

## 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, 5 HURT IN CLASH WITH TERRORISTS AS CABINET RECEIVES REQUEST TO SPEEDUP PULLOUT

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) — Two Israeli soldiers were killed and five were wounded in a clash with terrorists in south Lebanon today. A military spokesman announced the latest casualties as the Cabinet formally received a proposal to speed-up the Israel Defense Force's phased withdrawal from Lebanon.

The spokesman identified the dead soldiers as Sgt. Rafi Kasher, 20, of Tel Aviv and Sgt. Nadav Kovatz, 21, of Kibbutz Yiftach. They brought to 17 the number of fatalities suffered by the IDF in south Lebanon since the beginning of March.

According to the spokesman, today's clash occurred near Jibshit village, west of Nabatiya, when an IDF foot patrol came under enfilade fire from three directions. The soldiers returned the fire and took refuge in a house on the outskirts of the village. The house was soon attacked by rocket-propelled grenades. Several residents were injured. It was not stated whether the IDF casualties were caused by the RPGs or the earlier ambush.

There were two other attacks on IDF units in south Lebanon today, neither of which caused casualties.

### Expects Debate Within 2 Weeks

Meanwhile, Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui faction told reporters after today's Cabinet session that while the issue of accelerated withdrawal from Lebanon did not come up, his proposal for a speed-up was formally submitted to the Cabinet Secretariat and was conveyed to the Defense Minister for his prior attention.

Rubinstein said he was confident his proposal would be debated by the Cabinet in two weeks, unless the ministers evolved a position on it sooner. His plan calls for combining the second and third stages of the withdrawal process. Stage two, presently in motion, was originally scheduled to take three months or longer to complete and would leave the IDF deployed along the Litani River-Hasbaya line. Stage three, pulling the IDF back to the international border, would not be completed until some time next summer.

Rubinstein proposed returning the IDF to the border in a single combined operation. He said he was supported by Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman of the Yahad faction and by several Labor Party ministers.

### Orr: Shorter Time, The Better

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview over the weekend that he backed an amalgamation of "certain elements of" the two stages but he did not elaborate.

Lt. Gen. Ori Orr, commander of the northern sector, admitted in a radio interview today that the shorter time his troops remained in Lebanon, the better. He said the escalation of attacks on IDF units was due to their more "open" disposition during the pull-back operation. Israeli soldiers found themselves in heavily populated areas mixing with local residents, some of whom are hostile, he said.

But Orr insisted that Israel was not withdrawing because it was being forced out of Lebanon. It was the government's decision, he said. He said recent IDF actions and searches of hostile villages have achieved considerable success. He noted that about 50-60 terrorists have been killed since the three-stage withdrawal began and many more suspects have been detained.

### Syrian Moves Watched Closely

Meanwhile, the situation in Lebanon became more ominous over the weekend with the sudden Syrian intervention against a dissident faction of Christian Phalangists, headed by Samir Jeajea which has moved to unseat President Amin Gemayel. The Syrians reportedly have moved tanks and troops into the northern fringes of the Christian-held heartland north of Beirut where the move against Gemayel is taking shape.

Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas was quoted as saying, "The objective of the move is to assist President Gemayel and the legitimate order in Lebanon. It is aimed at supporting the Lebanese army and preventing the situation from further deterioration."

Israeli officials and the IDF are keeping a close watch on the Syrian moves. The Syrians are reported to be using PLO units against the Christian rebels.

## 20,000 DEMONSTRATE IN TEL AVIV FOR IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 17 (JTA) — A Peace Now rally demanding the immediate withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force from south Lebanon, drew an estimated 20,000 persons to Malchei Yisrael Square outside the City Hall here last night. The rally was also an attack on Likud leaders accused of being the architects of the Lebanon war, notably former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

The demonstrators appealed to Premier Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin to bring the IDF home without delay, instead of the present phased withdrawal. They demanded an end to the IDF's "iron fist" policy of harsh measures against hostile elements of the Shiite population in south Lebanon and called for a full scale inquiry into the causes and conduct of the war which began when the IDF invaded Lebanon in June, 1982.

