

**U.S. VETOES U.N. RESOLUTION
ON ISRAELI OPERATION IN LEBANON**
By William Saphire

UNITED NATIONS, May 10 (JTA) -- The United States vetoed a resolution in the Security Council Tuesday that condemned Israel's incursion into southern Lebanon on May 2 and 3.

U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters said the draft, sponsored by six non-aligned countries, was one-sided. The vote was 14-1.

The United States "believes the Security Council should not address the problems of southern Lebanon in resolutions that fail to recognize the attacks and reprisals originating on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border," Walters said after casting the veto.

Ambassador Johanan Bein, acting permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations, expressed satisfaction with the American veto. "It was an unbalanced resolution," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"We are deeply concerned by the recent heavy casualties and devastation of property and displacement of individuals, the cross-border shelling and other activities on both sides," Walters stated.

"The sad truth remains that as long as armed extremist elements use southern Lebanon to stage terrorist attacks against Israel, the border between Israel and Lebanon cannot be secure," the American envoy added.

The Security Council convened last Friday at the request of Lebanon to begin debate on the resolution. Discussions continued Monday. The vote was taken Tuesday afternoon.

The draft resolution was sponsored by Algeria, Argentina, Nepal, Senegal, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

DEMJANJUK APPEAL SET FOR DECEMBER

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 10 (JTA) -- The Israeli Supreme Court will hear John Demjanjuk's appeal next December, it was announced here Monday. The court's registrar, Judge Shmuel Tzur, said the appeals board would consist of a panel of five justices.

Appeal became mandatory when the death sentence was pronounced April 25 on the Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk by a three-judge Jerusalem district court. Demjanjuk was found guilty on April 18 of war crimes and crimes against the Jewish people.

He was convicted under the Nazi and Nazi Collaborators Law of 1950, which carries a mandatory death penalty.

The court determined that evidence presented during the 14-month trial proved beyond a reasonable doubt that Demjanjuk was the Treblinka death camp guard, known as "Ivan the Terrible," who operated the gas chambers and brutalized Jewish inmates.

His lawyers will appeal both the conviction and the death penalty. If they fail, the 68-year-old retired automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio, would become the second war criminal executed in Israel. Adolf Eichmann was hanged here in 1962.

**U.S. CONFIRMS IT WARNED ARAFAT
NOT TO RETALIATE FOR ASSASSINATION**
By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, May 10 (JTA) -- The United States has warned Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat, through unnamed Arab countries, not to retaliate against U.S. civilians or facilities for last month's political assassination of PLO military leader Abu Jihad, a senior Reagan administration official confirmed Tuesday.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, acknowledged that such a warning was relayed to the PLO leader by "some friendly Arab governments with whom we had good close relations."

But Murphy disputed a claim by Arafat that the warning contained "threats to assassinate PLO leaders."

Abu Jihad, whose real name was Khalil al-Wazir, was gunned down April 16 at his villa in suburban Tunis. Israeli commandos are widely believed to be responsible for the attack, but the Israeli government has neither confirmed nor denied this.

The U.S. official spoke in response to a question asked by Rep. Larry Smith (D-Fla.) at a joint hearing of two House Foreign Affairs subcommittees, one on Europe and the Middle East, and the other on Arms Control, International Security and Science.

Smith asked Murphy if the United States had sent a document to Arafat, which the PLO leader read aloud Tuesday at a news conference in Baghdad.

Smith quoted the document forwarded to Arafat as saying: "It has come to our attention that the PLO leader, Yasir Arafat, may have personally approved a series of terrorist attacks against American citizens and facilities abroad, possibly in retaliation for last month's assassination of Abu Jihad."

"Any possible targeting of American personnel and facilities in retaliation for Abu Jihad's assassination would be totally reprehensible and unjustified. We would hold the PLO responsible for any such attacks."

Murphy said such concerns were expressed to "some friendly Arab governments with whom we had good close relations and discussed the problem, and what you have is those discussions relayed to the PLO with Arafat going public at the end of the day."

