

**SECRET MISSION TO PARIS  
AROUSES NEW IRE IN THE LIKUD**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA) — The new flurry of diplomatic activity in the Middle East initiated by the United States has raised tensions and acrimony within Premier Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc.

The premier has come under sharp attack from some Herut hard-liners for allegedly deviating from the party's longstanding position on autonomy for the administered territories. He also is accused of putting out diplomatic feelers without consulting his colleagues.

The latest such charges arose from Shamir's dispatch of his close confidant, Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein, on a secret mission to Paris.

Rubinstein reportedly arrived there Monday evening. His visit coincided with the presence in the French capital of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and King Hussein of Jordan, both key players in the diplomatic initiative launched by Washington.

In Paris, Hussein was asked by an Israeli correspondent Wednesday if he had received a message from Shamir or one of his aides. The king responded: "No message."

In Israel, Housing Minister David Levy spoke out strongly Wednesday against secret missions, which he clearly implied were arranged behind his back and those of other Likud ministers. The speculation is that Rubinstein was conveying messages from Shamir to one or both of the Arab leaders in Paris.

The evolving American proposals are understood to call for changes and acceleration of the autonomy plan first formulated in the Camp David accords of 1978. The Americans have referred to "interim arrangements," intended to come to grips with the current unrest in the administered territories, while preparations are made to negotiate a final settlement.

**No Deviation From Camp David**

Both Levy, who holds the rank of deputy premier, and Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, two of the most powerful voices in Likud's Herut wing, have warned Shamir they will accept no deviation from the original Camp David formula, as interpreted by the Likud-led government at the time.

Camp David set a five-year deadline for completion of the autonomy plan. The Americans are now talking in terms of weeks and months. From Likud's standpoint, an early start of negotiations for a settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict is undesirable.

Meanwhile, Transport Minister Haim Corfu, responding in the Knesset to a no-confidence motion Wednesday, said that no U.S. plan has been presented on paper to Israel to date.

But Rubinstein was in Washington last week and apparently was appraised by Reagan administration officials, for the first time, of its new thinking on the Middle East in light of the continuing violence.

Secretary of State George Shultz is sending the administration's top Middle East trouble-shooter, Assistant Secretary of State Richard

Murphy, to the region shortly and some Israeli sources predict Shultz will come here himself if there are any signs of progress.

Both Israel and the United States are in election years, a time when governments are not inclined to make far-reaching diplomatic decisions. The disturbances in the territories appear to have galvanized Americans.

The Europeans also appear to be playing a role in the latest diplomatic initiative, providing, at the very least, the venue for the heightened activity.

Italy is currently the scene of diplomatic contacts. Shamir is due there on a visit in a few days. Hussein ended a three-day visit to Rome on Tuesday that included an audience with Pope John Paul II.

Egyptian President Mubarak is expected there following his visits to France and Morocco. The peripatetic "foreign minister" of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Farouk Kaddoumi, arrived in Rome on Wednesday.

**SETTLERS THREATEN REVOLT  
OVER DIPLOMATIC MOVES**

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA) — The government was faced Wednesday with a revolt by Jewish settlers in the West Bank and dire threats by right-wing politicians against any diplomatic moves that could lead to an exchange of territory for peace.

In the Knesset, Geula Cohen of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party warned there would be "war" over any move by the government to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

She spoke during an emotionally charged debate on a no-confidence motion introduced by Tehiya. The party's members are disturbed by reports of new diplomatic activity in Washington, Paris and elsewhere toward a peace settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

A shouting match erupted in the Cabinet chamber between Defense Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Yosef Shapira, a National Religious Party militant who is a minister without portfolio.

Shapira burst into a closed session of the Inner Cabinet — of which he is not a member — with a warning from the settlers that they will take matters into their own hands if they do not receive better protection from Arab stone-throwers. The Inner Cabinet consists of five Labor and five Likud ministers and is the government's top policy-making body.

"Where is the army?" Shapira asked Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was accompanied by senior Israel Defense Force commanders. He said settlers in Samaria and the Etzion group of settlements south of Jerusalem are complaining they can hardly move on the roads without being attacked with rocks. They are threatening to "take action," Shapira warned.

An irate Rabin replied that the settlers were a "burden" and should take a lesson from the settlers on the northern borders of Israel, who have been targets of terrorist attacks for years and rely on the IDF for protection.

Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, IDF commander of the central sector, which includes the West Bank,

said the army will deal with Arab rioters and also will "handle" Jews who engage in unlawful activities. He said he hoped he would not have to assign military personnel for that purpose.

In the Knesset, Cohen was pressed by Labor and left-wing opposition members to say if she was threatening civil war. They got no clarification from her. But in a radio interview later, she said that by "war" she had meant "the means available in the democratic Knesset and the democratic street."

