

PERES: ISRAEL IS DETERMINED TO ESTABLISH A DIALOGUE WITH JORDAN By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres of Israel vowed Sunday night that despite many obstacles, Israel will continue to seek ways to establish a dialogue with Jordan that would lead to a peaceful agreement between the two countries.

Addressing more than 1,200 Jewish leaders at an Israel Bonds dinner here, Peres said in a live satellite address from Jerusalem that Israel is trying "very much to establish a dialogue with Jordan" and stressed that despite the difficulties, "We should never lose hope" that eventually Israel and Jordan will meet for direct, face to face peace negotiations.

Peres' address was to leaders from the United States, Canada, Europe and Latin America who attended a gala dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of David Ben Gurion.

Outside the hotel, some 5,000 Hasidic Jews of the anti-Zionist Satmar sect demonstrated, charging Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, who was in attendance at the dinner, with "brutal" treatment of members of the Hasidic group that live in Jerusalem. (See separate story.)

Trying To Reduce Tensions With Syria

Peres also said that Israel hopes that once its differences with Egypt are ironed out and negotiations between the two countries over the Tabá territory near Eilat are concluded, the peace efforts can be concentrated between Israel and Jordan.

He noted that Israel has changed its settlement policy in the West Bank and that Israel has been working continuously to improve the standard of living of the Palestinians in that area.

The Israeli leader said that his country is trying to reduce tension with Syria, stressing that Israel is not interested in exacerbating relations with Syria. Peres also said that Israel will completely withdraw from Lebanon, and remove its remaining troops in the "security zone" in south Lebanon, once it is absolutely assured that there is no danger to Israeli settlements in the north.

Ben Gurion's Vision Still Valid

In paying tribute to Ben Gurion, Israel's first Premier, Peres, who was a disciple of Ben Gurion, said that his vision to ingather the Jews of the world in Israel and make Israel strong to enable her to reach peace is still valid today. He called on world Jewry to continue its "partnership" with Israel and help the Jewish State achieve peace and economic independence.

Kollek, who played a leading role in the founding of Israel Bonds and toured the United States with Ben Gurion in 1951 when he (Ben Gurion) launched the Bond campaign in this country, told the Jewish leaders that Jerusalem "will never be divided again."

He said that Jerusalem must remain an "open, liberal, pluralistic city" shared by believers of all faiths. He said that "nobody should be excluded from Jerusalem," warning that "if we exclude anybody

from Jerusalem" then "difficulties will be created for Jews all over the world." Kollek called on world Jewry to come to Israel, "Visit Israel. Don't be scared, don't be frightened," he said referring to the fact that tourism to Israel has dropped sharply in recent months as a result of the terrorist scare. "Come to Israel. Don't hand (Libyan leader Muammar) Qaddafi a free victory by staying home," Kollek urged.

Seventeen distinguished world Jewish leaders were honored at the dinner for their "exemplary service to the Jewish people in the spirit of Ben Gurion," as leaders of major American and world Jewish organizations. The Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., Meir Rosenne, presented Ben Gurion Centennial Medals on behalf of Peres to each of the honorees.

The chairman of the dinner, David Hermelin, who is international campaign chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, announced at the conclusion of the dinner that more than \$104 million in Israel Bonds were purchased in honor of Ben Gurion's centennial.

PROBE STILL LIKELY INTO 'SENIOR AIDE' SCANDAL DESPITE CABINET'S DECISION TO REPLACE ZAMIR By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA) -- The newly appointed Attorney General, Yosef Harish, is not expected to drop the impending investigation of a "senior official" accused of obstructing justice, Justice Minister Yitzhak Modaí indicated Monday.

But the probe probably will be conducted, in secrecy, by a special judicial commission instead of by the police as originally instructed by outgoing Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir.

Modaí spoke briefly to reporters following a meeting with Harish and Zamir. He also discussed the affair guardedly in an interview published Monday in The Jerusalem Post. He confirmed that he and a majority of senior Cabinet ministers would prefer that the entire matter be dropped for reasons of national security.

