

**EILAT WELCOMES A GROUP OF
ETHIOPIAN JEWISH IMMIGRANTS**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) — The town of Eilat extended a warm, enthusiastic welcome to a group of Ethiopian Jewish immigrants who arrived there to settle last week.

The newcomers were greeted with smiles, flowers and food when they arrived at the seven-story apartment block that will be their home. They will share the building with government-appointed counselors whose job is to help them adjust and integrate into their new surroundings.

The Army Radio reported that each flat in the Eilat block is equipped with a refrigerator, gas stove and water heater, amenities the immigrants never saw in Ethiopia. Part of the task of the counselors will be to teach them to use these apertenances of modern living.

But the Ethiopian olim are not welcome everywhere in Israel. The town of Yerucham in the Neg- ev has made clear that with the threat of unemployment hanging over its residents, they do not want newcomers competing for jobs with the townspeople.

Kibbutzim Join In The Absorption Process

The United Kibbutz Movement has joined in the absorption process to smooth the way for the Ethiopian Jews. Its affiliated kibbutzim will offer ulpanim to teach Hebrew to the youngsters and pre-military service training. The kibbutz leadership has stressed that religious facilities will be provided for these people whose traditions and religion are tightly linked to their way of life and Jewish identity.

Even so, Uri Gordon, a Labor Party member of the Jewish Agency Executive and head of Youth Aliya, has expressed concern that the cultural shock the Ethiopians will experience in Israel is sufficiently traumatic without their being exposed immediately to the essentially open and secular society of the kibbutzim.

**UN, U.S. OFFICIALS TRYING TO
SALVAGE DEADLOCKED NAKURA TALKS**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) — The Israel-Lebanon military withdrawal and security talks at Nakura are in recess for the Christmas-New Year period but a flurry of behind-the-scenes activity is underway involving United Nations and U.S. officials who are trying to use the hiatus to salvage the so far fruitless negotiations.

Israel has made it clear that unless there is a positive response to its proposals from Beirut when the talks reconvene on January 7, it will regard them as having failed and will pursue its own options, unilaterally.

According to informed sources here, a senior UN official, Jean-Claude Aimee, is due in the region this week and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will also return very shortly. A visit is also expected soon from UN Undersecretary General Brian Urquhart.

A higher level, or higher profile, U.S. mediating effort is not ruled out in the attempt to narrow the gap between Israelis and Lebanese. Most parties seem to agree that the route lies through Damascus rather than Beirut.

Murphy, under strict orders from Secretary of State George Shultz, has limited his role to simply transmitting the positions of the various parties in his shuttles between Jerusalem, Damascus and Beirut earlier this month. But the Syrians are understood to have hinted to Murphy, during his last visit to Damascus, that they would be willing to listen to American proposals on the disputed issues.

One of those issues is Israel's insistence that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) be given an expanded security role in south Lebanon after the Israel Defense Force is withdrawn. The Americans are believed, in principle, to favor this.

Israeli officials have said the Cabinet would address itself to the various unilateral options in Lebanon if the Nakura talks are abandoned. It was learned from reliable sources that the UN has urged Israel not to spring any "surprise" by a sudden unilateral step and Washington too is believed to oppose a hasty withdrawal of the IDF.

DISPUTE OVER VOA RELAY STATION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration's request to set up a powerful Voice of America (VOA) radio transmitter in Israel to relay broadcasts to the Soviet Union has split members of the unity government along party lines.

In general, the Labor Party and the various leftist factions are opposed while Likud and the rightwing elements want Israel to agree. Leon Dulzin, a member of Likud's Liberal Party wing and a political moderate, spoke out in favor of the VOA transmitter on condition that broadcast time be allotted for Israeli programs aimed at Soviet and other Jews behind the iron curtain.

