

WEST BANK SETTLERS BACK OFF FROM CONFRONTATION WITH SECURITY FORCES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) — Jewish settlers in the West Bank backed off from confrontation with the authorities today after the government made clear it would not tolerate reprisals or vigilantism a way to curb terrorist activity.

Otniel Schneller, head of the council of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, said today that the settlers have no intention of clashing with security forces. He said they fully respected the efforts by police and the Israel Defense Force to maintain security. However, the settlers will continue to pressure the government and Knesset for drastic political measures against Arab terrorism, he said.

The statement was apparently in response to the sharp criticism of settler tactics expressed today by Deputy Premier David Levy, a powerful voice in the Likud leadership who is sympathetic to the settlers' aims.

He said their harassment of Arabs in the territory has become a nuisance for the security forces. Instead of coping with terrorism, the security echelons are forced to deal with Jewish settlers trying to take the law into their own hands, Levy said.

A Clear Message To The Settlers

His remarks followed yesterday's Cabinet decision banning armed patrols by Jewish settlers in Arab towns. That decision and Levy's statement sent a clear message to the settler leadership that the public atmosphere is not in their favor. Their zeal was also curbed by the strong presence of soldiers and police under orders to get tough with anyone, Arab or Jew, who breaches the peace.

Last night, border police prevented settlers from reopening a blocked passageway from the Jewish quarter in Hebron to the casbah or marketplace which has been under curfew since an Israeli soldier was fatally stabbed there last Tuesday.

Groups of armed settlers could be seen yesterday in the streets of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem and Kalkilya. The settlers said they were there to teach the Arabs that Jews would not be intimidated by recent attacks in Hebron and elsewhere. There were no incidents. The settlers said today, after the Cabinet decision, that they would lower their profile.

Jewish settlers in Gaza backed out of a plan to establish a yeshiva at an old synagogue on the waterfront of that Arab city. They cited the intervention of unforeseen elements.

The settlers have been harassing convicted Arab terrorists released from prison last May and allowed to return to their homes. A report yesterday that they set fire to the house of one of them was not entirely accurate. They tried but failed to torch a house which turned out to be the wrong house. The terrorists they were trying to oust were sleeping peacefully in a building a few yards away.

NEW VIOLENCE ON THE WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) — New violence erupted on the West Bank today where Israeli troops,

cracking down on terrorist activity, shot and wounded four Arab youths who ignored warning shots as they fled from a military checkpoint in Hebron.

A military spokesman said the troops fired into the air before hitting the youths, one of whom is 12-years-old. All four were treated on the spot by medical corpsmen and taken to a hospital. They had been stopped for a routine identity check but turned and ran.

Meanwhile, parts of the Arab town of Ramallah were placed under curfew after an Israeli bus was pelted with stones. A firebomb was thrown at another bus near Mt. Zion in Jerusalem.

A bomb was discovered and safely defused in the Jerusalem suburb of Gilo this afternoon, at a school crossing not far from the spot where six pedestrians were slightly injured by an explosive device last week. There were no injuries in any of the incidents.

A crowd of angry local residents gathered and there was considerable shouting in support of Rabbi Meir Kahane and his extremist Kach Party which demands the expulsion of every Arab from Israel.

The military authorities announced the six month closure of an East Jerusalem book store, Al-Mannar, on grounds that it was a front for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a terrorist group.

SHAMIR, IN JAPAN, ANNOUNCES REMAINING SHIITE PRISONERS IN ATLIT DETENTION CAMP WILL BE RELEASED ON TUESDAY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) — The remaining 120 Lebanese Shiite prisoners held by Israel in the Atlit detention camp will be released tomorrow, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced today. He made the announcement in Tokyo where he is on an official visit, the first ever by an Israeli Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier to Japan.

He said Israel's action was in response, among other things, to approaches by the Japanese government on behalf of the prisoners. All of them had been captured in Lebanon and detained for security violations or suspected violations. They have been released in batches ever since the TWA Flight 847 hostage crisis in Beirut last June when the key demand of the hostage-takers was the immediate release of all the prisoners.

