

**PERES AT THE UN STRESSES NEED
FOR MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE
AND DETAILS 8-POINT PROGRAM
AGREED TO BY ISRAEL AND JORDAN**
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres spoke out strongly at the General Assembly Tuesday for an international conference for Middle East peace. He devoted much of his speech to detailing, publicly for the first time, the eight points he said were agreed to by Israel and Jordan five months ago on the objectives of such a conference and how it would be organized.

Peres, in his address to the 42nd session of the Assembly, also appealed to the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, both permanent members of the UN Security Council which would sponsor the international conference, to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

"Those wishing to participate in bringing peace cannot confine their relations to one side of the rivalry alone," he declared.

Peres also extended a hand of peace to the Palestinian people, assuring them that "We who have experienced other's domination do not wish to dominate others. We who sought justice and security do not wish to deny them to others."

The Israeli Foreign Minister acknowledged in his speech that an international conference is opposed "in some Israeli quarters" and "the Israeli Cabinet is divided on the issue."

Peres told the General Assembly that never before were the moderate forces of the Middle East, on both sides of the Arab-Israel conflict, closer to an understanding than today. He warned, however, that the next few months may be crucial for the peace process and in the absence of progress the region could face "political paralysis."

The Eight-Point Agreement

He listed the eight points of the agreement reached between Jordan and Israel with the good offices of the United States.

- * The goal is peace through direct negotiations.

- * An international conference is the way to direct negotiations.

- * The conference will not impose any settlement.

- * All parties to the conference must accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and renounce terrorism.

- * Negotiations are to solve the Palestinian problem in all its aspects through negotiations between the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and the Israeli delegation.

- * Negotiations will be conducted independently in three bilateral/geographic committees: a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and an Israeli delegation; Syrian and Israeli delegations; Lebanese and Israeli delegations. All delegations, as well as an Egyptian delegation will participate in a fourth multi-lateral committee.

- * The bilateral committees will be engaged in solving the conflicts of the past while the

multi-lateral committee would deal with future settlements.

* The international peace conference will be sponsored by the five permanent members of the Security Council who will be entrusted with bringing the parties together and legitimizing the process.

Appeals To USSR, China, Palestinian People

In his appeal to the USSR and China, both strong supporters of the Arab cause, Peres said that to establish diplomatic relations with Israel was a way to advance the cause of an international peace conference.

"To both Moscow and Beijing, we say candidly: diplomatic relations are not the price for peace but a channel for communications," Peres declared.

Peres also appealed directly to the Palestinian people. "The time for recrimination and blame is past. These have brought only violence and terror. Now is the time to turn from violence to dialogue and travel jointly toward a different destiny. There, your children like ours will live in self-respect, exercise self-expression and enjoy freedom and peace," the Israeli Foreign Minister said.

He concluded by saying he welcomed the visit of Secretary of State George Shultz to the Middle East next month as "an opportunity to negotiate the remaining obstacles" to a peace conference. He noted that the Israeli government has yet to make its decision on the issue and much depends on the nature of the conference.

Unless the present members of the Security Council respect the current consensus -- rather than insist on their old preferences -- the international conference will remain "just a slogan," Peres said.

ISRAELI, CHINESE F.M.S TO MEET

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- A rare high level diplomatic contact between Israel and the People's Republic of China will take place here Wednesday when Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel meets with the Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. China, one of the five permanent members of the Security Council, is expected to play a major role in an international conference for Middle East peace, should it occur.

Peres is scheduled to meet Thursday with Secretary of State George Shultz. It will be their second meeting since Peres arrived in the U.S. 10 days ago and the first since the State Department announced that Shultz will visit Israel and possibly Egypt and Jordan next month.

Peres will also meet Thursday with Egyptian Foreign Minister Abdel Esmat Meguid. Diplomats here say an international peace conference will be high on the agenda at all of these meetings.

VIEW OF SHULTZ VISIT TO THE MIDEAST

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The State Department sought to dampen speculation Tuesday that Secretary of State George Shultz is going to the Middle East because he expects a "break-

through" in the stalled peace process. "I really don't think it's correct to assume that there is something new or that there is about to be a breakthrough in any way," State Department deputy spokesperson Phyllis Oakley said.

"We've said in the past that we've made progress in narrowing differences among key regional actors on how to proceed. Much remains to be done and we're resolved to continue our work."

The surprise announcement that Shultz will visit Israel, Jordan and Egypt on his way to Moscow Oct. 22 was made Monday by Department spokesman Charles Redman at the United Nations in New York where Shultz is participating in the General Assembly meeting.

Oakley repeated Redman's reasons for the visit which were that Mideast leaders have urged him to go to the region and that he has not been in the Mideast since early 1985. However, he has not been in the three countries involved since 1983 when he spent two weeks negotiating an agreement between Israel and Lebanon, which was later abrogated by Lebanon.

