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## ISRAELI TOWNS HIT BY ROCKET-FIRE FROM LEBANON, 7 INJURED

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA)—The American embassies in Tel Aviv, Beirut and Damascus worked around the clock over the weekend in efforts to reverse the rapidly deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon where Palestinian terrorists continue to battle Lebanese Christians. The Israeli border town of Kiryat Shemona and Safad in Upper Galilee were targets of terrorist rocket fire during the week. Two people were injured in Safad and five sustained slight injuries in Kiryat Shemona. Safad was hit by Katyusha rockets again shortly before noon today but no casualties were reported.

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman met with the U.S. Charge d'Affairs here today and informed him that Israel would not remain idle if its populated areas continue to come under bombardment. Israel was reportedly under American pressure to withdraw from positions it has taken in southern Lebanon. Israel insists on a general cease-fire and guarantees that terrorists will not occupy the evacuated positions and massacre the Christian population.

(Appearing on the CBS television program "Face The Nation" in Washington today, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan denied reports that any Israeli forces were permanently stationed in Lebanon. He conceded that Israel was providing artillery support and supplies to Christian units and that such aid would continue. But with respect to soldiers, he said "I suppose there might be Israeli patrols coming and going. I don't think there are any permanent Israeli positions there.")

An Israeli officer, 20-year-old Lt. Yehuda Bonfield of Lod, was killed Friday night and three other Israeli soldiers were wounded when their patrol encountered a terrorist unit near Har Dov on the northern slopes of Mt. Hermon. The terrorists withdrew after an exchange of fire and later launched rockets at Safad and Kiryat Shemona. Israeli artillery laid down a barrage aimed at the terrorist positions.

## Israel's Cease-Fire Plan

The mayors and town council members of Safad and Kiryat Shemona sent an urgent appeal to Premier Menachem Begin and Weizman today to take immediate action to check the escalation. Safad was hit by rockets on Wednesday, Yom Kippur eve. Kiryat Shemona was attacked Friday and both towns were hit yesterday and Safad again today. Israel believes that the terrorist activity is supported by the Syrians who allow re-enforcements and supplies to pass through their lines into southern Lebanon. Sources here said that if the situation continues Israel will have to take action to pacify the region.

It was learned that a detailed Israeli proposal for a cease-fire has been conveyed to Syria and Lebanon through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. The Israeli plan calls for the Syrians to remain north of the Litani River and for Palestinians and Lebanese Christian units to remain in their present positions. Israeli forces would remain on the side of the border. It was stressed here that Israel has no desire to control southern Lebanon.

The Palestinians resumed their efforts over the weekend to dislodge the Christians from positions

on Tel Shefra, a hill overlooking the terrorist-held township of El Khyam. The town was reported to have been leveled by shell fire but Lebanese reaching Sidon today said terrorist units still occupied the site.

## CABINET AGREES TO U.S. FORMULA FOR PALESTINIAN PRESENCE AT GENEVA OPENING

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)—The Cabinet agreed tonight to an American plan that would allow Palestinians to attend the Geneva conference as part of a pan-Arab delegation on condition that their presence is limited to the ceremonial opening session and that no members of the Palestinian Liberation Organization are included. The compromise formula which President Carter suggested to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan at their White House meeting last week, was reportedly approved 10-1 at today's Cabinet meeting. Only Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon was opposed.

According to the plan, the unified Arab delegation consisting of representatives of Egypt, Jordan and Syria would also include non-PLO Palestinians, possibly selected by Jordan from local Arab leaders on the West Bank. They would meet with the Israeli delegation only for the opening ceremonies. Negotiations would begin at subsequent sessions when the Arab delegation split into national groups for bilateral talks with Israel. The Palestinians then, presumably, would be members of one or another delegation, most likely the Jordanian. Israel has said in the past that it would deal with Palestinians who are part of a Jordanian delegation.

## U.S. Warning

In accepting the plan, Israel is known to have insisted that there be no change in Security Council Resolution 242 to make it acceptable to the PLO. Informed sources here said U.S. officials told Dayan that an Israeli rejection of the plan could have harmful effects on its relations with the U.S.

