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# **PERES SAYS IF ELECTED PREMIER HE WOULD NOT INSIST THAT CAMP DAVID ACCORDS BE THE ONLY BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL, JORDAN**

JERUSALEM, May 3 (JTA) -- Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres has indicated a sharp differentiation between the policies he would pursue if elected the next Prime Minister of Israel and those followed by the Likud government.

Meeting with the 20-member International Executive of the World Jewish Congress under the chairmanship of WJC president Edgar Bronfman here yesterday, Peres said he would not insist that the Camp David agreements be the only basis for negotiations between Israel and Jordan; he would almost immediately cut in half Jewish settlement activities in heavily Arab-populated areas of the West Bank; and would immediately end the confrontation in Lebanon by pulling Israeli forces back to a flexible line on Israel's northern border.

Peres appeared before the WJC leaders during their current meeting in Jerusalem to consider policies on the Middle East, Soviet Jewry and the rise of global anti-Semitism.

Bronfman met privately today with Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Other key government officials, including Defense Minister Moshe Arens, and leaders of key coalition and opposition parties will also be meeting with the WJC Executive over the next few days.

## **Says Settlement Activity Would Be Halved**

Peres said a Labor-led government would act within 100 days of taking office to halve Jewish settlement activity, while maintaining a security zone in the West Bank. He said that as a means of inducing King Hussein of Jordan to enter the peace process, he would offer three options.

The negotiations could begin without prior conditions by either side; Labor would not insist on the Camp David formula but would be willing to negotiate on the basis of United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 -- which Jordan has accepted; or Israel would be willing to accept President Reagan's September 1, 1982 Middle East peace initiative as the basis for negotiations, while recognizing the different interpretations placed on those proposals.

Peres added that he would not mind if Palestinians were part of a Jordanian delegation as long as they were willing to recognize Israel and rejected terrorist methods.

With respect to Lebanon, Peres said "it is not wise to keep our army abroad where they sit as a target for hostile forces." He said he would withdraw to a flexible line along Israel's border rather than trenches and emplacements inside Lebanon.

## **Proposes A 'Red Sea Pact'**

The Labor Party leader also proposed that Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan conclude a "Red Sea Pact" which would guarantee free and open navigation through the waterway and provide for the "thinning out" of all military installations along the Red Sea.

Summing up, Peres said that if a Labor government is elected on July 23, it would change current Israeli policies on the West Bank and Gaza by limiting its interest to matters of security and foreign affairs in those regions. He disagreed with the present policy of separation of civilian and military administrations on the West Bank. Israel, he said, seeks to be a "contributing country", not a "confronting country."

## **WEIZMAN URGES GOVERNMENT TO STOP LINKING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON WITH A SYRIAN TROOP PULLBACK** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 3 (JTA) -- Former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman has urged the government to "climb down off the withered limb of its policy in Lebanon and stop insisting on linking an Israeli withdrawal with a Syrian pullback of troops."

Weizman spoke yesterday at the first press conference of his new party, Yahad, which he will head in the July 23 Knesset elections. He said Israel should adopt a more realistic policy in Lebanon, recognizing Syria's permanent interests there. To judge from past, positive experiences with Damascus, an agreement, even an unwritten one, could be reached, he said.

He added that he would not reject proposals to establish an international force between Israeli and Syrian lines in Lebanon. He did not think Israel should attempt to shape Lebanon's internal regime.

Weizman has yet to disclose the names of the candidates who will join him on the Yahad election list. But he said his new party will place as much emphasis on economic matters as on defense because without a strong economy the country would be weak and divided.

He said he hoped Yahad will win enough votes to replace the Agudat Israel party as the balancing force between Labor and Likud in any future Cabinet.

## **NEW YORK ARCHBISHOP CITES PROGRESS IN CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS BUT SAYS MUCH MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE** By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) -- Archbishop John O'Connor, leader of the Catholic church in New York, said last night that "enormous progress has been made" in relations between Catholics and Jews in the last few years. But he maintained that there is still more to be improved in relations between the two communities.