Focus on Saudi Arms Sale

Tuesday's hearing was otherwise devoted to the Reagan administration's latest proposed arms sale to Saudi Arabia. The administration formally notified Congress on April 26 of plans to sell the Saudis \$825 million of support equipment for AWACS surveillance planes, as well as 200 Bradley Fighting Vehicles and TOW-II rockets.

Smith, who would lead any House effort to block the proposed sale by the May 26 deadline, sparred repeatedly with Murphy. A congressional source said that Smith has drafted a resolution to block the sale, but has not yet decided whether to introduce it. Murphy defended the proposed U.S. sale as being in the national security interest while not posing "an offensive threat" to other

countries. The weapons, as well as support equipment for AWACS already possessed by the Saudis, are designed to help the Saudis ensure freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, he said.

He said when Congress has previously rejected proposed weapons sales to Saudi Arabia, the kingdom has turned to other countries to buy more powerful weapons.

Members of Congress also questioned Murphy and Edward Gnehm, deputy assistant secretary of defense for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, on Saudi Arabia's initial attempt to conceal from the United States its purchase of medium-range missiles from China, which have the potential to carry nuclear warheads.

Murphy noted that King Fahd has assured the Reagan administration the missiles won't be used for nuclear purposes. And he praised Saudi Arabia for agreeing in April to sign the 1968 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which Israel has not done, he pointed out.

But the assistant secretary conceded that the United States has not been granted permission by Saudi Arabia to inspect the weapons to make sure they are not being equipped with nuclear warheads.

Murphy went so far as to praise Saudi Arabia for being "supportive" of the Arab-Israeli peace process, a contention Smith challenged.

PERES MEETS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS; MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE DISCUSSED By David Kantor

MADRID, May 10 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met here today with two senior Soviet officials for a two-hour exchange of views, which is being viewed as another step in the continuing thaw of relations between the two countries.

Peres is scheduled to meet with the two officials, Aleksander Zotov and Aleksander Weber, prior to his departure Wednesday from Madrid, where he is attending the Socialist International.

According to participants at the meeting, Zotov, the chief Soviet spokesman, continuously stressed that Israel had no reason to fear an international peace conference on the Middle East. Presumably speaking on behalf of the Soviet government, Zotov said the conference would be co-chaired by Americans and Russians and would not have the power to impose a settlement.

Zotov said each side had the right to present joint or separate proposals. He stressed that Moscow, in its own perception, was very forthcoming and showed a large measure of flexibility.

Weber is working in Moscow as a top aide to Anatoly Dobrynin, the former ambassador to the United States, who is the head of the Communist Party's Department for International Relations. Zotov is a senior official at the department, with a special responsibility for handling developments in the Middle East.

On the question of Palestinian representation, Zotov said that one could not disregard the Palestine Liberation Organization, but that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had urged PLO chief Yasir Arafat to recognize Israel.

Peres responded that Arafat was prompt to deny that, which again showed that the Palestinian leader lacked the courage or the ability or the will to make a decision which would enhance a peaceful development.

Zotov attempted to prove that Arafat's denial was not clear cut, and that the PLO leader

faced fierce opposition within his own organization.

When the issue of Jewish emigration came up, Zotov noted that the numbers of exit visas for Soviet Jews have raised considerably.

After the luncheon meeting with Peres, Zotov was asked whether at least the music had changed between the Soviet Union and Israel.

"I was never very good at music," he said, "but we are certainly trying to tune in to what we hear from Israel. We are trying to be very forthcoming, and we know that we don't have a monopoly on wisdom."

Shamir To Follow Peres

Meanwhile, progress in relations between Israel and Hungary continues to develop, as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has been invited to visit the Eastern bloc country following Peres' brief but apparently fruitful stopover in Budapest on Sunday.

Peres described his meetings with the Hungarian leadership as "very positive." He met for four hours with the Hungarian prime minister, vice prime minister and foreign minister, and with the latter two at another session.