(Appearing on the CBS television program "Face The Nation" in Washington today, Dayan said his government's acceptance of the compromise in no way reflected a softening of its position to have no dealings whatever with the PLO. He said Israel utterly rejects negotiations with that group whether or not it accepts Resolution 242 or whether or not it recognizes Israel's existence. At the same time he indicated that Israel would not be overzealous in probing for PLO sympathies among the Palestinians who attend the Geneva opening. "If they sympathize in their heart with the PLO we cannot check that," he said.)

Meanwhile, West Bank mayors whose sympathies lie with the PLO agreed after a meeting today that they would not go to Geneva to represent the Palestinians. They reportedly decided to send messages to the Geneva co-chairmen, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, that the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people was the PLO.

## BEGIN PUTS REINS ON GUSH SETTLEMENT PLANS

By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)—Leaders of the Gush Emunim met with Premier Menachem Begin today in an eleventh-hour effort to get his approval

for their plans to set up 11 new settlements in the heart of the Samaria region on the West Bank this Wednesday. They apparently failed.

The outcome of the meeting was not disclosed but the Gush leaders emerged from it grim faced and most refused to comment to reporters. Hanan Porat, one of the most influential figures in the ultra-nationalist religious group said only that the purpose of the meeting was to "discuss future settlements" with the Premier.

According to Gush sources, some 2500 people are waiting for the green light to settle in the occupied territory. They have concentrated vehicles, tractors and other equipment ready to move in Wednesday, right after the Succot holiday. A Gush delegation met with Begin last week and reportedly told him that the "count-down" cannot be stopped. The group appeared to be under the impression that Begin agreed but the Prime Minister's Office denied later that he had any knowledge of plans to set up 11 new settlements.

#### Pressure From U.S. Effective

The Gush are said to be seeking a fait accompli "before the deluge." The Likud government sympathizes with their aims but so far has refrained from allowing any new settlements on the West Bank outside the area defined by the old, unofficial Allon Plan. The Gush have been pressing for an early change of that policy that will leave no doubt that Israel intends to retain the West Bank permanently.

But the settlement issue has been the focus of mounting pressure on Israel from the U.S. and other friendly nations. With Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan presently conducting delicate negotiations in Washington, Begin appears anxious to avoid any further friction. The government, like the previous Labor-led regime, has said it would not tolerate unauthorized settlements. The Gush, which had no qualms over defying the Labor government, does not want to clash with Likud which has always supported them in principle.

#### Ironic Overtones

According to reports the sites chosen for the proposed settlements are Dotan in northern Samaria; Shomron, near ancient Sebastia; Kamei-Shomron; Givon and Jericho. All settlements would be established on government-owned land.

The situation is not without ironic overtones. Begin, when he was leader of the opposition, openly encouraged the Gush to defy the Labor government and numerous attempts were made by them to establish settlements in the Judea and Samaria regions. In most cases these were thwarted by the government under Premier Yitzhak Rabin. One settlement, near Kadum in Samaria, was allowed to remain through it was declared illegal. One of Begin's first acts on taking office last June was to legalize that settlement and two others on the West Bank.

But now Begin is trying to persuade the Gush, who were among his most ardent supporters, to hold off on their plans out of consideration for Israel's delicate diplomatic situation. Israel is urging the U.S. not to support Arab resolutions during the current UN General Assembly session to condemn Israel for the settlements. New settlement attempts by the Gush at this time could very well put Washington on the Arab side at the UN, Begin reportedly told the Gush delegation. He is also reported to have told them that the government will not permit settlements that are not authorized by the Ministerial Settlement Committee.

Gush leaders who convened at Bnei Brak this evening to discuss the situation were divided over how to react. Some insisted that their movement cannot act against the government's instructions. Others demanded immediate action regardless of the government. As one Gush leader said tonight, "This day may decide if the Gush will continue to exist or not—to be or not to be."

#### HERZOG SAYS UN ASSEMBLY ENDANGERS MIDEAST DIPLOMACY BY "OBSESSION" WITH ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 25 (JTA)—Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Chaim Herzog, told the General Assembly Friday that the Arabs' desire to accumulate anti-Israel resolutions "is apparently insatiable," and warned that the "obsession" of the Assembly with Israel can "endanger the progress of the critical talks now taking place" in New York between American officials and foreign ministers of Mideast countries.