It would be "a war against withdrawal from Judea and Samaria. We will not use the ugly methods of our opponents -- collaboration with the enemy," she said, referring to Knesset doves seeking territorial compromise for peace.

Cohen, who had once been a member of Herut and admirer of Premier Menachem Begin, quit the party and broke with Begin over the Camp David accords, which called for the return of Sinai to Egypt.

"Shamir is not Begin, and Judea, Samaria and Gaza are not Sinai," she said Wednesday, making clear she would not countenance a withdrawal from the West Bank.

#### STONE-THROWING IN TERRITORIES RESUMES, AFTER BRIEF RESPITE By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Violence escalated again in the administered territories Wednesday and rock-throwing extended into a Jewish neighborhood of Jerusalem, after a brief lull earlier in the week, attributed mainly to wind storms and heavy rain.

The disturbances are in their third month, with no signs of abating. The worst riot of the day occurred at Dura village, south of Hebron, where scores of Arab youths hurled stones, burned tires on the main road and tried to storm the municipal offices.

Israel Defense Force troops fired rubber bullets, tear gas and finally live ammunition. Two local residents were wounded and several arrests were made.

Three rioters in Silwad village, near Ramallah, were wounded in the legs by IDF troops. Two Israelis were injured Wednesday morning when their cars were stoned in the Bethlehem area.

A rock-throwing match broke out between Arab youths and Jewish settlers travelling by bus to Gush Etzion, a grouping of settlements south of Bethlehem. Shots were fired into the air. Curfews were clamped on nearby refugee camps.

Stones were thrown at the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem train in the Arab village of Battir. Troops intervened to restore order.

A school bus taking Jewish children from their Jerusalem school to the settlement of Har Arad, west of Jerusalem, was pelted with rocks. There were no injuries, but furious parents threatened to keep their children home Thursday unless measures were taken to protect them while traveling.

Arab youths from neighboring villages smashed the windows of Jewish homes in the East Talpuyot neighborhood of Jerusalem. A number of stone-throwing incidents were reported in the Gaza Strip, where the windshield of a prison van was smashed. Gaza and Khan Yunis remained paralyzed by commercial strikes.

Meanwhile, the civil administration announced it would close all Arab schools in the West Bank until further notice.

#### U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP FOCUSES AGAIN ON TERRITORIES By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Israel's alleged violation of the rights of Palestinians in the territories it occupied in 1967 was the first item on the agenda of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, which began its annual six-week session here Monday.

The first speaker was the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Nabil Ramlawi, who accused Israel of trying to exterminate the Palestinians in its handling of disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The list of speakers includes all of the Arab states. The Israeli delegate will respond Thursday, after which the 43-nation commission will vote on a resolution.

The Israeli ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Pinchas Eliav, is not appearing at the session. He sent his deputy instead, explaining that it was his gesture of contempt for the meeting, which some here call the "annual hate-Israel festival."

#### ADL POLL FINDS NO EROSION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- There has been little erosion of support for Israel among Americans since unrest began in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to a new poll taken for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and released today.

By a margin of 47 to 14 percent, respondents sympathized more with Israel than with the Arabs, and 43 percent felt the United States should give stronger support to Israel than to the Arabs, compared to 11 percent who held the opposite view.

The poll was conducted from Jan. 20 to 24 by Penn and Schoen Associates among a random sampling of 810 Americans of diverse social, ethnic, religious, geographical and economic backgrounds.

The pollsters compared their results with those of a similar survey taken by the same organization in August 1981, a time of relative calm in the Middle East.

In the January 1988 poll, 52 percent of the respondents thought Israel was a reliable ally of the United States, compared to 45 percent in 1981. Those who believed Israeli actions threatened American interests in the Middle East dropped to 28 percent from 35 percent in 1981.

#### PLO Blamed

On the question of who is "most responsible" for the unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, 43 percent singled out the Palestine Liberation Organization, 16 percent thought it was the Arabs in the area, 16 percent blamed Israel and 26 percent had no opinion.

Asked whether the current unrest stemmed from legitimate grievances against Israel or whether it was organized by the PLO, 39 percent cited the PLO, compared to 33 percent who felt Palestinian grievances were legitimate. Nine percent cited both and 19 percent had no opinion.

But 36 percent of the respondents believed Israel's reaction to the disturbances was too harsh, compared to 29 percent who thought it was appropriate in the circumstances and 12 percent who said it was not harsh enough.

## DOCUMENT SAID TO INCRIMINATE WALDHEIM CANNOT BE FOUND

Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Feb. 4 (JTA) -- The original of a document said to link Austrian President Kurt Waldheim directly to war crimes in Yugoslavia during World War II could not be found there Wednesday.

