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**THREE KILLED, SEVEN WOUNDED IN GAZA,  
AS UNREST SPREADS TO JERUSALEM**  
By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Three Palestinian demonstrators were killed and at least seven were wounded Tuesday in a series of clashes with Israel Defense Force troops in the Gaza Strip. Two IDF soldiers were slightly wounded.

A Palestinian shot by the IDF in a skirmish Monday, died of his wounds in a hospital Tuesday evening. His death brought to nine the number of Palestinians killed in clashes with security forces since violence escalated in the Gaza Strip a week ago. Palestinian sources said the number of wounded was much higher than reported by the IDF.

Sporadic incidents continued in the Gaza Strip Tuesday night. The most serious occurred during the day. At one point, troops entered the compound of Shifta Hospital in Gaza, where Palestinian wounded are taken, to confront dozens of stone-throwing demonstrators. According to an eyewitness report in the Jerusalem Post, the soldiers opened fire, killing one demonstrator.

Another Palestinian was fatally shot after he threw a gasoline bomb at soldiers. The circumstances of the third fatality were not immediately known.

Unrest spread from the administered territories to East Jerusalem Tuesday. Police reported tire-burnings and demonstrations in various parts of East Jerusalem, including the Old City. In some cases, demonstrators were dispersed with tear gas. Most Arab shops remained closed.

**Sharon Move Protested**

The disturbances and merchants' strike in East Jerusalem were apparently organized to protest the move by Herut hard-liner Ariel Sharon into his new home in the Old City's Moslem quarter.

He held a housewarming and Chanukah party there Tuesday night, attended by Premier Yitzhak Shamir and several dozen other guests, including leading political figures. About 300 armed police stood guard outside.

Sharon, who is minister of commerce and industry and a former defense minister, explained that his new flat, in a building owned by Jews in 1948, was intended to spur a renewal of Jewish residence in the Moslem quarter that began 100 years ago.

But many Israelis consider it a provocation. According to Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, it is likely to heighten tensions in the city. Kollek pointedly declined Sharon's invitation to his Chanukah party. Sharon had told reporters last week that he hoped the mayor would light the first candle.

While the festivities were going on, groups of Israelis demonstrated for and against Sharon at the Damascus Gate, several hundred yards from his new home. Sharon's supporters were members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach party. His critics were from the Peace Now movement. No incidents were reported.

But a delegation from the dovish Citizens'

Rights Movement met with Arab neighbors of Sharon and expressed solidarity with them.

The CRM contingent was joined by a member of the Herut Central Committee, Moshe Amirav, who called Sharon's move a "provocation." He said he wanted the Herut minister to know that many members of his party do not agree with him. It was disclosed several weeks ago that Amirav had met for talks with certain pro-Palestine Liberation Organization personalities from the West Bank.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister's Office denied Tuesday that Shamir was considering closing the administered territories to the news media covering the disturbances. Shamir's aide, Avi Pazner, said there are "no operative plans" to close the territories or ban foreign correspondents.

He issued the denial after Israel Radio reported that the idea of a press ban arose at separate meetings Shamir held Tuesday with Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron and a delegation of National Religious Party leaders.

Shamir is acting defense minister in the absence of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is in the United States.

**SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATES UNREST,  
BUT HAS NOT YET TAKEN ACTION**  
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Security Council was scheduled to hold its third meeting Tuesday night in a continuing debate over the escalating violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 15-member body first met on the subject last Friday. It resumed the discussions Monday night, hearing mainly from Arab representatives who demanded that Israel be condemned.

According to sources here, there is still no draft resolution for the council to act on, and it is not certain whether the debate will end with a resolution or with a statement of concern from the president of the council over the recent events in the Israeli-administered territories.

This month's president of the Security Council is Aleksandr Belonogov of the Soviet Union.

Diplomats here said they do not know how the United States would vote on a resolution critical of Israel, even a toned-down resolution of censure.

**Arabs Denounce Israel**

But the Arab speakers Monday night denounced Israel without exception. Syria's ambassador to the United Nations, Athi Al-Masri, called on the Security Council to impose sanctions against Israel and compel it to withdraw from all of the territories it has administered since 1967, in compliance with past U.N. resolutions.

The Egyptian ambassador, Abdel Halim Badawi, blamed the stalled Middle East peace process for the violence in the territories, for which he held Israel responsible. He charged that "certain forces" in Israel have decided on a policy of "terrorizing" the inhabitants of the territories.

Ambassador Abdullah Salah of Jordan called on the Security Council to denounce Israel's continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to request Israel to cease its attacks on students. Salah also proposed that the Security Council call on Israel to accept the convening of an international conference for Middle East peace.

At last Friday's meeting, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, accused the Palestine Liberation Organization of inciting the unrest in the territories. He said there has been an increase in violence and "many, many incidents of terror" that were not reported, because they were interdicted.

According to Netanyahu, the PLO instigated the violence because it opposes any improvement of the situation that might lead to a political settlement in the area.

It was reported here, meanwhile, that the commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), Giorgio Giacomelli, met Monday with Gideon Yarden, the Israeli charge d'affaires in Vienna, where UNRWA is headquartered.

The U.N. official expressed concern over the current tensions in the territories, where he said UNRWA schools and other services have been disrupted. The meeting was held to discuss Giacomelli's visit to Jerusalem and the territories, which is to begin Wednesday.

#### OFFICIAL SAYS U.S. HAS COMPLAINED TO ISRAEL ABOUT POLICY IN TERRITORIES By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration has told Israel at the highest level that it opposes many of its actions on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a senior State Department official said Monday.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, made the remark in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, which was holding its first hearing devoted exclusively to the territories since 1982.

Murphy said that in discussions with Israel, the State Department has voiced concern over the killing of nine unarmed Palestinians earlier this year. It has also criticized Israel's policy of "collective punishment," whereby Israel has closed Palestinian universities for a few months when protests or violence erupt.

The assistant secretary also said the United States has protested the demolition or sealing of 70 Palestinian homes and the "denial of due process" to 120 Palestinians placed by Israeli authorities in administrative detention.

Murphy said that harsh security measures by Israel "are sometimes inconsistent with recognized international standards." He cited a report by the Landau Commission, which found that Israel routinely abuses Palestinian prisoners, both physically and psychologically.

Murphy did praise Israel for recently finding five guards at a Gaza prison guilty of abusing inmates and for dismissing other guards who also abused prisoners.

No permanent peace can be achieved until Palestinians and Israelis sit down and negotiate the future of the territories, the State Department official Murphy said.

But in the interim, he called for improvements in the daily lives of Palestinians to reduce "the frustrations that are one cause of extremism

and violence."

More than 130 Palestinians have been killed in the territories in the first ten months of 1987, double the 1986 figure, he said.

Murphy emphasized that while more Palestinians are becoming fundamentalist Moslems, it has not translated into greater political activism. He stressed that fundamentalism was not a significant factor in the recent cycles of violence.

He speculated that the increased violence this year was spurred to some degree by Palestinian bitterness on the 20th anniversary of the 1967 Six-Day War, when Israel assumed control of the territories.

Rep. Mel Levine (D-Calif.) asked Murphy why Arab countries are not doing more to absorb Palestinians from the administered territories.

Murphy told Levine that Arab countries want them to stay put in the territories because they are a political symbol representing "the injustice done to Palestinians as a result of the '48-'49 war."

He also said that most Palestinians "really want to stay" where they are.

He said that the recent killing of Palestinians and one Israeli in the territories "reminds us of the deep communal conflict and of the unresolved political status of the West Bank and Gaza."

#### HERZOG SAYS MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALISM IS BEHIND UNREST IN TERRITORIES By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog of Israel charged here Tuesday that the wave of violence in the Gaza Strip is due to the spread of Moslem fundamentalism, financed by Saudi Arabia and other countries.

It is a comparatively new situation with strong overtones of the conflict between the Islamic Jihad (holy war) and the left-wing Arab nationalists, Herzog told a news conference on the sixth day of his week-long visit to Britain.

He maintained that in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the current unrest is a series of isolated, mostly unconnected events reflecting an internecine struggle between rival Arab elements.

Herzog, a former Israel Defense Force chief of intelligence and one-time military governor of the West Bank, said the troubles there stem basically from the conflict between supporters of Jordan's King Hussein and supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

He said the British news media were giving a simplistic view of events in the territories by failing to mention these distinctions and ignoring the fact that about 100,000 Arab workers from the territories commute to jobs in Israel every day.

Herzog declined to comment on the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace, which has divided Israel's coalition government. But he was hopeful there would be some movement toward peace in the region next year.

The Israeli chief of state, accompanied by his wife, Aura, came to Britain to inaugurate the Jewish community's festivities marking the 40th year of Israel's independence.

He and his wife were to have tea with Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace Tuesday afternoon. They are to lunch with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at No. 10 Downing Street Wednesday before returning to Israel.

**SENATE ADOPTS PLAN TO REFINANCE ISRAEL'S OUTSTANDING DEBT TO U.S.**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Senate approved a foreign debt refinancing plan Friday that could save Israel \$2 billion over two decades. But it must first pass the House and be signed into law by President Reagan.

In the same measure, which was agreed to by voice vote, the Senate decided to provide Israel with \$1.8 billion in military assistance in fiscal year 1988, and Egypt with \$1.3 billion. The total U.S. foreign military assistance for 1988 was set at \$4.2 billion under the plan.

The debt plan, approved Dec. 3 by the Senate Appropriations Committee, affects all foreign aid recipients who are trying to pay off high-interest loans. Israel currently has the highest outstanding debt in high-interest loans, roughly \$5.45 billion.

The plan is aimed at easing the debt burden of major U.S. allies to avert possible default. The main beneficiaries, Israel, Egypt and Turkey, have borrowed billions to buy arms and are now struggling to pay off their debts. A few years ago, Israel received emergency economic aid from the United States.

For Israel, the \$2 billion in savings would come by allowing private banks to refinance Israel's debt, which lies currently in high-interest loans. An additional \$5 billion that Israel owes the United States would remain unaffected, since it already lies in low-interest loans.

The debt relief plan originated in the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee, where it was co-sponsored by Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), subcommittee chairman, and Sen. Robert Kasten (R-Wis.), the ranking Republican. In 1985, the two had unsuccessfully co-sponsored a plan to reduce the interest rate on Israel's loans to 5 percent.

James Bond, minority clerk for the subcommittee, expects a battle on the debt provision this week in the House-Senate conference committee. While the House has approved identical military assistance to Israel, the House did not vote on the debt provision.

Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee is said to oppose the debt reduction measure.

**NAZI HUNTER BEATE KLARSFELD DEMANDS WALDHEIM RESIGN**

VIENNA, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld affixed a poster to the front door of Kurt Waldheim's office Friday demanding that the Austrian president resign.

The poster displayed a photograph of Waldheim in his World War II German army uniform alongside one of Austrian Jews being forced to scrub the pavements after Austria became part of the Third Reich by the 1938 Anschluss.

The poster read: "No more liar-president with a war criminal file. Waldheim must resign." It was removed from the door by a policeman.

A plain-clothes officer took Klarsfeld's name, examined her passport and asked her to leave the premises. There was no further police action, the World Jewish Congress reported Tuesday.

Klarsfeld told reporters that she acted to draw attention to the fact that the United Nations war crimes archives contains a file on Waldheim, a former U.N. secretary general who concealed his wartime activities for 40 years. She

said she also wanted to remind people that next year is the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss.

The WJC Congress has accused Waldheim of a role in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities against civilians and partisan fighters while he was an intelligence officer in the German army in the Balkans during the war.

**MOST FRENCH STILL SEE JEWS STEREOTYPICALLY, POLL FINDS**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- A majority of the French population clings to stereotypical images of Jews, some of them bordering on anti-Semitism, according to a survey taken last month, but the overall feeling has become friendlier of late.

The results of the survey by Sofres, France's largest public opinion polling organization, were published Monday in the Jewish weekly Tribune Juive on the occasion of its 1,000th issue.

"The Jewish image is still linked to three terms: money, tradition and a cosmopolitan link to world Jewry," said Professor Emeric Deutsch, head of Sofres.

Deutsch reported at a news conference that 72 percent of the 1,000 persons questioned agreed that "Jews represent an international power as they help each other in overlapping frontiers." Jews were "linked to international capitalism" by 57 percent, and 48 percent thought Jews "tend to help each other to the detriment of other people."

While 91 percent described Jews as "very attached to their traditions" and 85 percent saw that as positive, 26 percent said that without Jews "France would be culturally poor," compared to 45 percent who disagreed and 29 percent with no opinion.

The poll found that most French people associate Jews with three traits -- "smart" in a slightly pejorative sense, 47 percent; "money-loving," 43 percent; and intelligent, 36 percent. Other traits scored lower: well educated and patriotic, 19 percent; and generous, 8 percent.

According to Deutsch, the poll showed a clear split between the major political parties in their attitudes toward Jews. "The Socialists continue to have a generally tolerant approach, traditional since the days of Socialist leader Jean Jaures, while the right has changed, but continues to harbor certain basic prejudices and misconceptions," Deutsch said.

He added that the overall results seemed to show that the younger generation is more tolerant regarding Jews than are older French.

Tribune Juive, which commissioned the poll, was founded in Paris and has slightly more than 15,000 subscribers. Its editor and publisher is Rabbi Jacquot Grunewald.

**ISRAEL PRICE INDEX UP 1.6 PERCENT**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Israeli officials are concerned about the 1.6 percent rise in the cost-of-living index in November, which the Central Bureau of Statistics announced Tuesday.

The rise is six-tenths of a percent higher than forecast and brings the inflation rate for the first 11 months of the year to 14.7 percent.

The rate for all of 1987 is expected to hit 16 percent when the December figures are released on Jan. 15.

## LUBAVITCH LOSES A BATTLE IN HOLIDAY 'WAR OF SYMBOLS'

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- A federal district court judge in Tampa turned down a request from the Lubavitch movement Tuesday to order the cities of Sarasota and Tampa, Fla. to allow members of the movement to place menorahs on public land in those communities.

Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich ruled that Lubavitch would not be irreparably harmed by the cities' refusal to allow menorahs to be placed on public land and that the movement had not successfully demonstrated the merits of its claim that it was entitled to place religious symbols on public property, the American Jewish Congress reported.

A federal district court judge in Ohio turned down a similar request Tuesday from Lubavitch representatives seeking permission to place a menorah on public property in Cincinnati, AJCongress reported.

The Florida and Ohio cases are just the latest skirmishes in what some are calling "the war of the symbols." At issue is a fundamental question of constitutional rights and, perhaps not coincidentally, a restatement of the basic Chanukah theme: What is the best way to protect the religious freedom of the minority despite the symbolic and cultural influence of the majority?

In the view of the Lubavitch, the Brooklyn-based Hasidic sect also known as Chabad, the best way is by ensuring "equal treatment." A Constitution that allows Christmas trees and other holiday decorations to be displayed on public property should protect the lighting of menorahs in government places, they argue.

For groups like the American Civil Liberties Union and such major American Jewish organizations as the AJCongress and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the answer is to remove all religious symbols -- crosses, creches and menorahs -- from public property and government buildings.

### Battle On Several Fronts

As some Americans celebrate Chanukah this week and other Americans prepare to celebrate Christmas in two weeks, the "war of the symbols" is being fought on a number of fronts, including:

- Hyde Park, Vt., where attorney Valerie White and the ACLU are crusading for removal of a cross from the courthouse lawn.

- Palm Beach, Broward and Dade counties, Fla., where the state Department of Transportation withdrew permission it had previously granted the Synagogue of Inverrary-Chabad to erect menorahs at five toll plaza locations along the Florida Turnpike.

- Chicago, where the city has reversed a decision to display a creche and a menorah in Daley Plaza downtown, and has revoked a Chabad permit.

That so many of these disputes involve menorahs is a relatively new development. Traditionally, the war of the symbols has focused on Jewish objections to Christian displays: nativity scenes on courthouse steps, crosses on the roofs of firehouses.

Display on public land implies government sponsorship, Jewish groups have long argued, and government sponsorship conveys the unconstitutional "establishment" of religion by government,

barred by the First Amendment to the Constitution.

"When the symbolism is Christian, as it almost always will be, given the demography of America, the message conveyed is the establishment of Christianity," Marc Stern, co-director of the American Jewish Congress Commission on Law and Social Action, writes in a recent report.

### Winning The Rank And File

But in recent years, the Lubavitch movement has shown a new assertiveness in erecting menorahs on public property, meaning Jewish groups are now taking opposite sides on constitutional issues. And for a change, the public relations race may belong to the Lubavitch, who speak to the segment of the Jewish rank and file that believes, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

The Florida cases began after the City Commissions in Sarasota and Tampa denied Chabad permission to place "a religious symbol" -- a menorah -- on public land.

Tuesday's court decision turned down a last-minute request by Chabad to place a temporary restraining order on the bans.

According to Rabbi Alter Bukiet, executive director of Chabad Lubavitch of Manasota, Fla., Chabad had been attempting to demonstrate that a menorah, like a Christmas tree, is a universal, secular symbol as well as a religious one -- and its message is thus protected under its constitutional right to free speech.

### A Secular Symbol?

But according to a brief filed in the Sarasota-Tampa case by the American Jewish Congress on behalf of the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation, the ADL and itself, Chabad's claims for the secularity of the menorah are a "sham," masking the movement's true purpose in attempting to erect the menorah.

"The menorah is intended to be a religious symbol, and the (Lubavitch) leaders boast of its success in that regard," according to the brief.

The brief followed a standard argument in church-state litigation: A Christmas tree, unlike a menorah, is for First Amendment purposes a secular symbol, because it carries a seasonal, but no actual religious, significance.

As in other communities, the local Jewish federation in Sarasota had invited Chabad to erect its menorah on federation or other privately-owned property. According to Jack Weintraub, executive director of the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation, Bukiet's reply to that invitation was, "We'll do that, too."

Members of the Lubavitch movement concede that erecting the menorahs on public property is one of the very goals of the program -- an effort to provide what one rabbi described as "qualitative visibility."

"On public property it's us looking together -- it's not 'you' looking in," said Bukiet.

Tuesday's court decisions have by no means settled the "war of the symbols." According to Ruti Teitel, assistant director of the legal affairs department of ADL's civil rights division, "The differences between the Lubavitch and the rest of the community don't just revolve on this issue. It's just one part. There's aid to parochial schools, moments of silence, on and on. All are fundamental policy questions of how best to protect Jews."

"No one likes to play Grinch," said Marc Stern, "but that's what this job requires."