Key Topic On The Agenda

"The peace process will, of course, be a key topic on his agenda," Oakley said. "As we've said many times, we remain committed to work with our friends in the region to promote progress toward peace."

Shultz is expected to once again try to end the differences in Israel over the international conference demanded by King Hussein of Jordan. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is pressing for the conference over the vehement objections of Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

The United States "position on the international conference has not changed," Oakley said. "We've made clear our view that the only practical path to a comprehensive peace lies in direct negotiations. We've also made known our willingness to explore all avenues that might lead to face-to-face negotiations."

While the State Department has not yet given Shultz's itinerary for his Mideast trip, it has announced that the Secretary will receive honorary degrees from Tel Aviv University and the Weizmann Institute of Science on Oct. 18.

REPORTS SAY RABIN AND MOSSAD OPPOSED U.S. ARMS SALE TO IRAN By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, were opposed to the Reagan Administration's efforts to sell arms to Iran for the release of American hostages, according to a report released Monday by the Senate and House select committees on the Iran/Contra affair.

The report was a copy of a deposition given to the committees by Michael Ledeen, a former consultant to the National Security Council (NSC), who was questioned by the committees Sept. 10. Ledeen said the Iranian initiative was supported by Shimon Peres, who was Premier at the time, and the Foreign Ministry, then headed by Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

Ledeen said the opposition was based "in large part" on the participation of Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian-born businessman, as the go-between in the talks the United States and Israel had with Iran.

The doubts by Rabin and Mossad about Ghorbanifar would make it unlikely that he was a Mossad agent as was suggested by Lt. Col. Oliver North, a former NSC aide, and others, according to Ledeen.

He said he asked several government officials, including those in favor and opposed to the Iranian initiative, whether "Ghorbanifar had ever worked for the government of Israel in any capacity. And I was always told no."

Importance Of The Testimony

Ledeen's testimony is important because he had been in on the beginning of the U.S. initiative. Critics had charged that his hearing was held in private to prevent exposing Israel's full role in the initiative. But the testimony released Monday did not reveal any damaging testimony against Israel that was not already public.

Ledeen was brought into the affair in May 1985 when Robert McFarlane, then the National Security Advisor, asked him to meet with Peres to see if Israel and the U.S. could share information to increase their understanding of Iran and its role in international terrorism. He had gotten to know Peres when, working as a consultant for the State Department, he had been asked to maintain contacts with the Socialist International of which Peres is a member.

He said he then participated in discussions with the Israelis and Ghorbanifar that led to the first Israeli shipment of TOW missiles, the suspension of terrorist attacks against Americans and the release of one hostage, the Rev. Benjamin Weir. He stressed he did not negotiate but only reported to McFarlane.

But in October 1985, Ledeen said he began expressing his disapproval of the arms-for-hostages policy and continued to do so until January 1986, when Vice Adm. John Poindexter, who succeeded McFarlane, asked him to discontinue his work on Iran. Ledeen said by late December 1985, he believed the Iran initiative was "shut down."

In an earlier statement to the committees, Ledeen stressed that he believed "the original initiative was wise and necessary, and held considerable promise. It was overwhelmed by the emotionally-charged matter of the hostages."

Israel's Objectives Outlined

In his testimony this month, Ledeen said that Peres and his advisors "did not want a winner and a loser" in the Iran-Iraq war. "The best outcome was either that the war should end in place, or that the war should continue indefinitely."

At the same time, Israel wanted "to maintain the integrity of Iran if possible" so that it could have a good relationship with a future regime that will replace the currently hostile one, Ledeen said. He noted that Israel fears that if Iran disintegrates it would remove "the buffer between the Persian Gulf and the Soviet Union, on the one hand, and can no longer block the radical Arab expansionism coming from Iraq, and possibly Syria as well, on the other."

However, he noted that other Israelis believed it was a mistake to support the radical Shiite regime in Iran. They felt that while Israel could eventually come to terms with the various Arab countries, radical Shia "would be forever opposed to Israel" and is "a far greater threat to Israel than any Arab country, no matter how radical it might be."

**THE JEWS OF ARGENTINA:
NOT STRANGERS IN THE LAND**
By Aviva Cantor
(Part Six In A Series)

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The debate over pluralism in the Argentine Jewish community centers in large part on the question of what action Jews should take on behalf of democracy and human rights to best ensure the survival of both democracy and of the community -- and who should decide.

The debate takes place in the aftermath of eight brutal years of military rule following a half-century in which every elected government was overthrown by coup. The junta's 1976-83 reign of terror has left a legacy of raw memories and of fear that the past may be prologue.

Young Jews told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that during the junta, people were afraid to read, to think or to be involved. Said a young communal leader in Cordoba, the city with the second largest Jewish population: "During the junta there was no safe place. If you had a group you were suspect. The biggest fear we have to overcome is the fear of joining."

