

**EUROPEAN BODY CONDEMNS ISRAEL
FOR 'TORTURE,' ARRESTS, VIOLENCE**

By Edwin Eytan

STRASBOURG, France, March 10 (JTA)--The Parliament of Europe, traditionally one of the most pro-Israel international forums, overwhelmingly approved a resolution Thursday condemning Israel for inhumane treatment of the Palestinian population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip including "torture, arbitrary arrests, reprisals and other acts of violence."

The resolution, carried by a show of hands, followed by a day the European Parliament's refusal to ratify three economic agreements Israel signed last year with the 12-nation European Community. The Parliament is the European Community's legislative body.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry expressed disappointment Thursday over the rejection of the economic protocols. A ministry spokesman said Israel hoped the deputies would differentiate between an essentially technical and economic issue, on the one hand, and their opinions of the way Israel was handling Arab unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel has not yet reacted to Thursday's resolution of the European Parliament, which some deputies said was the harshest condemnation of a foreign government ever voted by that body. The language is tougher than that used against South Africa and Turkey for human rights violations.

The resolution expressed solidarity with the 82 Palestinians killed by Israeli security forces in the past three months and with "all the Palestinians in the region living in intolerable conditions."

It calls for an international peace conference with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and asks the foreign ministers of the 12 E.C. member states to work toward a negotiated settlement through an international conference.

The resolution was introduced jointly by five of the Parliament's political groupings -- Socialists, Christian Democrats, Conservatives, the Green Party and the Communists.

The signatories included some of Israel's best friends in Western Europe, among them Erik Blumenfeld and Otto Habsburg of West Germany, who have always supported pro-Israel resolutions and economic aid to Israel.

A Compromise Resolution

The tough language was, in fact, a compromise worked out in the course of debate during which some deputies urged an even stronger condemnation of Israel's behavior. Among the 20 who spoke before the vote, only Alfred Coste-Floret of France defended the Israeli government.

The tone of the speakers was such that the Parliament's president, Lord Plum, a British Conservative and longtime friend of Israel, considered a show of hands sufficient for the vote, given the apparent consensus among the deputies. According to eyewitnesses, Lord Plum himself voted for the resolution.

Deputies told reporters later that "Israel must be saved from itself." Many said, "Something has happened to the Israel we know and

love -- the country has gone mad."

The Parliament of Europe, though it has no political power, wields considerable moral force. Its rejection Wednesday of the economic agreements painstakingly negotiated by Israel with the 12 E.C. states over a period of two years, damages Israel economically and was a blow to its prestige.

Adding to those injuries was the accusation by the E.C. commissioner in charge of the negotiations, former French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, that Israeli officials have not respected the terms of the economic agreements they signed.

Cheysson said that Agrexco, Israel's export agency, is still trying to maintain its monopoly of agricultural exports from the administered territories, in violation of the terms of the agreement.

The statement by the Israeli Foreign Ministry Thursday said Israel expected that after clarification, the economic agreements will be brought before the European Parliament again for ratification.

But according to Parliament sources here, they cannot be resubmitted now, but must be renegotiated from scratch.

**SHAMIR TELLS CRITICAL SENATORS
HE IS OBEYING CAMP DAVID FORMULA**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir on Wednesday told U.S. senators who criticized his policy toward the Palestinians that he is following the formula for the West Bank and Gaza Strip that is outlined in the Camp David accords.

"These accords, to which Egypt and the U.S. are committed, produced an agreed formula for settling the territorial issue, and Israel made a considerable sacrifice to achieve agreement on this very sensitive issue," wrote Shamir, who is scheduled to arrive here Monday for talks with top officials.

The premier stressed that his government "is committed to negotiate the ultimate disposition of Judea, Samaria and Gaza, in the context of the implementation of the Camp David accords."

But he drew a sharp distinction between Israeli return of the Sinai, completed in 1982, which he said was "uncontested Egyptian territory"; and the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which "were occupied militarily and illegally by Jordan and Egypt and their status must, therefore, be determined in the peace negotiations.

"I therefore, fail to understand the reasons for your criticism, which hurts even more because it comes from friends who have Israel's security and welfare at heart," Shamir wrote.

He was responding to a letter, initiated by Sens. Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) and Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and signed by them and 28 of their colleagues, that was sent last week to Secretary of State George Shultz. The letter supported Shultz's Mideast peace plan and implied that Shamir was obstructing the effort by his rejection of the "territory for peace" formula in the plan.

Shamir, who will meet with President Reagan on Wednesday and meet daily with Shultz through Thursday, is expected to seek to change the

Shultz proposals to conform to the method for establishing autonomy for the Palestinians outlined in the Camp David accords.

