

### ISRAEL TO CONSIDER UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON IF NO AGREEMENT IS REACHED BUT WOULD HOLD POSITIONS ESSENTIAL TO SECURITY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- Israel is determined to withdraw its forces from south Lebanon regardless of whether an agreement is reached with the Lebanese government and has apparently abandoned the idea of using the Israel Defense Force to attain political goals in Lebanon, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin indicated today.

He told the Knesset that if no agreement is reached, Israel would have to consider unilateral steps to pull the IDF out of Lebanon. But in that case it would continue to hold positions essential to Israel's security and the Beirut government would have no control over the situation in south Lebanon, Rabin said.

Israel is using the threat of exclusion to induce the Lebanese to negotiate. Talks on withdrawal that were to have begun yesterday under United Nations auspices, were postponed at the request of Beirut. They are now scheduled to begin Thursday.

Rabin stressed that he favors "exhausting the military and political negotiations with Lebanon" before Israel decides on unilateral withdrawal. He reiterated the government's position that security for Israel's northern borders is the sole element in these negotiations. Not one Israeli soldier will be left in Lebanon for one extra day for goals that are not purely military, he said.

#### Israeli Guidelines For Negotiations

Israel will come to the negotiations with Lebanon with certain guidelines, Rabin said. These stipulate that no foreign soldiers, including soldiers of the Lebanese army, will be deployed south of the line presently held by the IDF. Positions in the south will be occupied by the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) and those to the north of the line by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), Rabin said.

The Knesset debate was marked by angry exchanges between members of the rightwing Tehiya Party and the leftist Mapam and Civil Rights Movement. Victor Shemtov of Mapam and Yossi Sarid of the CRM expressed satisfaction that the government no longer seeks political goals in Lebanon by military means.

Yuval Neeman and former Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan of Tehiya claimed that the government's plans would result in the return of terrorists to south Lebanon and Katyusha rocket attacks on Israel.

#### NEO-NAZI PARTY VOWS TO WIN REPRESENTATION IN WEST GERMANY'S PARLIAMENT IN THE NEXT ELECTIONS

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- The neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD) ended its two-day convention in Munich over the weekend with a vow to win representation in the Bundestag in the next national elections scheduled for 1987.

"What happened in France is also possible in Germany," NPD leader Martin Müssgnub declared in a

reference to the electoral success of Jean-Marie Le Pen's ultra rightwing National Front. Le Pen's party garnered 11 percent of the popular vote in last summer's national election for the Parliament of Europe, winning 10 seats in that multi-national body.

According to Müssgnub, "There is a European-wide wave of renewed contemplation of the values of the nation" on which the NPD could ride into the Bundestag. The party, which is the largest single neo-Nazi organization in West Germany, increased its membership from 90,000 to 198,000 between 1983, when the last Bundestag elections were held, and 1984.

Müssgnub said the party aims to unite 900,000 voters and qualify for State financial support so it can enter the next campaign free of debt.

#### Convention Sparks Protest

The NPD convention drew several thousand protesters who rallied outside the meeting hall shouting "Nazis out." Hundreds of police maintained security. The Mayor of Munich, a Social Democrat, told the local Jewish community and other organizations that he had no authority to ban the convention but he condemned the neo-Nazi movement and declared that the NPD and its supporters are not wanted in Munich.

The NPD and other neo-Nazi groups are banned from West Berlin by order of the Allied military command. But neo-Nazi organizations may operate in the Federal Republic as long as they observe the law. Unlike smaller neo-Nazi groups, the NPD as such has not resorted to violent methods, according to police.

#### TWO NATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS ASSESS BLACK-JEWISH RELATIONS

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- Two national Jewish organizations have addressed the issue of Black-Jewish relations as they stand now and how they may develop in the future. The American Jewish Committee's National Executive Council, meeting in Chicago, issued a statement over the weekend which said they "are at a critical stage" and cited "expressions of anti-Semitism and bigotry in this year's Democratic Presidential primary campaign" in which the Rev. Jesse Jackson was a candidate.