Peres said that the Hungarians showed interest in economic ties with Israel, but he would not speculate about full diplomatic relations.

Sources who disclosed Shamir's invitation did not say when the prime minister would make the trip, but they indicated the invitation to Shamir was independent of the one extended to Peres. It was arranged discreetly with the Budapest government by Shamir's close aide, Likud Knesset member Dan Meridor.

Peres' visit was organized by an Israeli businessman, Shaul Eisenberg, who has extensive trading interests in Hungary. The Israeli foreign minister was accompanied by his close aide, Yossi Beilin, political director general of the Foreign Ministry.

Big Brother Is Watching

Beilin, who returned home Monday, described the Peres visit metaphorically. He said to some degree each side "was speaking to the wife-but thinking of the mother-in-law."

He meant that Israel and Hungary are slowly expanding their bilateral ties in trade, tourism and political links, while still aware of the interests of the other's patron power -- the United States and the Soviet Union.

It was generally agreed by diplomats that Peres would not have been invited to Budapest without approval from Moscow. The Hungarians apparently hope that any improvement of their relations with Israel will do them no harm in Washington.

Peres described in a radio interview Tuesday the hospitality he and his aides enjoyed in Budapest. They were accommodated in the government's official guest house, where they were pleasantly surprised to find themselves serenaded by Israeli music.

Another sign of thaw in Israel's relations with Eastern Europe was the reported intention of the Bulgarian government to invite Premier Shamir's Bulgarian-born wife, Shulamit, to Sofia next fall to attend official ceremonies commemorating the rescue of 50,000 Bulgarian Jews from deportation by the Nazis in World War II.

(Jerusalem correspondent David Landau contributed to this report.)

TERRORIST GANG ARRESTED IN GAZA, AVERTING PLANNED SUICIDE ATTACK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 10 (JTA) -- The arrest of a terrorist ring in the Gaza Strip this week averted a suicide attack in Tel Aviv, security sources said Tuesday.

According to Voice of Israel Radio, a member of the gang planned to blow himself up with a bomb in the Tel Aviv central bus station. The cell is believed affiliated with Al Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The terrorists rounded up are residents of Deir el-Balah, Khan Yunis and Rafah, the report said. They are suspected of several attacks this year, including a bomb explosion in a Rishon le-Zion schoolyard in February and a March bombing near a military roadblock at Deir el-Balah, in which four Israel Defense Force soldiers were wounded.

Members of the ring also are believed to have planted a bomb on an Egged bus in Rehovot on March 28 and a road mine near an army gasoline station at Rafah at about the same time.

Meanwhile, relations worsened between Jewish settlers and Palestinians in the West Bank, after a gasoline bomb was thrown at an Egged bus Tuesday evening as it approached the Jewish settlement of Pesagot, near Ramallah.

Shlomo Firber, secretary of the settlement, said it was the fifth gasoline bomb thrown in the vicinity in the past two months.

An Arab passerby was arrested and held apparently as an eyewitness. This triggered unrest in the nearby Arab town of El-Birch. Dozens of women marched toward Pesagot. They were turned back by security guards.

IDF Chief Criticizes Settlers

Relations also soured between settlers and the IDF. The settlers protested remarks attributed to the IDF chief of staff, Gen. Dan Shomron. Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Shomron criticized the settlers' involvement in confrontations with Arabs in the administered territories.

Voice of Israel Radio quoted the chief of staff as saying the settlers were at least partly responsible for continuing tension in the West Bank. But an IDF spokesman issued a statement later saying the quote was not accurate. He did not, however, say what Shomron's exact words were.

Shomron told the Knesset committee that relative calm has been restored to the territories, partly because the Arab population no longer blindly follows instructions by the Palestinian underground leadership to create disorder on certain dates.

Shomron's assessment was borne out by the case with which the Israeli civil administration in the Gaza Strip began its extensive replacement of the identity cards of tens of thousands of Palestinian residents.

About 2,000 new ID cards were issued Tuesday, reportedly with no disturbances, despite efforts by nationalist elements to disrupt the operation.