The rally was addressed by army reservists, including senior officers, many of whom recently completed their fifth or sixth tours of duty in Lebanon. It was supported by "Parents Against Silence," the parents of soldiers serving in Lebanon, or who died or were wounded there. Although one of the largest mass demonstrations in recent months, it bore no comparison to the 400,000 Israelis who gathered in the same square in September, 1982, to protest the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps massacre.

The political situation has changed since then when Israel was governed by a Likud-led coalition headed by Premier Menachem Begin. The decision to pull the IDF out of Lebanon in three-stages — the second of which is now underway — was taken by a Labor-Likud national unity coalition headed by Peres, with Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir serving as Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier and Sharon as Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Flyers, calling the rally, signed by Peace Now, declared: "We call upon the government of Israel: Get out of Lebanon now. Without the 'iron fist' policy; without partisan politics; without the advice of Shamir-Sharon-Arens." Moshe Arens, a militant member of Likud's Herut faction, is a Minister-Without-Portfolio in the unity government. At the time of the Lebanon war he was Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. and later succeeded Sharon as Minister of Defense.

The speakers urged Peres and Rabin not to be influenced by Likud and other rightwingers to slow down the withdrawal, or to reconsider it, or to decide to maintain a permanent Israeli presence in part of Lebanon. They accused the unity government of delaying the pull-out for political reasons, at the expense of Israeli soldiers who have sustained serious casualties since the phased withdrawal began.

One slogan of the rally was, "The time has come for Sharon to be silent." The former defense chief, who is still believed to have a strong following on the right, has launched a counter-offensive in recent weeks. He has contended that Israel achieved its primary goals in Lebanon but could have achieved much more but for loss of support on the home front.

#### Sharon Wants Inquiry To Cover Labor Too

Sharon said he would agree to a formal inquiry into the war if it included an inquiry into the Labor opposition's activities during the battle and their effect on the terrorists in Beirut. His implication was that Labor and leftist opposition heartened the Palestine Liberation Organization and prevented the IDF from wiping them out totally.

Sharon made those remarks in an address to the Industrial and Commercial Club here Friday. "The claim that somebody is answerable for what happened in Lebanon impedes taking the necessary steps there," he said. He denounced the "panicky cry" to leave Lebanon before Israel's problems there are fully solved because "It will be very difficult to get into Lebanon again."

Sharon also demanded the ouster of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which he alleged cooperated with terrorists.

The Peace Now rally was as much an answer to Sharon as a plea for a speedy withdrawal. Yuval Neriya, a reserve battalion commander in Lebanon who holds the Medal of Valor, the IDF's highest decoration for bravery, called Sharon "the official terrorist ... The real booby-trapped vehicle which explodes and kills every day is Ariel Sharon who, together with his partners, Begin, Arens and Rafal (former Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan) have still not been forced to confront the truth," Neriya said.

#### U.S. STILL WANTS MORE ECONOMIC REFORMS FROM ISRAEL BEFORE APPROVING AID LEVEL

By Judith Kahn

WASHINGTON, March 17 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz is continuing to maintain that the Reagan Administration will not make a specific request for economic assistance to Israel until further progress is made in reforming the Israeli economy.

Discussing the Administration's proposed foreign aid package for the 1986 fiscal year before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Friday, Shultz declined to be specific on what reforms Israel would have to adopt.

"I just think it's hard to say by any formula when you do what," Shultz said in response to a question. But he suggested that delaying a decision

could help Israel take austerity measures that political considerations might otherwise prevent. "I think that to a considerable degree holding back helps them," he said.

At the committee hearing, as well as in an earlier press conference, Shultz said the U.S. was looking for such long-term reforms in the Israeli economy as budget cuts, controls of the money supply and linking the Shekel with European currencies.

There had been considerable speculation here that the Administration had been withholding a decision on Israel's request until Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak ended his visit to Washington since Mubarak in his meetings with President Reagan and other Administration officials also sought increased aid for Egypt. Israel Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai who met Shultz earlier appeared optimistic that the Administration would be favorable to Israel's request for \$1.8 billion in supplementary aid over a two-year period, including \$800 million for 1985.

