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**TWO LIKUD MKs CALL FOR FREEZE ON NEW SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED AREAS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- Two Likud MKs presented an urgent agenda motion in the Knesset today calling for a freeze on new settlements in the occupied territories. Yitzhak Berman and Dror Seigerman, members of Likud's Liberal Party wing, said their proposal was motivated solely by the precarious economic situation and the need to drastically reduce government expenditures.

Berman and Seigerman are regarded as mavericks who often deviate from the Likud party line. Seigerman said today that unless the Knesset presidium agrees to a debate on their motion, it would be presented as a regular bill. He said he was confident that a majority of the Knesset would support such a bill.

The controversial issue is surfacing at a time of growing concern in Likud circles over a possible coalition crisis. Rumors a week ago that Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orag was considering a settlement freeze for economic reasons drew a storm of protests from Herut hardliners and a threat by the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party to quit the coalition.

**Likelihood Of Likud Coalition Defections**

Cohen-Orag's latest demands that each ministry submit a series of budget cuts that would add up to an overall nine percent reduction of government expenditures seemed to some to increase the likelihood of defections by one or more of Likud's smaller coalition partners.

Pressure was reported to be growing inside the Aguda Israel party to abandon Likud and form a partnership with the opposition Labor Alignment. Aguda leader Avraham Shapiro said today that the Cabinet should either give its full support to Cohen-Orag or call early elections. But he did not mention a possible alternative coalition with Labor.

**EGYPT SEEKING FRENCH INITIATIVE TO UNLOCK STALLED MIDEAST PEACE TALKS**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- Egypt is asking France to launch a new diplomatic initiative to break the stalled Middle East peace negotiations and to bring the Palestinians under Yasir Arafat's leadership to the negotiating table.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali arrived in Paris for a meeting with President Francois Mitterrand and brought a letter from President Hosni Mubarak asking France to act on its own behalf and also on behalf of Western Europe to get the peace talks off dead center. France assumed the chairmanship of the European Economic Community (EEC) on January 1.

Ghali said that Egypt's initiative to involve France and the EEC is partly a result of the recent meeting in Cairo between Mubarak and Arafat. In September, 1982, Egypt and France presented a joint amendment to United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 to make it "more acceptable" to the Palestinians. The resolution refers only to the nec-

essity to achieve "a just settlement of the refugee problem." The Egyptians want France to help re-activate the amendment which has been dormant for more than a year.

**ISRAEL CLAIMS SYRIA WILL AGREE TO ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENT IN LEBANON IF WESTERN POWERS TAKE FIRM STAND**

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- Israel is claiming that a firm stand by the Western powers toward Syria would yield an acceptable arrangement in Lebanon. Deputy Premier David Levy told a group of visiting American friends of Israel today that the chances were excellent, if only the West stands firm.

A weak stand, Levy contended, would prove to the Syrians and their Soviet backers that their hard line in Lebanon has paid off.

Syria was the subject of a symposium at Haifa University yesterday. Prof. Gavriel Ben-Dor said that despite the bitter animosity between them, Israel and Syria were both countries that respected mutual agreements. He said that was the case partly because both have common enemies, Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

According to Ben-Dor, it is unrealistic to expect Israel and Syria to reach a peace agreement similar to the Israeli-Egyptian peace pact signed in 1979. He predicted a continuation of the present situation in Lebanon which is neither war nor peace. Both countries would continue to respect the 1974 separation of forces agreement on the Golan Heights, he said.

**JORDAN'S PARLIAMENT RECONVENES AFTER A 10-YEAR SUSPENSION**Speculation Over Its Meaning For The Peace Process  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- The Parliament of Jordan, officially suspended by King Hussein in 1974 and inactive since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, was reconvened in special session today and political observers here and abroad are speculating about what this may mean for the future of the peace process in the Middle East.

The House of Deputies, which was elected shortly before Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967, approved a constitutional amendment today enabling Hussein to call elections within two months. It was also approved by the upper house. The National Consultative Council, an un-elected body which has been governing Jordan for the past 10 years, was dissolved.

