

**ISRAEL, EGYPT STILL MEETING TO LAY
GROUNDWORK FOR PERES-MUBARAK SUMMIT;
LIKUD ATTACKS PERES AS TOO CONCILIATORY**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) --Whether Premier Shimon Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would hold their summit meeting Thursday was still unclear Tuesday as Israeli and Egyptian negotiators in Cairo engaged in last-minute efforts to reach a compromise agreement on arbitration of the Taba border dispute. The meeting was postponed from Wednesday because of the same disagreement.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismet Abdel-Meguid met with both teams at midday Tuesday and another negotiating session was planned for the evening. Meguid told reporters afterwards that the summit still could take place.

Israel Radio announced earlier that Peres had ordered the Israeli delegation to return home after the morning round of talks ended inconclusively. But Peres apparently later agreed to an evening session which U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will attend.

Murphy's hasty return to Cairo from a visit to Saudi Arabia was seen here as a sign of intensive pressure being applied on Egypt by the U.S. to go ahead with the summit. Mubarak has insisted there can be no summit until the Taba issue is settled.

Problem With Arbitrator

A snag developed when Egypt and Israel failed to agree on the third member of the three-man arbitration panel and on the position of boundary markers for Taba. Taba is a 25-acre strip of beach front on the Red Sea and is held by Israel. Egypt claims it is part of Sinai and thus Egyptian territory.

Israeli commentators believe that Taba is being used by the Egyptians as a pretext to avoid a summit that they fear would score no breakthrough on the broader Palestinian issues. They noted that the semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram and other Egyptian media have been focusing on the Palestinian issue rather than Taba.

Israeli reporters in Cairo have pointed to Mubarak's top aide, Osama El-Baz, as the toughest Egyptian policymaker. They noted his frequent meetings with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization while the pre-summit talks with Israel were under way.

Mubarak himself exchanged letters this week with PLO chief Yasir Arafat, presumably part of an effort to heal the rift between the PLO and Jordan, and present Israel with a United Arab front on the Palestinian questions, barring rejectionists.

Likud Slams Peres

Meanwhile, Likud leaders have mounted a barrage against Peres, alleging he is too willing to grant concessions to Cairo. Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens said Tuesday that Israel's over-enthusiasm to hold a summit meeting in contrast with Cairo's reluctance could hardly give the average Israeli a feeling of self-respect.

Likud MK Yoram Aridor blasted Peres for weakness and concessions over Taba. He claimed it was the Likud partners in the unity coalition government who forced Peres to give no further ground.

Labor Party spokesmen flatly rejected Likud charges. They insisted Peres has stood firm wherever Israel's interests could allow no further compromise. They stressed that Peres had made it clear that he would not be pressured by Egypt over Taba in return for a summit meeting.

Peres has maintained all along that a summit with Mubarak would thaw the chill that has pervaded Jerusalem's relations with Cairo since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 and Egypt recalled its Ambassador from Tel Aviv. Peres believes a summit would lead rapidly to a full normalization of relations under the terms of the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

**BACKGROUND REPORT:
TURKISH GOVERNMENT ALARMED AT
TERRORIST ATTACK; TURKISH JEWS HAD LIVED
IN TRANQUILITY FOR SIX YEARS**
By George Gruen

(Editor's note: George Gruen is Director of Israel and Middle East Affairs for the American Jewish Committee.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- The brutal and sadistic massacre by "Arabic-speaking" terrorists of more than a score of Jews attending services at Istanbul's refurbished Neve Shalom Synagogue has shocked and horrified the civilized world. For the 20,000 Jews of Istanbul, Neve Shalom, the venerable "Abode of Peace" in Hebrew, was suddenly transformed into a charnel house and conflagration.

The attack was all the more disconcerting because the Jewish community had become accustomed to living in tranquility and peace under the new democratic institutions reestablished after the Turkish military authorities had intervened in September 1980 to end the terrorist violence that had disrupted the country.

