

**MUBARAK LAUNCHES PEACE DRIVE,  
BUT SHAMIR MAINTAINS HIS STANCE**

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt has launched a peace initiative aimed at restoring calm in the administered territories while advancing negotiations for a peace settlement.

According to commentators here, the plan appears to have gained broad support in principle, but sharp differences remain over specifics.

A major issue of contention is whether the peace process should take the form of an international conference, which Jordan insists on but is vigorously opposed by Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir of the Likud.

Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Monday that the international conference idea is a "trap" and vowed that Israel would not "fall into it."

He also lashed out at his political rival and coalition partner, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of the Labor Party, who he said had become an "obstacle" to peace prospects by backing the international conference option, instead of Shamir's plan for direct talks with Jordan and Egypt on Palestinian autonomy.

Peres, responding in what appears to be an increasingly acerbic series of exchanges between the two leaders, said he has no objections to Shamir's plan, but pointed out that the Arab parties have rejected it.

Shamir's remarks were triggered by a direct appeal from Mubarak, urging the Israeli premier to drop his objections to the international peace conference. The Egyptian president called Shamir's rejection of the conference "an unnecessary hurdle on the road to peace."

At the same time, an American Jewish Congress delegation visiting the Middle East has urged Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein to consider Shamir's objections to the peace conference and to see if they could modify their positions to keep the peace momentum going.

The delegation, led by Theodore Mann, AJCongress national president, and Henry Siegman, the group's executive director, met with the two leaders last week before arriving in Israel over the weekend.

**AJCongress Group Reports**

Reporting their findings at a news conference in Tel Aviv on Monday, the delegation said Mubarak believed that alternatives to the peace conference were worth pursuing, but Hussein's response was "unclear."

The delegation met Sunday night with Shamir and, according to Siegman, the premier showed no flexibility in his position.

Mubarak's new peace plan was conveyed to both Shamir and Peres over the weekend by Mohammad Bassiouny, the Egyptian ambassador in Tel Aviv.

It apparently calls for a six-month cessation of disturbances in the administered territories and a concurrent freeze on Israeli settlement activity.

It is based on two principles: The first is that until negotiations for a settlement have begun, the political process will concentrate on

drawing plans for a transition period in the territories.

Second, the idea of an international conference would be shelved for the time being and the focus would be on the preparatory process.

The plan also would guarantee that if an international conference is convened, "no outside power will have the right to dictate to the parties or to veto whatever they agree upon."

That provision is similar to wording contained in the so-called "London document" that Hussein and Peres hammered out last April during a secret meeting in the British capital.

While the Mubarak plan has gained broad acceptance in principle, there are a number of differences on both sides. Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Soviet Union want the territories to be put under international supervision or administration during the interim period.

Israel and Jordan prefer that they be put under Jordanian-Palestinian administration. But the two disagree over the extent of Israeli presence in the territories during the transition interval.

Mubarak is currently in Europe and is due to arrive Thursday in Washington, where he will undoubtedly present the plan to American officials.

**RABIN RESPONDS TO CRITICISM  
OVER POLICY OF BEATING ARABS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin defended his controversial policy of beatings and curfews to counter unrest in the administered territories. He told military correspondents here Monday that they have brought relative calm to the area.

Rabin said the reduction in the number of shootings is a significant achievement and stressed that any beatings occurred "while violence was taking place, not before it and not after."

The defense minister admitted there were several cases where excessive force was used, but on the whole the soldiers behaved properly. He promised that all cases where they allegedly exceeded their orders would be investigated.

Rabin has come under fire in Israel and abroad since he announced last week that the Israel Defense Force is under orders to pursue and vigorously beat Palestinian demonstrators, while cutting back on the use of live ammunition.

On Sunday, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations, condemned "the indiscriminate beating of Arabs" as "an offense to the Jewish spirit" that "violates every principle of human decency" and "betrays the Zionist dream."

In a cable to President Chaim Herzog, he warned that the policy would serve only to "shift the responsibility for the neglect and abuse of the Palestinians from the Arab (countries) to the shoulders of Israel."

Last Friday, Theodore Ellenoff, national president of the American Jewish Committee, cabled Israeli leaders, saying the use of "physical violence" is undercutting Israel's positive image

in the United States. He urged them to be "more imaginative" in finding a solution to Palestinian unrest in the administered territories.

#### **Complaint Against 'Torture'**

In Israel, Felicia Langer, an Israeli lawyer who has long defended Palestinians charged with security offenses, lodged a complaint with Attorney General Yosef Harish on Monday against "the torture of residents of the Gaza Strip by the illegal use of force, in line with the policy of Defense Minister Rabin."

She demanded an immediate investigation of the parties who gave the "illegal orders" and those who carried them out.