#### CABINET CLASHES ON ECONOMIC POLICY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- Sparks flew at today's Cabinet meeting as Labor and Likud ministers clashed over the direction of the country's economic policy.

The vituperative exchanges reflected not only the widening gap between Labor and Likud whose marriage of convenience -- the national unity coalition government -- was precipitated by the economic crisis, but tension over external scrutiny of Israel's economic affairs as well.

A top-level International Monetary Fund (IMF) team just ended a fact-finding visit and two prominent American economists just arrived to examine the state of Israel's financial health in depth. According to observers, the report to be rendered by the IMF could significantly affect Israel's credit rating abroad and the findings of the American experts could, presumably, influence the Reagan Administration's final decision on Israel's pending emergency economic aid request.

#### Exemption Proposal Triggers Clash

Today's clash was triggered by a proposal by Laborite Gad Yaacobi, Minister of Economic Planning, to exempt newly established export-directed industries from income tax for a period of several years. Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai, a Likud Liberal and Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, of Likud's Herut faction, protested vigorously that tax proposals were beyond Yaacobi's authority to make.

Sharon accused the Laborite of interfering in his own ambit of responsibility. "Why don't you let me get on with the work," he demanded. Yigal Hurwitz, of the small Ometz faction, a Minister-Without-Portfolio who once served as Finance Minister in a Likud government, sided with Yaacobi. He blasted his former party, declaring that "everyone recognizes" Likud was responsible for the current economic mess.

Premier Shimon Peres also sprang to Yaacobi's defense. He said it was incredible that in face of the parlous state of the economy, Likud ministers were "not cooperating" with their Labor colleagues. In the event, the Cabinet voted 10-7 to "study" Yaacobi's proposal.

Peres reported on his talks with the IMF team before they left. According to officials here, the visit went "better than had been anticipated" and the IMF people seemed to feel Israel was moving in the right direction to cure its economy. But it remains to be seen whether the IMF believes Israel is moving far enough or fast enough.

The visiting Americans, both leading economists, are Herbert Stein, who was chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors in the Nixon Administration and Stanley Fischer. They arrived here over the weekend to begin intensive talks with Israel's top economic policymakers. Both men have been closely involved in U.S.-Israel talks on Israel's economic needs over the past few months. Israel has asked the Reagan Administration for an additional \$800 million in economic aid this year, above the \$1.2 billion it has already received.

#### MUBARAK CONCEDES FAILURE TO GET SUPPORT OF MIDEAST INITIATIVE FROM REAGAN, MOST WEST EUROPEAN LEADERS, EXCEPT FOR CRAXI

ROME, March 17 (JTA) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt returned to Cairo today conceding that he had failed to convince the United States to back his plan for Middle East peace, the first stage of which calls for the U.S. to meet with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, with Israel entering the picture only afterwards.

Mubarak experienced a similar lack of success with President Francois Mitterrand of France, with whom he met before going to Washington, and with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany on his way back. They, in effect, wished him luck in his peace efforts but offered no commitments of support for his plan.

Mubarak, who meets tomorrow with King Hussein of Jordan to brief him on his tour of the Western countries, scored his only significant success in Italy. Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, who met with the Egyptian leader in Venice yesterday, declared that Italy will back Mubarak's initiative. Craxi, President Sandro Pertini and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti have, in fact, supported a variety of peace plans to emerge from the Arab camp in recent months.

Their apparently unqualified support for Mubarak's proposals is significant inasmuch as Craxi currently holds the rotating Presidency of the European Economic Community (EEC), a position from which he can exert a degree of persuasion on the other nine partners.

#### Mubarak Stresses Trip Was Useful

Mubarak maintained on his arrival home that his trip had been useful in "at least sharing with them (the Western leaders) the current realities of the (Middle East) area." He said he would continue his diplomatic cooperation with Hussein and back the new Jordan-Palestinian coalition. His meeting with Hussein tomorrow will be their fifth since Jordan resumed diplomatic relations with Egypt last year.