The Jordanian Parliament is equally divided between East and West Bank representatives and a large proportion of its members is Palestinian. Circles here recalled that Hussein suspended Parliament after the Arab League summit meeting in Rabat, Morocco decreed that the Palestine Liberation Organization was the sole legitimate representative and spokesman for the Palestinian people.

The re-instatement of Parliament was viewed by West Bank Palestinians as proof that Hussein is now prepared to play a greater role in West Bank affairs. It was also seen as a signal to PLO chief Yasir Arafat that unless he moves fast to give Jordan a negotiating role on behalf of the Palestinians, Hussein will take new initiatives on his own.

Negotiations between Arafat and Hussein last year broke down when Arafat declined to allow Jordan to join in peace negotiations with Israel, on the basis of President Reagan's September 1, 1982 initiative, over the fate of the West Bank. But the PLO is in disarray. Arafat and his loyalists were driven out of Lebanon last month by Syrian-backed PLO dissidents.

West Bank Palestinians are believed to favor Hussein's moderate approach and also support Arafat against PLO radicals who refuse to consider any sort of negotiations with Israel. But many Palestinians have not forgotten Hussein's brutal ouster of the PLO from Jordan in September, 1970, the so-called "Black September."

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Kabas reported today that Hussein would try to conciliate the Palestinians by removing Premier Mudar Badran who played a key role in the 1970 purge of Palestinians. According to the newspaper, he will be replaced by pro-Palestinian Ahmad Obaidat. Badran told reporters that today's recall of Parliament was purely an internal matter and had nothing to do with external pressures to resume the stalled peace process.

The elections which Hussein is now authorized to call would fill the seats of 15 deputies who have died since Parliament was dissolved 10 years ago.

#### CHAIRMAN OF U.S. JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF IS VISITING ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9 (JTA) — Gen. John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived here last night for a three-day visit to familiarize himself with Israel's military installations and defense operations. He is not scheduled to hold any substantive talks. He arrived here after meeting with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel in Beirut where, according to Lebanese sources, Vessey expressed American support for efforts to build up Lebanon's army and achieve foreign troop withdrawal.

Some Israeli papers hinted today that Vessey was not particularly enamored about visiting Israel. The Jerusalem Post said he had "evaded invitations" for many months and was one of the main opponents of using Israeli hospitals for the U.S. servicemen wounded in the October car bombing of marine headquarters in Beirut.

Vessey's visit was arranged during Premier Yitzhak Shamir's talks with President Reagan in Washington last November, during which the two leaders discussed increased strategic cooperation between their countries.

Vessey arrived at Ben Gurion Airport last night five hours later than he was expected. By the time he landed most of the welcoming group had left, after having received no information from the U.S. Embassy that the General had been delayed in his trip here from Beirut via Cyprus. Embassy sources said today the delay had been due to a "technical fault."

This morning Vessey met with Chief of Staff Moshe Levy and senior Israel Defense Force officials at army headquarters and later watched a training exercise. He is also scheduled to meet with Defense Minister Moshe Arens and tour military installations throughout the country.

During his meeting with Gemayel, Vessey reportedly told the President that the U.S. supports his efforts to extend state authority throughout Lebanon and that the marines would remain until this is achieved.

#### NEO-NAZIS ARRESTED IN GERMANY

BONN, Jan. 9 (JTA) — Neo-Nazi activist Michael Kuehn and 12 of his supporters were arrested today

near the north German town of Emden. Police said they were attempting to reestablish the National Socialists Action Front which had been banned three weeks ago. The arrests today were part of the new police crackdown on extremist groups. Police actions during the last two weeks have involved searches of several apartments which were found to contain large quantities of neo-Nazi material and banned symbols such as swastikas.

#### SHAMIR UNRESERVEDLY SUPPORTS SHARON FOR JEWISH AGENCY-WZO POST

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (JTA) — Premier Yitzhak Shamir expressed his unreserved support today for the candidacy of former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to be chairman of the World Zionist Organization-Jewish Agency Aliya Department.

Addressing the Zionist General Council meeting where a major fight is shaping up over the Herut Hatzohar movement's nomination of the controversial Sharon to one of the most sensitive posts in the Zionist establishment, Shamir declared that he was "happy" when he heard that "Arik (Sharon) is ready to undertake the assignment."