Many Palestinians were forced to apply for new ID cards because soldiers confiscated their old ones. To get a card, they must prove they are not wanted by police and have paid their taxes and utility bills.

WORLD HEALTH BODY TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, May 10 (JTA) -- Israeli delegates to the World Health Organization's annual assembly here were lobbying vigorously Tuesday for votes against a resolution criticizing Israel for allegedly providing inadequate health care for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Arab-sponsored draft resolution was adopted in committee Tuesday by a vote of 62-22, with 25 abstentions. The Israelis hope to muster a larger negative vote when the draft goes to the assembly plenum Wednesday.

The resolution states that the Israeli occupation of the territories is contradictory to the basic health requirements of the inhabitants. It also condemns Israel for inhumane practices against Palestinians in their current uprising.

If passed, it would be the first resolution containing a political paragraph not directly relating to health ever adopted by the WHO, a United Nations agency devoted to health issues.

The resolution would have the WHO "pay tribute to the uprising of the Palestinians and affirm its support for the Arab population in their efforts to recover their freedom and their land."

The draft was opposed in committee by the United States, Western European countries and Australia. All of the South American countries abstained.

The head of the West German delegation, speaking for the Europeans, said they voted against the resolution in committee precisely because of its political nature.

Vast Improvement In Health Care

The Israelis anticipated an Arab attack on health care in the administered territories. Dr. Yitzchak Sever, the Israeli Health Ministry's medical representative in the territories, told a news conference here Monday that Israel has instituted vast improvements in health services since it took control of the territories in 1967.

He said Israel has opened hospitals in the West Bank with departments for surgery, orthopedics and dialysis, which did not exist before.

He said hospitals in Ramallah and Nablus are fully equipped for surgery, but if complications arise, patients are transferred to Israeli hospitals. Fifteen Arab doctors from the West Bank and nine from the Gaza Strip are currently being trained in Israeli hospitals, he said.

Sever, a member of the Israeli delegation to the WHO assembly, complained that young Arab troublemakers have been creating havoc in hospitals in the administered territories since the Palestinian uprising began five months ago.

TERRORIST KILLED ON LEBANESE BORDER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 10 (JTA) -- A terrorist was killed early Tuesday morning in a clash between the Israel Defense Force and a terrorist gang on the boundary of the southern Lebanon security zone near Bint Jbail, an IDF spokesman announced Tuesday. There were no Israeli casualties.

Personal arms, a Katyusha rocket and two anti-vehicle mines were found near the body of the slain terrorist, the spokesman said. The terrorist squad apparently intended to infiltrate into the security zone to plant mines on roads used by IDF vehicles.

**NEW FRENCH PREMIER APPEARS
TO BE A SUPPORTER OF ISRAEL**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, May 10 (JTA) -- Michel Rocard, a moderate Socialist supporter of Israel, was named France's new prime minister Tuesday by President Francois Mitterrand.

Rocard, a 58-year-old economist, replaces Jacques Chirac, who tendered his resignation Tuesday afternoon after losing in his presidential bid against Mitterrand on Sunday.

As prime minister, Rocard will be in charge of running France's day-by-day affairs and implementing foreign policy decisions, which will remain, however, the personal responsibility of the president.

Rocard is expected to appoint another moderate Socialist as foreign minister: either Jacques Delors, currently president of the European Community Commission, or Lionel Jospin, outgoing secretary-general of the Socialist Party.

Rocard, a Protestant in an overwhelmingly Catholic country, is the son of a world-famous physicist who was also an anti-Nazi resistance fighter during the German occupation of France. After joining the Socialist Party in the late 1960s, Rocard helped found the United Socialists, a party to the left of the Socialists.

At the time he was known for his pro-Palestinian views. In recent years, especially after he rejoined the Socialist Party in 1973, Rocard has undergone a metamorphosis in much of this thinking, including his views on the Middle East.

