

PLANS FOR PLO-LED STATE UNCOVERED AS U.S. ENVOY PARLAYS WITH SHAMIR By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Hebrew newspapers blared Sunday with reports of an uncovered Palestinian plan for an independent state headed by the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The plan, discovered during a search by security forces of the Arab Studies Institute in East Jerusalem, is said to be based on a blueprint prepared by an American political scientist and lacks the official endorsement by the PLO.

Nonetheless, it was seen here as the first serious attempt by the local Palestinian leadership to take the initiative following Jordan's stated intentions to sever administrative ties with the West Bank.

Meanwhile, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who is in the Middle East trying to keep alive the flagging U.S. peace plan in the wake of Jordan's announcement, warned Israelis that "the region is losing its stability, extremism is rising, and the region is threatened by ballistic and chemical weapons."

Arriving here at the tail end of his week-long visit to the region, the U.S. envoy met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Sunday, where he continued to press the U.S. plan calling for an exchange of territories for peace and mutual recognition by Arabs and Jews.

But Shamir warned Murphy that any hint of American movement toward the PLO will encourage continued violence in the territories.

Among the specific proposals found in the Arab Studies Institute plan is a call for a declaration of independence to take place in Jerusalem; a provisional government half comprised of residents of the territories and half of PLO activists living abroad; and the appointment of PLO head Yasir Arafat as president and his lieutenant, Farouk Kaddoumi, as foreign minister.

The documents were discovered in the office of Faisal al-Husseini, an alleged Fatah activist who headed the Arab Studies Institute. Husseini was put under administrative arrest last week for the third time, and the center was closed.

Arab Reaction Muted

Arab reaction to the uncovering of the documents was muted. No official announcement was made by the PLO confirming the reports, and newspapers in largely Arab East Jerusalem were mum on the subject, apparently waiting for reactions by the PLO.

According to Hanna Siniora, editor of the East Jerusalem daily Al-Fajr, the plan should not be regarded as "a declaration of independence," but a contingency plan that came out in the open prematurely.

Siniora told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Sunday that he did not believe the PLO would move in the direction of statehood before the Palestine National Council, the PLO's self-described "government in exile," meets within a month, as planned.

Siniora said a precondition of any move would be an agreement between the various factions of the PLO, and an assurance by "friendly countries," including those in the

European Economic Community, that they will recognize the new state.

"This is only a bargaining position before coming to the negotiations table," said Siniora.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office issued a statement Sunday describing the plan as "crazy and dangerous dreams. They will not materialize. Whoever plays around with such ideas is bound to fail."

The Labor reaction was more moderate, although Labor ministers released a statement saying they would reject any move to establish a PLO state and attempts on the part of Jordan or the Palestinians "to dictate a unilateral solution."

They warned, however, that if Israel continued to stick to a policy of inaction, she will leave the initiative "for others."

They also warned against one-sided attempts to annex the territories, proposed last week by members of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya party, saying annexation would further aggravate the conflict and threaten the Jewish and democratic nature of the country.

Versions of the plan had been discussed in the territories long before Jordan's King Hussein announced last week he would cut ties with the West Bank.

The initial form of the plan, prepared by Professor Jerome Segal, an American political scientist, was published in the East Jerusalem newspaper El Kuds. It has since been circulated widely among influential Palestinians in the West Bank, reportedly to receive their reactions.

According to the plan, the new Palestinian state would be based on the U.N. partition plan of 1947, which includes many parts of Israel within the so-called "green line" established after the Six-Day War in 1967.

U.S. APPEALS COURT UPHOLDS ORDER CLOSING PLO OFFICE IN WASHINGTON By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The State Department's order last year closing the Palestine Liberation Organization's information office here was unanimously upheld Friday by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Writing for the three-judge panel, Judge Abner Mikva said the PLO representatives are free "to express whatever ideas they wish," but they are not free to "set up an office that functions as a foreign mission when the State Department finds that the national interest requires otherwise."

A spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented the office and its director, Hasan Abdel Rahman, said it had not been decided yet whether to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

The appeals court upheld a decision issued last December by U.S. District Court Judge Charles Richey that the State Department order had not violated any constitutional rights, including that of freedom of speech. Richey said the claim that it had was "utterly meritless."

The State Department, under pressure from Congress, ordered the office closed last September, "to demonstrate United States concern over terrorism committed and supported by organiza-

tions and individuals affiliated with the PLO."

The department said it could close the Washington office because it considered it a foreign mission. It denied that this was a violation of the First Amendment protection of speech, since Rahman and other employees of the Palestine Information Office, all American citizens, are free to continue advocating their cause.

However, a later effort by the Reagan administration to close the PLO's observer mission at the United Nations was rejected in June by U.S. District Court Judge Edward Palmieri in New York, on the grounds that it would violate the agreement that established the United Nations headquarters in New York.

The administration has until Aug. 28 to appeal Palmieri's ruling. No decision has been made on whether to do so.

The appeals court ruling was hailed Friday by Phil Baum, associate executive director of the American Jewish Congress.

"We are gratified that the courts have once again upheld the resolve of this country to act effectively against the scourge of modern terrorism," Baum said.

PALESTINIAN DEATH TALLY AT 183 AS INTIFADA NEARS NINTH MONTH By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- As Arabs and Jews brace for Tuesday's eighth-month anniversary of the Palestinian "intifada," the Israeli Defense Force announced that 183 Palestinians had been killed and about 2,100 wounded by IDF gunfire in approximately 13,750 uprising-related incidents.

The casualty figures reported by Palestinian sources in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are higher, but according to the IDF, the Palestinians' totals include deaths found not to have resulted from army action. The IDF said a number of Palestinians were shot and killed by Jewish settlers in the territories.

According to the IDF, some 5,500 Palestinians have been jailed, of whom over 3,000 are said to be detained without trial under administrative orders.

The IDF said that 456 soldiers and 282 Jewish civilians have been injured in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the uprising began Dec. 9. Most of the soldiers were struck by stones, while others were burned by bombs.

No Jewish deaths were reported as a direct result of intifada rioting, though a small number of Jews have died as a result of injuries and burns sustained by Arab action. One Israeli soldier died as the result of sniper fire.

The IDF figures indicate that there have been seven shooting attacks against soldiers and 17 grenade attacks, 29 knife attacks, 57 incidents involving makeshift and roadside bombs, 252 cases of arson within the territories and 1,004 gasoline bomb attacks.

The army recorded over 5,990 stone-throwing incidents and 6,463 violent demonstrations.

PEACE NOW RALLIES FOR HUSSEINI By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Peace Now demonstrators in the Ramat Aviv suburb of Tel Aviv called for the release of Faisal al-Husseini, the head of the Arab Studies Institute in East Jerusalem, who was arrested and placed under

administrative detention last week on suspicion of Palestine Liberation Organization activism.

Husseini was arrested after addressing an earlier Peace Now gathering in Jerusalem, during which he called for an independent Palestinian state.

Saturday night's demonstration, attended by an estimated 5,000 people, also called for an end to the practice of administrative detentions without trial.

Afterwards, a torchlight procession was conducted to the nearby home of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Marchers demanded his resignation, saying he was responsible for the administrative detention of some 3,000 Palestinians.

A small group of right-wing hecklers was dispersed by police without incident.

WIESEL ASKS GORBACHEV TO CLEAR NAMES OF MURDERED YIDDISH POETS

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel has called upon Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to clear the names of 24 Soviet Jewish writers and cultural figures murdered on a single night, Aug. 12, 1952.

The group, known collectively as the "murdered Yiddish poets" because of the preponderance of Yiddish poets among them, has never been totally accounted for, and their story has become legend among Jews of diverse political and cultural bent.

In a telegram to the Kremlin, Wiesel requested that Gorbachev follow up on the recent rehabilitation of top Communists killed in the 1930s, during the purges of Josef Stalin, with a gesture toward the dictator's Jewish victims.