Aliya, he said, was a "central problem" facing Israel and the Jewish people and he thought Sharon was the ideal man to head the department promoting it.

An opposite opinion was expressed by Yehiel Leket, Secretary of the Labor Zionist movement, who said his party supports the right of Herut to nominate someone for the aliya post, but the nominee ought to be a "unifying figure," not one of controversy.

Mattityahu Drobless, a Herut hardliner who is co-chairman of the WZO-Jewish Agency Settlement Department, declared that other parties had no "moral right" to stand in the way of Herut's choice.

#### Says Sharon Would Turn Off Jewish Youth

Dror Zeigerman, of Likud's Liberal Party wing, said in a radio discussion of the issue that he was convinced that a large majority of Jewish youth in the diaspora would be "turned off" by Sharon whose hard-line policies as Defense Minister and his role in the Lebanon war created deep divisions in Israeli society.

But Michael Kleiner, a young Herut MK, responded that if Sharon could inspire 10 percent of the Jewish people, and if as a result, some of them came to settle in Israel, it would be a major achievement. He said Sharon would "shake up" the existing WZO aliya machinery.

Shamir, meanwhile, is believed to be canvassing members of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors to support Sharon's candidacy. The Board of Governors, which meets here next month, must approve the nomination, provided that Sharon is elected by the Zionist Council to the Jewish Agency Executive.

Political observers believe there is little chance that Sharon will get the Board's endorsement. Its chairman, Jerold Hoffberger of Baltimore, has already publicly stated his opposition to Sharon's nomination. The former Defense Minister is also fiercely opposed to Leon Dulzin, a Likud-Liberal who is chairman of the Jewish Agency-WZO Executives.

There is also a legal question as to whether Sharon can be named to the Jewish Agency Executive and still retain his present Cabinet post as a Minister-Without-Portfolio. He has made it clear he has no intention of leaving the Cabinet.

The Zionist Council meeting opened here last night with an address by President Chaim Herzog who called on all Israelis and their institutions to fight "the plague of yerida," the departure of Israel-Is who take up permanent residence abroad.

"This is the great danger facing us," Herzog warned. "Like an illness, it can respond to early treatment." He agreed with Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky that it is more important to prevent yerida than to bring home the yordim -- those who have gone to live abroad. Among the preventive measures endorsed by Herzog are special assistance to army veterans and reasonably priced rental flats for young couples.

Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem touched on another problem in his address at the opening session. He accused the WZO of "doing nothing" for the capital. While absorption centers in Jerusalem are packed to overflowing with immigrants who can't find permanent homes, there are 4,000 vacant apartments in the city, he said. Kollek warned that if present trends continue, the majority of Jerusalem's population would consist of Arabs and non-Zionist ultra-Orthodox Jews.

Dulzin, who delivered the keynote address, called for a broad-based Zionist movement with a separate movement for those Jews committed to aliya.

#### KIRKPATRICK WARNS THAT EFFORTS TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM THE UN MAY TAKE PLACE AGAIN THIS YEAR

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- The United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, warned today that efforts to expel Israel from the United Nations may take place again this year. "This is an issue that we should continue to be alert of and take interest in," she said at a meeting with leaders of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith at the ADL's headquarters.

The envoy said that the efforts to expel Israel from the UN during the last two years were "turned back" to a large degree by extensive U.S. lobbying among member-states and public as well as private warnings that the U.S. will withdraw from the world organization should the efforts to expel Israel succeed.

Kirkpatrick said the United States last year made it clear in capitals all over the world and to representatives of UN members in New York what the U.S. policy is on the issue of Israel's expulsion. She noted, nonetheless, that the vote in the General Assembly for the exclusion of Israel went from nine in favor two years ago to 42 last year, during the Assembly session last Fall.