The Cabinet announced Sunday that Harish, a 62-year-old Tel Aviv District Court Judge, would replace Zamir, effective Wednesday. Zamir, who held the office for nearly eight years, announced several months ago that he planned to resign but agreed to stay on until a replacement was found. He said Monday that he would cooperate fully with his successor to ease the transition.

Action Triggers Agenda Motions

The Cabinet's action triggered four urgent agenda motions in the Knesset Monday to debate the timing of the move and "the hasty manner in which it was carried out." Zamir's replacement followed reports over the weekend that he was determined to pursue the case which he saw as a confrontation between the rule of law and those who would bend the law in the interests of national security.

The matter is extremely sensitive because the "senior official" involved, though never officially identified, is generally acknowledged to be Avraham Shalom, head of Shabak, Israel's internal security and counter-espionage agency commonly known as Shin Bet. Shalom is responsible directly to the Prime Minister.

According to Zamir, the "senior official" stands accused of suborning witnesses to perjury, fabrication of evidence and other obstructionist tactics to block an inquiry into the unexplained deaths of two Arab terrorists captured alive by the Israel Defense Force on April 13, 1984 after hijacking an Egged bus. The pair is believed to have been beaten to death by Israeli security agents before they could be transferred to jail.

Supreme Court Hearing Set

Modai said Monday that Harish will want to study the case before he decides what action to take. He also disclosed that a date has been set for a Supreme Court hearing connected with the affair but refused to give the date or elaborate in any way.

In his press interview he made clear that he is actively seeking to prevent a police inquiry ordered by Zamir. It was delayed pending the return of Police Inspector-General David Kraus from a trip abroad later this week. According to Modai, Zamir himself was prepared to support a judicial commission of inquiry instead of a police investigation. Modai said Zamir formally acquainted Harish with his position at their meeting.

State Security At Issue

Modai made no secret of the fact that he and other members of the Inner Cabinet, including Premier Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, believe there should not be an investigation because of the extreme sensitivity of the matter at issue for State security.

But failing to prevent this, he, and Peres, prefer a judicial commission to a police inquiry. Modai said, though Shamir and his Herut colleagues, vehemently oppose any inquiry. Peres and other Labor ministers however, are understood to be ready to accept, although reluctantly, the need for some sort of inquiry. They would settle for a judicial commission appointed by the President of the Supreme Court.

By law, the terms of reference of an inquiry commission are laid down by the Cabinet. This has led some political commentators to suggest that the Cabinet would try to prevent the commission from examining the actions and failures to act, by Shamir who was Premier at the time of the incident and Peres who took office only a few months later. But eminent legal authorities argued that the new Attorney General should have a key role in determining the terms of reference of the commission.

Delay "Seems Inevitable"

Meanwhile, in a later development, Harish indicated that he would probably give instructions to delay the investigation against the head of Shin Bet while he studied the case. After a day of meetings in Jerusalem with Modai and Zamir, Harish told reporters that he had no final decision, but a delay in the procedure "seems inevitable." He indicated his study would take some time.

Peres, at the same time, told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that he would ask the new Attorney General to ensure the secrecy of whatever investigative procedure he eventually decided upon.

SHARON: PROBLEM IS PEOPLE 'NOT WANTING TO WORK'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA) — Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon maintained Monday that there is no "hard" unemployment in Israel at present, "just pockets here and there." He also claimed there is "a problem of people not wanting to work."

Sharon, a Herut hardliner, angrily denied claims that money invested in West Bank settlements was money denied to development towns inside Israel. Such claims have been made by Labor Party and other politicians against the background of rising unemployment and economic stagnation in some development towns.

But Sharon, addressing workers at Migdal HaEmek, said that in 1985, only \$15 million was invested in industry in the West Bank and Gaza Strip compared to \$180 million in development town industries.

He said another \$111 million went to kibbutz-owned industries and a further \$161 million to Histadrut-owned industries. "I do not begrudge any industry ... It was wrong though to argue that these various industries competed to the exclusion of each other for investment funds," Sharon said.