Although most Jews do not believe a military coup imminent, nervousness about whether the government was strong enough to weather the pressures from the military forces became especially acute in the past half-year. It was during this time that the military pressed for -- and won -- the passage of legislation that would basically halt the trials of most officers accused of perpetrating human rights atrocities, such as murder, torture and kidnapping, during the reign of terror.

The Issue Of The Generals

In late December, Parliament passed the "Punto Final" (last stop) law President Raul Alfonsin had called for, which set a deadline of February 22 for new indictments. The prospect of trials of mid-level officers on active duty set off a series of barracks rebellions during Easter Week in April. Despite the fact that over a half-million people from all sectors of society took part in a rally to support the government, Alfonsin called for a second law.

This "Obediencia" (due obedience) law, passed with modifications in June, granted virtual immunity of prosecution to all officers below the rank of Brigadier-General, under the presumption that they were "under subordination to superior authority and carried out orders, lacking the possibility of ... opposition ..."

Reuven Sadan, the Kibbutz Artzi/Mapam shaliach (emissary) to Latin America, said the government "wanted to get out from under the pressure of the generals and close the book" on human rights cases. Most Argentines, he continued, "want to finish with the trials." Herman Schiller, president of the Jewish Human Rights Movement (JHRM), described the population as "a little tired, pessimistic that nothing can be done."

Mixed Response To New Law

The response among Jews to the introduction of the Obediencia law was mixed.

Schiller, who opposed the law, commented that what the generals really wanted was "vindication that they were the messiahs who saved Argentina from Satan." Renee Epeibaum, a leader in the Founding Line group of the Madres of the Plaza de Mayo who have been marching since

1976 to demand to know what happened to their missing children, felt the law represented giving in to blackmail: "Next time they will demand monuments to their heroism," she said.

Jorge Jaimovich, the attorney-general of Cordoba province whose cousin Alejandra was tortured, raped and murdered after being kidnapped in 1976, told JTA he was conflicted. The terrorists "were criminals, too" and it was legitimate for the military to conduct a war against them, he said. "But I cannot accept that torturers won't be tried."

Many Jews felt torn between their personal feelings as Jews that torturers and murderers should, like Nazi war criminals, be tried and punished, and their political evaluation that if this was done, democracy might not survive.

Dr. David Goldberg, president of the DAIA, the officially recognized political umbrella organization for Argentine Jewry, told a visiting North American delegation of Jewish journalists and communal leaders at the time of the Obediencia debate that "the main present risk to Argentine democracy is that the military people are not happy, because they feel they are being called up as a mass group to justice." He continued:

"The military feel they are being accused. The democratic society doesn't want to accuse the (entire) armed forces, only the people who participated in these horrible crimes. How can we place the whole armed forces on trial? Even though this was not the intention, this is how it appeared. This delicate situation cannot be accepted or last for a long time."

Goldberg told the delegation that the Argentine Jewish community had "openly put its total bet on the democratization process. The Jewish community is seen as naturally democratic, therefore outside any possibility of a totalitarian regime. With a totalitarian regime, the greatest benefit the Jewish community can hope for is not to be bothered, but it can have no participation and is therefore half-dead. We need an alive Jewish community."

But, added Goldberg, "if an anti-Semitic element should take power, they will know what the position of the community is. Because of its position, the community has a special risk."

There are many in the community, however, who are critical of the DAIA for issuing what they regarded as a "weak declaration" during Easter Week, and for not taking a position on the Obediencia law because, in Goldberg's words, "this is not a question of black and white."

The Jewish Human Rights Movement, said Schiller, is "trying to give a Jewish tone to the human rights struggle." But, he told JTA, "it's not easy to go against the stream in the Jewish community."

"It's a harsh battle," continued Schiller, whose newspaper Nueva Presencia was the target of two bombs and daily phone threats during the junta because of its strong stand on human rights. "But it's a Jewish tradition to fight injustice."

Members of Rabbi Baruj Plavnick's Conservative Comunidad Bet El are also active on behalf of human rights. Congregants wearing kipot participated in the rally during Easter Week, giving out matzot to other demonstrators. The Seminario Rabinico, which trains Conservative rabbis, is preparing a document providing a political analysis of the Easter Week rebellion from a Biblical point of view. Teenagers from the Hebraica Community Center, which is very active in

supporting democracy, marched with their flags in the anti-Obediencia rally May 20. The Hebraica holds regular open meetings on human rights and is setting up a chair to study all forms of discrimination.

While members of B'nai B'rith, which sees education toward democracy as one of its functions, marched in that rally, they did so as individuals. They did not carry their lodge banners, a young leader told JTA, because "we cannot permit the accusation of being Communists," a charge often hurled at human rights activists--and Jews.