Claiming that "we are all victims of the will to disbelieve in the horror of our age," Kirkpatrick said that this "will to disbelieve" affected first of all the Jewish people in Hitler's Germany. She warned that the "will to disbelieve" is presently taking place at the UN regarding the attacks against the State of Israel. She said that there is a tendency at the UN "to shrug off" the attacks on Israel existence or its legitimacy. The envoy said that she believes that "some of Israel's neighbors mean it when they say that they conceive the Mideast without Israel."

Kirkpatrick declared that "the systematic efforts (at the UN) to delegitimize Israel should be met with explicit criticism, and there is not enough of it." She called for a "realistic" and "sober" assessment of reality to overcome the "will to disbelieve," and thereby avoid "a disaster" in the future.

#### FINANCIAL WOES HIT ZAIRE'S ENVOY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- Zaire's Ambassador to Israel, M'Bude-Nsomi Lobwanabi, is financially embarrassed. He is in arrears in the rent for the Embassy premises in Tel Aviv. Eight members of the Embassy staff, including two Israeli employees, have not been paid their salaries since September. Other Zaire staff members have been forced to move from the posh Herzl suburb to cheaper quarters in Tel Aviv.

Lobwanabi says the difficulty is temporary. He said that when he requested funds from his government last September, he was reminded that the Zaire fiscal year begins only on January 1 and that no money would be forthcoming until then.

The Ambassador arrived here in September, 1982, shortly after Zaire re-established diplomatic relations with Israel which it had broken during the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Zaire was the first Black African country to reestablish relations, followed by Liberia.

Lobwanabi rented the Embassy villa from a British citizen for an annual fee of \$32,000. He supposedly deposited \$10,000 security. The rent was not paid and when the property owner's lawyer tried to withdraw the security bond as part payment, he found that it had never been deposited.

#### CJC URGES ASSAD TO PROTECT SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY IN AFTERMATH OF BRUTAL SLAYING OF MOTHER AND CHILDREN

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) sent a cable to President Hafez Assad of Syria yesterday urging him "immediately to take all the necessary steps to protect the Syrian Jewish community" in the wake of the brutal murder in Aleppo last December 28 of a Jewish mother and her two children.

The slaying and mutilation of Mrs. Lillian Adabi, a pregnant mother, and her six year-old son and 3 1/2 year-old daughter has shocked Jews and others the world over and prompted demands that the Syrian authorities bring the killer to justice. Copies of the CJC cable to Assad were sent to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Foreign Minister Allen McEachen.

It stated: "The Canadian Jewish Congress, the representative organization of Canadian Jewry, is deeply distressed over the brutal murder of Mrs. Lillian Adabi and her two children ... This murder of a Jewish family has shocked all Canadians. We urge you immediately to take all the necessary steps to protect the Syrian Jewish community from further harm."

The cable also called on Syria, as a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to allow Syrian Jews who wish to emigrate to leave the country. The CJC asked for a meeting with the Syrian Ambassador to Canada to pursue the matter. The Syrian Ambassador in Washington, Rafik Joujati, is accredited to Canada.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Arens has ordered the return of a \$64,000 American car purchased without his knowledge for his use by an unnamed Defense Ministry official. Arens said such an extravagance was unseemly at a time of economic crisis when the government is seeking every means to cut down expenditures. Last week, Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori was forced to return a \$54,000 Volvo.

## FOCUS ON ISSUES

## GERMAN-ARAB RELATIONS

By Arno Herzberg

BONN, Jan. 9 (JTA) -- At the end of January, Chancellor Helmut Kohl is scheduled to visit Israel. He intended to go there last October as the first stop on a swing through the Middle East. But Menachem Begin's illness and his resignation as Premier made it necessary for Kohl to postpone his visit to the Jewish State.

In the meantime, relations between the two countries have deteriorated. After years of hesitating to deliver arms to "areas of tension," West Germany has embarked on a selling spree to Arab countries. Germany wants to sell sophisticated military hardware long sought by Israel's enemies. The lure of the petrodollar is, after all, too great to pass up.

There is a change going on in Germany. Official policy is moving away from the "special relationship" to Israel that was an outgrowth of the past. In the wake of a new approach to war and peace, and as a matter of self-assertion, the past might be forgotten. Germany wants to be free to deal with the Middle East conflict in its own way.