Herzog's warning came in the wake of Thursday's inclusion on the Assembly agenda of an item, requested by Egypt, to discuss the "illegal" Jewish settlement on the West Bank of Jordan. Noting that there are over 20 agenda items this year which deal with Israel and the Mideast conflict, Herzog stated: Last year, the General Assembly's obsession with Israel was used in a cynical and callous attempt to cover up the brutalities and bloodshed of the Lebanese Civil War. This year, our critics appear determined to focus even more time and energy on Israel in order to divert attention from an overt Arab attack on a sovereign Black African Nation." Herzog did not identify the country but it was assumed that he referred to Ethiopia.

Herzog also charged that the new item on the agenda "prejudges the issue (of Jewish settlements) by asserting that the Israeli measures are illegal and an obstacle to peace." This, Herzog argued, violates the rule that "a party is innocent until proven guilty."

#### RED CROSS "REGRETS" INVOLVEMENT IN ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE BY ISRAEL, NOTES CONFIDENTIALITY OF FINDINGS

GENEVA, Sept. 25 (JTA)—The International Committee of the Red Cross issued a statement here saying that it "regrets" being "involved in the controversy now developing concerning the treatment of Arab prisoners in Israel and the occupied territories." The statement was in response to an article in the Sunday Times of London that cited ICRC reports to substantiate allegations that Israel tortures Arab prisoners under interrogation.

The statement said that the Red Cross "wishes to confirm that since December, 1967 the Israeli government has authorized its delegates to make regular visits to Arab security prisoners convicted, on remand, or detained under administrative orders, and to penal law prisoners—but only after the interrogation period which is generally limited to a month following arrest." The statement said that Red Cross delegates talk privately with prisoners of their choice who have an opportunity to voice complaints about interrogation methods or conditions. But it stressed that the reports of these private talks are kept in strictest confidence and sent only to the detaining power and to the prisoners' own governments.

"It is particularly to avoid becoming involved in controversy of this kind that the ICRC observes a policy of strict discretion about its delegates' findings in camps and prisons. Such discretion is doubly

necessary to safeguard the prisoners' interests and to maintain ICRC action in a purely humanitarian context," the statement said.

#### CABINET NAMES PANEL TO MAP STRATEGY TO FIGHT CRIME

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)--The Cabinet named a five-man panel today to investigate organized crime in Israel and recommend ways to expedite the fight against it. The body is chaired by Jerusalem lawyer and former State Attorney Erwin Shimron and it includes another lawyer, a tax expert, an academic criminologist and a former head of the Shin Bet, the secret service.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg asked the panel to report within two months and to focus its attention particularly on the growth of crimes and violence, to learn "the organization and characteristics" of this type of crime. The appointment followed a spate of press articles and public debates on the growth of "organized crime" in Israel in recent years.

#### DUTCH INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT RAILWAY WORKER IS ESCAPED NAZI CRIMINAL

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 25 (JTA)--Zoltan Papp, an alleged escaped Nazi war criminal, has been suspended from his job as an employee of The Netherlands State Railways pending an investigation of charges made against him by Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal. The Amsterdam Public Prosecutor ordered the investigation after Wiesenthal sent Dutch authorities documents indicating that Papp, who escaped from Hungary during the 1956 revolt, took refuge in Holland and is applying for Dutch citizenship.

Wiesenthal has not demanded Papp's extradition. He said he wanted to draw police attention to his past which was apparently unknown to the authorities since Papp took refuge in Holland in 1957. According to Wiesenthal, Papp, now 62, headed the Hungarian gendarmerie in the town of Papa from 1943-45 and in that capacity ordered the construction of a ghetto for the town's 3000 Jewish inhabitants. All were subsequently deported to Auschwitz. Eye witnesses were said to have testified that Papp personally tortured Jews.

A military court in Budapest sentenced him to eight years' imprisonment in 1951. But he was freed during the 1956 uprising and managed to escape to Austria and was admitted to Holland as a refugee the following year. Since 1960 he has been employed as a checker in the State Railway purchasing department.

Papp, who lives in Utrecht, admitted in Dutch newspaper and television interviews that he commanded the local police during the Nazi occupation but said he was not involved in the deportation of Jews. He said he believed that Wiesenthal got his information from a personal enemy who is an agent of the present Hungarian government.

#### MAYOR KOLLEK PROTESTS DEMOLITION OF JERUSALEM HOUSE OF TERRORIST KIN

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)--Mayor Teddy Kollek has protested to the military authorities over the demolition of the partially built house of a terrorist suspect in an Arab neighborhood in the northern section of Jerusalem. Kollek said it was wrong to take such action within the city limits, especially without consulting the municipal authorities.