He has visited Israel half a dozen times and met with many Israeli leaders. Last Saturday, on the eve of the presidential vote, he conferred for close to two hours with the Israeli ambassador to France, Ovadia Sofer.

Israeli officials welcomed his nomination and believe that he will contribute to establishing still closer relations between the two countries.

VANDALS HIT TWO N.Y. INSTITUTIONS

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- Police are investigating vandalism committed last week against two Jewish sites in Manhattan.

In the more serious incident, an Orthodox synagogue in Manhattan's Washington Heights section was set on fire May 5 by vandals who stole two Torahs, four mezuzas and other religious items.

The fire destroyed Congregation Beth Hamedrash Hagadol's ground-floor sanctuary, along with several more Torahs, hundreds of volumes of Talmud, prayer shawls and prayerbooks. Damage was estimated at \$100,000. The synagogue had no insurance.

Police said they have not yet uncovered evidence that the case was motivated by anti-Semitism, but they acknowledge that it has been the frequent target of burglars and vandals in recent years. In the past, the silver crowns of the synagogue's Torahs have been stolen, windows have been broken and a sukkah was raided.

Over half of the congregation's 200 members are Holocaust survivors. The neighborhood is a hotbed of drug-related activity. In the second incident, vandals scrawled two swastikas and the German words "Juden Verboten" -- Jews not allowed -- on the walls of the headquarters of the United Synagogue of America, the association of North American Conservative congregations.

Police have not identified any suspects.

**NEW RCA PRESIDENT VOICES CONCERN
OVER STATE LAWS ON EUTHANASIA**

LAKE GENEVA, Wis., May 10 (JTA) -- The new president of the Rabbinical Council of America voiced concern Tuesday over state laws governing terminal patients and the removal of life-support systems.

Rabbi Max Schreier said Jewish law and the sanctity of human life must be respected and protected.

Speaking after his election at the 52nd annual national convention of the RCA, Schreier expressed his disturbance over the "intensification of discussions and new bills by state legislatures to affect the definition of death as well as the removal of appliances of life sustaining support systems for patients.

"We want to make sure the sanctity of human life is protected," he added.

Religious people, Schreier said, "must and should be protected against any laws or methods which would violate the principles of Jewish law regarding life-support systems, appointment of agents to make life and death decisions for patients incapable of making those decisions themselves, the withdrawal of food and/or sustenance and other life and death decisions."

Schreier said "laws such as the pending New York state law should not be passed unless there is consultation with proper halachic authorities so that Jewish patients who observe Jewish law will be protected."

He told the convention he would continue the efforts made to have Orthodox speak with one voice. He said that to inform the public of the Orthodox position, he would call for regional RCA conferences throughout the nation to discuss issues facing American Jewry such as education, strengthening the synagogue and Jewish law.

Schreier, a graduate of Yeshiva University, has been affiliated with the RCA for more than 35 years and has served as rabbi of the Avenue N Jewish Center in Brooklyn for 25 years. He has been active in the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds and the Religious Zionist movement, and has been a delegate to the last three World Zionist Congresses in Jerusalem.

**ANNE FRANK DIARY UNCONTESTED
By Henrietta Boas**

AMSTERDAM, May 10 (JTA) -- An 82-year-old neo-Nazi in Hamburg backed away from a legal showdown Monday over his claim that the Diary of Anne Frank was a falsification.

Ernst Roemer, who publicly challenged the authenticity of the diary, the personal account of a Dutch-Jewish teen-ager who died in the Holocaust, decided not to appeal a fine imposed on him 10 years ago by a Hamburg lower court, his lawyer said.

The fine was the outcome of a lawsuit brought against Roemer, who failed to prove his contention. His appeal had gone through several stages and was about to be heard in Hamburg Monday.

Two Dutch witnesses were invited by the court to give testimony. Faced with refutations by Miep Gies, one of the neighbors who helped hide the Frank family, and Gerard Van Der Stroom of the Netherlands State Institute for War Documentation, Roemer suddenly dropped his appeal.

His lawyer claimed he did so not because he changed his mind, but because of his advanced age.