

**ROSENNE INDICATES SUPPORT FOR THE U.S. INVASION OF GRENADA**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne indicated support last night for the United States' invasion of Grenada, although he did not specifically mention the military operation which began Tuesday. (See related story for reaction from Israel.)

"I would like to congratulate the United States of America for the courage and the determination with which this country fights against subversion, against Communism," Rosenne said to several hundred persons attending a reception in his honor sponsored by the Republican National Committee at the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel.

"I think by doing that you render a service not only to this part of the world but the world at large."

Frank Fahrenkopf, chairman of the National Republican Committee, in introducing Rosenne, said Israel was "one of the closest allies that exists anywhere in the world of the United States of America."

**U.S., Israel 'United More Than Ever'**

Rosenne stressed that while there were "some differences of opinion" between the U.S. and Israel and there are some who would like to turn these differences into "rifts," this would not happen. "We are united more than ever," he declared.

Offering Israel's condolences for the heavy loss of life in the terrorist bombing of the marine corp headquarters in Beirut, Rosenne said, "We are with you in the days of joy and we are with you in the days of mourning."

Rosenne stressed that Israel hopes "Lebanon will be able to regain its independence." But he noted, "It's not a problem that concerns the region only, it's a world problem."

**Blames Syria For Preventing Peace In Lebanon**

The Israeli envoy blamed Syria for preventing Lebanese national reconciliation, saying Syria has never wanted an independent Lebanon. He accused Syria of being behind the marine corp headquarters bombing, the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut last April and other terrorist acts in Lebanon.

"Syria's attitude is nothing new to us," he said. "For 20 years they used to shell our kibbutzim in the northern part of the country." He said the question now is "whether in 1983, after eight years of civil war, 100,000 people killed, whether the world will remain silent about Syria and the Syrian government's occupation in Lebanon."

He noted that the United Nations Security Council has not taken up Syria's refusal to leave Lebanon, let alone pass resolutions condemning it as it has against Israel, and that the West Europeans have not imposed sanctions on Syria as they did last year on Israel.

Among the persons attending the reception last night were many of the 190 members of the Republican Jewish Coalition which met with President Reagan at the White House earlier in the day. Richard Fox of Philadelphia, the group's chairman, told the Jewish

Telegraphic Agency that it was the most satisfying meeting he has ever had with the President.

Fox said that Reagan reiterated U.S. support for Israel as a "strategic ally." He said the President said that the U.S. has made it clear to the United Nations that if Israel was forced out of the organization, "We go too."

Reagan also spoke of the harsh sentence given recently against Soviet Jewish activist Iosif Begun, noting that Jews are not permitted to leave the Soviet Union and then are punished for staying there.

Fox said that Reagan told the Jewish group that there was no question of Iranian responsibility for the bombing of the marine headquarters and of Syrian complicity. When asked why the U.S. had rejected Israel's offer of use of its hospitals for the wounded Americans, Fox said that Reagan said it was basic U.S. military policy to have its wounded treated at American hospitals.

**MAPAM TAKES ISSUE WITH ROSENNE**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- A spokesman for Mapam demanded to know today on whose behalf Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Meir Rosenne, implicitly praised the U.S. invasion of Grenada at a reception given him by Republican Party leaders in Washington last night. The Israeli government has made no official comment on the American incursion into the 133-square mile Caribbean island.

Mapam MK Yair Tzaban said the envoy's statement should be checked to see if it was authorized, and by whom. Rosenne did not refer specifically to the invasion of Grenada, but his praise of the U.S. war against international Communism in the immediate aftermath of the event was understood as support for the invasion.

According to Mapam, a component of the Labor Alignment, Rosenne's remarks damaged Israel's international position in the free world and harmed diaspora Jewry. "As somebody who denounced Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, I cannot possibly be silent in the face of this adventurous step by President Reagan which renews the dangerous days of the cold war," Tzaban said.