But Nathan Perlmutter, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told the ADL's National Executive Committee meeting in Denver that Black-Jewish relations have not "unraveled" despite the controversies that surrounded the Jackson campaign.

Some members of the Black and Jewish communities are seeking issues "to which they can speak jointly, but progress will come haltingly," Perlmutter said.

The AJCommittee statement said that while "small but vocal groups in both communities see no usefulness in continued contact", dialogue continues "in other places where attempts were made to deal with this issue forthrightly."

According to the AJCommittee, Black-Jewish relations in the past decade "have tended to reactive attempts to allay tensions resulting from differences in approach to problems of mutual concern." But "the present moment offers an opportunity to break out of the cycle of reaction by launching an initiative of positive action that speaks to the interests and ideals of both the Black and Jewish communities and to the stability and health of American society."

Perlmutter maintained that Blacks seeking to promote their economic and social interests seem to view the "mainstream" of American politics as the best means to achieve their goals and have repudiated Jackson in several significant primary contests.

He said in a New York district that is 74 percent Black, a Black protege of one of Jackson's top aides was decisively defeated by a Jewish opponent and in another district, with 63 percent of the population Black, a Jewish candidate defeated a Black opponent, polling 65 percent of the vote.

Perlmutter also cited the Jackson-supported referendum in Berkeley, California, aimed at cutting American aid to Israel, which was overwhelmingly defeated in Black districts as it was in the city at large. "In Berkeley, we learned that on foreign affairs, polls of Black attitudes toward Israel have for more resonance than Jesse Jackson's more widely reported contrary views," Perlmutter said.

He added, however, that despite this divergence from Jackson's foreign policy views and reservations among "some Blacks" about the candidate himself, Jackson still has "impressively solid support" in the Black community. He attributed this to "racial pride" and susceptibility to "demagoguery."

#### Potential For New Black-Jewish Initiatives

The AJCommittee statement pointed out that "polls have shown consistently significant agreement between Blacks and Jews on issues important to both groups: civil rights and human rights; fair and full employment; quality public education; equal opportunity; family policy and women's issues."

According to the AJCommittee, "These realities offer the potential for new and vigorous Black-Jewish initiatives on matters of common concern."

The AJCommittee said that in the year ahead it will commit itself to a series of programs with key black groups, such as joint action on public policy issues; deepening mutual understanding; improving public perceptions, particularly those engendered by the media; narrowing differences; internal information programs on Black-Jewish relations; and expanding dialogues.

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER DECRIES SYNAGOGUE ARSON**

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- State Human Rights Commissioner Douglas White called the recent arson fires at two Brooklyn synagogues "the vilest of acts that can be directed against a people."

"The desecration of a house of worship demeans all of us, no matter what our religious beliefs," White said. "It strikes at the very underpinnings of our pluralistic society and the free exercise of religion."

White's statement came following arson fires at two Brooklyn synagogues last week. One, at the Mapleton Park Jewish Center early last Wednesday morning, gutted the entire synagogue, destroying nine sacred Torah scrolls. On Thursday evening, an arson fire singed the front door of Congregation Talmud Torah. Both synagogues are in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn.

"These two incidents, for the moment, have focused public attention on the anti-Semitism that plagues our society," White said. "But we must never forget that acts of violence and desecration are the symptoms of racial and religious hatred that must be confronted on an on-going basis."

The Human Rights Commissioner stressed that he is confident that law enforcement authorities will "move quickly to apprehend the perpetrators in these two incidents and bring the full force of law to bear on them."

New York City Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward has formed a 20-man task force to investigate both incidents. The New York Jewish Community Relations Council has offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those found guilty in the arson attack at the Mapleton Park Jewish Center.

#### **REPORT AGREEMENT REACHED FOR THE CREATION OF A JEWISH MUSEUM IN PARIS** By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- French writer Marek Halter announced here that an agreement has been reached between the city of Paris and the Ministry of Culture for the creation of a Jewish museum in Paris. Halter, active in intellectual circles, said the city and the ministry will share the costs of creating it and operating it.

