



# daily news bulletin

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## RABIN PRAISES CARTER'S PEACE STATEMENT; PREDICTS U.S., ISRAELI STRUGGLE OVER BORDERS' ISSUES

By David Landau

**JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA)**--Premier Yitzhak Rabin said that he was pleased with President Carter's definition of peace in the Middle East, with his distinction between "defense lines" and "legal borders" and his recognition of Israel's need for defensible borders. On the other hand, he thought that Carter's view of Israel's final boundaries meant that a tough struggle lay ahead between the U.S. and Israel over that issue.

Rabin made his remarks in an interview with Israel Radio at Miami where he inaugurated the 1977 International Israel Bond campaign last night. He referred to his private talks with Carter Monday and Tuesday and the President's statements at a White House press conference yesterday at which he expounded in detail his thinking on the nature of Middle East peace, future borders and Israel's defense needs.

Rabin said, "In the course of my talks (with Carter) I learned that the President is interested in advancing the diplomatic process. He sees the need to examine to what extent it is possible, as first preference, to reach negotiations on an overall settlement." Israel's desires, Rabin said, dovetail with Carter's desires.

Rabin said he also learned "that in a number of areas there is a change for the better in the U.S. stance in relation to what I previously knew its position to be on an overall settlement.... I found Carter's position on an overall settlement substantively better than I had known the U.S. position to be at any time when I served as Ambassador." Rabin served as Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. during parts of the first and second Nixon Administrations.

### Another Area Of Improvement

The Israeli leader said that "Another area (of improvement) is that of peace borders. Our position is that even for full peace we must obtain defensible borders which cannot be based on the 1967 lines. This position was fully clarified to the President. The President spoke as he did at his press conference. It is too early to interpret what he said. You will notice that he drew a distinction between the problem of defense borders and political border."

"I cannot, I am not empowered, and I do not wish to interpret what he said or what he meant. But I have already heard from top officials in the State Department deep concern at the likely reaction of the Arab states. For no U.S. President has ever said anything like this before--about distinguishing between defense lines and the political borders, which implies the placement of Zahal (Israel defense) forces beyond the political borders."

### Meaningful Change In U.S. View

Regarding Carter's assertion that Israel would have to withdraw to its 1967 lines with only minor border adjustments to achieve a full peace, Rabin was asked if the President had not in fact

revived the Rogers Plan, enunciated by Secretary of State William P. Rogers in 1969.

Rabin replied: "I do not relate solely to Carter's statement (at his press conference) especially since I heard from him slightly more detailed things.... I would not want us to jump to over-hasty conclusions. The central point is that a meaningful change has occurred in (America's) conception of peace compared with the past. The President's statement (also) contains unequivocal recognition of Israel's defense needs, regarding the placement of Zahal forces and regarding security arrangements and early warning procedures beyond the political borders."

### Carter's Basic Policy

However, Rabin stated, "If any Israelis believed there was support in the U.S.--in the past or at the present--for a non-withdrawal policy, then they are living in a serious delusion." The Premier noted that "Above all, the President reiterated that the responsibility and the last word belongs to the parties to the conflict and there can be no substitute for that."

He said that "following my visit I am pleased that the issue of the quality of the peace stands better than before. It may be though, that on the issue of defensible borders, we shall find ourselves at odds with our neighbors and perhaps also with the U.S." Rabin said in that connection that "We are today in a position of strength to struggle for what we believe and I believe we have the strength to convince (others) and to stand firm for our position."

Asked if he was disappointed by Carter's statement on borders, Rabin said "I don't deal in feelings." He observed that "Carter was rightly testing the prospects of progress to a settlement. He was doing so slowly and methodically. I believe this will be done in coordination and understanding with Israel." Rabin added, "I can imagine what will happen here when the Arab leaders come here and find themselves up against the President's definition of the quality of peace--and have to explain that they propose postponing that to subsequent generations."