When Kohl visited Arab countries last October he went in search of orders for military hardware. When he returned, not much was said publicly about the success or failure of his quest. But soon after, high-ranking delegations from Arab countries came here to look at the material Germany had to offer and a few weeks ago it was officially confirmed in the Bundestag that Bonn will sell arms to Saudi Arabia in the near future.

The Role Of The German-Arab Society

The man who confirmed this was Deputy Foreign Minister Juergen Moelleman. In his "private" life he is the president of the German-Arab Society. Some time ago he accepted this "honor" with the approval for Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. "I am a politician who is especially interested in the problems of the Arab region," Moelleman explained. Actually, he is the head of a powerful pro-Arab lobby which has infiltrated the German government and is hard at work to change public opinion about the Arabs and Israel.

There is nothing new about a lobby representing the Arab cause. What makes the German-Arab Society so special is that officials participating in formulating the nation's policies are, at the same time, active participants in the Society's lobbying efforts.

After it was founded in 1965, the German-Arab Society was fairly inactive. This changed with the Arab oil embargo following the Yom Kippur War, with the spread of petrodollars and with the changed political climate in the Middle East.

Presently, the Society is the center of Arab propaganda in Germany. Its influence has grown in spite of the fact that it does not have more than 750 members. Included in the membership are 200 powerful corporations, prominent politicians and civil service bureaucrats. The Arabs supply the money, if necessary, to keep the machinery of the organization running smoothly.

'A Faithful Partner Of The Arabs'

It is no secret that the Arab League and several Arab embassies support the Society. This organization is, as an article in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung recently called it, "a faithful partner of the Arabs."

During the war in Lebanon, the Society gained national publicity when it obtained the names of 150 German politicians, scientists, theologians and journalists on a petition demanding that Israel unconditionally get out of Lebanon. The Society is also active in trying to open markets for German industry in Arab countries and cement German-Arab political bonds.

Since 1980, Arab lobbyists in Germany have tried to persuade policymakers to sell arms to Arabs. At that time, the British newspaper, Observer, reported about Germany's negotiations with Libya, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria. It disclosed the vital role a German company by the name of Magirus-Deutz played in the Yom Kippur War.

This company devised a method to breach the fortifications and barriers erected on the Israeli side of the Suez Canal. It manufactured a water cannon which was delivered to Egypt one week before the outbreak of the war. The firm's engineers supervised the training of Egyptians in the use of the water cannon. Parenthetically, it is interesting to note that Magirus-Deutz refused to do business with Israel.

A Distinction Without A Difference

Israel is very well aware of the turn in German policy, despite efforts by politicians such as Moelleman to minimize the seriousness of the situation. He told the Parliament recently that the sale of military hardware to Saudi Arabia will not affect Israel's security. Other pro-Arab apologists, in what has become a game of terminology, seek to distinguish between "offensive" and "defensive" weapons. Israel has rejected this distinction without a difference.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir instructed Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir to summon the German Ambassador and to deliver a stiff complaint about the intended arms sale to Arab countries. Kohl will have a lot of explaining to do when he meets with Israeli officials in Jerusalem.

Israel's position on the arms sale is not new. Last August, Begin told German officials that Germany has no moral right to sell arms to Arabs. At that time, it was reported that Saudi Arabia wanted to buy 300 German Leopard tanks which rate as about the best in the world and which would give Saudi Arabia a definite technological advantage over Israeli armor.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia started some adroit maneuvering behind the scenes. If they cannot buy the tanks outright, they might as well buy the company that manufactures the tanks. The Saudis have sought to acquire 24 percent of the shares of Rheinmetall A.G. Such an acquisition would give them a formidable voice in company affairs, a veto over sales, and a political foothold of major proportions on a world scale.

Frequently, a look behind the scenes reveals a great deal about ongoing and changing policies. It helps to explain the continuing and constant extension of the Arab Israeli conflict involving more and more governments. It also points to the harsh reality that government policies are not permanent but really quite ephemeral. So, too, Germany's "special relationship" to Israel cannot withstand the factor of time and what Germany sees as more urgent and imperative realities.