He also stressed the "Jewish aspect" of the issue. He observed that "some 80 percent of the Jewish people live in three centers of international tension"—Israel, the U.S. and the USSR. "Therefore, there is a supreme Jewish interest in global detente. Israel must understand that a deterioration in international relations would first of all affect the Jewish people. Therefore, we, together with other countries, must condemn any attempt by any of the superpowers to violate international law or to suppress boldly the right of small peoples for independence," Tzaban said.

**RYAN SAY THE BARBIE CASE IS CLOSED FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT**  
By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Allan Ryan Jr., the former director of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations and the author of the exhaustive government report on the United States' intelligence employment of former Lyon gestapo chief Klaus Barbie, said last night that he considered the Barbie case closed for the United States government.

"As far as the official act of the (U.S.) government is concerned, I would consider it closed," Ryan told reporters at a news conference at the Park East Synagogue here. But he added that he expected the debate on the moral aspects of the U.S. post-World War II employment of Barbie to continue.

Ryan also rejected charges that the report, submitted last August, was incomplete or that it had been held up by the State Department because the report urged the United States to apologize to France for preventing Barbie's extradition to France 33 years ago by lying about his whereabouts and then helping him flee from Germany to South America.

"There was never any suggestion from anyone at the State Department or Justice Department ... that the report ought to be held up or that it be softened," Ryan said. "Anybody who would have come into my office and told me to tone this down because it is too sensitive politically would have been shown the door rather quickly."

Barbie was expelled from Bolivia to France last February where he now faces charges of crimes against humanity, for what Ryan said will be eight to nine specific charges of crimes he allegedly committed in Lyon where he served as gestapo chief from 1942-1944.

Barbie's trial is scheduled to begin in the spring of 1984, and Ryan said he did not expect the United States government to be involved in the proceedings, although he noted that when the U.S. offered a formal apology last summer to France, it included a commitment to work with the French authorities. "As a practical matter, it's pretty much in the hands of the French," he said.

#### Takes Exception To Allegations

Ryan took exception to the allegations made by Michel Thomas, a former Jewish French resistance fighter and former member of the U.S. Army's Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), who said that he had been personally responsible for gathering a file on Barbie for the CIC and that the CIC therefore had to have known about Barbie's background when it hired him in 1947.

"I find it pretty hard to put any credibility in what Thomas says," Ryan contended. He said that if such information had existed and was in Barbie's files, he would have found it. "I found absolutely no indication that any such memo had been written," Ryan said. According to Ryan, Thomas did not contact him at any time during the six month investigation into the Barbie affair.

Moreover, Ryan took exception to allegations contained in a JTA report last August written by Charles Allen Jr., an internationally prominent author/journalist who has been investigating Nazi war criminals now living in the United States for more than 20 years. Allen criticized the report as being incomplete and said that according to his documents, Barbie's escape from Europe in late 1949 and early 1950 was aided by the Vatican, the CIC and the International Red Cross.

Allen wrote that Barbie "took the so-called 'monastery route' an underground railroad, so to speak, for scores of wanted Nazi war criminals. The route was known to the U.S. Embassy in Rome which did nothing to stem the flow of wanted war criminals from Europe, most of them originating in the American occupied zone in Germany."

Allen further charged that Barbie, when in Bolivia, had been employed as a "contract agent" for the CIA for nearly three decades, a point which Ryan

said was not substantiated by his investigation. Ryan wrote in his 600-page Barbie report that "it is my conclusion that at no time from the end of World War II to the present time has the Central Intelligence Agency had any relationship with Klaus Barbie." CIA operations began in 1948.

Furthermore, Ryan said last night that he was unable to find any so called "Vatican connection" with Monsignor Krunoslav Dragonovich, who operated a "rat line" used to spirit Croatian Nazis and others to safe havens. Whether Dragonovich had ties with the Vatican regarding his operation of the rat line could not be determined in the investigation of Barbie, Ryan said.

#### Describes Report As A 'Shocking Revelation'

The news conference preceded a dialogue Ryan participated in with Rabbi Arthur Schneier, spiritual leader of the Park East Synagogue, at the Minskoff Cultural Center.

Schneier, speaking to some 200 persons, said the Barbie report disclosed "a shocking revelation of the immorality of a policy that the end justifies the means. The continued procrastination in the prosecution of World War II Nazis who have found haven in the United States is a blot on the pursuit of justice in America."