Speaking at a press conference at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, before he addressed the American Jewish Committee's 78th annual meeting, which opened yesterday, the Archbishop said that in the last few years the church has made a major effort to eliminate from its teaching, theology and liturgy all anti-Semitic references. He said this is one of the manifestations of the improved ties between Jews and Catholics.

"There is no question at all that everything that can be done must be done to rid the world of the scourge of anti-Semitism," he said.

## **Opposed To Conversion Of Jews**

Another sign of the improved ties between the two groups, O'Connor said, is the frequent contacts and the dialogue between members of the two communities. "It gave me a real thrill when I received a telegram from the American Jewish Committee when I became Arch-

bishop six-and-a-half weeks ago," O'Connor said, noting that he also met recently with a group of Orthodox rabbis.

"It is incumbent upon us to reaffirm the Jewishness of the Jews," O'Connor said, explaining, in response to a question, that he opposed any attempt by Christians to convert Jews. "I will oppose any appeal to Jews to become Catholics," he declared.

#### Position On Israel

Asked about the Vatican's position on Israel, O'Connor replied that the Holy See is "committed to the security and protection of Israel. I support that, too," he added. But he said that the issue of establishing diplomatic ties is another matter, noting that only recently, for instance, the Vatican and the United States established diplomatic ties.

Later in the evening, in a speech to the AJC at the Jewish Museum, the Archbishop told the group: "I want with all my heart to do everything I can to advance harmonious relations with you." He added: "I have a feel for your Jewishness. It is sacred to me."

Turning to the issue of abortion, O'Connor said he is aware that some segments of the Jewish community disagree with the position of the Catholic Church "on the life of the unborn." But he appealed to the audience, however, to support "the pro-life movement." He said: "I always talk about the sacredness of human life, from before birth to death."

#### EFFORT CONTINUES TO DEFEAT AN ANTI-ISRAEL BALLOT PROPOSITION FOR CALIFORNIA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

By Ben Gallo

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) -- A total of 40 volunteers made door-to-door canvasses last Sunday in Berkeley, California, in what was described as part of an organized effort to defeat an initiative now on the ballot for the June 5 California Presidential primary, which calls for cuts in United States aid to Israel equal to Israeli expenditures for settlements in the occupied territories, an official opposed to the initiative said today.

John Kaufman, coordinator for the Coalition for Middle East Peace and Justice, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, in a telephone interview, that the coalition hopes to field an ever-larger number of volunteers for every Sunday between now and the June 5 primary day.

He told the JTA that the first canvassers reported considerable sentiment expressed against the initiative — called Proposition E. He said similar efforts were underway in Los Angeles and New Orleans but he did not have any details about the efforts in those cities.

The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, which has headquarters in Washington, confirmed to the JTA previously that it had organized the campaign in the three cities.

Kaufman stressed the feeling of leaders of the Coalition that it was imprudent to discount the campaign by pro-Arab American groups, and that it should be considered a determined attempt to sway United States policies of aid to Israel.

He also said that plans for direct mailings to the 72,000 registered voters in Berkeley were underway but that more funds were needed to complete preparation of the mailings and to start their distribution. He said he hoped to start mailings next week.

#### MONDALE, HART TAKE JACKSON TO TASK FOR HIS REFUSAL TO REPUDIATE SUPPORT BY BLACK MUSLIM LEADER

DALLAS, May 3 (JTA) -- The perturbing issue of Rev. Jesse Jackson's refusal to repudiate the support of Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan continued to spark the debates between the three Democratic Presidential aspirants last night.

In the latest round, nationally televised from Grapevine, Tex., former Vice President Walter Mondale and Sen. Gary Hart of Colorado took Jackson to task for his equivocal position on Farrakhan who threatened the life of Black reporter Milton Coleman for revealing anti-Semitic remarks by Jackson and who, on another occasion, referred to Hitler as a "great man."

Jackson retorted, as he has in earlier confrontations, that it was sufficient for him to "disassociate" himself from Farrakhan's remarks but that he would not personally "repudiate" Farrakhan who heads a Black Moslem sect known as The Nation of Islam. Jackson referred to New Testament scriptural sources to justify his position.