Shultz wants autonomy talks to begin by May with negotiations to start within seven months on the final status of the territories, rather than after five years as agreed upon in the accords. An international conference, strongly opposed by Shamir, would be held prior to negotiations.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres accepts the Shultz proposals, but Shamir blocked the Inner Cabinet from voting on the plan until he returns from Washington.

Shamir also stressed in his letter to the senators that Israel has not abandoned its commitment to United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which Shultz said was the basis for negotiations.

"Israel has accepted this resolution and implemented it in the Camp David accords," Shamir said.

"If we are going to lose faith in solemn American and Egyptian commitments under these accords, how can we be assured of future commitments that will require us to take even further risks to our security and future?" the premier wrote.

Shamir opened the letter, sent to Boschwitz and Levin, by saying their letter was "a surprise" and he was "astonished by the words of criticism."

Neither Levin, who was in Moscow, nor Boschwitz, who was in the West, could be reached for comment.

The premier added that neither the Reagan administration nor Congress can pressure Israel to take any steps in the peace process it believes will endanger the security of the Jewish state.

"It is the free and democratic people and government of Israel that will have to decide the issues of peace and security," Shamir wrote.

Shamir is scheduled to meet with members of Congress during his visit here, including many of those who signed the letter. He is also planning to meet with Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci and Secretary of the Treasury James Baker and be guest of honor at a dinner hosted by Vice President George Bush.

PERES REPORTS NEW U.S. ASSURANCES ON ELEMENTS OF SHULTZ PEACE PLAN By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- The United States has assured Israel that the Palestine Liberation Organization will not be a participant in the peace negotiations proposed by Secretary of State George Shultz in the letter he presented to Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on March 4.

Peres told the Knesset Wednesday that he received clarifications from U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering of some points in Shultz's letter that had raised a number of "substantive questions."

The ambassador assured him that the only reason the secretary of state used the term "parties," rather than "states," in connection with peace talks was that the Palestinians could not be related to as a "state," but only as a "party," Peres said.

He said Pickering noted that both Security Council Resolution 338 and the Camp David accords refer to "parties," rather than states, for

the same reason. Resolution 338, adopted following the 1973 Yom Kippur War, reaffirms Resolution 242, adopted following the 1967 Six-Day War, which is the basis for Arab-Israeli negotiations accepted by most Arab states and Israel, but not the PLO.

Pickering's explanation should allay fears that the reference to "parties" was a means of smuggling the PLO into negotiations through the back door, Peres said.

Another question addressed by Pickering related to the possibility that the United Nations secretary general would have no choice but to invite the PLO to the proposed international conference, which would be held under U.N. auspices.

Peres said the American envoy maintained the secretary general is under no obligation to invite the PLO, because all invitees must have accepted Resolutions 242 and 338.

The final question raised by the Israelis concerned Shultz's stipulation that "the parties to each bilateral negotiation may refer reports on the status of their negotiations to the (international) conference, in a manner to be agreed."

Israel was apprehensive that this would give the conference an opportunity to interfere in the negotiating process and impose a settlement. But according to Peres, the United States rejected that interpretation. The Americans noted that "the reporting procedure is to be agreed upon by the parties themselves."

Peres stressed that the Shultz letter "makes it quite clear that there is neither the possibility nor the intention of allowing the conference to impose a settlement or to veto the agreement reached by the parties."

NEW ELECTIONS SEEM CERTAIN; ONLY A DATE REMAINS TO BE SET By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- Labor and Likud are dickering over a date for early elections, Voice of Israel Radio reported Thursday.

The two major parties in the unity coalition government seem to agree that early elections are inevitable, if their deadlock over the new American peace proposals remains unbroken after Premier Yitzhak Shamir returns from his visit to Washington next week.

Shamir said Thursday that he does not rule out preparations for early elections, but at the moment, they are premature. Labor Party leaders, meeting Wednesday at the home of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, reportedly gave the green light for moving an early elections bill in the Knesset.

According to the radio report, Labor and Likud have begun informal contacts aimed at agreeing on a date. Early July has been mentioned.

It would be a compromise between Labor's preference for elections at the end of May or early June and Likud's proposal to hold them late in July or in August, a time Likud expects many Labor voters will be vacationing abroad. Israel does not have absentee ballots.

Although the push for early elections originated with Likud, that party realizes that Labor cannot muster a Knesset majority for its preferred date and therefore Likud is in no hurry.

Normally, elections would not take place until November. But the current stalemate on the peace process likely means voters will go to the polls much sooner.

VIOLENT RIOTING IN HEBRON BREAKS A DAY OF EERIE CALM By Gil Sedan

HEBRON, March 10 (JTA) -- The relative calm that has prevailed in this ancient city during three months of Arab unrest elsewhere in the West Bank was violently broken Wednesday night by the worst rioting since this largely Arab town was captured by Israel in the 1967 war.