The release of the last of the detainees was known to be imminent. Shamir was the first Israeli official to say when. The Foreign Minister is reportedly hard at work promoting Israeli technology and agriculture in Japan. He has been meeting with top Japanese officials, including two Deputy Ministers of International Trade and Industry.

Shamir's Visit Arouses Great Interest

Reports from Tokyo say Shamir's visit has aroused great and generally positive interest in the mass media there. The Israeli diplomat has made a point of meeting with Japan's leading editors and broadcasters. He toured Tokyo's "Expo-85" exhibition yesterday, remarking that it was a pity budgetary considerations prevented Israel from being represented.

He said Israeli agricultural techniques would certainly be of interest to Japanese and other visitors to the fair.

Shamir's trip, at the invitation of the Japanese government, is seen here as a signal that Japan is interested in warming relations with Israel. They have been cautious and cool until now, largely owing to Japan's dependence on the Arab oil producing states for its petroleum. Shamir has expressed keen interest in closer relations with Japan in both commerce and political dialogue. He is accompanied on his trip by senior executives of Israel's largest high-technology firms.

KNESSET APPROVES BILL OUTLAWING MEETINGS BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF TERRORIST GROUPS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- The Knesset, by an overwhelming majority, passed a bill today outlawing meetings between Israelis and representatives of terrorist organizations. But two dissenting Knesset members indicated they were about to challenge the new law by doing precisely what it forbids.

The Knesset, still in summer recess, was recalled for a special session to act on the measure and also to extend current wage restrictions. The bill was supported by most Likud MKs, the religious parties and the rightwing Tehiya Party. It also had the backing of Labor Party hawks. Though many Laborites criticized it, all voted in favor of the measure because they were bound to by their coalition agreement with Likud.

The only Labor MK to cast a negative vote was an Arab, Abdul Wahab Darawshe. He was joined by the leftwing opposition parties which argued that the law made it impossible to establish any dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization and would thus prove an obstacle to peace.

The two members of the Progressive List for Peace, Mattityahu Peled and Mohammad Miari, were absent today. But they released a statement saying they were now in Geneva to attend a United Nations conference and would be meeting there with PLO representative Shafik Al-Hout. That meeting will provide the first test of the effectiveness of the new law.

KNESSET SPEAKER MEETS WITH ARAB MERCHANTS FROM TULKAREM

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel received a delegation of Arab merchants from Tulkarem at his office here today in what was seen as a direct rebuke to the Mayor of Netanya who snubbed the same delegation a week ago. He told his guests a dialogue with them was desirable and mandatory in the interests of peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs.

The delegation had gone to Netanya last Wednesday to offer condolences for the murder of a Netanya resident, Andre Aloush, while shopping in Tulkarem, in the West Bank, three weeks ago. The Mayor said he refused to see them because they came only a day after an Israeli soldier, Avraham Sorek, was stabbed to death in Hebron.

The secretary of the Tulkarem Chamber of Commerce told Hillel that the city's leaders want to erase the bitter feelings engendered by the murder of Aloush. He said he was convinced the killer was not a resident of Tulkarem.

PLANS TO BUILD MORMON EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN JERUSALEM GETS STRONG BOOST FROM KOLLEK'S CITY COUNCIL FACTION By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Plans by Brigham Young University (BYU) to build a multi-million dollar Mormon educational center on Mt. Scopus, adjacent to the Hebrew University campus, received a strong boost today when Mayor Teddy Kollek's majority "One Jerusalem" faction in the City Council voted unanimously to support an arrangement aimed at defusing the bitter controversy the project has aroused.

The arrangement was proposed recently by Jeffrey Holland, president of BYU which is headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, seat of the Mormon Church. It calls for a board of prominent Israelis to oversee the activities of the planned new center.