#### Rejects Civil Rights Panel's Request

Earlier yesterday, Jackson rejected as a "political diversion" a request by the U.S. Civil Rights Commission to repudiate Farrakhan. The request came after President Reagan issued a letter, also at the Commission's behest, disassociating himself from the Ku Klux Klan and declaring that it and other hate groups have no place in American political life.

But Reagan, who was visiting China at the time, did not respond to the specific request by the Commission's vice chairman, Morris Abram, that he repudiate the endorsement of his candidacy by Imperial Wizard Bill Wilkinson, leader of the Louisiana-based Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Jackson dismissed the Commission's appeal to him as "not a moral appeal ... not redemptive, it was punitive, it was political ... a diversion away from the issues of substance in the campaign."

At last night's debate, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, moderator Sander Vanocur of ABC News, introduced the Jackson-Farrakhan issue when he asked Jackson, "I wonder how you think Dr. Martin Luther King would've responded to Louis Farrakhan's message of threats to violence, racism and religious hatred?"

Jackson replied: "A spirit of redemption, as opposed to punishment." According to Jackson, the late Dr. King's approach was derived from the message of Jesus, "Those without sin, throw the first stone."

Jackson added, "Moral leadership is known not for purity and perfection but for redemption. We must have the capacity, the moral capacity, to reach out and make room for people, to revive, to forgive, to move on ... I disassociated myself from the (Farrakhan's) message but not the messenger and there is a distinct difference..."

He also insisted that Farrakhan's death threat to Coleman — and his implied threat of violence against Jews if they harmed Jackson after Coleman disclosed his reference to Jews as "Hymies" and to New York City as "Hymietown" — should be seen "within the context of the apocalyptic message of the Islamic religion."

#### Mondale; Farrakhan's Statement Was 'Poison'

Mondale interjected at that point, "I really thought what Farrakhan said was poison. And I thought

I heard him say that he was threatening the life of a reporter. He said some other things about Hitler and so on. And I'm a preacher's kid, I believe in redemption. But boy, that was going awful far."

When Jackson accused Mondale of being "self-righteous" because he does not believe in capital punishment yet is condemning a man "who you say has simply threatened to kill somebody," Mondale replied, "I don't think it's self-righteous to repudiate a statement that threatens the life of a reporter or raises questions about Adolf Hitler's qualities..."

Jackson tried to explain Farrakhan's attitude toward Hitler, saying "Here's a man who said Hitler was not a man he embraced, admired, but a man that obviously gained favor amongst his people. He did not say he embraced Hitler. That was a statement, again, that is not an accurate portrayal of what the man's point of view happens to be."

#### Response By Hart

Asked by Vanocur how he reacted to Farrakhan's threat against Coleman, Hart replied: "First of all, I think we ought to leave the fact aside that Mr. Coleman's a reporter; that's immaterial, he's a human being. If you threaten the life of any human being it's a violation of the criminal laws of almost every state in the Union. I don't know why the authorities haven't moved on that ... I must say, with all due respect, Jesse, I don't think it's for you or me or anyone else to forgive Mr. Farrakhan; I think it's up to Mr. Coleman to forgive Mr. Farrakhan because he was the one who was threatened..."

#### AFSI SEEKS REVOCATION OF WNBC-TV BROADCAST LICENSE FOR ALLEGED DISTORTION OF LEBANON WAR COVERAGE

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) -- Americans For a Safe Israel (AFSI), charging that WNBC-TV presented distorted and one-sided coverage of the war in Lebanon, and therefore violated the Fairness Doctrine, said today that it had filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to deny renewal of the station's broadcast license.

At a news conference at Freedom House, Peter Goldman, director of AFSI, said the group also filed petitions against seven other New York State NBC affiliate stations.

AFSI contends that during 600 minutes of reporting on the Lebanese conflict between June 4, 1982 and August 31, 1982 by NBC Nightly News, less than 30 minutes were devoted to airing Israeli perspectives, factual background information or objective points of view. Most of the rest, according to AFSI, was presented from the Arab viewpoint.

In a 100-page brief filed with the FCC, AFSI also charged NBC and WNBC with "purposeful" falsification of facts, biased reporting and editorializing, selective and tendentious interviewing techniques and biased terminology. AFSI accused NBC of virtually ignoring the PLO's brutal occupation of Lebanon and its terrorist activities, and presenting the PLO in a favorable manner while denigrating Israel and its leaders.