But Mordechai Wirshubsky of the leftwing Shinui faction, warned that Israel must not let itself become more deeply involved in the East-West conflict. The leader of Shinui, Amnon Rubinstein who is Minister of Communications in the unity cabinet, observed, however, that at a time when Israel is asking the U.S. for massive increases in economic aid, "we must be realistic." He conceded that it will not be easy for Israel to refuse the American request.

Dulzin Sees An Opportunity

Dulzin, who is chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, said on an Israel Radio interview Saturday that the proposed VOA transmitter "could give us an opportunity to overcome our difficulties in broadcasting to Soviet Russia."

He noted that at present, Israel beams short-wave broadcasts to the USSR 10 hours a day but "only about 10-15 percent is going through because we face jamming and we have no chance of speaking to our people."

Dulzin said one of the conditions for a VOA transmitter in Israel "must be that we should be able to have some of the time to speak to our people in Soviet Russia, to tell them about Israel, to explain to them

about the situation of the Jews in the world, and also to reach the non-Jewish world. So I think this is an opportunity we should use."

Dulzin brushed aside arguments that Israel's compliance with the American request would only anger the Russians further. He maintained that Soviet anti-Semitism and rancor toward Israel was so far advanced that the VOA transmitter would make no difference.

Dulzin added: "I think we have the full moral right to counter-attack and that is why I think that if this opportunity is presented it must be considered properly, with certain conditions -- that we should be able to use it sufficiently."

MK Advises Caution

But Wirshubsky cautioned that the Kremlin would only adopt a tougher policy toward Soviet Jews and Israel if a VOA transmitter was set up here because it would set a new precedent in Israel's relations with Washington.

"Many people say now that since we are requesting so much money from the U.S. we have to abide by the President's request and have to deliver the goods," Wirshubsky said. "I don't accept this. I always said that we should try to have very good relations with the Americans ... but here we have a matter of policy which is important to us."

"If we, because of our economic weakness, give up, I don't know what we would have to do tomorrow and what other concessions to the Americans we are going to make in the near future."

He noted that American allies, such as Turkey and Greece, have already refused Washington's request to build a VOA transmitter on their soil. "I think that Israel, by accepting the request, is really creating a situation where it will become even more dependent morally, politically and generally speaking as an American vassal," Wirshubsky said.

SENIOR IDF OFFICIALS TELLING RESIDENTS IN NORTHERN ISRAEL THEY MIGHT COME UNDER ATTACK AFTER THE IDF WITHDRAWS FROM SOUTH LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- Quietly, without alarm but with sober candor, senior Israel Defense Force officers are advising the leaders and people of towns, villages and kibbutzim near Israel's northern border that the possibility they may come under attack after the IDF leaves south Lebanon cannot be ruled out and precautions should be taken.

Maj. Gen. Ori Orr, commander of the northern front, and members of his staff have been visiting the various townships and villages in Upper Galilee. They are advising the populace that the promise former Premier Menachem Begin made them in June, 1982, when the IDF swept into Lebanon to destroy the Palestine Liberation Organization, cannot be kept in full.

Begin's pledge was that "no Katyusha rocket will ever again fall on Galilee." But when the IDF withdraws from south Lebanon, as eventually it will, some isolated attacks cannot be prevented under all circumstances, the officers are saying.

Orr said he favors a "quiet information campaign" to alert the Galilee settlers to what may

occur and how they can prepare. One result is that the villages in the Galilee panhandle and elsewhere in the north are beginning to refurbish the bomb shelters which have not been needed during the past two-and-a-half years.

Meanwhile, two IDF soldiers were wounded this morning when their two-vehicle convoy came under small arms fire from an orchard near Aksakiya village east of Sidon in south Lebanon. The village was placed under curfew. A search yielded a Kalachnikov rifle and ammunition magazines.

The ambush was the only one of more than a half dozen attacks on IDF and South Lebanon Army (SLA) units over the weekend which caused casualties.