### America's Vital Interest

(Addressing more than 1500 Jewish leaders from the U.S. and Canada at the Israel Bond dinner which was also held to honor Rabin, the Premier, referring to his talks with Carter, said: "I learned that the U.S. has a vital interest in the area's remaining quiet and in the advancement of peace. But the U.S. remains firmly committed to the principle that responsibility for negotiations for obtaining peace and for taking up specific and detailed positions, lies with the parties to the conflict--the Arab states and Israel."

(He called on American Jews to dedicate themselves to strengthening Israel through the Bond campaign "to expand the infra-structure of our economy and to make Israel a better place to live." He declared, "We can come closer to peace by strengthening Israel." Rabin expressed the view that the coming year would offer "better options" for the pursuit of peace

and that the situation in the area "is more ripe" for meaningful negotiations with the Arab states.

(On his arrival at the Miami airport, Rabin was given a warm welcome by acting Governor James H. Williams of Florida, heading a reception committee of state and city dignitaries and leaders of the Israel Bond Organization and of the Jewish community of Miami. More than 200 school children, waving Israeli flags, were at the airport to cheer Rabin on his arrival.

#### Reason For Defensible Borders

(Earlier yesterday, Rabin addressed a luncheon sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations where he told the 200 Jewish leaders, 25 Congressmen, civil rights leaders and representatives of Protestant, Catholic, labor and industrial groups that one of the reasons Israel demands defensible borders is that even if a peace agreement is reached with the Arabs the Mideast has a "tradition of not keeping commitments."

(Rabin said that if Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's days are measured by the way he has kept to the Sinai agreement provision, namely, that Egypt would end its anti-Israel propaganda, then Israel is "more doubtful that Sadat can keep his word on anything else." He expressed his gratitude to Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance for making his meetings in Washington "most successful" and pledged he will cooperate in every way with Carter for the advancement of peace.

(After the meeting, a Conference delegation met with Vance and held what was described by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Conference chairman, "a useful, frank and reassuring" discussion on U.S. policy in the Mideast. Vance emphasized that the central thrust of American policy in the Mideast was stated by Carter at his press conference yesterday. That was:

("Obviously, any agreement has to be between the parties concerned. We will act as an intermediary when our good offices will serve well, but I am not trying to predispose our own nation's attitude towards what might be the ultimate details of the agreement that might mean so much to world peace.")

#### ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT PRAISED FOR BANNING ANTI-SEMITIC LITERATURE By Asher Mibashan

**BUENOS AIRES, March 10 (JTA)--**The DAIA expressed great satisfaction with the government's decree banning the distribution, circulation and sale of all publications of Ediciones Odal, the leading disseminator of Nazi and anti-Semitic literature in Argentina.

The decree, No. 258, was promulgated in January but published in the Official Gazette on March 3. Dr. Nehemias Resnizky, president of the DAIA, said at its plenary meeting that the new ruling has established a legal precedent and was stronger than last September's ban on the pro-Nazi publishing house, Editorial Milicia. Odal was, in fact, the successor to Editorial Milicia. Resnizky said the wording of the latest decree will enable it to be extended to similar future attempts to publish anti-Semitic and Nazi literature.

Resnizky said three factors were responsible for the government's action. First, he said, was the tenacious activity of the DAIA which made clear the concerns of the Jewish community to high government officials. Secondly, the DAIA's

position was widely supported in the country, particularly by the press; and finally, Resnizky said, the Argentine government became aware that this kind of literature hurt the higher interests of the nation.

#### SCHORR CHARGES CIA BIAS HALTED YOM KIPPUR WAR PREDICTION

**BOSTON, March 10 (JTA)--**Former CBS News correspondent Daniel Schorr charged here that the failure by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to predict the Yom Kippur War in 1973 was attributable to bias against Israel within that organization. Schorr made the charge in an address at the Leadership Event of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston last Sunday, according to Josh Hyatt, correspondent for the Jewish Advocate of Boston.

In a speech in which he excoriated the CIA for "over concern with secrecy and living beyond the Constitution" which "makes them a rotten intelligence agency," Schorr claimed the CIA could have warned against the impending Arab attack on Israel. "Although the CIA had listening posts in southern Jordan which perceived a change in command communications and its satellites had corroborating photographs of fresh troop movements, the anti-Israel spirit within its Middle East desk deterred a prediction of an apparently imminent full-scale war," Schorr said.