Some Palestinians in the territory hold American citizenship. Three so far have filed complaints at the United States Consulate in East Jerusalem that they were beaten by Israeli soldiers. Two of the complainants claimed they were in their homes when soldiers burst in and began "striking everyone in sight."

A military spokesman said persons who feel they have complaints should file them with the local military authorities.

No serious disturbances were reported in the territories Monday. There were several minor incidents of rock-throwing and a few roadblocks were reported. The commercial strike by East Jerusalem merchants continued into its third week.

Rabin conceded that conditions have not returned to normal in the territories and that it was still necessary to maintain a large IDF force in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, Voice of Israel Radio reported Monday that a new body, known as the United National Leadership, has surfaced in the territories to guide the unrest which, initially, was spontaneous. The report said Israeli sources are not certain whether the new body exists in substance or is merely a name.

(New York correspondent Andrew Silow Carroll contributed to this report.)

#### **SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER LEADER'S REPORT ON ISRAEL, UNREST** **By Yitzhak Rabi**

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- The Security Council will convene Wednesday to consider the report of Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, it was decided here Monday.

The decision followed consultations among members of the council at which the secretary general was present.

Perez de Cuellar said here Friday that the problems in the territories under Israel's control could be solved only through a political settlement negotiated by an international conference for peace under United Nations auspices.

"The underlying problem can only be resolved through a political settlement which responds both to the refusal of the Palestinian population of the territories to accept a future under Israel's occupation and to Israel's determination to ensure its security and the well-being of its people," the secretary general said.

His statement was contained in his 16-page report, which was requested by the Security Council in its Dec. 22 resolution condemning Israel's handling of the riots in the territories.

The report criticizes Israel for the actions it has been using to quell the demonstrations in

the territories. The secretary general said Israel must be persuaded to accept the application to the territories of the Geneva Convention on the safety and protection of civilians in time of war.

He said that there was evidence that in dealing with the unrest, the Israeli Defense Force had used disproportionate force, leading to fatal casualties, which could be avoided if less-harsh measures were employed.

At least 38 Palestinian Arabs have died in clashes in the last six weeks between Israeli troops and rioters in the territories.

The secretary general's report included information provided by Undersecretary General Marrack Goulding, who returned last week from a nine-day visit to the territories and Israel. In his talks with Palestinians, the secretary general said, Goulding heard complaints of the practices of the Israeli security forces, the lack of outlets for political activity and of economic discrimination.

Israeli leaders told Goulding that the complaints of the Palestinians were mostly "politically motivated exaggerations or distortions," Perez de Cuellar reported.

Goulding came away from his visit convinced that the unrest in the territories is a reaction to 20 years of occupation and the feeling among the Palestinians that their situation is hopeless, the secretary general said.

Perez de Cuellar also said that the idea of sending U.N. observers to the territories to oversee the treatment of the Palestinians by the Israel is not attainable, because of Israeli objections.

#### **GAZA DEPORTEES WON'T APPEAL** **By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- Four Palestinian activists from the Gaza Strip have instructed their lawyers to waive their appeals to the Supreme Court against deportation, which the military ordered Jan. 3, it was reported here Monday.

The high court was scheduled to hear the appeals Wednesday. Altogether, nine Palestinians were ordered expelled. Four from the West Bank who waived their appeals were deported to Lebanon on Jan. 13. The case of a fifth from the West Bank is pending.

The four from the Gaza Strip, whose expulsions now appear imminent, are Furay Ahmed Khavri, 39, Mohammed Abu Samara, 26, and Kahaili Kika, 39, all of Gaza, and Hasan Ghanim Mohammed Abu Shakra, 27, of Khan Yunis.

#### **RAOUL WALLENBERG SEEN ALIVE** **IN OCTOBER, SAYS LAW PROFESSOR** **By Michael Solomon**

MONTREAL, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- Raoul Wallenberg, whom the Soviet authorities claim died 40 years ago, is alive and still in prison, according to Irwin Cotler, a McGill University law professor who left for Moscow Friday, with the intention of raising the issue of Wallenberg's fate with Kremlin leaders.

Cotler said at a news conference before his departure that he has confidential information from a "highly placed Swedish diplomat" that as recently as October 1987, Wallenberg was "alive and incarcerated in a prison not far from Moscow." If alive, he would be 76.

The Soviets insist he died of a heart attack in 1947.

# **AUSTRIA TO RETURN ART CONFISCATED BY NAZIS**

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- Austria is beginning to return 1,170 works of art confiscated from Central European Jews by the Nazis during World War II, a spokesman for the Finance Ministry confirmed here last week.

Fifteen paintings, several drawings and art objects as well as a number of books with satisfactorily documented ownership will be yielded within the next several weeks.

