

**PERES WARNS JEWISH SETTLERS AGAINST
TAKING SECURITY INTO THEIR OWN HANDS**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA) — The Cabinet, meeting as a ministerial security committee today, discussed mounting tension on the West Bank and agreed to continue the discussion at a special session on Wednesday.

No policy decisions were reached but Premier Shimon Peres implicitly warned settlers in the territory that the government would not tolerate their taking the law into their own hands. The settlers, long unhappy over what they allege is the government's failure to provide adequate protection against terrorists, are demanding harsher measures against the Arab populace.

They demonstrated today by blocking key roads with their cars for nearly two hours, causing mammoth traffic jams. They moved their vehicles in time to avoid clashes with police.

The settlers are infuriated over a series of incidents last week. A Jew, David Pinhas, seriously burned by a Molotov cocktail in Kalkilya early in the week, died at a Petach Tikva hospital Thursday. On Wednesday, a bus driver and a passenger were slightly wounded when terrorists ambushed an Egged bus on the Jerusalem-Hebron highway.

Peres Says Government Will Enforce The Law

Peres told the Cabinet today that the government's policy in the territories is a soft hand toward law-abiding citizens and a hard hand toward terrorists. He made it clear that justice would be meted out to violators equally, whether they are Jews or Arabs. He stressed that only the government and its law enforcement agencies will enforce the law in the territories and no other elements will be allowed to take the law into their hands.

Peres' even-handed policy drew an angry retort from Yuval Neeman, leader of the rightwing Tehiya party which is outside the unity coalition. He said Peres' remarks sounded as if they were coming from "a British observer."

But Peres' views seem to reflect a broad consensus among the Labor and Likud components of the Cabinet who agree that no drastic changes are needed in present policy. That position was reinforced by security sources who said today that there has been no increase in the number of terrorist attacks overall, although the two incidents last week caused casualties.

The sources said they believed a terrorist gang is responsible rather than random acts of stone throwing or Molotov cocktail attacks by individual Arabs. However, the sources condemned the reaction by the settlers today and rejected their claim of a new wave of terrorism on the West Bank linked to the government's decision to withdraw the Israel Defense Force from Lebanon.

Nevertheless, a confrontation could be building between the militant settlers and their supporters in the Knesset and the unity government. Spokesmen for the settlers said today they would refrain from further action for 24 hours, presumably to give the Knesset time to debate the situation. The settlers

have been warning for some time that they would not remain idle while the security situation deteriorated.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the leader of Likud, had an angry confrontation with militant settlers in Hebron last Thursday. He had gone there to assure them that the unity government will continue the policies of the previous Likud-led regime. But his audience was not mollified, probably because news had just reached them of the death of Pinhas.

Otniel Schneller, secretary general of the Association of Jewish Settlements in Judaea and Samaria, warned Shamir that the settlers may have no alternative but to "go out and take care of their defense themselves." Such phraseology has been used by settlers when they plan to initiate retaliatory acts against Arabs.

Shamir Urges Calm

Shamir urged them to remain calm and do nothing to worsen the situation. Israeli security forces raided the Dahihsa refugee camp, a frequent trouble spot, over the weekend and detained more than a score of camp residents on suspicion of participating in recent rock-throwing and Molotov cocktail attacks on Jewish vehicles. Arabs charged the raid was to appease the settlers but security officials said it was planned long before the recent incidents.

Jewish militants in Hebron meanwhile uprooted 35 Arab-owned fruit trees in the Tel Rumeida region, claiming the land belonged to Jews.

**RABIN SAYS HE EXPECTS U.S. TO
INCREASE ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL**
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin today prepared to leave for Israel after a series of meetings in Washington with President Reagan and senior Administration officials last week, and following a hectic weekend to New York where the Israeli official made speaking appearances before three American Jewish organizations.

Rabin, who was scheduled to breakfast this morning with Mayor Edward Koch, stressed in his remarks this weekend his appreciation for the Administration's decision to provide Israel with increased military aid for the 1986 fiscal year by \$400 million, bringing the total of military assistance to \$1.8 billion.