The project has been fiercely opposed by Orthodox circles in Israel, led by the two Chief Rabbis, Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu, and the Hasidic Rebbe of Gur. They point to the Mormon Church's long record of proselytization all over the world and have expressed fear that a Mormon center alongside Hebrew University would serve as the focus for Mormon missionary activity in Israel.

Reply By The Mormons

BYU has replied that they are a major accredited university, not merely an adjunct of their church. They point out that while the Mormon faith seeks converts, it does not proselytize where the local authorities forbid such activities.

They noted further that the BYU Jerusalem program has been in operation for more than a decade at Kibbutz Ramat Rahel, within the city limits, and has never engaged in proselytization.

BYU runs five month undergraduate courses here for its students from the U.S. The curriculum includes the Bible, history, archaeology and Middle East politics.

The Orthodox opponents admit there have been no known instances of missionary activity by BYU since the program began. But they claim BYU deliberately kept a low profile in order to obtain permission to build the center on Mt. Scopus and that once built, it will become aggressively missionary.

The Orthodox have been supported by Likud-Herut MK Dov Shilansky, chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee. He has not made clear his position toward Holland's proposals. But the municipal planning committee has already given the green light to the project and legally, construction cannot now be prevented.

5 CONVICTED JEWISH UNDERGROUND MEMBERS APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT FOR LIGHTER SENTENCES

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Five convicted members of a Jewish terrorist underground have appealed to the Supreme Court for lighter sentences. The State prosecution, meanwhile, contends that their sentences are too light and has appealed to the high court to impose stiffer penalties.

Nathan Nathanson, Haim Ben-David and Barak Neer filed their appeals for reduced sentences. Nathanson was convicted of membership in a terrorist organization, causing serious bodily harm and participating in the car bomb attacks against three Arab mayors in June, 1980. He was sentenced to three years in prison.

He contended in his appeal that he had been brainwashed into confessing the crimes and claimed his in-

terrogators told him that amnesty for all of the accused Jewish terrorists depended on his confession. Ben-David was sentenced to three-and-a-half years in prison for his part in a conspiracy to blow up Islamic shrines on the Temple Mount. Neer drew a six year jail term for participation in the machinegun and grenade attack on the Islamic University in Hebron in which three Palestinian students were killed and for planting bombs in Arab buses in East Jerusalem in an attempt to blow them up.

Two other convicted terrorists, Hagai Segal and Yitzhak Novick, also filed their appeals with the Supreme Court.

JEWISH LEADERS FROM U.S. AND ABROAD MEET REAGAN ON SOVIET JEWRY ISSUE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Seven Jewish leaders from the United States, Israel and other countries stressed to President Reagan today that while Jews want Reagan's summit conference with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in November to be successful, that will depend on the Soviets living up to their agreements on human rights for Jews and others in the USSR.

"If the Soviet Union cannot be trusted to keep its word on a matter of humanity such as human rights on which their national security is not at stake, can we trust the Soviet Union to keep its word with respect to an arms agreement or matters affecting their national security," Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said to reporters after the 15-minute White House meeting.

Abram said that Reagan assured the group of his "dedication" to human rights concerns and his "deep interest" in obtaining increased emigration and other rights for Jews. He told the group that "we can rest assured it will be a matter to be discussed" at the Geneva summit.

The visit was held as part of the meeting of the International Council of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry in which delegates from 25 countries participated yesterday and today at the B'nai B'rith International headquarters here. Also meeting with Reagan were:

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry; Gerald Kraft, president of B'nai B'rith International; Isi Leibler, president of the Board of Deputies of Australian Jews; Claude Kelman, chairman of the French Council for Soviet Jewry; Gregorio Faigon, president of the Argentine Jewish community; and Jerry Goodman, executive director of the NCSJ.

Not Asking For Any Formal Linkage

"If the Soviet Union seriously wants disarmament and detente the easiest way they can accomplish a climate in which to achieve this is by living up to their agreement (in the Helsinki Accords) on which the ink is not really dry," Abram declared.