But Jewish religious institutions never became targets even at the height of the domestic turmoil. Leftist terrorist groups, such as the Turkish People's Liberation Army (TPLA), which had assassinated Israeli Consul General Ephraim Elrom in Istanbul in 1971, had received training in Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Their anti-Israel violence was motivated by their radical view of Israel as the ally of Western imperialism. They also attacked British and Canadian as well as American officials in Turkey. The Turkish authorities had caught, convicted and hanged three TPLA leaders in 1972.

In the resurgence of violence that gripped Turkey in the late 1970's, leftist groups again targeted Israeli diplomats, employees of El Al, the Israeli airline which provides direct flights between Istanbul and Ben Gurion airport, American and other Western diplomats and some prominent Turks.

A few Jewish industrial and commercial leaders were reportedly also on their hit list, but it is not clear whether they were targeted be-

cause of their Israeli connections or simply because they had become part of the Turkish business establishment.

After Egypt negotiated peace with Israel, the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara became a target for radical Palestinian terrorists. Relations between the Turkish government and the Palestine Liberation Organization became strained when evidence that came out that the head of the PLO office in Ankara, which was opened in 1979, may have aided the terrorists.

These strains were heightened in 1982, after Israel provided Turkey with fresh evidence it had captured in PLO bases in southern Lebanon of the presence there of Turkish urban guerrillas, as well as anti-Turkish Armenian and Kurdish secessionist bands.

Then Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen expressed his displeasure to reporters on August 20, 1982, noting that the PLO "had repeatedly given assurances that there were no Turkish terrorists in any of the organizations it controlled but now the existence of these terrorist cells had been proven." Turkmen added that he expected that, in contrast to the anarchic situation in Lebanon, the Syrian government would prevent terrorist elements from operating against Turkey.

Yet these expectations were to be unfulfilled. On Oct. 17, 1984 Prime Minister Turgut Ozal told Parliament that Turkish terrorists, Kurdish secessionists and Armenian terrorists, backed by the Soviets, had been receiving training in "Palestinian camps" in Syria, and that Turkish warnings to Syria had failed to solve the problem. Periodic clashes have continued between Turkish military forces and terrorist elements in the areas along Turkey's southeastern borders.

Cooperation Against Terrorism

Since Turkey continues to be a target of terrorist groups, it is natural that the Turkish authorities have been vigorous in their efforts to counteract terrorism, including ongoing quiet cooperation and intelligence sharing with the United States and other countries, including Israel.

Prime Minister Ozal, after calling the Cabinet into special session on Sept. 6 over the Istanbul synagogue attack, issued a forceful condemnation of "this heinous act in a house of worship," which he said added to "the gravity of the murders and the indignation felt by the Turkish nation."

"The incident in Pakistan" -- a reference to the previous day's hijacking of a Pan Am plane in Karachi by Palestinian terrorists in which 16 persons were killed -- and "the criminal attack in our country today" Ozal said, "clearly show once again the necessity for all countries to work together against international terrorism."

In his statement, Ozal also stressed that "all citizens living in Turkey are under the protection of the state, irrespective of their religion, language or race," adding, "We share as a nation the grief and pain of all the families of our fellow citizens who have died because of this odious assault, and express our deepest sympathies to them."

This reassurance to the Jewish community was welcome, especially since many observers have been noting a resurgence of Islamic piety among the younger generation in Turkey. While by no means as widespread as the Islamic fundamentalism that has taken over in Iran, it is feared by

some that this tendency, if left unchecked, could erode the Western, secularist outlook which Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of the Turkish Republic, sought to instill in the youth.

Ozal, himself a devout Moslem, has been encouraging closer ties between Turkey and the Islamic world, although his declared intention is primarily to reap economic and political benefits from Turkey's position as a bridge between the West and the Middle East. Ozal has refused to yield to Arab demands to break off relations with Israel.