Manfred Messerschmidt, a West German member of an international commission of historians examining the Austrian president's wartime activities, flew to Zagreb on Tuesday to determine whether the document, said to be in an archive there, was authentic. The panel is expected to issue its final report on Monday.

But Messerschmidt reported that he could not find the incriminating document in Zagreb or at any archive in Belgrade. It reportedly refers to an order by Waldheim to deport more than 4,000 civilians from the Bosnian town of Kozara in 1942, to concentration camps in Yugoslavia or forced labor camps in Norway.

What sent Messerschmidt on his search was the claim by the West German news weekly Der Spiegel that it obtained a photocopy of the original from Yugoslavian military historian Dusan Plenca, who gave the magazine a sworn statement as to its authenticity.

According to Plenca, he found the document in a hitherto unknown file of the Croatian puppet state, known as the Ustasha government, set up by the Nazis when they invaded Yugoslavia in 1941. Ustasha collaborated with the Nazis.

Meanwhile, the Yugoslavian newspaper Politika published another document Tuesday referring to the Kozara deportations. Waldheim's name is not mentioned in the text, which is otherwise similar to the document published by Der Spiegel.

Waldheim, who formerly served as secretary general of the United Nations, has acknowledged that he served as a German army intelligence officer in the Balkans during World War II. But he has repeatedly denied that he is in any way connected with atrocities there.

## TABA ARBITRATION PANEL MEETS, AS SIDES TRY FOR COMPROMISE

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- The international arbitration panel on Taba met here Tuesday to receive the final written arguments by Israel and Egypt in their dispute over ownership of the tiny strip of beach on the Red Sea near the Israeli city of Eilat.

The tribunal will visit the Taba area on Feb. 17 and has scheduled oral arguments to begin here March 14.

Efforts are continuing, meanwhile, to persuade both countries to reach a compromise agreement before the dispute goes to binding arbitration.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has learned that Pierre Bellet, the French arbitrator, acting as conciliator, met in Paris three days ago with Robert Sabel, legal adviser to the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Nabil El-Arabi, Egypt's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, who represents his country in the arbitration proceedings.

The rendezvous was the latest attempt to reach a compromise before the actual hearings. The results were inconclusive, the JTA learned, despite American pressure on both sides.

At Tuesday's meeting, Israel and Egypt each

presented about 200 pages of legal arguments to support their respective cases. Israel also submitted a plastic model of the Taba region and a short video film on Taba, which will be screened at the oral hearings.

When the arbitration panel members visit the disputed area, they will fly there from Cairo and return via Tel Aviv to underscore their neutrality in the dispute.

## HOSPITAL CONDITIONS WORSEN AS LABOR ACTIONS CONTINUE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- The situation at government hospitals veered toward chaos this week as concurrent strikes by some 2,700 doctors and 10,000 non-medical personnel continued with no end in sight.

Wards are filthy. Patients are receiving minimal care and are dependent on outside sources for meals and bed linens.

Admissions at the 25 general, geriatric and psychiatric hospitals have been restricted to emergency cases. Occupancy has fallen by 10 to 20 percent, as many families have taken sick relatives home.

Clerical, maintenance, kitchen and laundry staffs walked off their jobs Sunday. Doctors began a rotating strike Monday, placing selected hospitals on a Sabbath schedule each day, a tactic they have used in the past.

The situation is compounded by the ongoing strike of anesthesiologists, which has forced cancellation of all but emergency surgery and other medical procedures.

The issue in each job category is wages. Both medical and non-medical employees demand salaries and fringe benefits equal to those won by their counterparts employed by Kupat Holim, the Histadrut health-care agency.

## DUTCH KAPO ACQUITTED OF WAR CRIMES

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- A former inmate of a prison camp in Nazi-occupied Holland was acquitted Monday of war crimes charges by a tribunal in The Hague.

The court found that while Marinus de Rijke, 68, may have been brutal when he was a kapo in charge of other prisoners at the Erica camp near Ommen in 1942 and 1943, it was not proven that he caused anyone's death or that he collaborated with the Nazis.

The tribunal noted that Erica was a Dutch, not a German, camp and that Rijke, incarcerated for black marketeering, was brainwashed and forced to become a kapo.

Fellow prisoners had testified that a Jewish inmate, Salomon Roet, had been forced by Rijke to crawl between heaps of burning straw and died of burns.

## STORMS FAIL TO DAMPEN TU B'SHEVAT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Despite stormy weather, the Jewish National Fund managed Wednesday to celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish new year for trees, with several mass plantings around the country.

Yosef Begun, the former Soviet refusenik, joined with hundreds of children, tourists and veteran Hagana figures to plant trees alongside the Burma Road -- the rough track built in 1948 to relieve the siege on Jerusalem.