According to Kollek the Military Government on the West Bank apologized and said it had not known that the house was in the city. The bulldozers appeared without warning early one day last week and promptly leveled the two-story building owned by

the Tayeh family. Their son, Khader Tayeh, was arrested recently on suspicion of involvement in serious terrorist incidents.

The demolition was the first in Jerusalem in two years. In 1975 a two-story building was destroyed after the arrest of its owners, three brothers suspected of firing rockets into the city and murdering a cab driver. Standing procedure has been to coordinate such acts with the Jerusalem municipality. After the last incident the general policy has been to block the entrance to buildings owned by suspected terrorists rather than destroy them. That policy applied only inside the city.

#### BLACK PANTHER A RED SQUARE?

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)--Charlie Biton, the Black Panther MK who was elected on a joint ticket with the Rakah Communist faction, returned from a visit to the Soviet Union over the weekend with the claim that any Jew who wants to leave the USSR may do so.

Biton spent 15 days in Russia with four other Israeli leftists as guests of the Soviet Peace Committee. He said on a radio interview today that he had met with several Jews in Moscow "some of whom want to immigrate and some of whom do not." However, he said, no one complained that the authorities were preventing their departure. He said he raised the issue with Soviet officials and was told that in principle there is no restriction on the exit of Jews for Israel. "Within a month or two every Jew who wants to leave can do so," said Biton who is himself an immigrant from Morocco. Biton was favorably impressed with the Soviet Union. "Unlike Israel there are no slums there," he said.

#### ISRAELI TAXES TO TAKE A BIG BITE OUT OF FALAFEL

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)--The Israeli Treasury has discovered a new tax base--the ubiquitous falafel vendor whose income, reputedly, is seven times that of the average worker. Falafel is a concoction of fried chick peas stuffed into the flat Arab bread, Pita, a type of vegetarian hot dog.

According to tax experts, the net income of a falafel vendor in downtown Jerusalem in 1976 was IL 440,000. His business is conducted along the lines of classic entrepreneurship--buy cheap, sell dear. The tax people say one falafel sells for about IL 5. The vendor makes a profit of IL 2.9 on each sale, between 63-65 cents. Falafel is Israel's most popular fast-food and an enterprising vendor can sell some 500 servings a day for a per diem profit of more than IL 1250, the tax experts say.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Israelis celebrated an important sports victory Sunday. Their team bounced back from eighth to fifth place in the European Basketball Championship Tournament in Belgium by beating a strong Bulgarian team 88-78. The Israeli hoopsters dropped their first games to Russia, Italy and Bulgaria. But then they recovered to win over France, Holland, Austria and Belgium and, Saturday over Bulgaria.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Argentine Energy Minister Daniel Brunella said on his arrival here for a visit that reports of anti-Semitism in Argentina are completely unfounded. He acknowledged that certain groups in his country behave improperly but said the government and the nation cannot be called anti-Semitic.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE LABOR PARTY IN CRISIS

By Uzi Benziman

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)—Four months after its devastating defeat in the Knesset elections the Labor Party seems in danger of losing its way and perhaps even disintegrating. Labor leaders Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Yigal Allon openly and publicly question each other's competence to lead the party. Labor has not been able to adjust to its role in the opposition, partly because most of the new government's decisions in domestic affairs are the direct results of earlier policy decisions taken by the Labor government. Thus Labor's criticism of those decisions has an unconvincing ring.

Even with regards to foreign affairs the Labor Party is having a hard time winning public sympathy. The Begin government deliberately strives to focus its foreign policy on those issues in which Labor shares almost the same views, such as the complete negation of the PLO as a negotiating partner, the absolute rejection of an independent Palestinian state and the firm refusal to withdraw to the 1967 lines.