He told the French daily, *Le Quotidien*, yesterday that a precise budget has not yet been worked out but that the initial costs will probably be over \$2 million a year. Halter also said that both Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac and Culture Minister Jack Lang have asked him to head the museum.

Spokesmen for the city of Paris, and the Ministry of Culture refused to comment on Halter's announcement aside from saying that it is "somewhat premature."

Jewish community leaders in France have asked the government for years to create a Jewish museum to assemble some of the priceless Jewish artistic and historic heirlooms now scattered in dozens of museums and collections in France.

Neither Halter nor the official spokesmen would say when the museum will open nor when work will start on renovating the building which will house it, an 18th century mansion in the heart of historic Paris.

#### **BEN GURION PREXY RESIGNS**

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- Shlomo Gazit, president of Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba, has resigned from his post. He said he had tendered his resignation last Wednesday because of the "complete lack of understanding of the needs for higher education in Israel in general, and of the Ben Gurion University in particular."

All universities in Israel, apart from the Technion in Haifa, delayed the opening of their academic year because of budgetary problems. But the others opened after a week's delay, leaving only the Beersheba institute still closed because of lack of funds.

Gazit said he did not mean that he thought the Ben Gurion University was discriminated against. But he added that the government should appreciate the special needs of the university in Beersheba and the national role it played in the development of the Negev and serving the Negev and Beersheba areas.

#### **NEW ISRAEL FUND ANNOUNCES MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS IN ISRAEL**

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- Ruth Abram, president of the New Israel Fund (NIF), today announced a million dollar campaign to support a score of innovative projects and organizations in Israel that deal with civil liberties, women's rights, Jewish-Arab relations and other community services. These organizations are vital to Israel's democracy, but are rarely focused on by other American Jewish philanthropies, according to Abram.

The million dollar campaign received a major boost from Edith and Henry Everett of New York City who have pledged \$300,000, the largest gift ever received by the NIF. The thrust of the NIF, Abram

said, is to provide support for community-based programs in Israel that are dealing with social inequities in new and innovative ways.

It supports those working to improve Jewish-Arab relations; helps women and men who are victims of sexual violence or who are caught in the complex legal and religious divorce regulations in Israel; gives seed money to neighborhood groups in Sephardic communities; and finances one-third of the budget of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, the nation's largest and most influential civil rights and liberties organization.

Altogether, close to 100 Israeli organizations have been helped by the NIF, either with direct grants or through Shatil, which was established by the NIF in 1982 to provide technical assistance and training to citizens' action and self-help organizations, Abram said.

The goals of all these organizations, she said, is to defend and improve Israel's democracy and to combat anti-democratic manifestations such as the rise of nationalist extremism.

The NIF's fund-raising campaign will include 30 meetings across the United States between Thanksgiving and Chanukah in which the participants will "rededicate themselves to democracy in Israel," Abram said. Many of these meetings will feature a new 30-minute video called "Shaping Our Future," which was directed and produced by Carol Polakoff, whose films have been shown on PBS and network TV.

#### PERES ENCOURAGED BY THE EFFECTS OF THE PRICE FREEZE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres went shopping today in a Jerusalem supermarket to study at first hand the effects of the price freeze instituted this week. He said he was "very encouraged on the whole," both by the general implementation and by consumers' reactions.

He conceded, though, that there were initial difficulties and said these were inevitable, given that this was a novel and untried method of combatting inflation.

The price freeze on all goods and services was promulgated by Ministry of Commerce regulations and will stay in effect till January 5. It is part of the government-Histadrut-manufacturers "package deal" which was formally signed last night in the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem. The deal provides that wages and profits as well as taxes will also be frozen for the three-month period.

#### Some Problems Encountered

Among the problems which Peres and many other shoppers encountered today were mistakes in the published lists of authorized maximum prices. The lists were issued last night by the Commerce Ministry and appeared in today's Maariv and Yediot Achronot. They cover close to 500 items which officials say represent some 80 percent of the average family's regular outlay.

In some cases, shopkeepers found the published prices too high; they said they were selling the goods considerably cheaper. In other cases the prices were said to be too low.