Schneier is president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation and chairman of the World Jewish Congress-American Section.

FATE OF MAY 17 ISRAEL-LEBANON  
ACCORD WILL BE A MAIN ISSUE  
AT GENEVA CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK  
By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The fate of the May 17 Israel-Lebanon withdrawal and security agreement will be one of the main issues when the parties to the Lebanese conflict convene in Geneva next Monday for talks aimed at national reconciliation, diplomatic sources here said today.

Most of the participants are opposed to the accord which was orchestrated by the United States, signed by Israel and Lebanon but not ratified by the Lebanese government. Sources here said President Amin Gemayel may seek approval of the agreement at Geneva but, more likely, would use the opposition as a pretext for abrogating it in the interests of national reconciliation in Lebanon.

There will be no fixed agenda at the Geneva talks. But another issue likely to be discussed is an amendment to the Lebanese constitution which would give additional weight to the Shiites and Druze who claim they are discriminated against by the Maronite Christian-led government. Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, is expected to suggest the reorganization of Lebanon into semi-autonomous cantons, on the Swiss model, where the majority ethnic and religious communities would exercise authority.

#### Wide Representation Of Groups

There will be wide representation of the conflicting groups and interested parties at the Geneva talks. Secretary of State George Shultz was in Paris today for meetings with the foreign ministers of France, Italy and Britain whose troops, along with the U.S. marines comprise the multinational force in Beirut.

Shultz reportedly told them that Richard Fairbanks, U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, would be one of the non-Lebanese participants at Geneva. The other two are expected to be the Syrian Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and a representative of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Nine Lebanese representatives are expected; President Gemayel, accompanied by his father, Pierre Gemayel, founder of the Phalangist party; former President Camille Chamoun of Lebanon, representing the Christian Lebanese Front; and another former President, Suleiman Franjeh, representing their Christian opponents. Former Lebanese Premier Raymond Edde, who lives in exile in Paris, refused to attend because he is opposed "to all the main forces -- the Lebanese Front, Syria and Israel."

Lebanese Moslems will be represented by former Premier Saeb Salam who is close to the Saudis; pro-Syrian Rachid Karame; Nabith Berri and Adel Osseirane, representing the country's Shiite Moslems; and Druze leader Jumblatt.

Diplomatic sources here believe Israel will also be present in Geneva, though not as a participant in the talks. A veteran Israeli diplomat, Uri Lubrani, "might just happen" to be somewhere in Switzerland at the time, Lebanese sources said.

#### Determined To Maintain Peacekeeping Force

Meanwhile, the four Western allies of the MNF reiterated today their determination to maintain their peacekeeping force in Beirut but agreed as well on the eventual need to "widen the international presence." French sources said this might lead to the stationing of a UN force in Beirut similar to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which is confined to south Lebanon.

Meeting with Shultz was British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe; French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson; and the Foreign Minister of Italy, Giulio Andreotti. Cheysson, who served as spokesman for the group, stressed that only "political unity in Lebanon and political negotiations will lead to a solution."

#### **DAM SAYS U.S. WILL NOT ALLOW LEBANON TO BE DESTROYED FOR SIGNING AN ACCORD WITH ISRAEL**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam declared tonight that the U.S. will not allow the government of Lebanon to be destroyed for signing its agreement with Israel.

"Lebanon is under attack for having signed an agreement with Israel," Dam said in a speech prepared for delivery at the annual meeting of the national executive council of the American Jewish Committee in Philadelphia.

"The U.S. will not accept the proposition that to enter into an agreement with Israel means political destruction. Nor will we accept the proposition that an external state has a veto power over the aspirations of a sovereign people or the policies of their government." The State Department official was referring to the Israel-Lebanon withdrawal and security agreement signed last May 17.

Noting that the "tragedy in Beirut casts a shadow over this gathering, and indeed over our country," Dam stressed that the killing of more than 200 U.S. marines in a terrorist bomb attack in Beirut will not cause the U.S. to "abdicate the responsibility" it has to work for peace in the Middle East.