The Turkish authorities are trying to establish the identity of the terrorists and determine whether they in fact belonged to the Palestinian Revenge Organization, a possible Abu Nidal front, or to one of the Moslem fundamentalist groups, such as the Lebanese-based Islamic Holy War, or the Islamic Resistance, a pro-Iranian group, each of which claimed responsibility.

It will also be important to determine whether they received any logistical support from indigenous Turkish sources. (Witnesses say they saw two persons flee the scene.)

Possibly Significant Date

If this is established, then the date of the synagogue attack, Sept. 6, may prove highly significant. For it was on Sept. 6, 1980 that a massive rally was held in the traditional Islamic center of Konya, where religious fanatics shouted Arabic slogans and called for the abolition of secularism in Turkey.

Ostensibly, the march was called to protest against Israel's Knesset decision proclaiming unified Jerusalem Israel's eternal capital. But the "Jerusalem Liberation Day" rally in Konya soon turned overtly anti-Semitic. Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the pro-Islamic National Salvation Party (NSP), blamed "International Zionism" for all of Turkey's economic problems, called on Turkey to break off diplomatic ties with Israel and urged all Moslems to liberate Jerusalem.

According to eye-witnesses, a child, dressed in traditional Islamic garb, marched carrying a banner, declaring: "Death to the Jews!" Another banner proclaimed: "One branch of Zionism is capitalism, the other is communism." The demonstration ended with the burning of the Israeli, American and Soviet flags. (This symbolized that for Erbakan's followers as for Ayatollah Khomeini's, the three "Satans" which Islam had to confront were Israel, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.)

The 'Last Straw'

The Konya rally was "the last straw" for the Turkish military, who regard themselves as the guardians of Ataturk's secular heritage. Six days later, on September 12, 1980, the military, led by Chief of Staff Kenan Evren, took over. The NSP and other extremist parties were outlawed. Erbakan was arrested and charged with violating the Turkish constitution. He was tried and convicted, but was recently released from prison.

Is it simply a coincidence that the first terrorist attack on a synagogue in Turkey took place on Sept. 6, the anniversary of the Konya rally or does this mark a renewed challenge to Turkish secularism by virulently anti-Semitic Islamic fundamentalists? General Evren, who became President in November 1982, and the

700 MOURN ISTANBUL VICTIMS IN NEW YORK; RABIN PLEDGES REPRISALS By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Some 700 people gathered here Tuesday at a solemn memorial service for the 21 Jews slain Saturday in an Istanbul synagogue during Sabbath prayers. The non-religious ceremony, which was organized by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, was held at the Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue, Congregation Shearith Israel.

Many of the congregants' families came to the United States from Turkey and still maintain ties with relatives there. The assemblage included diplomatic officials of the governments of Israel and Turkey as well as local dignitaries.

Israel Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is in the United States to meet with top U.S. government officials in Washington, indicated in his remarks during the service that Israel would mount reprisals for the attack. However, in a press conference following the service, Rabin appeared to hedge, saying that "Our policy is to look at the war against terrorism as a continuous war and not as a reprisal against specific acts."

He added at the press conference that "it was necessary to use precautionary means to preclude such acts from being repeated..."

Can't Identify Terrorists Yet

When asked if Israel was able and ready to identify the perpetrators, Rabin said he could not presently do so. He was also prodded for the reasons that the Turkish government had refused Israel's request to send high government officials to the funeral service to be held Wednesday in Istanbul for the synagogue victims.

Rabin replied that it was not for him or Israel to respond, but for Turkey, adding that Israel was disappointed by the decision.

Also addressing the convocation was the Turkish Ambassador to the United Nations, Ilter Turkmen, who expressed Turkey's "grateful appreciation" for this "homage to Turkish citizens." He emphasized that the Turkish Prime Minister, Turgut Ozal, condemned the attack and "reaffirmed that all Turkish citizens living in Turkey are under the protection of the state, irrespective of their religion, language, race and color."

"We are proud in Turkey of our historical record of religious tolerance." He stressed that Turkey has been pressing for international cooperation and hopes "that all countries will join ranks in fighting terrorism."

