therefore will propose a lower budget, despite the balance of payments deficit.

The government will also reduce price subsidies, Sharon said. It has just raised the price of flour by 14 percent and of buns and specialized bread by 12 percent, reflecting the higher cost of those items. Regular bread was not affected. But given the higher price of flour, it will have to be subsidized.

CANCER KILLS THOUSANDS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA) -- Cancer afflicts 8,500 Israelis each year, and 5,150 Israelis die of it annually, according to Health Minister Shoshana Arbelli-Almoslino. She said 30 percent of the cancer deaths were the result of smoking. Breast cancer accounted for 28 percent of the cancer cases among women.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A bomb exploded in a crowded bus in Jaffa Tuesday. The only casualty was the driver who was treated for shock. Police said the bomb was planted over the driver's seat sometime during the night when the bus was in a parking lot.

SEVEN DIASPORA JEWISH LEADERS URGE SHAMIR AND LIKUD TO REFRAIN FROM AMENDING THE LAW OF RETURN

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- Seven diaspora Jewish leaders, including the heads of the major fund-raising organizations in the U.S. and Canada, have urged Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel and his Likud Party to abandon their efforts to amend the Law of Return in a manner which would define Jews according to strict Orthodox tenets.

Two amendments sponsored by the ultra-Orthodox parties with Likud backing were defeated in the Knesset a week ago. Another vote on the controversial "Who is a Jew?" amendment is scheduled for next Wednesday.

The Jewish leaders sent a cable to Shamir warning that the proposed change would "irreparably damage the support of Israel and its institutions by diaspora Jews" and cause "a terrible rift" among the Jewish people.

The signatories were Jerold Hoffberger, chairman of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel; Max Fisher, founding chairman of the Board of Governors; Henry Taub, chairman of the United Israel Appeal; Martin Levine, president of the United Israel Appeal of Canada; Martin Stein, national chairman of the UJA; Shoshana Cardin, president of the Council of Jewish Federations; and Alex Grass, chairman of the Board of the UJA.

Statement By Jewish Leaders

The cable stated: "We are extremely concerned along with many Jews in the diaspora, about the repeated attempts to change the Law of Return in the Knesset, which we believe are the result of internal coalition problems in Israel. We urge you, as we have done in the past, to prevent a terrible rift in the Jewish people, which would result by amending the Law of Return.

"We further appeal to you and your colleagues in the Likud to consider the extremely negative effects of altering the delicate status quo on the 'Who is a Jew?' issue. This will irreparably damage the support of Israel and its institutions by diaspora Jews who will feel shut out and delegitimized. We call upon you to help preserve the unity of Klal Yisroel, as you indicated in your speech to us in the Knesset three weeks ago."

LESS-THAN-FRIENDLY RECEPTION FOR ISRAEL AT DAVIS CUP MATCH IN INDIA

By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- Israel's national tennis team will have little support and no Israeli journalists along as it plays India's team in Davis Cup quarterfinal competition in New Delhi Friday-Sunday.

India has allowed the Israeli team only 15 visas, according to press reports and a spokesman at the Israel Tennis Center here. The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith called Monday for the issuance of more visas or postponement of the match until a neutral site is found. In fact, until last month India was unsure it would even host the match, as it has no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Israel qualified to play India in March by defeating the favored host Czech team three matches to two in the opening of the final round.

Israel had not previously qualified for the finals, featuring the world's top 16 teams.

The Israelis will be led on to India's grass courts by Amos Mansdorf, ranked 32 in the world. He is expected to play two of the four singles matches as well as the doubles match.

His doubles partner and the other singles player have not yet been selected. The choices are Shlomo Glickstein, ranked 347, a successful Davis Cup veteran whose style is not suited to grass courts; Gilad Bloom, ranked 132, who won two matches on grass at the latest Wimbledon tournament; or junior player Raviv Weidenfeld, who probably will not compete.

India's hopes rest with veteran Vijay Amritraj, an actor who now rarely competes, but who is considered an accomplished grass-court player. He'll play singles and doubles, the latter with his brother Anan. Ramesh Krishnan, ranked 39 and best known for his impeccable form, will play singles.

Because the match is taking place in India in extremely hot weather, barring a monsoon, and on a surface on which the Israelis have little experience, tennis experts give India a slight edge. The victor will play the winner of the Australia-Mexico match. Australia, featuring Wimbledon singles champion Pat Cash, is heavily favored to reach the finals.

PORNO PIX ON HIGHWAYS CAUSE ACCIDENTS

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA) -- Agudat Israel MK Avraham Shapira claimed Monday that pornographic pictures were the cause of Israel's alarming highway accident rate and suggested that a day of fasting and prayer be declared to "appeal to God's mercy to stop the awful slaughter on the roads."

The pornographic pictures blamed by the Orthodox MK are posters and billboards advertising swim suits or other items of female apparel considered "lewd" by some religious Jews.

"Can someone who sees such pictures drive afterwards?" Shapira asked. Last year ultra-Orthodox zealots in Jerusalem and elsewhere set fire to bus shelters that carried advertising posters they found objectionable.