The ministry promised a revised list during the day. But it rejected a widely prevalent complaint from shopkeepers that the stated price for sugar — 149 Shekels a kilo — was too low. The shopkeepers claimed they paid the wholesalers more than that. But the ministry insisted that 149 Shekels was a fair retail price.

Peres told shoppers he would not hesitate to permit "immediate import" of competitive goods if he found any local manufacturer exploiting the ban on some imports to hike the prices of his locally-manufactured product. He urged the public to study the lists of permitted prices — and insist on enforcement of the freeze.

The general rule pertaining to items not listed in the newspapers is that their price as of last Friday, November 2, must be maintained unchanged throughout the freeze period.

#### POLL SHOWS MAJORITY OF ISRAELIS PREPARED TO MAKE SACRIFICES IN AN EFFORT TO HOLD DOWN INFLATION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA) — A sizeable majority of Israelis are prepared to make financial sacrifice in the effort to hold down inflation, according to a poll published in Maariv today.

The poll, conducted by the Modi'in Ezrachi organization, reported that 73.1 percent of the respondents are willing to forego part of their monthly cost-of-living increments whereas only 17.9 percent are not. This translates into three of every four Israelis in support of the wage-price freeze package approved by the Cabinet yesterday.

The package requires wage-earners to give up about one-third of their C.O.L. allowances during the three months the freeze is in effect.

A substantial majority, 51.7 percent, believe the economic package deal will succeed in keeping prices stable over the three month period. But 37.8 percent were skeptical, the poll reported, and 10.6 percent had no opinion.

#### PERES SAYS HE WILL TRY TO INCLUDE A WOMAN IN THE UNITY CABINET

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA) — Premier Shimon Peres, in a gesture to Israeli feminists, expressed regret today that he was unable to include a woman in the unity coalition Cabinet he heads and promised to make every effort to "amend this substantive fault" in the future.

He made his promise in a letter to Ruth Lapidot, chairperson of the National Council for the Advancement of the Status of Women, which held its first meeting yesterday. Lapidot said she was disappointed that Peres referred to a "woman" rather than "women" in his letter inasmuch as women comprise 50 percent of Israel's population.

Peres congratulated the Council on its first meeting and observed that in Israel in the late 20th century it is high time that women, "the beautiful and patient part of us" enjoy full and equal rights.

#### EGYPT RETURNS REMAINS OF MISSING GIRL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA) — The chief police pathologist confirmed today that a body returned to Israel by Egyptian authorities is the remains of 17-year-old Miri Herzog who disappeared last spring while on a tour of southern Sinai.

The body was discovered by Israeli tourists in sand dunes near Nueiba many months ago. Although the teen-ager had been reported missing in that region, the Egyptians insisted it was the body of a woman of about 60. They returned the remains only yesterday, at the insistence of the Herzog family and the Israeli authorities.

The missing girl's sister, Orit Bloch, promptly identified the body from clothing and jewelry. The identity was made official by the pathologist's examination.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA JEWISH COMMUNITY URGED TO ACKNOWLEDGE, DEAL WITH, WIFE ABUSE

By Barbara Trainin

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- A well-known rabbi recently announced from the pulpit that all were welcome in his congregation -- "except wife beaters." A survey among New York rabbis found that while nearly all denied first-hand knowledge of Jewish domestic violence, and some even claimed it never happens, many agreed that shelters for its victims should be established.

One such shelter has already housed nearly 400 women, many of them Jewish, and receives 150 to 200 calls for help a month. Two recent studies in Los Angeles identified several cases of spousal abuse among Jews, and two major conferences on the subject have been held in as many years in the New York area alone.

The latest of the two conferences was last week. It was co-sponsored by the American Jewish Committee's New York chapter, the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods District 3, the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, and the women's branch of the Orthodox Union, and it was attended by sisterhood leaders from the three branches of Judaism, according to Betty Reiser, conference coordinator and assistant director of the AJCommittee's New York chapter.

The objectives of the conference were to determine the severity of the problem among American Jews and to form a "national network for change."