Hyatt reported that Schorr noted further that a high CIA official was forced to resign because he insisted on fair treatment for Israel on intelligence relating to the Mideast. This same official had been overruled by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger when he recommended that the agency's head visit the Old City of Jerusalem. Kissinger maintained this would "upset" the Arabs because the area which they disputed was in Israel's hands, Schorr said.

Schorr was forced to resign from CBS last year after he released a leaked House committee's intelligence report on unlawful CIA activities and refused to disclose his sources. Prior to joining CBS in 1955, Schorr had been a reporter for the New York Times, the Christian Science Monitor and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. In 1973 he received an Emmy Award for his coverage of the Watergate episode.

#### 4 ZIONIST GROUPS RAP MOVES TO STIFLE DISSIDENT IN JEWISH COMMUNITY

**NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA)--**Four Zionist organizations have scored the recent "campaign launched within the Jewish community to stifle if not destroy open discussion." They expressed concern that the campaign, whose immediate target is Breira, "is only a prologue to a more concerted move to stifle all dissent, all disputation and all legitimate differences in the Jewish and Zionist community which seek to formulate viable ways to achieve peace in the Middle East."

The four organizations which signed a statement on "The Right to Dissent" are the Socialist Zionist Union, Hashomer Hatzair, Hahonim Labor Zionist Youth and Americans for Progressive Israel. Stating that they "differ ideologically and tactically with Breira," the four groups denounced the attack on this group by various Jewish organizations and newspapers, saying that it utilizes "guilt by association, outright distortion and witch-hunting."

The statement called upon all Jews committed to a democratic Israel and a vibrant Jewish community to "vigorously oppose those who seek to stifle dissent," which, they said, is "contrary to the diversity which has been a part of Jewish history." The statement called attention to the fact that while the campaign is in the guise of the demand for a united front, the demand is "one-sided" because it is directed only at criticism from the left and not from the right, particularly those American supporters of Israeli groups which defy Israeli law by establishing illegal settlements on the West Bank and thereby challenge "the very sovereignty of the Israeli government."

#### **TERROR CONTINUES IN THE CAPITAL:**

**Black And Jewish Solons Have Asked**

**For And Received Special Protection**  
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA)--Hostages said to number between 50-100 and possibly more continued to endure an ordeal of terror for the second day as armed gunmen of the Hanafi Moslems, a break-away Black Muslim sect, held them captive at B'nai B'rith national headquarters, the Islamic Center and the District Building, Washington's City Hall. As of midday, negotiations between the gunmen and police for the safe release of the hostages appeared to be stalemated.

Meanwhile, Jewish and Black members of Congress are receiving special protection as a result of the Hanafi rampage. Harry Grevey, Captain of the Capitol Police, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "about a dozen" members of Congress requested special protection and they are being escorted by officers at the Capitol and some at their homes. There are five Jewish Senators and 22 Jewish Representatives in Congress. One Senator and 17 House members constitute the Black delegation.

Grevey said that he could not verify a report that non-Jewish hostages were being released at the B'nai B'rith building. But he acknowledged that the report raised "some concern" for Jewish members of Congress. The hostages at the District Building are mostly Black and those at the Islamic Center are Moslems.

The Capitol Police Force consists of about 250 officers. About twice as many as usual were on duty after the crisis broke yesterday and today some 75 more officers than usual were on duty. Days-off were cancelled for the police to provide extra protection at the Capitol.

According to one breakdown, 96 hostages in all are being held--57 at the B'nai B'rith building, 24 at the District Building and 15 at the Islamic Center. But a police spokesman, J.C. Gentil, who is at the B'nai B'rith building, said at noon today that between 50-100 and perhaps 105 B'nai B'rith employees still were hostages. B'nai B'rith national president, David Blumberg, executive director Daniel Thuraz and Benjamin Epstein, director of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, have been in an adjoining building since noon yesterday helping police who are seeking to negotiate with the gunmen.