"You have had the courage to do so much for so many in recent years," Wiesel wrote the Soviet leader, "and so I appeal to you on behalf of a very special group of people: Soviet Jewish intellectuals unjustly executed under Stalin between 1948 and 1953."

Wiesel's appeal was part of an effort being coordinated by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, which will erect bronze plaques dedicated to these murdered Soviet Jews in 19 American cities on Aug. 12.

"Through the dedication of these plaques, we're asking the Soviet authorities to make amends for the past injustices done to Soviet Jews as individuals and as a people," explained Michael Pelavin of Flint, Mich., who is chairman of NJCRAC.

NJCRAC will also dedicate a plaque in its New York offices and a second plaque will be brought to Israel during a NJCRAC mission in October, to be presented to relatives of several of the murdered poets who live there.

The plaques include the names of 10 Jewish cultural figures known to be among those murdered in the cellar of Lubianka Prison on Aug. 12, 1952: David Bergelson, Itzik Feffer, David Hofshstein, Leib Kvitko, Solomon Lozovsky, Peretz Markish, Yitzhak Nusinov, Shmuel Persov, Eliahu Spivak and Benjamin Zuskin.

Also listed are 16 others murdered during the "Black Years" for Soviet Jewry, 1948-53: Shlomo Bilov, Yechezkiel Dobrushin, Benjamin Gotiansky, Zerach Greenberg, Nahum Levin, Shlomo Mikhoels, Der Nister (Pinchas Kaganovitch), Leib Rabin, Boris Shimshelovich, Dov Ber Slutski, Alexander Sodarski, Anna Stelmach, David Tzaike, Meir Yosefovitch, Gregory Zashitz and Mira Zhelzanova.

**PERU HOLDING ABU NIDAL TERRORISTS
POSSESSING HIT LIST TARGETING JEWS**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Authorities in Peru are holding three men identified as members of the Abu Nidal terrorist organization, who allegedly planned to attack Jewish and Israeli institutions in that country.

Police in Lima said the group's leader, identified as Hocine Bouzidi, is reported to have planned the November 1985 hijacking of an Egyptair jetliner to Malta. An Israeli woman was among the many people killed in that hijacking.

An Interpol report also named Bouzidi as having planned the December 1985 terrorist attacks at the El Al counters of the Rome and Vienna airports.

According to Manuel Tenenbaum, director of the Latin American branch of the World Jewish Congress in Buenos Aires, Peruvian authorities arrested the three men July 30 after documents were found that showed the men were keeping several buildings in Lima under surveillance, including the United States consulate, the Israeli embassy, the main synagogue and an Israeli-owned travel agency, known as Shalom.

In addition, police said the men had also targeted the embassies of Great Britain, Belgium and Colombia, as well as the Lima office of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The three men being held were identified as Bouzidi, 36, who carried Algerian identification papers; Mohamad Abed, 19, also identified as Mohamed Abed Abdelrahman Ibrahim, holding Egyptian papers; and Ahmed (also reported as Amman) Assad Mohamad, also 19, who held Lebanese papers.

Police in Lima said the men had been in Peru several months.

PLO Disclaims Links

The men were reportedly establishing contact with the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) terrorist group, which has for several years been trying to overthrow the Peruvian government by force.

The PLO maintains an office in Lima and has been largely welcomed in Peru.

The PLO office said the men had come to attack PLO representatives, and disclaimed links to the group.

Peruvian President Alan Garcia is reportedly ready to cooperate with any government wishing to extradite the men.

However, Peru indicated it might expel the men anyway if no country requested their extradition.

The Austrian Embassy in Washington said it was aware of the case and believed Bouzidi may have been the mastermind behind the airport attack. It was looking into whether Austria was requesting Bouzidi's extradition.

In Washington, a U.S. Justice Department spokesman said Tuesday that as far as he knew, there were no outstanding warrants for any of the men.