### Myth Is Being Exploded

All the indications at the conference were that one of the most persistent myths -- that Jewish men don't beat their wives -- is being exploded. Reliable statistics are hard to come by, but social service agencies under both Jewish and nonsectarian auspices are increasingly reporting that Jews are following the lead of the general society.

The lead is clear: approximately 10 million to 15 million cases of wife abuse are recorded annually in the United States. Many more cases go unreported. Domestic violence figures as a cause in about 60 percent of divorce cases, and the Victim Services Agency in New York City estimates that almost half of all women will experience violence from a spouse or partner at some point in their lives.

### Jewish Battering May Be More 'Insidious'

All the speakers at last week's conference agreed that wife abuse has always existed -- among Jews as well as non-Jews. It is not the problem but the recognition that is growing. Jewish battering may be more "insidious" than other pathologic behaviors among Jews, "because it has been so well hidden," stated keynote speaker Barbara Harris, director of Transition Center. (Sponsored by the Associated YM-YWHA's of Greater New York, Transition is the only city-funded shelter in New York City for abused women and their children offering kosher facilities.)

Moreover, Harris said, there are reasons that abused Jewish women may be at a greater disadvantage than their non-Jewish counterparts. One is the historic reluctance of Jews to turn to police or civil courts to adjudicate their disputes. When Jewish women do file suits, they are often met with such comments as: "What's a nice Jewish woman like you doing in court?"

Because of the sacrosanct position of the family within Judaism, Jewish women have been inculcated with the belief that they should sacrifice everything for their families.

"Battered women may go home to their mothers and be told that they were beaten by the fathers and 'survived'," said Harris. "Or they may be told that they made their bed and must lie in it -- that the family must be preserved at all costs. An offer of help is the least likely response."

### Tendency To Deny The Facts

The myth that Jews don't beat their wives has led to widespread denial even when the facts are glaringly different. All battered women suffer from society's tendency to blame the victim, either for allegedly provoking the attack or for not walking away from it. But Jewish women may experience this to an even greater degree. Since it is assumed that wife abuse is rare or even nonexistent among Jews, any woman who gets beaten is seen as deserving it, speakers at the Conference pointed out.

The centrality of the family and the denial syndrome also play a crucial role in what speakers considered the inadequate response of most rabbis. Previous reports had indicated that it is rare for a rabbi to have the opportunity to intervene because the battered woman is too ashamed to turn to him or her.

But according to Rachel Klein, caseworker at Transition Center, many of the women at the shelter had approached their rabbis for help -- and been rebuffed. "They were told, 'it's not so bad', and advised to go home and preserve shalom bayit (domestic peace)," she said.

"Since the batterer commonly isolates his wife, but he himself remains visible and even active in the community, the rabbi will tend to believe his story, and see the woman as either hysterical or as a nebbichel the husband has to put up with."

### Role Of Rabbis

Rabbi Gerald Skolnick, spiritual leader of the Forest Hills Jewish Center in New York City, explained that rabbis are particularly prone to the internalization of Jewish "self-serving myths" and to subsequent denial. "After all," he said "the job of the rabbi is to perpetuate myths, to teach Jewish specialness."

Though effective intervention may mean nothing more than referral of the woman to an appropriate social service agency, the insufficient training most rabbis receive in counselling and the resulting ignorance about support systems in their communities further hampers their ability to help even in this limited way, it was observed.

Another myth that needs exploding, commented Harris, is that wife abuse occurs only among the poor or uneducated. Domestic violence among Jews cuts across social and economic lines. All the women at Transition have been wives of professionals, and none required financial help. Wife abuse is also an across-the-board religious phenomenon: similar experiences are reported among Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform families, and batterers and their wives often belong to synagogues.

Klein recalled coming to synagogue one Saturday morning and being impressed with a man she did not recognize who was leading the morning services beautifully. "It turned out he was the husband of one of the women in our shelter. He had discovered its location, and had come to our community for the Sabbath to try to influence her caseworker -- myself. As his wife had told us, he was a leader in their community."