CONTENTIOUS ISSUE OF WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS THREATENS THE FRAGILE STRUCTURE OF THE UNITY GOVERNMENT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- The volatile issue of new settlements on the West Bank continues to threaten the fragile structure of the Labor-Likud unity coalition. A point of contention at this moment is the location of the "five or six" new settlements promised in the policy guidelines adopted by the rival parties when their unity government was set up.

A group of Likud Knesset members met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin last week to urge movement on the settlements. They proposed sites which lie outside the perimeters of the "Allon Plan", the blueprint established by the late Yigal Allon when he was Defense Minister in past Labor-led governments.

The plan calls for Jewish settlements at the periphery of the West Bank for security purposes. It deliberately avoids the heavily Arab-populated hinterland, leaving the way open for some future territorial compromise. The two Likud-led regimes which governed from 1977-1984 ignored those restrictions and planted settlements close to large Arab population centers.

Labor and Likud admit they are at a stand-off although they continue to consult and meet about every two weeks on the matter. The settlements are being held up as much for economic reasons as ideological disputes. But Likud seems to be ignoring the economic exigencies and is renewing pressure on Labor. Political observers say this reflects Likud's sensitivity to pressure from religious and other rightwing parties.

Meanwhile, Labor Party Secretary General Uzi Baram has urged Premier Shimon Peres to demand the resignation of Yosef Shapira of the rightwing religious party, Morasha. Shapira, a Minister-Without-Portfolio, is allegedly encouraging Gush Emunim militants to put up seven new settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip this year with or without government permission.

Baram's demand was rhetorical. Under the unity coalition agreement, the Prime Minister cannot dismiss a minister representing a different political party.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Tension abated in the Kfar Shalem quarter of Tel Aviv over the weekend after slum-dwellers rioted to try to prevent the bulldozing of two houses built on city-owned land without a permit. The municipality promised not to demolish any buildings for 30 days and the local residents promised not to erect any illegally for the same period.

WEST BANK TOWN MOURNS FOR ITS FORMER MAYOR WHO WAS ASSASSINATED IN AMMAN By Gil Sedan

HEBRON, Dec. 30 (JTA) — This West Bank town was in mourning today for its former mayor, Fahed Kawasme, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee, who was gunned down in Amman, Jordan, yesterday. The assassins, not apprehended, are believed to be PLO dissidents opposed to Yasir Arafat.

Kawasme, 45, was the highest ranking PLO official to be murdered since the PLO split into two warring factions in 1983. He had been the head of the PLO's department in charge of affairs in Israel-occupied territory.

Kawasme was deposed by the Israeli authorities in May, 1980, following the ambush slaying of six yeshiva students in Hebron. He and Mayor Mohammed Milhem of nearby Halhul, removed from office at the same time, were deported to Lebanon by the Israelis on grounds that they were PLO agitators who set the stage for the slayings.

The two men subsequently travelled widely abroad seeking support for the Palestinian cause and denouncing the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They eventually moved to Jordan. The Israeli authorities firmly refused repeated requests from their families and from some left-wing Israelis to allow either of them to return to the West Bank.

Varied Attitudes Toward Kawasme

Nevertheless, Israeli attitudes toward Kawasme varied sharply across the political spectrum. The hawks, most conspicuously the militant Gush Emunim whose stronghold is Kiryat Arba overlooking Hebron, were delighted that Kawasme was deported.

More centrist elements in Israel admitted, in reactions to his death today, that Kawasme was, in terms of the PLO, a moderate in his political views. Spokesmen on Israel's political left hailed Kawasme as a voice of moderate Palestinians who seek a Palestinian state to exist in peace alongside Israel, not to replace it.

One Israeli leftist observed today that Kawasme was deported by the Israelis because he was too extreme for their taste and was murdered by Palestinians who thought him too moderate.

Mustapha Abd A-Nabi Natshe, who succeeded Kawasme as mayor of Hebron, only to be himself deposed by the Israelis, said today that he agreed with Yasir Arafat's allegation that the Syrians and their collaborators in the PLO were responsible for the assassination.