"This is the highest military assistance Israel has ever got (from the U.S.) and it is all in grants," Rabin told a meeting last Friday of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Israel had asked for \$2.1 billion in military aid.

The Defense Minister also said he expected the level of economic assistance to Israel to be increased. In an address last night before more than 300 people at UJA-Federation headquarters here, Rabin said he believed the Administration will increase economic assistance to Israel by more than \$1.2 billion as a grant. Washington, however, has yet to make a final decision on Israel's request for additional economic aid, Rabin noted.

In his address to the Presidents Conference, Rabin said he found not only "friendship and understanding" for Israel's problems when he met with Reagan, Secretary of

State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger last week, but also a "readiness and willingness to support and assist" the Jewish State.

Rabin said that Israel is currently going through a period of great economic difficulties, and that these difficulties amount to "the weakest point in Israel's national strength." The economic well being of a country, he said, is a major component of its defense posture.

According to Rabin, the major reasons for Israel's deep economic troubles are the costs of peace with Egypt, which he estimated at around \$5 billion, and the war in Lebanon, estimated to cost Israel some \$3 billion. He said that in addition, "other economic mistakes" have contributed to the current economic crisis.

Noting that Israel has already instituted sharp austerity measures, Rabin said that the Israeli government will continue to trim the budget by cutting more than \$1.2 billion in the future. He said that the cuts will affect the Defense budget as well, reducing the size of the Israel Defense Force and its services.

"We are taking security risks by cutting the defense budget," Rabin declared, adding that without taking such risks, Israel cannot hope to resolve its economic problems.

Rabin Discusses IDF Withdrawal

The Israeli official also discussed Israel's recent decision to conduct a three stage withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force (IDF) from south Lebanon, the first stage which began last week and is expected to be completed by February 18.

He warned that Israel is determined to complete the first part of the withdrawal plan "with or without an agreement" with the Lebanese government or the United Nations forces as to who will take over the vacated areas after Israel's departure.

He said that without an orderly takeover of areas evacuated by the IDF, there is the danger of bloody fighting and massacres between the feuding Lebanese factions in the area. He said the Lebanese government will carry the responsibility for whatever happened after Israel departs.

Israel No Longer 'Policeman of Lebanon'

Rabin addressed more than 400 Jewish leaders at a dinner sponsored by the Prime Minister's Club of the Israel Bond Organization at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel last Thursday. He said that Israel was withdrawing from Lebanon because "we decided that we are not going to be any longer the policeman of Lebanon. Let them solve their own problems," he declared to the applause of the audience.

He added, however, that Israel's decision does not mean an end to its fight against terrorism. "We are determined to continue to cope with terror and protect the northern border of Israel," he said. While he said he cannot promise that Katyusha rockets will no longer disturb Israel's settlements in the north, "we will do our utmost to minimize terror and maximize the punishment against the terrorist." More than \$6 million in Israel Bonds and notes were raised at the dinner.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WEATHERS POLITICAL TURMOIL RESULTING FROM REDER AFFAIR; PARLIAMENT VEToes NON-CONFIDENCE MOTION

VIENNA, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Chancellor Fred Sinowatz's Socialist-led coalition government weathered a political crisis last Friday when Parliament voted 98-80 against a non-confidence motion by the opposition Peoples Party.

The motion was introduced after Sinowatz refused to demand the resignation of Defense Minister Friedrich Frischenschlager who raised a political storm 10 days ago when he personally welcomed Austrian-born Nazi war criminal Walter Reder, returning to his native land after nearly 40 years in an Italian prison for the mass murder of civilians in Italy during World War II.

Frischenschlager is a member of the Freedom Party, Sinowatz's coalition partner. Although many Socialist members of Parliament joined in the public outcry for his resignation, they observed party discipline in the voting.

Sinowatz clearly was out to save his coalition government and, after accepting Frischenschlager's formal apology for the incident last week, said he would resign himself if Parliament forced the Defense Minister's ouster.