#### Similar Actions Against New England Affiliates

The filing against New York State NBC affiliates comes on the heels of similar action by AFSI against the New England affiliates of the same network. AFSI filed these petitions March 1, and they are currently being considered by the FCC. The new petition has been re-written and enlarged, listing additional acts of bias by the network.

A portion of this document includes testimony from Lebanese civilians who live in PLO-controlled areas and spoke of the terrible treatment they were subjected to by the PLO.

"NBC misled and deceived the American public and we believe it is the FCC's duty to protect the public's right to be correctly and fairly informed," Goldman said. "We are asking the FCC to deny broadcast licenses to the stations because they failed to fulfill under law -- the Fairness Doctrine, and participated in NBC's deliberate distortion of the news."

Herbert Zweibon, AFSI's chairman, said, "Our efforts to engage in a meaningful discussion with NBC have been pushed aside. We have no other course but legal means." NBC officials have declined to comment on the charges.

Joining AFSI as a party to the challenge was New York State Assemblyman Dov Hikind (D. Brooklyn), who was also present at the news conference. "I feel that Israel was mistreated and dealt with unfairly by the media," he said. "While many news organizations were guilty of grossly inaccurate reporting, NBC was certainly the leader of this type of coverage. They certainly did not act in a fair and responsible manner."

#### ANOTHER ISRAELI BANK REPORTS A NET LOSS FOR 1983 By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 3 (JTA) -- The IDB Bankholding Co., parent company of the IDB Development Bank and the Israel Discount Bank, announced yesterday a net loss of 1,859 billion Shekels (\$17.2 million) in 1983 compared to a net profit of 2,081 billion Shekels (\$19.3 million) in 1982.

IDB was the last of Israel's four largest banks to publish its annual balance sheet for last year. The others -- Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim and the Mizrahi Bank -- all registered substantial losses.

Like the other banks, the IDB's balance was adjusted for inflation and capital erosion, on the recommendation of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Without such adjustments, IDB would have shown a considerable profit, bank sources said.

The Israel Discount Bank alone had an adjusted net loss of 4,122 billion Shekels (\$38 million) last year. All four of the largest banks participated in a government scheme to artificially support the prices of their securities sold to the public.

The plan was initiated last year because the sharp devaluation of the Shekel caused investors to dump their bank shares in order to purchase U.S. Dollars. The Shekel is now pegged at 180 to \$1.

#### COURT GIVES GROUP OF FORMER SS AND SA MEMBERS GREEN LIGHT TO HOLD MEETING

BONN, May 3 (JTA) -- A court in Braunschweig has overruled a decision by the town council of Bad Harzburg to ban a reunion of veterans of a Waffen SS division scheduled to be held there May 17-20. The court upheld a motion against the ban filed by HIAG, the umbrella organization of former members of the Nazi SS and SA.

The reunion is expected to attract some 700 SS veterans and their families. The town council had ruled against it because the gathering is likely to draw mass counter-demonstrations by anti-Nazi groups and would tarnish the town's image in Germany and abroad.

There is little chance that the court's decision can be reversed. But the local authorities may be able to prevent the meeting by refusing to rent a public hall.

## GUATEMALA JEWISH LEADER SAYS SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AMERICA THREATENS FUTURE OF JEWS IN THE REGION

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) — A prominent Jewish leader from Guatemala City said here today that turmoil in Central America caused by Soviet intervention was threatening the future of Jewish communities in the region.

Speaking at a news conference at the American Jewish Committee's 78th annual meeting, continuing through Sunday at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Moises Sabbaj, the vice-president of FEDECO, the Federation of Central American Jewish communities, declared that "Jews are living at added risk in the region because their livelihoods depend on small businesses that are losing investments, or on professional services that inevitably become nationalized in the event of leftist takeovers."

Sabbaj came to the AJC annual meeting to address its International Relations Commission as an officially-appointed spokesman for FEDECO, the central representative body of 10,000 Central American Jews in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua. Earlier in the week, Sabbaj addressed a meeting of representatives from major American Jewish religious, cultural educational, and social welfare organizations on the critical internal spiritual and educational needs of Central American Jewry.