They are part of a collection that includes 700 paintings, 250 drawings, several collections of porcelain, arms and coins, as well as a large number of theater literature. It is stored in Mauerbach, a former monastery near Vienna.

Almost all of the paintings have been claimed, but not with documentation good enough for the authorities to hand them over immediately. In cases of multiple claims, a civil court judge will decide ownership.

The Mauerbach artworks were handed over to the Austrian government by the U.S. Army in 1952, after the army had failed to find the rightful owners.

The paintings and objects had been stolen by Nazi officials and incorporated in various public collections of the time, among them the Museum of Linz and the collection of the Reichsstatthalter. Some ended up in the bomb-proof shelters of the salt mines in Altaussee, where they were found by U.S. troops in 1945.

The Austrians returned some 10,000 objects, while about 8,000 remained unclaimed. In 1969, a list of these remaining artworks was sent to Austrian embassies around the world, but according to critics -- it was not well publicized.

But this claiming period, which lasted until 1972, was not successful. Now the Austrian Finance Ministry, which is in charge of the issue, seems determined to end the affair.

In 1985, following pressure from international press coverage triggered by a story in the New York-based Art News magazine, the Austrians again sought to return the artworks.

The Austrian parliament mandated in 1985 that all remaining artworks be included on lists to be publicized by Jewish media around the world.

Dr. Israel Miller, executive director of the Committee of Jewish Claims on Austria, said recently, "The process is moving along. It isn't a situation where people are sitting on their hands."

Proving one's own or family's ownership of an artwork is difficult. Almost none of the claimants were able to take receipts, photographs or other documentation when they fled Austria in order to escape the concentration camps.

Some 370 persons claimed one or more artworks through September 1986, when the claiming period ended. The legal procedures might take two more years, a spokesman in the Finance Ministry estimated.

"We will try to be not too strict," said an official dealing with the matter.

All unclaimed artworks will be auctioned, the proceeds to be given to welfare organizations caring for Nazi victims.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said large auction houses advised not to sell unclaimed, less interesting objects until the claimed piece were distributed in order to hold one large auction that would likely get better prices.

# **SCHOLARS' WALDHEIM PANEL MEETS FOR FOURTH TIME**

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- An international panel of historians met here Monday for its fourth and possibly final session to examine the alleged role of Kurt Waldheim in Nazi atrocities in the Balkans. He served there as an intelligence officer in the German Army during World War II.

The panel's report, which could determine whether the Austrian president resigns, was to have been issued in mid-January, but it is not expected to be ready before the second or third week of February.

The panel, headed by Hans Peter Kurz of Switzerland, consists of military historians from Belgium, Britain, Greece, Israel, West Germany, the United States and Yugoslavia. It was set up and financed by the Austrian government to determine the veracity of allegations that Waldheim was involved in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities against civilians and partisan fighters in Yugoslavia.

Waldheim has denied all charges, but in fact had concealed his wartime military service for more than 40 years, during which he served two terms as United Nations secretary general. He was elected president of Austria in 1986.

A Yugoslav military historian told Belgrade television Saturday that Waldheim was deeply involved in atrocities there. A spokesman for Waldheim rejected that charge, which he said was intended to influence the investigation.

The panel will hear directly from Waldheim next week, and from the Yugoslav, whose surname is Plence, according to Austrian radio.

# **PROSECUTOR WINDS UP HIS CASE IN DEMJANJUK WAR CRIMES TRIAL**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- The trial of accused war criminal John Demjanjuk neared its end Monday, as chief prosecutor Michael Shaked presented his final argument in Jerusalem district court.

At one point, the court called a recess to allow Shaked to regain his composure after his emotional description of the Treblinka death camp, where Demjanjuk allegedly operated the gas chambers in which some 800,000 Jews died.

Before the prosecutor broke down, he attacked the professional competence of forensic experts testifying for the defense, who questioned the authenticity of a key document -- the SS identification card allegedly issued to Demjanjuk when he trained for guard duty at Treblinka.

Shaked also stressed discrepancies between Demjanjuk's statements to police before the trial began nearly a year ago and his testimony in court.

Demjanjuk, a Ukrainian-born retired automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio, has denied from the onset that he was the Treblinka guard whose brutality earned him the sobriquet of "Ivan the Terrible." He claims to have been a German prisoner of war at the time he is accused of his deeds at Treblinka.

The ID card was said to have been issued to Demjanjuk at Trawniki, the SS camp in Poland where captured Red Army soldiers were trained for duties at Treblinka and other camps.

The defense claims the card, which was obtained from the Soviets, is a forgery.

## MIDDLE EAST WAS THE LOCUS OF TERRORIST ACTS IN 1986

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- More than one-fourth of all international terrorist attacks in 1986 occurred in Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the State Department revealed last week in its annual report on "Patterns of Global Terrorism."