He stressed that while "we do not ask that there be any formal linkage" between any agreement with the Soviet Union on arms or anything else and the plight of Soviet Jewry, there is an "unavoidable linkage arising and deriving from the fact that any agreement with the Soviet Union must be based on the credibility of the Soviet plighted word."

Abram pointed out that while it may be difficult to verify Soviet violations of the SALT II agreement, "there is no doubt that they are in flagrant violation

of their undertakings under the Helsinki Accords. Only 11 Jews left the Soviet Union last August, the smallest number of Jews to leave that country in the past 12 years.

As examples of other violations, Abram said the Soviets are arresting Hebrew teachers at the rate of one a month since the beginning of the year and that the persecution of Jews is increasing, with refuseniks "increasingly harassed, arrested, imprisoned." He said this situation has worsened since Gorbachev came to power.

Abram said that Jews are "delighted" that there will be a summit conference since Reagan will be able to raise these issues with Gorbachev. "We hope these conversations will be successful," he said. "We hope the Soviet Union will change its posture and attitude. We want peace, we want freedom, we want detente." But Abram stressed that "we feel the question of credibility and trust is in Soviet hands and so far that record isn't good."

Abram noted that Secretary of State George Shultz has raised the issue of Soviet Jewry at every meeting with Soviet officials on all levels.

Earlier, speaking to the World Conference, Alan Gottlieb, the Canadian Ambassador to the U.S., said his government follows the same policy. Gottlieb said he rejected the views of those who wanted the Western nations to abandon the Helsinki Accords because he believes the agreement gives the West the "right to demand" of the Soviet Union why human rights are being violated.

International Vigil For Soviet Jews

Delegates to the World Conference took time out of their meeting this afternoon to join in an International Solidarity Vigil for Soviet Jews outside the Soviet Embassy.

"We are here in an act of solidarity with this great Jewish community of Washington, in an act of solidarity with Soviet Jewry, with all the Jews throughout the world and with all the nations in the world now engaged in a great struggle," Dulzin told some 60 demonstrators at the vigil. "But we believe that justice will be accomplished for our brethren in Soviet Russia," he said.

Coordinated by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, a 15-minute vigil for Soviet Jews has been held daily opposite the Russian Embassy for the past 14 years.

In addition to Dulzin, the rally was addressed by Helene Karpa, president of the JCC, Judge Nelson Diaz, of Philadelphia and Norwegian Rabbi Michael Melchior. Melchior urged the new Soviet regime to "show that we can trust them when they sign international agreements."

No attempt was made by the representatives at the demonstration to gain admission to the Embassy.

Rep. Dante Fascell (D. Fla.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, told the conference earlier in the day that the condition for Jews in the USSR "are deplorable and getting worse." He said he was pessimistic about any improvements from the new regime and didn't expect "any miracles" from them.

JERUSALEM -- Some 900 scholars of Jewish studies, including 400 from countries outside of Israel, gathered this summer at the Hebrew University for the Ninth World Congress of Jewish Studies. The congress is convened every four years in Jerusalem by the World Union of Jewish Studies.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES A NEW LOBBYING GROUP By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 (JTA) — As the U.S., Israel and Jordan haggle over acceptable partners for Middle East Peace talks, a new member of Washington's lobbying scene is pushing for its own formula: no negotiations at all.

Having just opened an office in the capital, the Americans for a Safe Israel (AFSI) announced last week it would try to turn the Reagan Administration away from the idea that territory can be traded for peace to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. They will work to persuade legislators that permanent Israeli control of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan is essential to Israeli security.

"The concept of trading territory for a peace treaty, which is meaningless in the Middle East, is something which we oppose," AFSI director Peter Goldman told journalists at a press conference in his new office last Thursday.

Observing that some of his views are at odds not only with U.S. policy but with the views of many others in the Jewish community, Goldman said he is opposed to negotiations with Jordan, since any such talks would be over control of the West Bank.

Coordination With Fundamentalist Groups

In addition to working with Congress, AFSI hopes to coordinate closely with some of the Christian fundamentalist groups supportive of Israel, Goldman said. He added that his organization "has a plan" that "would galvanize this great support" among the country's evangelical groups.