The Chancellor conceded that Frischenschlager's presence at Graz airport on January 24 when Reder landed from Italy was a "grave political mistake." But he accepted the Minister's explanation that he had gone there simply to make sure the war criminal's return was without media coverage or possible protest demonstrations. The media did get the story however and, according to its accounts, Frischenschlager shook Reder's hand and greeted him as the last Austrian prisoner of war to come home. (By Reinhard Engel)

SHARON WILL PURSUE ISRAELI PREMIERSHIP

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Ariel Sharon, who returned from New York last week claiming a moral victory in his \$50 million libel suit against Time magazine, says he intends to be Israel's Prime Minister, but is in no hurry to pursue that goal.

In an Israel Radio interview Friday night, the Minister of Commerce and Industry said he would be a candidate for Prime Minister only in four years' time. No one will be seeking the office before then because of the Labor-Likud unity government agreement, he said.

Under the agreement, Labor Party leader Shimon Peres is serving as Premier during the first half of the government's five year statutory tenure, to be replaced in the second half by Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir, currently Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister.

Sharon said "I have less ambition than people think. I am interested in agriculture, world travel, meeting people. My life does not revolve around wanting to be Premier."

But Sharon's closest aides and backers in Likud's Herut bloc are already seeking to position him to head the Likud list in the forthcoming Histadrut elections, to be held probably next May. They are trying to persuade Sharon to challenge the incumbent Secretary General of Histadrut, Laborite Yisrael Kessar. If Sharon is the candidate, he would displace one of his most formidable rivals for leadership of Herut and Likud, Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy.

Even if Sharon fails to win over Kessar in the Histadrut elections, his candidacy would be a stepping stone toward the goal of heading Likud which holds its internal elections next November. As leader of Likud, he would be in line for the Premiership in the next national elections.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Jewish Agency and the Ministry of Absorption last week reaffirmed a previous understanding that the Agency would deal with new immigrants during their first year in Israel and that the Ministry would take over after that time period had concluded.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST JEWISH ACTIVISTS IN USSR OUTLINED IN STATE DEPT. REPORT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (JTA) — The State Department has released a report which it said "details a deliberate and on-going campaign of arrests and intimidation targeted at the activist Jewish community in the Soviet Union by Soviet authorities."

The report charged that "a major, sustained crackdown on Hebrew teachers and other Jewish cultural activists," began last August which, by the end of January, resulted in 11 activists, four of them Hebrew teachers, being arrested. Four of those arrested have already been sentenced to labor camps.

"The arrests were accompanied by a series of searches, beatings and threats which have sent shock waves through the Soviet Jewish community," the report said.

Entitled, "The Soviet Crackdown on Jewish Cultural Activities," the report was presented last Friday by Richard Burt, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, to Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Abram was at the State Department on the eve of a day-long NCSJ "Emergency Action for Soviet Jews," gathering at Capitol Hill.

Harassment Of Soviet Jews Is Deplored

The report noted that the State Department has been monitoring the situation since the "disturbing developments" began. "There can be no doubt that the campaign has been consciously directed by Soviet authorities to discredit and destroy the revival of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union," the report said.

"The methods used — arrests, beatings, the planting of evidence, and the use of the media to slander refusenik activists — have created a renewed atmosphere of crisis in the Soviet Jewish community and heightened international concern about what may next lie in store for Soviet Jewry," the report said. "The United States Government deplors this accelerating campaign in the strongest possible terms, calls on the Soviet authorities to end it immediately and urges them to live up to the commitments to respect individual human rights that they have solemnly undertaken in a whole series of international accords, from the Universal Declaration on Human Rights through the Helsinki Final Act and the Concluding Document agreed to in 1983 at Madrid."

Crackdown Began Last July

The report noted that the crackdown began July 26 when Moscow Hebrew teacher Aleksandr Kholmiansky was arrested in Estonia on charges of hooliganism. Police later claimed they found a pistol and ammunition in his parents' apartment. His trial was scheduled for January 31.

In September, another Moscow Hebrew teacher, Yuly Edelshtein, was arrested after police claimed they found narcotics in his apartment. In December, he was sentenced to three years in a labor camp.

In Odessa, Yaakov Levin, a Jewish cultural activist, was sentenced to three years in prison November 19 for anti-Soviet slander because he circulated religious material. His future father-in-law, Mark Netomyashchiy, was also scheduled to go on trial January 29 after being arrested for anti-Soviet slander. Their friend, Yaakov Mesh, a refusenik, was arrested for resisting arrest but released because he sustained life-threatening injuries.