The 41-page report found that attacks worldwide perpetrated by Mideast terrorists killed more than 450 persons in 1986 -- nearly double 1985 casualty figures. Also, more terrorist incidents occurred in 1986 in the Middle East than in any other part of the world, constituting 46 percent of the worldwide total of 774 terrorist acts.

In analyzing the 195 acts of terrorism committed in Israel and the territories, the report found that "most of these incidents were low-level attacks -- isolated shootings or stabbings and many fire bombings."

But it termed some of the 195 acts as "more serious," such as the October 1986 bombing of a crowd of soldiers and civilians at the Western Wall.

In assessing the acts committed strictly in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the report found that most of those incidents consisted of "small-scale incendiary bombings against property, but Israeli citizens were killed or wounded in several attacks."

Some of the acts involved attempts by Palestinian terrorists to infiltrate northern Israel from Lebanon. In one of the attempts, "a joint Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-Syrian Social Nationalist Party squad attempted a raid on an Israeli resort town, but was intercepted offshore," the report said.

Other acts were committed by Jewish extremists, the State Department found. It concluded that "Israeli extremists conducted about a dozen retaliatory attacks against Arabs in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip."

The 774 worldwide terrorist incidents in 1986 represented a slight decrease from the 1985 record level of 782. The report noted that 1986 saw the tailing off of the "dramatic upward trend" in the number of terrorist acts between 1983 and 1985.

### Libya Raid Cited

The State Department attributed the tailing off to the deterrent effects of the U.S. bombing of Libya in April 1986 and the subsequent European diplomatic and security sanctions against Libya and Syria.

While the report found the number of Mideast incidents largely unchanged from 1985 to 1986, it found that "spillover" attacks into Western Europe declined near 50 percent -- from 74 in 1985 to 39 the following year.

The report attributed that decline to the breakdown of the peace accord between Jordan's King Hussein and Yasir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which "resulted in fewer attacks by radical Palestinians on Jordanian and PLO targets."

Also, it argued that "record levels of Middle Eastern attacks in Western Europe in 1985 led to enhanced local security."

While casualties worldwide dropped from 825 persons in 1985 to 576 in 1986, the report attributed that decline to "one incident -- 329 deaths

from the 1985 Air India bombing" in 1985.

"Moreover, 1986 could have included as many as 800 more deaths if several attempted aircraft bombings had succeeded," the report added.

U.S. citizens were targets in 204 of the 774 incidents, including roughly 50 in Western Europe. The majority of U.S. terrorist casualties occurred in Western Europe, "most as a result of attacks by Middle Eastern rather than European terrorists," the report stated.

## DEPORTATION HEARINGS POSTPONED AGAINST TERRORIST IN CANADA

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- A convicted Palestinian terrorist who entered Canada under false pretenses a year ago won a four-week postponement of deportation proceedings Monday.

The delay was granted Mahmoud Muhammad Issa Muhammad, who appeared before an immigration review board on Hamilton, Ontario. His attorney, Marylis Edwardh, requested four weeks to study the case.

Issa Muhammad obtained an immigrant visa from the Canadian Consulate in Madrid in January 1987, before the Canadian authorities could identify him as a member of a Palestinian terrorist group. He had been convicted in Greece in 1970 for bombing an Israeli airliner at Athens airport, in which one man was killed. He served one year of a 17-year prison sentence before he was freed in a hostage exchange.

Canadian officials, embarrassed by the ease with which Issa Muhammad managed to elude detection, initiated deportation proceedings against him last October. Deputy Immigration Minister Jerry Weiner told the House of Commons last week that he "may either leave voluntarily or as a result of a deportation order. Our objective is to get this man out of the country."

Issa Muhammad apparently has decided to use all legal avenues to fight deportation. He is not in custody, but his passport has been confiscated by the authorities and he must report daily to immigration officials.

## DUTCH SCHOOL MAY EXCLUDE BOY

By Henretta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court ruled last Friday that a Jewish religious school here need not admit a student whose mother is not Jewish.

The high court's decision in favor of the Maimonides Lyceum ended more than a year and a half of litigation that zig-zagged through the lower courts, attracting much media attention.

A complaint was filed against the school by Robert Drucker, who accused it of discrimination against his son Aram, now 13. The school refused to admit the boy, because he is not Jewish according to halacha (religious law), since his mother is not Jewish.

The Amsterdam lower district court upheld the school's right to select its students. That ruling was overturned on appeal by the higher district court, which ordered the school to pay Drucker the equivalent of \$500 a day for each day Aram was kept out since the school term began last September.

The Lyceum appealed to the Supreme Court and the fine was suspended pending the outcome. The youth has been attending another school.