Shapira spoke during a Knesset debate on the traffic problem which also occupied much of last Sunday's Cabinet session. In 1986, 415 people died in road accidents and more than 21,000 were injured. The rate of traffic fatalities and injuries has been even higher this year.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress says it is "profoundly disappointed" by Egypt's action in inviting Austrian President Kurt Waldheim for a visit. A statement by Theodore Mann, president of AJCongress, said the decision cannot help but cloud relations between Egypt and world Jewry in the future. The statement said that AJCongress had feared that the influence of Pope John Paul II's recent reception of Waldheim would "break the moral and political quarantine" in which Waldheim's past activities as a Nazi officer accused of war crimes against Jews and other civilians had placed him. Waldheim's attempt to "sanitize" his past is now proceeding "at full pace," the statement said.

JEWISH GROUPS TO STAGE PROTESTS DURING POPE'S SAN FRANCISCO VISIT

By Peggy Isaak Gluck

Northern California Jewish Bulletin

SAN FRANCISCO, July 21 (JTA) -- Bay Area Jewish groups began making plans this week to greet Pope John Paul II's visit to San Francisco on September 17 with an array of protests--everything from teach-ins to public demonstrations.

The reaction comes in response to the June 25 meeting between the Pope and Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, who is accused of Nazi war crimes.

One of the Jewish contingents involved in the protests -- editors of the national progressive magazine Tikkun -- will give the Bay Area a preview of its plans this week when it pickets a fund-raising reception for the Pope being held Thursday evening at the home of Mayor Dianne Feinstein and her husband, Richard Blum.

Although several prominent members of the local Jewish community are supporting the reception, which is being held on behalf of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, the publisher of the Oakland-based magazine, Michael Lerner, said: "We are outraged that a Jewish Mayor, who claims to represent, in part, the cares and concerns of the Jewish people, would be raising money for the Pope."

Tikkun also is calling for a national demonstration during the Pope's U.S. visit September 11-18, including a local demonstration to coincide with the Pope's.

Lower-Key Response Advocated.

Meanwhile, other local Jewish groups are advocating a lower-key response to the Waldheim affair. They include:

- * The Committee of Remembrance of the Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, which is recommending a "dignified silence" while the Pope is here, according to chairman William Lowenberg.

- * The JCRC itself, which will consider adopting a similar position when representatives of its constituent agencies discuss the papal visit next month.

- * The Graduate Theological Union (GTU), a consortium of seminaries in Berkeley, Calif., which will hold a public forum on Jewish-Christian relations September 16 to be attended by a number of leading Catholic, Protestant and Jewish scholars.

In the last week, local Jewish leaders have voiced their concerns about the Waldheim-Pope meeting to the Most Rev. John Quinn, Archbishop of San Francisco, and to the Papal Nuncio in Washington, D.C.

Others have made more personal statements. Henry Berman, a San Franciscan who is active in both the Jewish community and local politics, has declined to serve on the Mayor's official Papal welcoming committee because of the meeting.

Joel Brooks, local executive director of the American Jewish Congress, whose national officers pulled out of a planned September 11 meeting between the Pope and Jewish leaders in Miami, said that while Feinstein may be obligated to help sponsor the Pope's visit, "no self-respecting Jew should aid in this effort by contributing funds to this cause."

Brooks suggested that Jews who are paying \$250 to attend Thursday's reception by the Mayor should "contribute an equal or greater amount to an organization dedicated to assisting victims of the Holocaust."

Lerner of Tikkun said he is outraged that prominent Jews are helping to pay for the Pope's San Francisco visit. He called that support "the ultimate in self-abasement."

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, a group of rabbis and Jewish leaders is considering boycotting an interfaith meeting with the Pope September 16.

It is estimated that the Papal visit to nine U.S. cities will cost approximately \$20 million, with the San Francisco leg estimated at about \$3.3 million. Proceeds from the Mayor's fund-raising reception, for which 1,000 invitations were sent out, will go directly to the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

The September 17 Tikkun demonstration is scheduled to be held outside St. Mary's Cathedral here, where the Pope is scheduled to visit. The teach-in will follow, according to Lerner, at a yet-to-be-determined location.

He added that his group also would like to hold a vigil at the city's monument to the Holocaust in Lincoln Park "at the same time the Pope leads mass at Candlestick Park."

LIBYA, PLO BOTH HAVE VENEZUELAN CONTACTS, ADL PUBLICATION REPORTS

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- The Venezuelan intelligence service has found evidence of Libyan involvement with Bandera Roja, a terrorist movement in that country. At the same time, the Venezuelan government has had contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization, according to Latin American Report, published by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Bandera Roja has been in contact with Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi on funding for terrorist acts to destabilize the government in Caracas, according to the intelligence findings, Latin American Report said. The Venezuelan authorities have linked the terrorists to the recent hijackings of three Venezuelan local airliners, an attack on an army outpost and the occupation of three villages.

The high-level Venezuelan officials met recently in Caracas with PLO "foreign minister" Farouk Kaddoumi, who spoke of "strengthening bilateral relations" and opening a PLO office in Caracas, according to the report.

THREE GET EXIT VISAS

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- An unofficial Moscow Hebrew teacher and two second-generation refuseniks have been granted exit visas to Israel, according to the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

They are: Mikhail Kholmyansky, a physicist and unofficial Hebrew educator who had been refused for nine years and is the brother of former Prisoner of Conscience Alexander Kholmyansky; 23-year-old Felix Abramovich, an 18-year refusenik and son of Moscow Jewish activist Pavel Abramovich; and Dorina Paritsky of Khar'kov, 22, whose father Alexander Paritsky is a former POC. Although none of their family members have received visas, the three plan to immigrate to Israel.

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