Morris Abram, chairman of the Presidents Conference, read a letter from President Reagan which is being delivered to the Turkish Jewish community. Reagan said, "We are resolute in our determination to put an end to such horrors. In your sorrow and suffering, I hope it will be of some comfort to know that the people of the United States stand with you."

A statement was distributed from John Cardinal O'Connor, who had asked his congregants in Sunday's mass to pray for the Jews killed in synagogue, referring to it as a heinous act because "it is directed against our Jewish brothers and sisters because they are Jewish and because they claim so justifiably a homeland of their own."

BURG ATTENDS FUNERAL OF ISTANBUL VICTIMS IN ISRAEL; NOT GOING TO TURKEY

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Funeral rites were held here Tuesday for two victims of the Istanbul synagogue massacre on Saturday, Mirza Babtzada and Raphael Nissimia. Both were Israeli citizens who had been on business visits to Turkey.

Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu and Religious Affairs Minister Dr. Yosef Burg attended Babtzada's interment, and Ministers Yitzhak Peretz and Moshe Katzav were present at the burial of Nissimia. In graveside remarks, Burg spoke of "revenge as consolation," seeming to foreshadow an Israeli reprisal against the terrorists.

Contrary to Monday's reports, Burg will not attend the funeral of the other victims in Istanbul Wednesday. Both Israeli and Turkish sources have confirmed that the government in Ankara sought to avoid an Israeli political figure representing the Jewish State. Israel has accepted this without public comment, and Rabbi Eliahu will go in Burg's stead.

Families of the two Israeli victims recounted bureaucratic difficulties in arranging the victims' travel to Israel for burial. Eventually, they chartered a private plane to bring the bodies.

WALDHEIM WON'T BE AMONG EUROPEAN LEADERS AT DUTCH DAM INAUGURAL

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- President Kurt Waldheim of Austria will not be among the heads of state attending the official opening on October 4 of the Easter Scheldt Dam, a major new hydraulic power project. Austria will be represented by its Foreign Minister, P. Jankevitsch, and speculation is rife here as to whether the Dutch government discreetly advised Waldheim to stay away or the Austrians themselves decided it would be better to avoid possible protest demonstrations against their controversial President.

Waldheim was elected July 8 despite overwhelming evidence of a Nazi past. This was long after Queen Beatrix invited the heads of all Rhine-Danube border states to the dam inaugural. Although several governments have stated that Waldheim would not be welcome, Holland took no position. It was apparently assumed that Waldheim would be wise enough not to visit.

FINES, SUSPENDED SENTENCES FOR ULTRA-ORTHODOX DESTROYERS OF JERUSALEM BUS STOPS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- The Jerusalem Magistrates Court Sunday fined 23 ultra-Orthodox Jews between 100 and 500 Shekels each and sentenced them to suspended jail terms for destruction of bus stops here two months ago.

The most severe penalty went to Rabbi Gershon Satmar, one of the leaders of the Eda Haredit. Satmar was fined 500 Shekels and received a suspended sentence of four months.

The trial of three others charged with the destruction, among them Rabbi Uri Blau of Neturei Karta, continues.

JUDAICA COLLECTION FINDS A HOME

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)-- Much of the contested collection of rare Hebrew books and manuscripts whose 1984 auction was recalled, has at last found a home in an independent, non-profit organization created by leading Jewish institutions. This will permit a legal entity to attend to the custody of this library. The Judaica Conservancy Foundation was created for the specific purpose of allowing the materials to be used for the benefit of the public.

New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams, who intervened two years ago to block the sale through Sotheby's here of the disputed Judaica until it ownership could be properly determined, announced last week that the religious material will be turned over to the Foundation. Foundation member institutions include the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and Yeshiva University in New York; Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati; the Hebrew University, Jerusalem; Leo Baeck Institute in New York and Leo Baeck College in London.

The materials are to be given to the foundation under a court order signed by Justice Robert White of the State Supreme Court, to be kept in perpetuity.