The report continued with the arrest of Iosif Berenshtein, a Kiev Hebrew teacher, who was sentenced to three years in a labor camp for allegedly resisting the police. After his conviction, he was beaten and stabbed, suffering deep facial wounds and losing his sight in one eye, with the possibility he may lose his sight in the other.

Two Ukrainian Jewish activists, Leonid Schreier and Yaakov Rosenberg, both of Chernovtsy, were charged in October with anti-Soviet slander. Schreier was sentenced to three years in a labor camp. Rosenberg remains in prison, pending trial.

The report noted that after the arrests stopped in December, they picked up again in January. Vladimir Frankel, a Jewish cultural activist in Riga, was arrested for anti-Soviet slander January 15. Dean Shapiro, a prominent Moscow activist, was arrested January 22 for anti-Soviet slander and, according to the report, two of his colleagues, Dmitry Khazankin and Igor Kharach, reportedly may be next.

"The crackdown on Hebrew teachers and Jewish cultural activists has been accompanied by a stepped-up anti-Semitic campaign in the Soviet media," the State Department report said. The Department pledged to continue monitoring the situation, particularly the trials of Jewish activists.

14 WOMEN, CHILDREN ARRESTED OUTSIDE SOVIET MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Seven women and seven children, aged seven months to four years, were hustled into a police wagon and taken to Manhattan's 23rd Precinct for booking on disorderly conduct charges today after they attempted to block the gates of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations.

The women were demonstrating against the current wave of arrests and trials of unauthorized Jewish educators in the Soviet Union, in the third phase of what the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ), organizer of the demonstration, terms "Operation Redemption," according to Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the SSSJ.

He said the women, four of whom were accompanied by their young children, attempted to reach the gates of the Mission in midtown Manhattan. They were blocked by a phalanx of police and were arrested when they sat down in the middle of the street. They are scheduled to appear in court March 12.

The women were Barbara Eisenman of Manhattan; Linda Fisch of Jersey City, N.J., mother of three daughters aged 1-4; Barbara Gerwitz of Manhattan, mother of two sons aged seven months and four years; Sharon Katz of Manhattan; Chaya King of Queens; Dena Levinson of Manhattan, mother of a two-year-old daughter; and Lenore Richter of Manhattan, mother of a one year-old daughter. The women unfurled an Israeli flag as they sat in the street.

"Operation Redemption" began on January 7 when six rabbis were arrested for staging a sit-in at the office of Tass, the Soviet news agency. On January 25, four other rabbis and two journalism students were arrested for trying to block the gates to the Soviet UN Mission.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) — An anti-tank missile was fired at the Israel Defense Force liaison office in Nabatiya last Thursday, but caused neither casualties nor damage. It was the 12th time in recent weeks that terrorists have attempted to harm the Israeli office which maintains liaison between the IDF and the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army.

CHURCH-STATE CONCERNS SEEN AS KEY FACTOR IN JEWISH SUPPORT FOR MONDALE

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Fear of growing ties between government and religion and concern for social justice issues were central elements which led American Jews to favor Democratic candidate Walter Mondale over President Reagan by a three to one margin in the Presidential elections last November, according to the American Jewish Congress.

The AJCongress, in a report released by AJCongress president Theodore Mann, found differences in voting patterns within the American Jewish community based on such factors as age, sex, and income. But the perception of President Reagan as the candidate advocating a breach in the constitutional wall between church and state cut across generational, educational and economic lines, the AJCongress survey indicated.

The finding were based on a national exit survey conducted by the AJCongress of 2,932 Jewish voters as they left their polling places. The survey, spanning 14 regional areas across the country, is believed to be the largest inquiry of American Jewish voters ever undertaken. By contrast, the number of Jewish respondents in exit polls conducted by the media, including major networks, rarely exceeded 500.

There was also concern expressed by those Jews surveyed about the alleged anti-Semitism associated with the Rev. Jesse Jackson's campaign for the Presidential nomination and his prospective role in a Democratic administration, the report said. Jackson's potential influence on government apparently was viewed as a less imminent danger than a breakdown of separation between church and state as reflected in Reagan's public utterances and his support for such policies as allowing organized prayer in the public schools, the report said.