#### **Support For Relatives Of Hostages**

Meanwhile, various local agencies, Jewish and non-Jewish, have rallied to help hundreds of relatives of hostages who maintained a vigil throughout the night behind police barricades near each of the sites. Most are relatives of B'nai B'rith employees who include Blacks, Orientals, Protestants and Catholics as well as Jews.

Between 40-50 B'nai B'rith relatives were provided with food and beds by the Red Cross in the basement of the Foundry Methodist Church, according to a Red Cross spokesperson at the site.

Hundreds of B'nai B'rith volunteers came forward after news of the crisis spread to help the relatives of hostages. They are keeping in contact with the families of persons still held and those of persons who fled the building, were released or hospitalized for injuries. The national headquarters of the Jewish War Veterans offered the use of their facilities and their synagogue to relatives of the hostages.

The Hebrew Home for the Aged is preparing chicken dinners in its kitchen for delivery to the relatives at the Foundry Church. Jewish Social Service Agency staff personnel were delivering the dinners and providing counselling to the families. Similar services are to continue for the duration of the crisis, the JSSA said. Leaders of that organization and the Greater Washington Jewish Community Council said they would visit the B'nai B'rith site to meet with the relatives and to review what other services can be rendered. Jewish officials praised the Red Cross for being "most cooperative."

The Hanafi gunmen have made the B'nai B'rith building their headquarters from where their leader, Khalifa Hamaas Abdul Khaalis is directing the terrorist operation at the other two sites. Khaalis, a former jazz drummer, abandoned his career some years ago to become involved in the Black Muslim movement. Four years ago, seven members of his sect, including five children, were murdered at their home in Washington by a rival Black Muslim sect. The killers were sent to prison. One of the demands made by the gunmen is that they be removed from prison and brought to them for punishment.

#### **REPORT 61 JEWS DIED IN RUMANIA'S QUAKE; JDC PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE \$30,000 FOR GENERAL RELIEF**

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA)--The Joint Distribution Committee announced today that it has advised President Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania that it is prepared to contribute \$30,000 for general relief in that earthquake-ravaged country. Jack D. Weller, JDC president, said the agency cabled the Rumanian President to express sympathy over the loss of life and destruction of property and to offer its contribution for "the relief of all victims of this terrible catastrophe."

(Meanwhile, Rumania's Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen has relayed to Israeli authorities the names of 61 Jews known to have perished in the earthquake. Other Jewish victims have not been identified and some are still missing. Rosen called on the Israelis to set up committees to aid in the rehabilitation of the two Jewish cemeteries in Bucharest which sustained severe earthquake damage.)

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Soviet government has revived Stalinist repression against Soviet Jews. It was charged here Thursday by former leaders of Jewish dissidents in the USSR. At a press conference, the immigrants announced a simultaneous public campaign in Moscow, Washington, Philadelphia and Jerusalem against the new Soviet policy of repression. The press conference was summoned by Alexander Luntz, Vitaly Rubin and Michael Stiglitz.

## **BEHIND THE HEADLINES** **CLEARING THE PALESTINIAN HURDLE** By David Landau

**JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA)**--Who will speak for the Palestinians at Geneva is a question that is rapidly becoming the key to future events in the Middle East. Almost all of the prime movers in the Middle East drama have expressed the hope that 1977 will see real progress toward peace and, more specifically, that the Geneva conference will reconvene later in the year.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, on a six-day tour of the area last month, affirmed at every step that this was Washington's aim and desire. UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim subscribed to the same scenario. Israeli and Arab leaders have each voiced their own hope, too, that Geneva will resume in the autumn. But the one obstacle presently blocking this universal hope from becoming reality is the problem of Palestinian representation.

The situation on the face of it seems hopelessly deadlocked. The Arabs stand by the position they adopted at their Rabat summit conference in 1974--that the PLO is the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." They refuse to go back to Geneva unless the Palestinians are represented there by the PLO. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO, terming it a terrorist organization whose "Palestine National Covenant" calls in effect for the dissolution of the Jewish State.