SENATE VOTE SLATED FOR THURSDAY

WASHINGTON, June 2 (JTA) — The Senate is scheduled to vote on Thursday afternoon on whether to override or sustain President Reagan's veto of the Congressional resolution rejecting his proposed sale of missiles to Saudi Arabia. The vote will come after four hours of debate. Prior to vetoing the resolution, Reagan removed plans to sell the Saudis the Stinger shoulder-fired missile from the arms package.

THOUSANDS PROTEST AGAINST KOLLEK

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) — Thousands upon thousands of Hasidim converged on the area surrounding the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here Sunday to protest the presence of Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, whom they accuse in the strongest terms of being anti-religious Jews.

The massive crowd, estimated at upwards of 5,000, swelled the streets surrounding the luxurious Park Avenue hotel where Kollek was addressing an Israel Bonds dinner. Arriving in chartered buses, the Hasidim, coming from Brooklyn and Rockland County, New York, poured into the streets facing and adjacent to the hotel, separated men from women. The women pushed baby carriages as they, too, closed in on the hotel's main entrance.

The protest was coordinated by the Central Rabbinical Congress of the U.S.A. and Canada, which represents what are known as "Haredim," i.e., those who, for the most part, are against the State of Israel as a Jewish-governed country. The focus of the demonstration was twofold: to protest what they say are midnight arrests of Hasidim in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem, and the proposed erection in that city of a Mormon center, to be located next to the Hebrew University.

Protesters spoke vigorously and angrily against what they claim are illegal arrests of innocent Hasidim and other religious Jews without due process of law, charged with defacing what they consider pornographic

posters of women in their own neighborhood, including the buses that pass through the ultra-Orthodox quarter. Those speaking from the grandstand, as well as individuals interviewed in the crowd, railed against what they term the brutal arrest and imprisonment of black-garbed Jews in their homes at midnight and the wee hours of the morning, without sufficient proof for arrest, and their detention for days or weeks without legal counsel, and held with hardened criminals in communal cells with little food.

The demonstration was the second such in less than 24 hours. Saturday night at about 11 p.m., hundreds of Hasidim encircled the hotel on foot and automobile, honking horns and snarling traffic in the congested area.

In Sunday's protest, held very high above the throngs were huge posters bearing such slogans as "Stop Persecuting and Torturing Hasidic Jews in Israel," "Zionism Is a Misfortune for the Jews," and "Hitler, Stalin, Kollek." A tremendous grandstand area was set up diagonally across from the hotel, on Park Avenue, and rabbi after rabbi addressed the huge gathering, speaking in Yiddish and occasionally in English.

BRONFMAN SAYS ELECTING WALDHEIM WOULD BE A SYMBOLIC ACT OF AMNESTY FOR THE HOLOCAUST

LONDON, June 2 (JTA) — "The election of Kurt Waldheim to the office of President of Austria "would be an act of symbolic amnesty for the Holocaust," Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, charged in a speech here Monday night. He described the former United Nations Secretary General as an "amoral and unrepentant liar."

The occasion for Bronfman's remarks was a reception marking the 20th anniversary of the London-based Institute of Jewish Affairs. It coincides with the release by the WJC of a 95-page report detailing its findings about Waldheim's "hidden years" — the years of his service as a Wehrmacht intelligence officer in the Balkans which he omitted from his memoirs and concealed for 40 years.

The WJC has compiled evidence linking the Austrian Presidential candidate with Nazi atrocities against Yugoslavian partisans and civilians and the deportation of Greek Jews. The evidence has been corroborated from other sources such as the files of the United Nations War Crimes Commission. Nevertheless, Waldheim remains the front-runner in the Austrian run-off elections next Sunday. During the elections on May 4 he came within four-tenths of a percentage point of winning half the vote and thereby avoiding a run-off.