Marked Contrast With General Population

Another voting pattern emerging from the survey was the seeming disregard of Jewish voters for their own financial interests, said the AJCongress report, which cited the fact that even more affluent Jewish families overwhelmingly supported Mondale. "Thus Jewish voters with family incomes of over \$50,000 gave Mondale 67 percent of their votes as opposed to 32 percent for Reagan," the report explained. In contrast, voters in the general population with over \$50,000 incomes gave Reagan a majority of 59 percent and Mondale only 40 percent.

"The Jewish voter, unlike other voters," the report said, "was not voting his or her pocket book." Jewish voters, the report continued, "appear to be a unique group among the American voting public in that they defied their economic self interest and voted for a candidate who advocated a more socially challenging approach to our nation's social and economic problems." The report attributed this characteristic, in part, to religious teachings mandating help for the less fortunate.

Among other characteristics of Jewish voting patterns in the November election, the AJCongress survey indicated there was no swing among Jews from their traditional place in the Democratic Party to the Republicans, despite much discussion and anticipation of such a shift during the campaign. The report speculated that Jewish voters may have aborted a swing to the Republican Party because of Reagan's strengthened ties with evangelical fundamentalist supporters.

Another characteristic of the Jewish voting pattern, the report said, was that among Jewish voters, "secular" Jews gave 83 percent of their votes to Mondale and 16 percent to Reagan. Orthodox Jews, meanwhile, gave Mondale 49 percent and Reagan 48 percent. Conservative Jews gave Mondale their votes by a margin of nearly three to one as did Reform Jews.

The AJCongress also said that a moderate gender gap emerged in the voting, with 77 percent of Jewish women giving their votes to Mondale while 62 percent of male voters did so.

Jewish Voters Over 60 Support Mondale

Voting patterns among Jewish voters in various age brackets indicated little change with each group — ages 18-29, 30-44 and 45-59 — strongly supporting Mondale. This is in contrast to the voting patterns of those age groups in the nation's general population which gave a majority of their votes to Reagan.

However, among Jewish voters 60-and-over support for Mondale was even stronger than among younger voters, with 75 percent of over-60's voting for Mondale and only 23 percent for Reagan. This again represented a sharp departure from the nation's general voting pattern which showed the 60-and-over population supporting Reagan over Mondale 63 to 36 percent.

The Jackson Factor

The most frequent single factor cited by Jewish Mondale voters as influencing their vote was Reagan's support for closer ties between religion and government. Fifty-nine percent of the 2,073 Jewish voters supporting Mondale said their vote was "strongly" influenced by this issue. An additional 19 percent said this factor "slightly" influenced their vote.

Among the 805 Jewish voters for Reagan, 34 percent indicated their votes for the Republican ticket were "strongly" influenced by Jackson's campaign while 14 percent said their vote was "slightly" influenced by the Jackson factor.

No Conservative Shift

The AJCongress analysis said that, based on the survey results, suggestions of a Jewish shift to conservatism in political life was unfounded. Some 41 percent of Jewish voters — twice as much as the general voting population — identified themselves as "liberal." Another 37 percent identified themselves as "moderate." Only 17 percent said they were "conservative."

This liberal and moderate self-identification was underscored by the Jewish voters' responses to questions on specific social issues. Forty-three percent stated that the government was not sufficiently responsive to the needs of Black and Hispanic minorities; 40 percent indicated the government is adequately responsive; and 10 percent declared that government is "too responsive" to these needs. A heavy majority also opposed a government ban on abortion and efforts to introduce prayer in the public schools while indicating support for federal action to reduce unemployment and increased aid to education.

Jewish voter support for President Reagan in 1984 — 27 percent — was the same as in 1980 — 27 percent. The 71 percent Mondale vote among Jews represented a sizable increase over the 49 percent received by Jimmy Carter in 1980. However, in the 1980 election, 13 percent of Jewish voters supported John Anderson, the independent candidate. Most of these voted Democratic in 1984, contributing to the heavy Mondale vote, the report noted.