Funeral services for Kawasme are scheduled to be held in Amman tomorrow. The Israeli authorities must now decide whether to grant his family's request that the body be returned to Hebron for burial. As of this evening no decision was announced.

Kahane Breaks Through Military Barricade

As hundreds of West Bank residents came to Hebron today to pay condolences to the Kawasme family at the Park Hotel which they own, Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach Party, broke through a military barricade to the Patriarchs Tomb in Hebron to raise a toast to the murder of Kawasme.

Kahane, whose Knesset immunity was restricted only a few days ago to prevent him from visiting Arab villages in Israel to exhort the population to emigrate, drove through an Israel Defense Force barrier outside of town. He ignored polite requests by the soldiers to turn back and continued toward the tomb which is a Moslem as well as Jewish shrine.

Soldiers there asked him to leave. He locked himself in his car, insisting on his Knesset immunity. The soldiers broke into his car, forced Kahane into a military vehicle and drove him out of the territory.

The heavy IDF presence apparently caused Gush Emunim militants in Kiryat Arba to postpone plans to enlarge the Jewish enclave in the heart of Arab Hebron. A small number of Jewish families has been living in a section of Hebron which they took over several years ago. Additional families had planned to move into the enclave today.

SHCHARANSKY REPORTED HOSPITALIZED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) — The family of Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky has been informed by Soviet officials that he has been hospitalized, but his wife, Avital, said the officials declined to give details of his illness.

Avital said she had spoken by telephone to her mother-in-law in Moscow and was told that she had recently met with a high Communist Party official "who said that Anatoly had been hospitalized, but the official refused to reveal his whereabouts or say what he was suffering from." Avital said that in Shcharansky's last letter he complained of poor health. "We know he has had heart problems." The last letter was September 5.

Avital added that "The fear is growing that perhaps something terrible has happened to him and the (Soviet) authorities are trying to cover it up."

Shcharansky is serving a 13-year jail sentence after being convicted in 1978 on charges of spying for the United States. Last month, Soviet authorities told his mother, Ida Milgrom, that he had been transferred from a prison near Moscow to a labor camp in the Urals.

MAN JAILED FOR 14 DAYS FOR REFUSING TO SERVE IN SOUTH LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Prof. Daniel Amit, chairman of the Hebrew University's Institute for Applied Physics and vice chairman of the Israel Human Rights Association, has been sentenced to 14 days in a military prison for refusing to serve with his army unit in south Lebanon.

The Association today disassociated itself from Amit's action, saying that the organization, while working to preserve human rights, did not think the individual could decide for himself where to serve in the army, as this was the prerogative of the government. A soldier was only entitled to disobey an order which was clearly illegal, the Association said.

BONN (JTA) — Two cases of harassment of Jewish students in West German universities have been reported recently to the authorities here. One case involved a Jewish student being forced to leave her university dormitory room because of threats to her life. The authorities have not made the details public, they said, in order not to cause additional problems for the Jewish students who fear for their security.

BACKGROUND REPORT THE BROWNING OF THE GREENS

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Green Party officials here view the latest trip of their delegation to Israel as an enormous success in gaining publicity for the party's ideas. Never before in its short history has the Green Party had such favorable attention focused by the media on its view that a Palestinian state should be created in the West Bank, and that what it terms "Israeli crimes" in Lebanon should be denounced by Bonn.

(The six-member Green Party delegation ended its four-day tour of Israel today and admitted that they had come to Israel with fixed ideas and were returning home with those same opinions unchanged, it was reported by Hugh Orgel, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's correspondent in Tel Aviv. He wrote that Jurgen Reents, the delegation's spokesman and leader, told a press conference in Tel Aviv today that the Greens still thought that Israel should withdraw to its pre-June 1967 borders and recognize a Palestinian state in the West Bank to afford the Palestinians their "natural right of self-expression.")