Bronfman stated that Waldheim represents a "fresh assault on the conscience of mankind" in which "we are asked to believe that in a titanic struggle that took the lives of millions of people, there was no distinction between aggressors and victims." The WJC president assailed the "selective moral amnesia" which Waldheim symbolized and by which "we are urged to believe that events and horrors that that should never be forgotten no longer matter."

He condemned "the rising overtones, innuendos, euphemisms and threats that have risen in the wake of the (Waldheim) disclosures," warning that they "make it clear that the danger of a repetition of the horrors of nearly a half-century ago are all too real." He was referring to an anti-Semitic backlash in Austria.

'SELECTIVE PROSECUTION' COMPLAINT TO BE REVIEWED BY COURT JUDGE By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, June 2 (JTA) — A Superior Court judge here agreed Monday to review a complaint that demonstrators arrested at Soviet Jewry protests are being subjected to "selective prosecution."

The charge of selective prosecution was put forward by attorneys for a group of 20 rabbis and one Jewish lay leader arrested for demonstrating too close to the Soviet Embassy.

It marks the first time since the courts began hearing these cases last year that the presiding judge has agreed to consider the motion that charges be dismissed on the grounds of selective prosecution.

130 Have Been Arrested

Attorneys for the more than 130 people arrested in a series of Embassy demonstrations over the past year have routinely presented the selective prosecution motion on the grounds that the Soviet Jewry protesters have allegedly been prosecuted at the behest of the Soviet government. Charges have never been pressed, they observed, against the hundreds of anti-apartheid demonstrators arrested outside the South African Embassy.

Judge Carlisle Pratt, who has not presided at previous Soviet Embassy protest trials, said he would take the argument "under advisement" and suspended Monday's hearing until September 30.

The group of 21, which included Rabbi Alexander Shapiro, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative movement, and Rabbi Jack Stern, president of the Reform movement's Central Conference of American Rabbis, was arrested on March 27, and like those arrested previously, was charged with violating a District of Columbia statute banning demonstrations within 500 feet of an embassy.

Seen As A Breakthrough

The judge's decision was taken as a breakthrough in the efforts of group after group to have the charges against them dismissed, both on the grounds of selective prosecution as well as what they have charged is the unconstitutionality of the statute.

"Despite government pleas, the judge is willing to look at the causes behind the prosecution," Shapiro observed following Monday's hearing. "It dramatizes the contrast between our system and that of the Soviet Union. It should prove that there is no difference when Americans protest on behalf of racism in South Africa and when Jews and other Americans protest on behalf of racism in the USSR."

The Administration has consistently denied the selective prosecution charge, maintaining that its policy is to prosecute in all cases where the embassy statute is violated, unless the embassy involved specifically requests that the charges not be pressed. In the case of the South African Embassy, such a request had been made, Administration officials have said.

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) — The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Monday that a total of 49 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union during May, believed to be among the lowest monthly totals since the Soviet Union began restricting Jewish emigration. Seventeen of the 49 Jews went to Israel.

SPECIALIST IN FARM CRISIS TO WORK FOR KANSAS CITY JEWISH GROUP WITH AID OF GRANT FROM ORT

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 2 (JTA) -- In a further effort to ease the plight of Midwest farmers and to counter the activities of extremist groups in the region, the Jewish Community Relations Bureau of Kansas City, together with a grant from Women's American ORT recently hired a specialist to work full time on addressing the farm crisis and rural anti-Semitism.

In hiring Carol Smith, a 36-year-old native of Highland, Kansas, the JCRB of Kansas City becomes the only Jewish agency in the country with an employee working full time on the farm issue, according to David Goldstein, JCRB executive director.

Focusing initially on Kansas and western Missouri, ORT and JCRB hope to work with local farm organizations, Christian clergy, rural media, educators and elected public officials to determine how the Jewish community can best help alleviate the effects of the farm crisis, according to a report in the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle.

No Short Term Solution

Smith, in a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said she does not anticipate any short term solutions to the plight of America's farming community. In fact, she noted that her family recently lost their family farm, held since 1910.