## CANDIDATES ALL SUPPORT ISRAEL, BUT DIFFER ON CHURCH-STATE ISSUES

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) — Presidential candidates from both major parties all support a continued strong U.S.-Israel alliance, but differ on how to advance the Arab-Israeli peace process as well as on church-state issues, according to their responses to a questionnaire distributed by the American Jewish Committee.

Their short essay answers to 14 questions on their positions on the Middle East, U.S.-Soviet relations and domestic issues traditionally considered important to the Jewish community are compiled in the booklet "Presidential Elections '88: The Candidates on the Issues," which was released at a news conference here Wednesday.

The questionnaire was sent in September to all announced candidates for the presidential nominations of Democratic and Republican parties, and was answered by all of them:

Vice President George Bush, Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, former Gov. Pierre du Pont of Delaware, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Rep. Jack Kemp of New York and former evangelist Pat Robertson, all Republicans; and former Gov. Bruce Babbitt of Arizona, Gov. Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri, Sen. Albert Gore of Tennessee, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois.

Former Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) was not then a candidate. But his subsequent response to the questionnaire will be included in an addendum to the publication.

Two broad trends emerged from the candidates' responses:

\* In addition to their agreement on the "special relationship" between the United States and Israel, candidates are most in accord when supporting the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate. They differ, however, on the extent to which arms pacts and economic agreements between the United States and Soviet Union should be linked to Soviet human rights policies.

\* Opinion divides essentially along party lines on church-state, civil rights and economic issues.

Democrats support enactment of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, which would prohibit discrimination in federally funded programs, and the Equal Rights Amendment for women.

The Democrats also oppose constitutional amendments that would allow prayer in public schools, and call for increased economic and political pressure to be brought against South Africa to end apartheid.

### School Prayer

Republicans, on the other hand, either support voluntary prayer in public schools or a moment of silence and oppose further economic sanctions against South Africa. They also support changing tax laws to stimulate energy exploration.

Dole is alone among Republicans in supporting the Civil Rights Restoration Act, the ERA, strengthened federal fair housing legislation and an oil import fee.

All of the candidates agree that supporting the "special relationship" between the United States and Israel is in the best interest of both countries, although Jackson notes that "the events of the past seven years have put unnecessary strains on the relationship, endangering our

mutual goals of peace and security."

Babbitt, du Pont and Gore call for expanded trade between the United States and Israel. Du Pont, Gephardt and Kemp support increased military cooperation, and du Pont advocates allowing the U.S. military to buy Israeli-produced weapons. Kemp repeats his call for a bilateral defense treaty.

In supporting an international peace conference, Jackson says he agrees with the initiative outlined by Shimon Peres, Israel's foreign minister. Kemp, however, says a peace conference is not the answer.

Babbitt, Bush, Gephardt, Kemp and Simon all support an expanded Camp David peace process, and Babbitt, Bush, Gephardt and Robertson say the United States should act as an "honest broker" in the region.

Bush, du Pont and Gephardt say they would not recognize or negotiate with any group that refuses to accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, recognizing Israel's right to exist within secure borders. Dole and Dukakis say that arms sales in the Middle East should not compromise Israel's security.

### Human Rights-Trade Link

All of the candidates offer support for the free emigration of Soviet Jewry, although only Babbitt, Dole, Dukakis, du Pont and Haig say specifically that they would link arms negotiations with Soviet human rights progress.

Kemp says he would support legislation to link trade and economic cooperation to advances in human rights. Dole, Dukakis, Gephardt, Gore and Simon say the United States should "pressure," "stress" or "emphasize" human rights concerns when negotiating with the Soviet Union.

None of the Democratic candidates express support either for prayer in public schools or for tuition tax credits to families with children enrolled in parochial schools.

On the Republican side, Bush, Dole and Robertson speak up for voluntary prayer, while Kemp and Haig support a moment of silence. Only Haig said that he supports tuition tax credits.

Robertson says that while he strongly defends the rights of those who would choose not to participate in voluntary prayer, he does not "favor dismantling our entire tradition of public affirmation in God held by the majority in order to accommodate the views of the minority, who remain free to disagree."

All of the Republicans except Haig, and only Gore among the Democrats support a proposed constitutional amendment to balance the federal budget.

### Views On Abortion

Babbitt, Dukakis, Gephardt, Gore, Jackson and Simon all oppose a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. Bush, Dole and Kemp support such an amendment.

Du Pont says he would rather turn the issue back to the state legislatures, "where it belongs." Haig says he opposes abortion and federal funding of abortion except when the mother's life is endangered, but that he opposes attempts to "legislate morality."

According to Marlene Provizer, deputy director of national affairs and supervisor of AJCommittee's election programming, "Presidential Election '88" will be widely distributed to the press, the Jewish community and individuals and organizations.