Founded 14 years ago to promote the view that a strong and secure Israel is in the best interest of the United States, AFSI remains a small organization, with some 6,000 members spread over 12 chapters across the country. But Goldman said his movement has begun to make itself felt.

He pointed out that two Senators had already contacted him in his new Washington office requesting information on issues related to pending Middle East legislation.

An American ideological counterpart of Israel's ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party, AFSI has worked closely with conservative Sen. Jesse Helms (R. N.C.), as he has completed a dramatic turnaround in his stand toward the Jewish State.

Having called for the suspension of U.S. relations with Israel following the latter's invasion of Lebanon in 1981, Helms recently sent a letter to President Reagan urging him to support permanent Israeli control of Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza.

The organization has also taken to the media, with a new radio program "AFSI on the Air: America, Israel and You." The half-hour show will be aired weekly in New York and Washington.

Seeking Wider Acceptance

Now that AFSI has made itself known to some and even won a few receptive ears in Congress, the organization is seeking the acceptance of some of the mainstream Israel supporters in this country.

But AFSI remains somewhere on the fringe. Not eager to be associated with the militancy of Rabbi Meir Kahane, Goldman criticized the latter's anti-Arab views in the softest of tones. Kahane's call to expel all the Arabs from Israel is "impractical and probably not necessary," Goldman said.

But there are graver threats than those posed by Kahaneism, he pointed out. "I think a greater danger to Israel comes from Saridism and Ebanism," Goldman said, referring to Labor's dovish Abba Eban and Yossi Sarid, who recently left the Labor Party for the Civil Rights Movement.

MODAI: 'CHECK IS ON ITS WAY' FOR \$750 MILLION IN SUPPLEMENTAL ECONOMIC AID FROM THE UNITED STATES

DETROIT, Sept. 9 (JTA) — Israel's Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai told 300 American Jewish leaders here that Israel has received \$750 million in supplemental economic aid from the U.S. and "a check is on its way" to Jerusalem.

Modai, addressing the banquet session of the four-day 1985 Israel Bond Leadership Campaign which ended yesterday, said this was an indication of America's satisfaction with Israel for taking the proper but difficult policies for economic recovery last July.

The Finance Minister, who conferred with Administration officials before coming here, said, "After meeting with Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of the Treasury James Baker in Washington these past two days, I am certain Israel can rely on the friendship of the U.S."

Modai asserted that the Administration is very sincere in trying to help the countries of the Middle East find peace. "Israel would make any sacrifice for peace but only if the peace will be there permanently," he said. He ruled out any dealings with the Palestine Liberation Organization or its leader, Yasser Arafat.

'Israel Has Paid In Blood And Lives'

"Israel has paid in blood and lives for its security and does not have the right to take risks for vague promises on behalf of its citizens," Modai said. Referring to the possibility of U.S. arms sales to Jordan and other Arab countries, Modai stressed that Israel is unalterably opposed to such moves. Israel, he said, would object to "any supply of any arms to any nation which does not come to terms with Israel." He said experience has shown that such arms would be turned against Israel.

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yehudah Halevy, president of the Israel Bond Organization, presented his analysis of the 1984-85 campaign. He asserted that the funds mobilized by the Bond Organization are "Israel's working capital." Halevy observed that "security is not only tanks and planes. It also means a strong economy."

Israeli Premier Shimon Peres, in a message from Jerusalem to the conference, pointed out that "Israelis in all walks of life have willingly accepted stringent measures which we hope will help us achieve a speedy recovery and restore the nation to economic stability and growth." He called upon the assembled delegates to "increase and expand your efforts" to help Israel overcome its economic crisis. Israel's President Chaim Herzog also sent a message, stating, "In the crucial effort to revive both growth and its concomitant, employment, increased investment can help markedly to advance Israel along the road to economic health and strength."

No Bulletins will be published September 15, 16 and 17, Rosh Hashanah.