The U.S. backs the Israeli refusal so long as the PLO does not alter its "National Covenant," does not recognize Israel, and does not accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the basis for the Geneva conference. The PLO has made no official move to alter its "Covenant" or to recognize Israel. Beneath the surface, though, there seem to be sufficient signs of shifts on all sides to give the would-be mediator Vance grounds for his hopes and reason to continue working and planning.

### **Advocates Of Reappraising PLO**

First, on the Israeli side, while the official position on the PLO--a flat and unequivocal no--has been unchanging for years, there are significant groups within the political community who advocate a reappraisal. These groups are no longer confined to the periphery. There are ministers in Yitzhak Rabin's coalition--the Independent Liberal Party's Moshe Kol and Mapam's Victor Shemtov--and important members of his own Labor Party such as the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee, Yitzhak Navon, who urge a change in the government formula from "never" to "not until."

Instead of saying that Israel will never negotiate with the PLO because it stands for Israel's destruction, these people urge the government to say that Israel will negotiate with any Palestinian group that does not demand Israel's destruction.

Meetings in Paris between left-winger Gen. Mattityahu (Matti) Peled and PLO leaders were watched by government officials with frank and open interest. But with Rabin's Labor-led government constantly looking over its shoulder in this pre-election period at the right-wing Likud opposition, no change in official dogma can be expected until the May 17 polling day. But the elections could create a political climate more favorable to an Israeli re-thinking on the Palestinian

question.

The Palestinian issue is too complex to be resolved merely by a shift in formula or nuance. Fundamentally its solution depends on the willingness of both sides--Israelis and Palestinians--to recognize the other's right to independent national existence. For Israel that means in practice acquiescing in the creation of a Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

### **Fear Of A PLO-Ruled State**

While many world statesmen, among them long-time friends of Israel, believe that this is ultimately the only solution, most Israelis--doves as well as hawks--have always regarded the idea as a recipe for national annihilation. A small Palestinian (PLO-ruled) state, they say, would inevitably become a base for a Soviet military presence in the area; it would be constantly seeking to expand at Israel's expense; and would therefore make security for Israel untenable and life there intolerable.

Israel, therefore, has always insisted on a solution to the Palestinian problem "within the framework of Jordan." In other words, the Palestinians should make their peace with Jordan's King Hussein--or, in the view of some Israelis such as Gen. Ariel Sharon, overthrow him--and have their homeland in a single "Jordanian-Palestinian state."

Until now, the idea has seemed unrealistic. Hussein and the PLO have been at daggers-point since "Black September" 1970 when the King put a bloody end to the PLO presence in his land. In 1974, the Arab rulers vested in the PLO, not in the King, the right to represent the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians.

### **Noises In The Arab Camp**

But now there are noises within the Arab camp itself indicating a possible change and these have doubtless bolstered Washington's peace hopes. Egypt's President Anwar Sadat has spoken publicly of the need for Jordan-PLO coordination before the Geneva conference resumes. Both he and Syria's President Hafez Assad have several times referred to the need for close coordination between Hussein's Jordan and the PLO-ruled state they hope to see set up on the West Bank and Gaza.

This is a far cry from the 1974 summit negotiations. It smacks rather of a longstanding proposal by King Hussein for a federation between his kingdom and a future Palestinian state, a proposal long derided in Arab political circles but now gaining new respect. Hussein's proposal, though officially rejected by Israel, has nevertheless always been regarded with interest here as the possible basis for further negotiations.

The PLO itself has been largely negative. But the PLO is not entirely master in its own house and therein lies a cause for Vance's optimism. The PLO always was a creature of the Arab states, susceptible to pressures from them and this is now even more the case following its severe military and political setbacks in the Lebanese civil war.

If Syria and Egypt, spurred on by the oil-potent Saudi Arabia, insist on a moderation of the PLO's aims and ideology and an accommodation with Hussein's Jordan, PLO chairman Yasir Arafat can scarcely remain obdurate. It will be Vance's chief purpose in the months ahead to induce the Arab states to exert the kind of pressure on Arafat to achieve such moderation.