Labor's ideological and personal problems are endangering its continued role as a major force in the Israeli political arena. The personal problems derive from the bitter rivalry between Rabin, Allon and Peres over the party leadership. Though Peres was elected almost unanimously as Labor chairman before the elections he is not supported by Rabin or Allon. Rabin recently accused Peres publicly of having undermined him as Prime Minister. The former Premier declared flatly that he does not consider Peres as his leader and Allon expressed the same view. The Achdut Haavoda faction in Labor, from which Allon derives his main support, asked, with bitter sarcasm, why Peres should lead the party while most of the ex-Rafi faction—which is considered Peres' constituency—has found its place in the Likud bloc. The reference is to the La Am (State List) faction in Likud, which is comprised mostly of ex-Rafi men, including Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

But the sharp differences between the three central figures in Labor are not the sole manifestations of the party's personal crisis. Most of its veteran and most prominent politicians are nearing the end of their political careers. People like the former Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz, the once influential Minister Without Portfolio Israel Galili, former Histadrut Secretary-General Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, and former Justice Minister Haim Zadok are men in their sixties who lack the enthusiasm, the ambition and the capability to pull the party back onto the high road to power.

The ideological crisis of the party is reflected in its almost frantic casting about for a stand whenever a controversial political issue arises. The Labor Party has no united approach towards the Palestinian problem, territorial compromise or West Bank settlements. One faction of which MK Yossi Sarid is an authentic representative, champions the creation of a clearly ideological party of the left, while another group represented by former Transport Minister Gad Yacobi advocates the formation of a party of center and dreams about eventual unification with the Democratic Movement For Change (DMC). A third section represented by MK Amos Haddar, brother of Commerce Minister Yigal Hurwitz and a cousin of Foreign Minister Dayan, urges the establishment of a government of a national unity under Menachem Begin.

The Labor Party also suffers from severe financial problems, a legacy of its election route. It has organizational difficulties too and as a result morale at the grass roots level is at its lowest ebb.

## LABOR PARTY VETS SEE RIVAL IN AVINERI

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA)—Prof. Shlomo Avineri, former director general of the Foreign Ministry who has joined the Labor Party, has aroused the misgivings of party veterans who fear that the brilliant, dove-ish academician intends to seek a leadership role.

His declaration of loyalty to Labor at the nadir of that party's fortunes is regarded by many observers as a move by Avineri to establish a political constituency among the party's dove-ish elements. Labor is now in a process of soul-searching and the old line leadership may soon be displaced by "young blood". Notable contenders are Uzi Baram, Yossi Sarid and Micha Harish who regard themselves as likely candidates for promotion in the party hierarchy. Now they must contend with Avineri who is as articulate as he is erudite.

Avineri, who announced his move last week, had been named director general by former Foreign Minister Yigal Allon. The appointment was bitterly imposed by Likud, then in opposition. When the Likud government took office, Avineri submitted his resignation, promptly accepted by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, and returned to teaching at the Hebrew University where he heads the political science department.

During his one year tenure at the Foreign Ministry he became a familiar face on Israeli television, to such a degree that aides to Allon complained that Avineri was upstaging his boss.

## CHIEF RABBI MEDALIE OF ANTWERP DIES AT 60

BRUSSELS, Sept. 25 (JTA)—Chief Rabbi Hillel Medalie, leader of the Shomre-Hadass Congregation in Antwerp since 1965, died at his home Thursday at the age of 60 after conducting Yom Kippur services. He had been ill for some time.

Rabbi Medalie was born in Vitibsk, Russia, the son of the Chief Rabbi of Moscow who was arrested and executed by the Soviets in 1936. He was ordained a rabbi at the age of 20 and received a Master of Arts degree at Manchester University. Before World War II he served as cultural leader of the Young-Israel Organization and Synagogue in Palestine. He served as Chief Rabbi of Dublin from 1940-41 and was Chief Rabbi of Leeds from 1947-1964.

## NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM (JTA)—The World Zionist Organization has embarked on a spiritual "awakening drive" on the occasion of the High Holidays. It will send a group of rabbis abroad for a minimum of two years of service with overseas Jewish communities, it was announced this week. The rabbis will go to Venice, Nice, Vienna, Stockholm, Marseilles, and to several Latin American communities including, for the first time, Bolivia. The WZO will supply ritual articles and tens of thousands of Jewish calendars in several languages. The ritual articles will include prayerbooks, prayer-shawls and shofars for small communities unable to obtain them locally.

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TEL AVIV (JTA)—The Israeli fishermen's union has contracted to build a 55 ton trawler and shrimp boat at an American shipyard for \$150,000. The contract, signed in Haifa Friday, calls for the vessel to be completed in three months. The union decided to build in the U.S. because the Haifa shipyards were unable to give a firm date for completion. The deal has been approved by the government and the Haifa Labor Council.