B'nai B'rith, he said, speaks up without prior authorization by the DAIA when necessary but only in its own name, as does the Hebraica. This attitude is not always favorably received by the DAIA -- indeed, one DAIA leader called B'nai B'rith "undisciplined" -- because, he said, "the DAIA believes there should be only one voice in the community: the DAIA's."

The Hebraica, its president, Mario Trumper, told the North American delegation, was one of the institutions that founded the DAIA in 1936, which, he said, was useful for many years. "But now things have changed. Many (ethnic) groups have many different (internal) movements which express themselves and their own needs. We think the Jewish community must do the same thing. The Jewish community must have different voices to express itself, for different readings of reality."

(Tomorrow: Last Part In The Series)

DEMJANJUK DEFENSE FUND CALLS FOR REPLENISHMENTS AND RETRIBUTION

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- An urgent appeal for defense funds for John Demjanjuk, on trial in Jerusalem for war crimes allegedly committed in the Treblinka death camp, has been issued by his son-in-law, Edward Nishnic.

Nishnic, president and administrator of the John Demjanjuk Defense Fund in Brooklyn, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, sent a letter addressed to "Fellow Ukrainians and Friends" asking that they "act with Christian conscience" in giving financial support needed in "the tragic case of John Demjanjuk." Following Demjanjuk's acquittal, writes Nishnic, they can then "turn our attention to those responsible for John Demjanjuk's decade of suffering."

Nishnic refers to the Ukrainian community as the "Ukrainian diaspora." He writes that the Demjanjuk case has continued for 10 years "without any financial assistance from the governments which accused him of 'war crimes.'"

The trial of Demjanjuk, accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," has been in recess for a month and is scheduled to resume following the Jewish holidays with witnesses for the defense.

With less than \$6,000 reportedly remaining in the fund's coffers, Demjanjuk's supporters fear they will be unable to present all their witnesses at the trial, Nishnic writes. His accounting of the trial expenses to date comes to \$250,000.

Nishnic's appeal comes, he writes, out of "sheer desperation and frustration" in the search for funding, which has till now consisted of donations from individuals' life savings, wages, "and most of all, by individual Ukrainians, organizations, and churches world-wide." Nishnic says

that with additional financial assistance, and "our new legal defense team, I believe that John Demjanjuk will be found innocent." Demjanjuk has engaged for the defense a Canadian Ukrainian-speaking attorney, Paul Chumak of Toronto, who has served as public prosecutor for the province of Ontario. He will join the Israeli defense team of Yoram Sheftel and John Gill.

Nishnic concludes his appeal with "May the good Lord bless you and your loved ones."

ISRAEL EXCLUDED FROM CONCLAVE IN OTTAWA BUT LIBYA HAS BEEN INVITED By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Israel has been excluded from a "Capitals of the World" conference to be held in Ottawa next month at which terrorism against capital cities will be on the agenda. Libya was among the nations invited.

A spokesman for Ottawa Mayor James Durrell who is organizing the conference said an invitation had been sent to Mayor Shlomo Lahat of Tel Aviv but was returned with a note stating that Israel's capital is Jerusalem. Canada does not recognize the status of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

The Department of External Affairs was involved because it conveyed the invitations on behalf of Ottawa. The invitation to Libya was sent through the Canadian Embassy in Rome.

Ottawa Alderman Mark Maloney protested sharply to External Affairs Minister Joe Clark. "We won't have Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, but we get the leading terrorism-sponsoring nation in the world," Maloney wrote. He demanded that the invitation to Libya be withdrawn.

Canadian policy since December 1986 has been not to invite Libyan delegates to any government-sponsored conferences in Canada. The Ottawa conference is locally sponsored but has received a \$200,000 grant from the government. The External Affairs Department persuaded the organizing committee not to invite East Germany, North Korea, Taiwan or South Africa but said nothing about Libya.

MORRIS JANOFF DEAD AT 76

HACKENSACK, NJ, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Morris Janoff, a three-term president of the American Jewish Press Association and for more than 50 years publisher of The Jewish Standard, a weekly published here, died last week at the age of 76.

Janoff, who was voted "Man of the Year" in 1962 by the American Jewish Congress, North Hudson Section, was active in a wide variety of Jewish organizations and causes. He served as a member of the Boards of Directors of State of Israel Bonds, Yeshiva of Hudson County and the Jersey City Hebrew Free Loan Association. He was an associate member of the Jersey City Jewish Community Center; a life honorary member of the Shomrim Society of New Jersey; treasurer of the Lord Biscoe Scholarship Foundation; and a member of the advisory board of the American-Israel World's Fair Corp.

He was also a member of the Jersey City Zionist District, the Hebrew Home and Hospital of New Jersey, the Pollak Lodge of B'nai B'rith and a variety of other Jewish and non-Jewish fraternal and service organizations. He was a member of the Jewish Center of Teaneck where he resided.