One of Mubarak's main talking points with Western leaders was that the accord signed by Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat last February 11 for a joint approach to peace negotiations was an historic milestone of a significance that should not be underestimated.

Hussein, in an interview in Amman, published in The New York Times today, said he could make no further moves toward the peace process in the Middle East unless the U.S. agrees to meet with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. He has ruled out any initiative that does not include the PLO.

The Jordanian ruler was quoted by the Times as saying, "I have done my utmost to move toward peace. We must not miss this opportunity. This is the

last chance." This was more or less what Mubarak has been stressing in Washington and other capitals. The Reagan Administration objected to the idea of talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian group without the participation of Israel. It also ruled out any contact with the PLO until the latter meets U.S. conditions—formal acceptance of Israel's right to exist and acceptance of United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

#### Shultz Sees Alternative Route

Nevertheless, while Secretary of State George Shultz rejected Mubarak's specific proposals, he indicated that there were several alternative routes to the peace process. "Mr. Mubarak's suggestion is one suggestion. There are others," Shultz said at a news conference Friday. "I think it is fair to say that there has been movement among the parties in the region which we have encouraged ... And so it is important -- and that was President Mubarak's main point -- to keep the momentum going. He (Mubarak) deserves credit for trying to keep it going," Shultz said.

He announced that after Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher al-Masri visits Washington next week, President Reagan will send Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs to Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries to assess developments. "He will report back promptly and we will be doing everything we can to keep momentum toward peace in the Middle East going," Shultz said.

#### MULRONEY REJECTS MOVING EMBASSY

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, March 17 (JTA) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last week rejected Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's request that the Canadian government relocate its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Following a meeting last Friday, Mulroney cited the present status of Israeli-Arab relations and the still unresolved status of Jerusalem as reasons for his decision.

When Joe Clark, External Affairs Minister, was the Conservative Prime Minister, he said he would move the Canadian Embassy to Jerusalem. But this decision set off a storm of protests from Arab countries and the government had to back down.

Meanwhile, the prospects of a Canadian contingent of some 100 troops to participate in the peace-keeping force in Sinai seemed more promising. "We expect to have an answer for Israel in a few weeks," Clark said after meeting with Shamir.

Shamir had been pressing the Canadians to replace the Australian contingent of the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai. Canada already has 225 peacekeeping troops on the Golan Heights between Israel and Syria.

#### JACOBSON PROPOSES BORDER PEACE FOREST

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) — Charlotte Jacobson, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, called on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to participate in planting a peace forest, on the Israel-Egyptian border.

Jacobson raised the idea at the end session of the JNF Assembly last week. She said the project would express the wish of the two peoples to coexist in peace, and it would allow Israeli and Egyptian citizens to raise their children without the fear of wars and hostile acts.

## NYC HOLOCAUST COMMISSION GETS MAJOR ACQUISITION OF DOCUMENTS FROM NUREMBERG WAR CRIMES TRIALS

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) — The New York City Holocaust Commission was presented last Friday with its first major acquisition, 140 crates and footlockers full of historic documents from the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunals.

The documents, presented to the Commission from the New York State Library, are one of a set of 23 original mimeographed sets of the proceedings shipped after the trials concluded to libraries and universities in the U.S., via the Library of Congress Documents Expediting Service, according to the Library of Congress expert John Mendelsohn.

The set, presented to the Commission, was sent to the New York City Public Library. In 1957, the City Library forwarded the documents to the State Library in Albany, where they have remained in storage and uncatalogued.

The official ceremony marking the transfer of the documents was held at the Manhattan Supreme Court Building where there was on exhibit a representative display of ten of the original containers holding the documents.

### 'Tremendous' Storage Job Ahead

The documents "were not packed in any specific order," Telford Taylor, former chief prosecutor for the U.S. Military Tribunals at Nuremberg, told the some 100 guests attending Friday's ceremonies. He added that the Commission has a "tremendous job in store for them."