The West German media coverage of the delegation concentrated heavily on the difference of opinion between Israel and the Greens on the Palestinian issue. It either left unmentioned or strongly downplayed other elements in the present controversy over the visit and over the party's anti-Semitic tendencies. (See December 17 Daily News Bulletin.)

German Media Remiss In Its Reporting

The German media largely ignored the fact that the delegation had prepared its itinerary in Lebanon, in Syria and Jordan with the Palestine Liberation Organization and with the governments of these countries. This happened, according to well-informed sources in the party, months or weeks before the delegation was slated to leave West Germany.

Most West German newspapers failed to report, as well, that the Greens had prepared an anti-Israel strategy paper before the delegation began its trip. Nor did most publications report that the Israeli Ambassador here labelled the paper as anti-Semitic.

The paper, published earlier this month, denounced Israel as "fascist and terrorist" and referred to "terrorist policies" of Israel in south Lebanon which allegedly include random arrests and tortures in specially designated concentration camps.

Most of the press also ignored the fact that the Greens had failed to contact the Israeli Embassy here, or the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, before they were forced to do so when the strategy paper was published by a local Bonn newspaper and by the Israeli media.

The visit of the Greens' delegation to Israel was presented in the media here as something that puzzled Israeli public opinion and disturbed the government of Premier Shimon Peres. One radio commentator, describing the December 26 Knesset incident in which members of the Tehiya Party displayed a banner saying "Braune Gruenne Raus (Browns Greens Out) during the delegation's visit to the parliament, said:

"The Israeli nationalistic Tehiya Party has adopted the methods of our own nationalistic party, namely the Greens." He was referring to the Greens' established practice in the Bundestag and in the parliaments of federal states of attracting attention to their opinions by displaying banners which in most cases denounce America as an aggressive and imperialist power endangering world peace. (The Tehiya banner was a reference to the equation, according to Tehiya, between the Greens with the Nazi stormtroopers who wore brown uniforms.)

Other Points Left Unmentioned

Another point left almost completely unmentioned in the West German media is the disturbing evidence accumulating on the anti-Semitic tendencies of the Greens — as aspect widely reported in Israel — but which some Green Party leaders deny.

No German newspaper or radio station has mentioned in recent days the circulation of anti-Semitic calendars by the Greens; the frequent equations made by them between the Jews and the Nazis; or the distinct anti-Jewish views of their candidate for President, author Luise Rinser. (See December 26 Daily News Bulletin.)

No real attempt has been made either in the press or within the Green Party itself to take issue with the accusations that the Greens are engaged, directly or indirectly, voluntarily or through ignorance, lack of attention — or both — in reviving notorious anti-Semitic traditions harbored in the German nationalistic movement.

Reents, in an interview with the JTA, brushed aside all allegations in this respect, saying simply that he did not know of anything like them. When offered written evidence or presented with facts, he commented that he and his party could not be held responsible for unfavorable behavior of single individuals.

PISAR'S 'OF BLOOD AND HOPE' NOW PUBLISHED IN YIDDISH

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Samuel Pisar's autobiography, "Of Blood and Hope," which became a worldwide bestseller several years ago and which since was translated into a number of languages, has now been translated into Yiddish. It will be published by the I. L. Peretz Publishing house of Tel Aviv and will be distributed in the United States by the Workmen's Circle.

Pisar was 13 years old when Hitler invaded Poland and, after his family died, he spent three years in Auschwitz, Dachau and other concentration camps. Now a well-known international lawyer, writer and lecturer, Pisar became an American citizen by a special act of Congress. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Road accident fatalities in Israel during 1984 were 11 percent fewer than in 1983 and dropped by 32 percent compared to the average over the five preceding years, according to Inspector Eitan Ben-Yehoshua, head of the police traffic department. He reported 387 civilian deaths due to road accidents this year, attributable to negligence on the part of motorists and pedestrians alike.