At least three Arabs were wounded in clashes that may have been triggered by militant Jewish settlers in Hebron and from the neighboring Jewish township of Kiryat Arba.

Jewish residents of Hebron claimed they prevented an Arab mob from committing another massacre of Jews, such as the one in 1929, when Jewish residents were driven from the town.

But a senior Israel Defense Force officer said the rioting was aimed at soldiers only, not at Jewish civilian centers.

The eruption of violence climaxed a week of rising tension between settlers and the Arab populace. On Sunday, several Arab cars in Hebron and Bethlehem were vandalized by settlers. Settlers also allegedly burned an Arab bus.

According to the settlers, thousands of Arabs on Wednesday approached the Hadassah building and the Avraham Avinu synagogue in the center of town, where Orthodox Jews established an enclave some years ago on property they say belonged to Jews who were driven from Hebron nearly 60 years before.

Shouts Of 'Kill The Jews'

The settlers claimed the Arabs also tried to attack the Jewish settlement of Tel Rumeida, overlooking Hebron, throwing stones and shouting, "Kill the Jews, let's get them." The settlers say the attackers were firing into the air and stoning them. Jewish reinforcements were rushed from Kiryat Arba.

According to the army, Arab rioters took to the streets armed with Molotov cocktails, stones and iron bars. The skirmishes lasted for two hours until troops dispersed the rioters.

The outburst followed a day of almost ghostly calm in Hebron, where Arab residents locked themselves in their homes in observance of a total general strike to mark the beginning of the fourth month of the Arab uprising.

The scene there was in sharp contrast to continuing disturbances in the rest of the administered territories and had Israelis expressing wonder why Hebron, a hotbed of Palestinian nationalism and Islamic religious zeal, chose to strike rather than demonstrate.

Hebron until Wednesday night was the only major Arab population center not torn by serious disturbances. But Israeli authorities fear now that strife between Arabs and Jewish settlers will escalate, not only in Hebron, but elsewhere in the West Bank.

Earlier this week, Jews from Ariel, in the Samaria district, clashed with residents of neighboring Arab villages. Arabs from Biddu village, north of Jerusalem, have threatened the nearby Jewish settlement of Har Adar.

Knesset member Rabbi Haim Druckman, a leader of the militant faction of the National Religious Party, warned Thursday that "the Jewish settlers will rise up," unless the army takes drastic measures to restore law and order.

But Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin stated flatly in a television interview Wednesday night

that it would have been easier for the IDF to cope with the situation in the territories if there were no Jewish settlements there.

He said that in the present situation, the army must assign special forces to secure the roads to the settlements, which diminishes the IDF's resources elsewhere. He said there was no magic remedy to restore calm in the territories.

Unrest also is growing in Arab villages inside Israel. An Israeli car was pelted with stones Thursday on the Afula-Nazareth road. Police arrested two suspects. Palestinian flags were raised and anti-Israel slogans were painted on walls in the Arab town of Umm el-Fahm.

Roadblocks were erected at the entrance to Sakhnin village, in lower Galilee. They were removed by police. No arrests were reported.

IDF OPPOSES FOREIGN PRESS BAN, SAYING ISRAELIS ARE THE PROBLEM By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Israel Defense Force went on record before a Knesset committee Tuesday against barring the news media from the administered territories when disturbances are taking place.

Brig. Gen. Ephraim Lapid appeared before the Knesset Education Committee, which is considering a motion by the Tehiya party to close the territories to the media.

He was told that there are 350 permanent foreign correspondents posted to Israel, which may be proportionally more than to any other country, and that their number has increased to 800 since the Palestinian uprising began three months ago.

But Lapid said one reason the IDF opposed a media ban was that it would leave the territories open to pirate video clips of incidents and the reports by the Palestine Liberation Organization's news agency.

Lapid said the IDF is trying to teach soldiers that the media is part of the modern battlefield. "The foreign correspondents appreciate our intentions and comply with the army's instructions. But the balance is upset by the Israeli cameramen," he said.

He said the IDF's anger against media coverage was directed at their fellow countrymen employed by foreign networks, not the reporters on assignment from abroad.

Israeli Cameramen Blamed

"It is these Israeli cameramen who provoke our soldiers. They pay no attention to the orders of the officers in charge of a sector," Lapid charged.

"Because of the way the cameramen behave, they spark off incidents whose coverage is out of all proportion to their significance. This, in turn, influences the soldiers to take an even more negative view than before," he said.

It was an Israeli cameramen, employed by CBS television, who filmed the scene of four IDF soldiers beating and kicking two handcuffed Palestinian youths near Nablus last month which created a worldwide stir.

Foreign correspondents accredited to Israel are here on working visas, which can be withdrawn at any time along with their press credentials. Israeli members of the Foreign Press Association all are in the IDF reserves and know the workings of the military better than their foreign colleagues.