The Commission plans to catalogue, deacidify and make available to scholars the contents of the 140 crates. The New York City Holocaust Commission has been provided with the old United States Customs Building in lower Manhattan to open a museum and memorial to the Holocaust.

An official letter transmitting the documents from the State Library to the Holocaust Commission was presented to Robert Morgenthau and George Klein, co-chairman of the New York City Holocaust Memorial Commission, by Robert Maurer, executive deputy commissioner of the New York State Department of Education, and State Senate Minority Leader Manfred Ohrenstein.

### Trial Called 'First Holocaust Memorial'

In his capacities as chairman of the board of the New York State Holocaust Resource Center and Exhibit, and as an associate chairman of the City Commission, Ohrenstein was instrumental in the State Education Department's decision to present the documents to the Commission.

Ohrenstein, describing the Nuremberg Tribunal as "the first Holocaust memorial," declared, "The collective conscience of the civilized world determined that the unspeakable acts that had been committed had to be remembered and brought to the bar of justice."

As early as 1941, the punishment of war crimes became a principal allied war aim. In the Moscow Declaration of November 1, 1943, the U.S., Great Britain and the USSR stated that at the conclusion of the war, the German officers, men, and Nazi Party members allegedly responsible for the atrocities, massacres and executions of World War II would be returned to the countries of their crimes for trial. An international military tribunal was established to try the major Axis war criminals whose offenses were not confined to particular locations.

All but the first of the sessions of this international trial were held in Nuremberg beginning on November 20, 1945. That trial lasted for more than 10 months and was conducted in four languages. Twelve other trials of major war criminals were held under U.S. auspices at Nuremberg and called the "subsequent proceedings." The majority of this collection of war crimes trials records pertain to those 12 trials that ended in 1949.

## SOVIET UNION'S TREATMENT OF JEWS COMPARED TO S. AFRICA'S APARTHEID By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 17 (JTA) — The Soviet Union's treatment of Jews was likened to South Africa's apartheid policies by the head of the United States delegation to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, Ambassador Richard Schifter, at a meeting of the committee here Friday.

Referring to the Commission's earlier discussion of "the phenomenon of discrimination and deprivation of rights on grounds of ancestry practiced in South Africa," the U.S. envoy declared that "similar practices can be identified in the Soviet Union" where "discrimination and persecution is based solely on ancestry and has been on the increase ... In fact, 1984 has been one of the worst years in recent memory," he said.

Schifter added, "Singled out for such discrimination and persecution are the Soviet Union's Jews and it is because the Soviet media reflects the government's point of view that the increase in anti-Semitic propaganda is of serious concern. Soviet anti-Semitism has been offered to the public under the label of anti-Zionism," he charged.

### Persecution Increases Desire To Leave

Schifter emphasized in his remarks that discrimination in the Soviet Union was applied to persons not because of their attitude or political beliefs, but solely because of their ancestry.

"Many of the people who today are victims of this kind of persecution and discrimination are the descendants of persons who helped create the Soviet Union or enthusiastically supported it. It is not surprising that the enthusiasm of the third generation is greatly diminished," he said, noting that the campaign of threats, intimidation, beatings and imprisonment increases the bitterness and the number of Jews eager to leave the USSR is once again growing.

Schifter added: "It is difficult to understand what the Soviet government seeks to achieve by the policy it is now following. Its decisions are normally the result of reasoning rather than being based in emotion. In this case, what is the result to be achieved? If the intention is to drive the Jews out of the country, why not let them emigrate? If the goal is to show certain foreign countries such as the United States that tense foreign relations will result in Jews being victimized, the result is the opposite of what is intended. Any set of violations of human rights by the Soviet Union serves only to aggravate international tension."

### USSR Practices Strongly Questioned

The Soviet Union came under intense questioning and criticism of its treatment of Jews in the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination currently meeting at UN headquarters in New York. Both the Soviet and Ukrainian representatives were pressed to explain the restrictions imposed, not only on Jewish emigration from the USSR but on the study of Hebrew.