The plan was submitted in July by the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, which was established after the war by American Military Government Law No. 59, in order to recover masterless property of Jews who had been killed or Jewish institutions which had been dissolved by the Nazis.

Background Of A Dispute

The disputed Judaica books and manuscripts were consigned to Sotheby's for sale more than two years ago by a party who at the time remained anonymous. The material, which was thought to have been destroyed by the Nazis, belonged to the College for the Scientific Study of Jewish Culture, a rabbinical seminary in Berlin.

Investigations by an expert in the field revealed the seller to be Dr. Alexander Guttman, then professor emeritus at Hebrew Union College. Guttman, who subsequently acknowledged his involvement in the sale, claimed that he had been given the books to smuggle into the United States in 1940 and that he did so at "considerable personal risk." The material includes a 15th-century book of philosophy by Maimonides, and 13th- and 15th-century Commentaries on the Pentateuch.

The books remained unknown in the home of Guttman until April 1984, and Sotheby's conducted the auction in June of that year, which brought in \$1.45 million. Attorney General Abrams subsequently sued Sotheby's, saying that the manuscripts were never Guttman's to sell.

Sotheby's agreed to recall the materials in an out-of-court settlement in July 1985 and to redistribute them to institutions where they would be available to the public. The monies paid for them were placed in an escrow account, and Guttman received compensation of \$900,000 from a private donor who remains anonymous. Guttman was dismissed from his position at Hebrew Union College in August 1985.

David Fishlow, a spokesman for Abrams, said that 17 objects from the collection either have

been returned or are in the process of being returned. Five pieces, however, are objects of further negotiations, he said, as they are not under the jurisdiction of New York State. This would indicate that the parties who purchased them at the Sotheby's auction do not live in New York and might be outside the United States, making legal procedures more complicated.

Not all the books sold at the auction were ordered returned under the settlement. The money taken in from the sale of the other books—about \$850,000—is to be given to the Foundation, which will use it to acquire additional rare Jewish volumes.

ACCORD BETWEEN PLO AND A METHODIST UNIVERSITY SHOCKS BRAZILIAN JEWRY

SAO PAULO, Sept. 9 (JTA)-- Brazilian Jewry has reacted with shock and indignation to a crudely anti-Zionist joint statement issued by the PLO and the Methodist University of Piracicaba, the World Jewish Congress reported here.

The PLO and the university are united in the struggle "against Zionism and for national and social liberation which the Brazilian and Palestinian peoples are engaged in," according to a statement signed by the university rector, Elias Boaventura, and the PLO representative, Farid Sawan. The university has some 8,000 students and 300 teachers.

The agreement signed with the PLO is headed "Cultural Cooperation and Interchange" and starts with a joint statement asserting that the university and the PLO are "engaged in the democratic, anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist struggle."

The document speaks of "exchange of information, educational, scientific, technological and cultural experiences," and foresees extra-university activities with the "participation of workers movements, in the country as well as in town, and in the struggle in which the Brazilian and Palestinian people are involved in favor of independent economic developments and social progress."

The Confederaçao Israelita do Brasil, the central representative body of Brazilian Jewry and the WJC affiliate here, has reacted sharply and its denunciation has been published in the main news dailies:

"Since the unfortunate anti-Zionist vote in the United Nations, which has been repudiated by all free peoples in the world, the PLO has been penetrating into union, political, university and service organizations, and this activity results blatantly in violent anti-Semitism," the Confederaçao statement declared.

Continuing, it warned Brazilian public opinion that, "however contrived the justification for the agreement may seem, the fact in itself is not to be underestimated. 'The PLO avails itself of its one technology, a long experience in international terrorism.'

"The signing of the agreement represents a further stage of PLO activism in Brazil, where its penetration has been significant. Although without diplomatic status, the PLO has maintained a very visible representation in Brazil since 1979. Brazilian foreign policy regarding the Middle East has had a consistent tilt toward the Arab world, one of the major markets for its armaments industry."