The meeting was arranged by Dr. Marc Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Relations Department, who established a close working relationship with FEDECO when he addressed its 11th National Convention in Guatemala City last January.

Sabbaj said that Jews in Central America had been suffering from the political situation and outbreaks of vandalism, much more than the rest of the population.

### Role Of Soviets In Central America

Sabbaj, who is an engineer and manufacturer of consumer goods, added that he "believes without doubt that Soviet intervention is responsible" for the scope of guerrilla activity in Central America.

"We saw what happened in Venezuela, when the Soviets struck a deal to sell Venezuelan oil to Cuba," he continued, "the guerrilla activities stopped. We can see the hand of the Soviets in that example, and in many others."

He said additionally that Jews feared too that they might be harmed by either parties in the conflict. He pointed to a spreading religious revival carrying anti-Semitic undertones, and to a rise in Arab influence in the region, which are further undercutting the Jewish community's strength in the already strife-torn region.

### Rejects View Of Israel As Arms Merchant

Reporting on his conversations last January with Foreign Ministers, Ambassadors, and Jewish community leaders from throughout Central America, Tanenbaum said that "recent newspaper reports about Israel's having become an arms merchant in Central America are without foundation. There is lots of smoke and little fire. I had lengthy and searching discussions on this issue with Central American government officials and with four Israeli Ambassadors in Central American countries."

"I am convinced that there is no government-to-government transfer of arms between Israel and Central American governments. The only arms sale I

could trace down was that of the sale of automatic rifles and light submachine guns from Israel to Costa Rica, a parliamentary democracy that has no army."

The major involvement of Israel in Central America, Tanenbaum said, "is in the area of training young people in agricultural development, agro-industry, and the establishment of farm cooperatives modeled on Israel's successful kibbutz and moshav settlements. In fact, in 1983, Israel conducted a major seminar on agricultural development and land reform in Guatemala for Central American farm experts, which was widely acclaimed as Israel's constructive contribution to the social welfare of that region's peoples."

"Guatemala's Minister of Agriculture Rodolfo Perdomo Menendez, told us last January that Guatemala looks to the 'heroic people of Israel as a model, and that Guatemala regards the people of Israel as brothers and sisters for helping them to improve their life standards, especially in the agricultural fields.'"

Speaking at the same news conferences, Sergio Nudelstejer, director of the American Jewish Committee's Mexico City office, blamed long-standing "social and economic injustices" for the guerrilla movement.

Agreeing with that view, Jacobo Kovadloff of Buenos Aires, director of the AJC's Latin American office, said that "the collective will of Latin American Jewry is the same as that of the majority of all peoples on the continent to aid the political trend toward democracy and to bring about recognition of all people's fundamental human rights."

Tanenbaum urged the Jewish community in the United States to support increases in U.S. military and economic aid to Central America, while simultaneously pressing for improved human rights in those nations.

### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENTS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) — Events marking Israel's 36th anniversary of independence will officially begin here Sunday with a memorial service, sponsored by Israel's Consulate in New York, for the fallen men and women in the wars of Israel since 1948. The memorial service at Town Hall will be addressed by Naphtali Lavie, the Consul General of Israel. The ceremony will include a program by Israeli artists currently in the United States.

Ambassador Yehuda Blum and his wife Moria and Lavie and his wife Joan will host the annual reception on the occasion of Israel's Independence Day next Monday evening at the Park Avenue Atrium. More than 1,000 guests were invited to the reception, including United Nations diplomats, Jewish leaders, city officials and members of the media.

The American Zionist Federation will celebrate Israel's anniversary with a concert at the Bier Auditorium at the Central Synagogue Community House on Sunday evening.

In addition to these official events, there will also be privately-sponsored celebrations. One of the largest will take place Sunday night at the Underground Club in downtown Manhattan, with bands, singers and dancing expected to last until the next morning.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) — An Israel Defense Force patrol shot and killed two terrorists caught planting a bomb on a road near Tyre in south Lebanon Wednesday. There were no Israeli casualties.