"In the ongoing struggle between reason and radicalism in the Middle East, it is in our moral, strategic and diplomatic interests to throw our influence behind the forces of moderation," Dam said.

"Let it therefore be known that we will not be deterred by cowardly acts of violence. Let it be proved that peace cannot be killed by killing the peace-makers."

In addition to stressing U.S. determination to remain in Lebanon, Dam said that the U.S. still believes that President Reagan's peace initiative of September 1, 1982 is "the most practicable and workable basis for negotiations" to "bring about a just and lasting peace that will both recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and at the same time assure the security of Israel."

#### Says U.S., Israel Have Important Differences

He said that while Israel and the U.S. agree on most issues in the Middle East, the two countries do have important differences, particularly over Israel's settlement policies. "Nothing in the President's initiative precludes Israelis from living in the West Bank and Gaza," Dam said. "However, as the President has said, we do not believe that continued settlement activity is helpful in getting peace negotiations started."

He added that the U.S. also believes that "permanent Israeli control over these areas will not bring peace nor will it guarantee Israel's long term security."

Dam stressed that Israel and the U.S. "must seek to reconcile our differences and reinforce our agreements." He noted that Lawrence Eagleburger, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, will be going to Israel next week to continue the "strategic dialogue" as part of the ongoing process between Israel and the U.S. to strengthen their alliance.

#### **ISRAEL MAY EASE SOME OF ITS TOUGH MEASURES IN THE WEST BANK**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Shlomo Ilyia, head of the civil administration on the West Bank, hinted today that Israel will ease some of the tough measures it has taken in that territory during the past two years.

He told a press conference here that there is a "good chance" that Palestinian Arabs will take over the administration of Arab municipalities in the territory and indicated that Israel will be less supportive in the future of the Village Leagues it set up on the West Bank.

One of the primary aims in the coming year is to re-new relations with West Bank municipalities which boycott the civil administration and to increase the financial support and services Israel supplies to those municipalities, Ilyia said.

Most Arab mayors and local council members were summarily removed by Israel from the offices to which they were elected in 1976, the last time municipal elections were held in the occupied territories. That process, which began shortly after the Likud-led government was returned to power in the 1981 elections, had as its rationale the removal of Arab officials allegedly supportive of the Palestine Liberation Organization. They were replaced, in many cases by Israel army officers.

Ilyia said nothing about holding elections on the West Bank. But he told reporters that Arab candidates have been considered for municipal posts in such large towns as Hebron and Ramallah. They have not yet come forward to assume them, he said, explaining that the potential candidates were exploring possible reactions and waiting to see what other candidates might do. Ilyia also said he was seeking more intensive police enforcement in the territories.

# SPECIAL REPORT

VENEZUELA, DESPITE ITS ARAB CONNECTIONS, MAINTAINS CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL  
By Sheldon Kirshner

CARACAS, Venezuela, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Venezuela is a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), an Arab-dominated body that is resolutely anti-Israel. But Venezuela, probable Arab objections notwithstanding, maintains cordial relations with the Jewish state. In fact, Venezuela, the richest nation in South America, has so far resisted Arab League overtures that the PLO be permitted to establish an official office in Caracas, the capital.

Last month, as Venezuelans prepared for the December general election, two of the leading presidential candidates -- Rafael Caldera and Jaime Lusinchi -- addressed a Jewish community meeting and made it clear that they would not change President Luis Herrera Campins' policy toward the PLO.

This Latin American democracy, an island of stability since the 1958 revolution, has a Jewish population of about 32,000 out of a total of some 16 million inhabitants. So, obviously, Venezuelan mainstream politicians are not pandering to the Jewish vote, which is insignificant. "The Venezuelans don't deem it in their national interest to have a PLO office here," said Yaacov Cohen, the Israeli Ambassador, in an interview.

## PLO Kept At Arm's Length

Several South American nations, including Brazil and Mexico, have accredited PLO representatives. But Venezuela, fearing that a PLO emissary might link up with what are considered to be subversive groups, prefers to keep the PLO at arm's length.