GREEK GENERALS OFFER PLO THEIR MILITARY EXPERTISE

By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, March 10 (JTA) -- A group of 30 retired Greek generals and admirals from the army, navy and air force announced Wednesday they are prepared to put their technical expertise at the disposal of the Palestine Liberation Organization in its struggle against Israel.

The declaration was issued in Tunis, where the retired officers met at length with PLO chief Yasir Arafat, affirmed their solidarity with the Palestinian cause and condemned Israel for its "barbaric acts against the Palestinians and refusal to abide by United Nations resolutions."

The group includes the former top-ranking officer in the Greek navy, Vice Admiral Nikos Pappas.

Another retired naval commander, Andonis Naxakis, assisted the PLO last month in its attempts to sail a shipload of several hundred Palestinian deportees and their sympathizers to Israel. The effort was aborted when the vessel purchased by the PLO was crippled by an underwater explosion in Limassol harbor, Cyprus.

According to Naxakis, Arafat told the group he was deeply touched by the solidarity the Greek government and people have shown with the Palestinians.

Greece, which maintains only low-level diplomatic relations with Israel, has favored the Arabs in the Middle East conflict since the Lebanon war in 1982.

But it also has shown signs of seeking better relations with Israel. The two countries concluded an agreement for the joint promotion of tourism from North America last year and are now negotiating to extend it to the European and Far Eastern tourist markets.

The government reiterated Wednesday that the Middle East conflict can be resolved only by a political settlement based on international law.

LONDON PHILHARMONIC CANCELS CONCERT TOUR FOR ISRAEL'S 40TH

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 10 (JTA) -- The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has canceled a concert tour in Israel that was to have been a centerpiece of Israel's 40th anniversary celebrations.

A spokesman for the orchestra confirmed the move Thursday, explaining that the orchestra "had to review our undertaking to the 125 musicians because contractual payments had not been honored."

But there seemed to be unspoken political implications.

The orchestra was to have played in a performance of Verdi's opera "Nabucco," which concerns King Nebuchadnezzar and the Jewish return from exile in Babylon.

The opera ends with the immortal "March of the Hebrew Slaves," which was to have been sung in Hebrew by a choir of several hundred British singers.

The performance was scheduled to be held at the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, a symbolic celebration of the "return to Zion." Unless alternative arrangements are made, the cancellation will doubtlessly be seen as a gesture of protest against Israel's handling of three months of Palestinian unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

DOLE, DUKAKIS FAVORED HEAVILY BY JEWS IN SUPER TUESDAY RACES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- While Vice President George Bush swept all of the states in the Super Tuesday Republican primaries, Jewish voters preferred his chief rival, Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, according to an exit poll published Thursday.

The New York Times/CBS News poll also confirmed that Jewish Democrats went overwhelmingly for Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, giving him 65 percent of the votes cast by Jews.

The poll, which was conducted in 14 southern and border states, found that Jews made up 2 percent of the Republican voters and 5 percent of the voting Democrats.

While Dole received only 23 percent of the votes cast by Republicans in the 14 states, 48 percent of the Jewish voters cast their ballots for him. Bush received 43 percent of the Jewish vote, as compared to 58 percent overall.

On the Democratic side, Jewish voters also showed a marked difference from other voters, who split their votes almost evenly among Dukakis, Gore and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Gore, who received 25 percent of the overall vote, compared to 27 percent for Dukakis, had the support of only 10 percent of Jewish voters.

Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri, who was the major Democratic loser on Super Tuesday, received 9 percent of the Jewish vote and 13 percent overall.

The top Democratic vote-getter on Super Tuesday was Jackson, who won 28 percent of the vote. But only 6 percent of Jewish voters cast their ballots for him.

In the Republican primaries, Robertson received 5 percent of the Jewish votes and 13 percent of all the Republican votes.

PLO SAID TO HAVE TORTURED SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH PILOT

By William Sapphire

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- A Jewish fighter pilot in the South African Air Force was tortured and maimed by members of the Palestine Liberation Organization and others after he was shot down over Angola last December, according to information the Jewish Telegraphic Agency received Thursday.

The pilot, Col. Steven Levin, 41, had his left arm chopped off and his left eye burned out, according to Alan Goldberg, assistant editor of the South African Jewish News in Johannesburg, who telephoned JTA with the news.

The information could not immediately be confirmed independently.

Goldberg was at Johannesburg airport Thursday when Levin was returned, after being released by his captors. He was freed in exchange for two Cuban pilots serving in Angola who were shot down by the South Africans.

According to Goldberg, Levin was shot down while on a fighter mission over Angola, in support of rebels fighting the Marxist government of that black African nation. He said he was captured by Angolan and Cuban troops who are aiding the government and was turned over by them to the local PLO.

Goldberg said the pilot told him that the atrocities against him were committed by his Angolan, Cuban and PLO captors.