But she stressed that it is imperative that the Jewish community remain alerted to the needs of the farmers, and said that Jewish community activism can serve as one method to offset efforts by extremist organizations active in the Midwest who seek to recruit desperate farmers.

According to JCRB statistics, an estimated 2,000 to 5,000 "hard core" anti-Semites thrive in the plains states and Midwest and another seven to 10 sympathizers exist for those "hard-core" activists. An estimated 14,000 to 50,000 people are claimed to subscribe to some degree to the theory that an organized Jewish conspiracy is responsible for the problems of the farmers and other rural people.

Goldstein told the Chronicle, "The agricultural crisis has produced a pervasive despair which in turn has meant a rapidly increasing rate of suicide, alcoholism, mental illness, child abuse, and spouse abuse. These are the classic conditions that spawn anti-Semitism."

'A Natural Partner'

According to Goldstein, projects being considered range from direct financial aid for emergency food assistance to developing expanded mental health services to deal with family problems, to a crisis hotline, legal advice and vocational guidance. The JCRB also will try to work with other Jewish agencies to make their services available to farmers.

In turn, the Jewish community will be able to voice its concerns and share information about anti-Semitic extremist groups with responsible community leaders and with the farmers themselves, Goldstein said.

Goldstein said ORT was a natural partner for the JCRB in its farm crisis program. A member of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council for many years, ORT has its own community relations program and one of its priorities is anti-Semitism, he said.

"Women's American ORT, as a result of its involvement with this project nationally, wants to become involved locally in hands-on projects with farmers," said Goldstein. Among the projects being considered are a woman-to-woman program between ORT members and farm women and ORT involvement in petition drives.

With ORT's 145,000 members nationally, Goldstein explained that the organization's support in gathering petitions dealing with the farm issue could have a major impact on the nation's elected officials.

A Moral Responsibility

"Farmers need to have urban support for legislation to help with agricultural problems," Goldstein said. "Jews can play a big part in spearheading that campaign. All of those kinds of programs -- the petition project and the woman-to-woman program -- have to do with the problem that farmers feel that nobody cares about them, especially the Jewish community."

In announcing the program, Gertrude White, national president of ORT, said, "What began as a concern about anti-Semitism has evolved into a very real concern about farmers and rural people in this country. Once we started learning about their problems, we felt we had a moral responsibility toward them."

Smith, meanwhile, who grew up on a dairy farm in Kansas, has for the past several years been active in the farm protest movement. A musician who has performed farm protest folk songs at many farm rallies throughout the Midwest, she already is acquainted with many farm movement leaders and clergymen attempting to help ease the plight of farmers, Goldstein told the Chronicle.

RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM DENOUNCED

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 2 (JTA) -- A strong denunciation of religious fundamentalism marked the opening session of the European Conference of the International Council of Jewish Women in Zurich Monday. The gathering, which drew 230 delegates from European countries, including Hungary and Yugoslavia, and from Israel, Argentina and Canada, has as its main topic, "Youth of Today -- Jews of Tomorrow."

Leila Seigel, president of the ICJW, declared in her opening address, "We are disturbed by the progress of religious fundamentalism, whatever its origin. Fidelity to our faith and identity does not mean fanaticism. We have based our ideals on the Jewish tradition which calls for mutual respect."

Seigel added, "Our approach is based on dialogue. We believe in partnership between men and women, between youth and adults, even though we will not agree on everything."

The Conference, chaired by Beatrice Zucker of Switzerland and Thea Zucker of Belgium, sent an appeal to the Conference of European Rabbis, currently taking place in Belgium. The rabbis were urged "not only to consider solutions to the very evident problems" affecting women "but to make some statements about actions and efforts to deal with them."

The problems of concern include get, religious divorce; agunah, a presumed widow who cannot re-marry because there is no conclusive proof of her widowhood; and chalitzah, a ritual relieving a man from the religious obligation of marrying his deceased brother's widow.

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (JTA) -- The University of Hartford's Maurice Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies celebrated the gift of 1,000 Yiddish books from the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass.