



FOUR PALESTINIANS DEPORTED, DESPITE APPEALS FROM EUROPEAN NATIONS

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- Israel deported four Palestinian activists from the West Bank Wednesday. A statement issued by the military command described them as "among the leaders of the instigators and organizers" of the recent disturbances in the territory.

The four men were "taken to Lebanon" according to the statement by Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central sector. The statement did not elaborate.

The four deportees were the first of nine Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip whose expulsion was ordered on Jan. 3. They were ousted within hours after a military review board in the West Bank rejected their appeals against deportation late Tuesday.

Lawyers for the four said they had decided to waive their right to appeal to the Supreme Court, because they were convinced justice would not be done. The high court has rarely overruled deportation orders by the military.

The four are Hussam Uthman Mohammed Hadar, 26, from the Balata refugee camp near Nablus; Bashir Ahmed Khayri, 45, from Ramallah; Jamal Mohammed Shakir Jabara, 28, from Kalkilya; and Jibril Mahmoud Rajub, 34, from Dura village.

Israel expelled the Palestinians in the face of strong expressions of concern from Western European nations and the United States and in defiance of a Jan. 5 resolution of the United Nations Security Council urging it to rescind the deportation orders.

On Tuesday, the ambassadors of Denmark, West Germany and Italy and representatives of the European Economic Community met with Yossi Beilin, political director general of the Foreign Ministry, to urge again that Israel refrain from deporting the Palestinians. The envoys expressed their firm support for the Security Council resolution.

Israeli officials apparently felt that expulsion of the activists was vital to restoring order in the administered territories and therefore outweighed criticism from Israel's friends abroad.

Deportation orders are yet to be implemented against one Palestinian in the West Bank and four in the Gaza Strip. The military review boards have not yet ruled in their cases. Nor have the five indicated whether they would carry their appeals to the Supreme Court if necessary.

CABINET MINISTERS DISCUSS UNREST AND NEED FOR PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- The Inner Cabinet met for several hours Wednesday to consider the deteriorating situation in the administered territories.

No new policy decisions were announced, but tougher military measures are expected, including more and longer curfews in refugee camps and other trouble spots to keep potential demonstrators off the streets.

The Inner Cabinet, which consists of 5 Labor and 5 Likud ministers, is the government's top

policymaking body. An official statement issued after the meeting said the defense minister, the Israel Defense Force chief of staff and the deputy chief of staff gave reports to the ministers.

Despite sharp differences between Labor and Likud, it appeared that key ministers of the two parties share the view that the immediate need is to restore order in the territories. There also seemed to be a growing consensus that momentum must be restored to the movement for a negotiated political settlement in the region.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres sent a message to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt earlier in the week, pledging Israel to continue to strive to advance the peace process while making efforts to calm the situation in the territories.

Egyptian Envoy Summoned

Peres reportedly gave his message to the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Mohammad Bassiouny, whom he summoned to Jerusalem for a meeting.

Deputy Premier David Levy of Likud also stressed the need for political momentum. But, speaking in a radio interview Wednesday, he reiterated Likud's insistence on direct negotiations with Jordan and the party's opposition to an international peace conference.

Laborite Ezer Weizman, a minister without portfolio, proposed in an article published Tuesday in Maariv that Egypt should host a peace conference.

Meanwhile, a leading Palestinian moderate in the West Bank, Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem, proposed that Israel annex the territories and grant the Palestinian population full citizenship rights.

In an interview Wednesday with Yediot Achronot, Freij said these rights should include "military service and the right to vote and to be elected to the Knesset.

"We are sick and tired of being the mistress of Israel," the Palestinian said. "The time has come to either marry us or divorce us."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES: LABOR AND LIKUD RESIST ELECTION CALL, BUT TAKE FRESH LOOK AT STANDS ON PEACE
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- Leaders of the Labor Party and the Likud are standing fast against moves by some members of both parties to call early elections.

But the closing of ranks by the coalition leadership does not mean they have drawn closer on the basic political and ideological issues that divide them. Rather, it reflects their separate fears about how the prolonged and unabated violence in the administered territories would affect the mood of the electorate should they go to the polls in June instead of next November, when the Knesset elections are scheduled.

At the same time, there are important signs of some new thinking and a profound reappraisal in both parties, particularly among their hawkish elements, on how to deal with the new Palestinian leadership that could emerge from the present unrest and its effect on the larger peace process.

Calls for early elections have arisen periodi-

cally ever since the Labor-Likud unity coalition government was established in 1984. This week, Knesset member Haim Ramon of Labor, joined by his Likud colleague, Michael Eitan, introduced a motion for the early dissolution of the Knesset and elections in June. The right-wing opposition Tehiya Party has forwarded a similar proposal.

The coalition leaders rejected the idea.

Labor's grounds to fear early elections are a reflection of recent public opinion polls, which have shown a sharp lurch to the right since rioting began in the territories Dec. 9.

Right Wing Hardening

Right-wing, nationalist sentiments were hardened after Israel's Arab community -- 750,000 strong -- staged a general strike on Dec. 21 in solidarity with their fellow Palestinians.

The strike was an unprecedented act by Israel's normally quiescent Arab citizens, accompanied by several serious incidents of violence in the heart of Israel, which sent shock waves through the entire country.

According to experts, the Israeli reaction was a natural phenomenon reflecting a society that finds itself -- in the persons of its soldiers -- under hostile attack from within.

Likud leaders and planners, however, are by no means confident that the present mood of militancy will last even until June. They believe the initial reaction of patriotic outrage may soon give way to a sweeping sense of doubt and even despair, as more and more people conclude that the indefinite occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is impossible to sustain, or at least undesirable for the future of the country.

Laborites, for their part, believe that if the Dec. 21 explosion by the Israeli Arab population is to produce any break in the political deadlock that has paralyzed the government's peace moves, that scenario must be given more time to unfold and to have an impact on the electorate.

A June election date, therefore, is considered much too early for any new sentiments to have coalesced.

Similarly, some Likud members feel the Israel Defense Force's "iron fist" policy in the territories needs more time to be effective and restore order.

Accordingly, they prefer not to rush into an election campaign while the bullets and rocks are still flying. They hope that eventually the disturbances will be crushed and with it the attempt to dictate terms to Israel by force.

An example of new thinking emerging in the Labor Party was given by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who has been faulted by many of his fellow Laborites for this seemingly ruthless suppression of the disturbances.

Emerging Leadership

Addressing a caucus of the Labor Knesset faction this week, Rabin suggested the possibility that an authentic Palestinian leadership may emerge from the current violence, and he indicated Israel must be prepared to deal with such leaders.

Key leaders of Likud, meanwhile, are working quietly for possible overtures toward West Bank and Gazan leaders that could circumvent the deadlocked peace process. Premier Yitzhak Shamir is not active in the approach, but he has not vetoed it.

On the Labor side, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his allies have redoubled their efforts

to put together an international peace conference format acceptable to everyone, except Shamir, who is totally opposed to the idea. But if the Peres group succeeds, sufficient pressure could be brought to bear on Shamir to agree to the procedure.

Peres' aides are discouraged by an apparent hardening of the Soviet position. The foreign minister's policy adviser, Nimrod Novik, is scheduled to meet with Soviet officials in Switzerland next week. He is expected to argue forcibly that the time is ripe as never before for a breakthrough to peace negotiations.

Meanwhile, all three members of the "Prime Ministers Club" -- Shamir, Peres and Rabin, who each have served as premier -- are in firm agreement that nothing whatever can be achieved in the diplomatic arena until order is restored in the territories.

The Palestinians, buoyed by their success in rallying Western public opinion to their side, may well be disinclined to put away their stones and burning tires for vague hopes of diplomatic progress in the future.

Even moderate Palestinians are seeking meaningful concessions from Israel as a prepayment for an end to the violence. Former Mayor Rashad A-Shawa of Gaza said this week, "If Shamir would just give a hint that he is ready to negotiate, that would do more than anything to ease the situation."

ISRAELI APPEARANCES ON U.S. TV HURTING IMAGE, OFFICIAL CHARGES By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- A high-ranking official of the Israel Embassy in Washington has criticized an embassy spokesman who accused Israeli soldiers of "encouraging civil disobedience" in Israel by their statements on American television, Haaretz reported Wednesday.

According to Haaretz correspondent Zvi Barel, the spokesman, Yossi Gal, sent a cable to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem complaining that "self righteous statements" made on American television by Israelis have seriously damaged Israel.

"I am referring particularly to soldiers and officers who state in fluent English that they don't want to serve in the (administered) territories, and these beautiful Israelis are encouraging civil disobedience on the part of other Israeli citizens," Gal charged according to Haaretz.

In response, a high-ranking embassy official, not identified by Barel, stated, "It's clear to all of us that the difficulties in Israeli hasbara (information dissemination) are in fact linked to flying rocks and casualties and not to the TV appearance of Israelis," Haaretz reported.

Haaretz military correspondent Reuven Pedatzur reported Wednesday that press photographers and television camera crews are complaining they are arbitrarily barred from areas of disturbances by Israel Defense Force soldiers who produce "pre-stamped orders" declaring the areas are closed.

An IDF spokesman said in response that "no region is closed off to (press) coverage alone. When an area is closed, no one can enter."

Meanwhile, charges have been dropped against an ABC television network reporter who was accused by the IDF last week of having paid youngsters in the Gaza Strip to burn tires in the street for the benefit of his cameras.

U.S., RED CROSS, EUROPEANS OPPOSE DEPORTATION OF PALESTINIANS

Jan. 13 (JTA) -- Israel's deportation Wednesday of four Palestinians from the West Bank to Lebanon drew immediate criticism from both the United States and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Wednesday that the department "deeply regrets" the deportations. He did not elaborate and refused to answer a barrage of questions from reporters. He denied charges that the Reagan Administration is again trying to mute its criticism of Israel.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross expressed "consternation" and "grave concern" Wednesday, an unusual statement inasmuch as the traditionally neutral organization generally expresses its views on controversial issues privately to the governments concerned.

The communique said the deportations are "a grave violation of Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which forbids the forcible transfer of groups or individuals from the occupied territories whatever the reason for it."

The same view had been expressed by the European Community and by the foreign ministers and envoys of many of its member states since Israel issued the deportation order Jan. 3.

European Community Appeals

In Brussels, the seat of the EC Council of Ministers and of the European Executive Commission, the 12 EC member states had appealed to Israel Tuesday to give up its plan to deport the Palestinians.

The West German, Danish and Greek envoys told Israeli authorities on behalf of the EEC that the deportations were a breach of Article 49 of the 1949 Geneva Convention.

The West German ambassador, diplomatic sources in Brussels said, also stressed to the Israeli government that the European Community fully supports the United Nations Security Council resolution of Jan 5 which called on Israel not to deport the Palestinians.

Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek said at a news conference in The Hague Tuesday that the disturbances in the Israel-administered territories "were not an incident but rather the symptom of a deep frustration among the Palestinian people with regard to the total absence of a political solution."

In Athens, Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias of Greece expressed similar sentiments Wednesday. He said Greece disapproved of the use of armed forces against the Arab population in the Israel-occupied territories.

In London Wednesday, a Labor member of parliament, Gerald Kaufman, called for a bipartisan foreign policy on the Middle East. Kaufman, who is the Labor Party's foreign affairs spokesman, said normally he opposed the Conservative government, but he found the situation in Israel on a recent visit "so fraught with danger and tragedy that we should try to have a bi-partisan foreign policy."

Kaufman said that since the United States is not sufficiently promoting an Arab-Israeli settlement, Britain has an important role to play.

(JTA correspondents Howard Rosenberg in Washington, Edwin Eytan in Paris, Jean Cohen in Athens, Yossi Lempkowitz in Brussels and Maurice Samuelson in London contributed to this report.)

ARAB TERROR CASUALTIES SAY THEY ARE TRUE VICTIMS IN MIDEAST By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- Five close relatives of Israeli Jews killed by Arab terrorists, some bearing their own scars from attacks they barely survived, told an emotionally charged news conference here Wednesday that Jews are the real victims of the Middle East turmoil.

The five arrived here for a one-week private visit to tell their stories to the American public, they said, and counter what they perceive to be the favorable image of Palestinian rioters portrayed by the American media.

The news conference, held at the headquarters of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, was attended by Abbi Moses and his 9-year-old daughter, Adi, of Alfie Menashe in the West Bank; Masodi Ochana of Beit Shan; and David and Geula Pollack of Jerusalem.

Spokesman for the group was Meir Indor, a former Israel Defense Force medic who was wounded in the Gaza Strip in 1972. But as the families themselves recounted their tragedies, even hardened reporters were seen wiping away tears as they listened.

Abbi Moses lost his wife, Ofra, and their 5-year-old son, Tal, when a fire-bomb struck their car while they were driving in the West Bank last April, two days before Passover.

Both father and daughter are still under treatment for burns over most of their bodies, with Adi visiting the hospital daily. "Every time we go it is just pure hell," he said. Both have burn scars on their hands and faces.

Ochana's 21-year-old daughter, Esther, a reserve soldier, was stoned to death while driving home from Beersheba in March 1984.

The Pollacks' two daughters, Nurit, 18, and Esther, 14, were killed instantly when a terrorist bomb destroyed a bus in Jerusalem in 1983.

The five accused the American media of presenting Palestinian rioters as victims of Israeli brutality. Ochana held up fragments of rock she said were removed from her daughter's brain.

"They say that stones don't kill, but . . . a stone killed my daughter," she said. Esther was delivering invitations to her wedding when she met violent death, her mother said.

The terrorists responsible were sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment but were freed after six months in a prisoner exchange, Ochana noted.

She and the Pollacks urged the death penalty for terrorists as the only deterrent. "The Jews are afraid to walk freely in their own country," she said.

"We are against all kinds of terrorism," said Abbi Moses. "But we want to make clear, especially after the American media have been siding with the Palestinians, that we are the victims of violence and terror."

Pollack said that in reality, "the Arabs control us and we can't control them. They live amongst us but we are not allowed to visit their towns and cities."

The group demonstrated outside the United Nations Tuesday. They met with Herbert Okun, the U.S. deputy representative to the United Nations, but Indor complained that the media ignored them.

They are going to Washington Thursday, hoping to meet government officials. Then they will travel to Miami and Los Angeles, where they hope more Americans will learn of their tragedies.

**JEWS AND BLACKS RECALL PAST
AT M.L. KING COMMEMORATION**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- The Israel Embassy's annual commemoration of the birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King has become a setting for Jews and blacks to look back with nostalgia to the 1960s, when they marched together in the civil rights movement.

This was true Tuesday as some 300 Jews and blacks crowded the embassy for its fourth annual tribute to King, who would have been 59 on Friday. Asher Naim, the embassy's minister of information, noted the event "has become a tradition with us."

Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), who as a college student was a leader of the civil rights movement, recalled that Jews and blacks not only worked together, but "some died together."

Arnold Aaronson, who was a close associate of King's and the first executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, stressed that the historic 1963 March on Washington included not only all of the black organizations, but "a cross section of the best in America."

He said the same people participated in 1981 in the "solidarity" demonstration for organized labor and again last December in support of Soviet Jewry.

This is a "demonstration that the fight for justice, for peace, for freedom, is a fight for all of us," Aaronson said. "It can't be won by any one group acting for or by itself, but only through a coalition of all of those who believe in justice and human dignity."

Aaronson and his two successors as executive director of the Leadership Conference, Marvin Caplan, a labor leader, and Ralph Neas, the current director, were honored with trees in their names planted in the Martin Luther King Jr. Forest in the Galilee. The Jewish National Fund is co-host with the embassy for the annual event.

But while there were many blacks in the audience, some blacks who had been invited did not attend, in protest over Israel's handling of the unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But Naim told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that some 1,600 persons had been invited and that none of those who had accepted the invitation later canceled.

James Zogby, executive director of the Arab American Institute, had urged blacks not to attend. He and three others were arrested outside the embassy during the ceremony.

Responding to Zogby, Coretta Scott King, the slain civil rights leader's widow, told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Sunday that the commemoration for King "should be a day of unity. We call for people in conflict with each other, even at war, to lay down their weapons and set aside their differences for one day and come together in the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr."

But Coretta King, who was in Washington Tuesday for another ceremony honoring her husband, issued a statement deploring the "violence" on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I also deplore the human misery and hopelessness of the Palestinian people who live there," she said.

"The Palestinian people have a right to protest for their full human and civil rights, just as the State of Israel has the right to protect its security," said King.

She expressed the hope that both Israel and the Palestinians would support Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' "proposal for an international peace conference, as well as the mediation of the United Nations."

Yosef Gal, the embassy spokesman, told the JTA that like Coretta King, Israel is concerned about the situation and would like to see a return to "tranquility and order." He said Israel also would like to see "meaningful progress on the peace process" with the Palestinians and the Arab countries.

There was no mention during the ceremony of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad stressed that Jews, like King, had throughout their history an "unquenchable hunger for freedom and justice and the commitment for the rule of law."

"We fervently hope that the spirit of peace and reconciliation exemplified in Dr. King's life and work will overcome the forces of evil and hatred and violence in the world today," Arad said. "This has always been the hope of the Jewish people."

Arad also noted the "special identification" between the Jewish people and King. He said that King "was repelled by any form of anti-Semitism," had supported Soviet Jews in their effort to emigrate and was "inspired by the Jewish return to their ancient homeland."

"He articulated emphatically and unambiguously Israel's national and legitimate right as a Jewish state, the right which unfortunately has been challenged by many of our neighbors," Arad said.

**SOVIETS AGAIN DENYING VISAS
IF NO CLOSE RELATIVE IN ISRAEL**
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Jan. 13 (JTA) -- Soviet authorities are denying exit visas to Jews without first-degree relatives in Israel -- an official Soviet policy that had been relaxed in recent months--the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Tuesday.

Vyacheslav Uspensky, son of prominent refuseniks Igor and Inna Ioffe Uspensky, was denied a Soviet exit visa Jan. 5 because of the lack of the first-degree relative in Israel. His refusal followed those of a number of Leningrad Jews.

Soviet authorities announced last January they would accept applications for emigration only if they contained invitations sent by first-degree relatives in Israel. In recent months, however, the Soviets have allowed some Jews without close relatives in Israel to leave the country.

In a statement issued here, Morris Abram, chairman of the NCSJ, demanded to know whether the denials were "random, or do they suggest a renewed Soviet intransigence on the emigration issue?"

If they are random, he said, "then we call upon Soviet authorities to reverse their decisions and grant visas immediately to all those refused."

The 18-year-old Uspensky applied for an exit visa independently of his parents after they were again refused permission to emigrate several weeks ago on the grounds that they possess "state secrets" through Slava's grandmother, Irina Voronkevich, and his maternal uncle, the mathematician Aleksander Ioffe.

Igor and Inna Uspensky were first refused permission to emigrate in March 1981.