Yet, as Cohen pointed out, the Venezuelan government is not unsympathetic to the idea of Palestinian self-determination. At the United Nations, Venezuela has called on at least one occasion for a Palestinian state, Cohen said. "The Venezuelan envoy did not define the borders of this state, so one can interpret it to mean Jordan," he observed.

Cohen, who has served in Vienna, Ankara, Brussels and The Hague, describes Israel's relationship with Venezuela as "satisfactory." Usually, he explained, it abstains on UN resolutions hostile to Israel.

However, Venezuela voted for the 1947 UN resolution calling for a Jewish state in part of Palestine.

Until a few years ago, the Venezuelan Embassy in Israel was located in Jerusalem. After the hue and cry fueled by Israel's decision to declare Jerusalem its undivided and indivisible capital, Venezuela joined Holland and several Latin American lands and moved its Embassy to Tel Aviv. This incident did not really sour Israel's relations with Venezuela -- which has embassies in virtually every Arab country.

## Bilateral Cultural And Commercial Ties

Israel's bilateral ties with Venezuela extend into the cultural and commercial realms. When Venezuela marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of Simon Bolivar, their greatest national hero, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra performed in Caracas before an audience consisting of the President and eight members of his Cabinet.

After the U.S., Venezuela sends more dignitaries to Israel than any other country. Carlos Peres, the former President, visited Israel last summer. And in

the past year alone, the ministers of education, health, tourism and industry have gone to Israel. In addition, the leaders of the majority and the main minority party in Congress -- or parliament -- have been guests of Israel. Reciprocating, Israel dispatched Minister of Commerce and Industry Gideon Patt and Interior Minister Yosef Burg to Venezuela.

Despite the distance involved -- 14,000 miles -- 2,000 Venezuelans went to Israel as tourists last year, Cohen said. In the 1982 fiscal year, Israel exported goods worth approximately \$16 million to Venezuela. They included textiles, chemicals, irrigation equipment, and Arava and West Wind planes.

As elsewhere in Latin America, Israel has transferred military equipment to the Venezuelans. But, except for Uzi submachine guns, the extent of this trade is shrouded in mystery.

Although Venezuela produces 1.9 million barrels of oil per day, Israel does not purchase its crude, buying instead from Mexico, Egypt, Norway and the international spot market. Israeli agricultural authorities are active here, having helped Venezuelan farmers in such diverse fields as milk production, cattle breeding, horticulture, irrigation and vegetable growing. Experts in fisheries have also been sent to Venezuela.

## General Sympathy Toward Israel

In general, Venezuelans are sympathetic to Israel, including many of the 40,000 Lebanese Maronite Christians who live here, Cohen said. The print media concentrate on local and regional issues, with the Middle East conflict getting scant play.

During the war in Lebanon, Venezuelan editorial writers came down in the middle on Israel. El Universal, the biggest daily, was objective, Cohen related. El Mundo was positive. But El Nacional and The Daily Journal -- Caracas' English-language newspaper -- tended to be negative vis-a-vis Israel's invasion.

Cohen does not believe that Venezuela's border dispute with Guyana over the vast, mineral-rich Essequibo region will have any repercussions on its Mideast policy. The question arises because Argentine canvassed Arab diplomatic support in its row with Britain over the Falkland Islands.

Venezuela, Cohen said, will try to find a peaceful way to solve the problem. Therefore, Venezuela will have no need to seek backing from the Arab bloc at the UN.

## SENIOR IDF OFFICERS ARE CRITICAL OF U.S. MARINES

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Senior officers of the Israel Defense Force who took courses at marine war colleges in the U.S. are critical of the way the marines are taught to adapt to combat situations, the newspaper Maariv reported today.

According to Maariv, the Israeli officers say the marine command lacked "vision and imagination" and was too prone to "go by the book." That basic attitude did not allow the marines to adapt quickly to specific circumstances not spelled out in military textbooks, the IDF officers claimed.

They suggested that the marines tended to rely too heavily on massive air or artillery support to "soften up" the enemy, a tactic that could not be applied to their mission or situation in Beirut.