Last week the Israeli embassy in Lima issued a statement thanking Peruvian authorities.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has urged the Peruvian government to "reconsider" its policy of permitting the PLO to maintain an office in Peru as a result of the arrests. The ADL presented a letter to Peruvian Ambassador Cesar Atala on Aug. 2, congratulating Peruvian authorities for the arrests.

**FALWELL DECLARES WAR ON 'TEMPTATION,'
BUT DECRIES USE OF ANTI-SEMITISM**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The Rev. Jerry Falwell declared "war" Friday on the Martin Scorsese film, "The Last Temptation of Christ," while denouncing groups that have been using opposition to the film to fan anti-Semitism.

"I'll certainly speak out and decry every statement or action that in any way fans anti-Semitism," Falwell said at a news conference at the National Press Club. "Any decent Christian should do that, any decent American should do that."

Falwell was responding to questions about fundamentalist groups who have made anti-Semitic remarks in denouncing the film and Lew Wasserman, chairman of MCA, the entertainment conglomerate whose Universal Pictures subsidiary is producing the movie.

"There are some who are clearly fanning anti-Semitism," Falwell said. "It is wrong, it should be opposed. It changes the subject. The subject is not who are the officers of MCA and Universal."

"The issue is, this publicly owned company has blasphemed the savior, the Lord Jesus. It is not a Jewish issue, it is a monetary issue."

The film, which is based on a 1951 novel by the late Nikos Kazantzakis, depicts Jesus as resisting his divinity. Falwell said the makers of the movie are not necessarily anti-Christian, but had created "blasphemy for profit."

At the same time, the minister said the makers of the film made a business decision that lacks the sensitivity to realize that "there are those extremists out there who will use this film in a way that is very devastating to the relationships that exist between Christians and Jews."

'Nuts Who Are Out There'

He said that he and others have spent a "long time building bridges" between Jews and Christians.

But, Falwell added, "there is no way to suppress or control the nuts who are out there."

Falwell read part of a letter of support to his opposition to the film from Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein of Chicago, head of the Holy Land Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

"A production of any kind that blasphemes Christianity, profanes the faith of its adherents and assaults the sensibilities of its devotees is an affront, not only to the Christian community, but to Jews and all decent Americans alike," Eckstein wrote.

Falwell called the hastily scheduled news conference because Universal announced that it would release the film Aug. 12, a month earlier than previously scheduled.

Falwell outlined five types of action he plans to take as part of his war on "The Last Temptation." They include educating the public about the film, urging people never again to attend a theater that shows the film, local picketing of theaters that show the film and a letter-writing and telephone campaign to MCA and Universal officers.

The fifth and most important act, according to Falwell, will be a boycott of MCA and all its subsidiaries, as well as companies that have common board members with Universal and MCA, and companies owned or run by major shareholders of MCA.

CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK ENDS TERM OF THREE 'INTENSIVE' YEARS By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- When Moshe Yegar assumed his post as Israel's consul general in New York in the summer of 1985, he believed he would be able to concentrate on cultural activities to promote Israel's cause.

"The time was right after the Lebanon war, and I assumed that, as after any other Mideast war, several 'quiet' years were lying ahead," Yegar recalled in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"But I was wrong," he said, puffing on a cigar at his office at the Israeli Consulate.

"These were an intensive, very intensive three years," the 57-year-old envoy said, when asked to summarize his term in office, which will conclude at the end of this summer.

Using the word "intensive" was, apparently, Yegar's diplomatic way of saying "stormy," since the last three years were marked, in Yegar's own words, by "major crises," most notably the Jonathan Pollard spy affair and the continued Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The case of Pollard, who is serving a life sentence for spying on behalf of Israel, and the riots in the territories, which began last Dec. 9, refocused attention on the special and delicate ties between the United States and Israel, and on the sensitive and unique relations between American Jews and Israel.

Criticism Of Israel Not New

Yegar, a career diplomat who joined the Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry in 1956, admits that the Palestinian "intifada" and, to a lesser degree, the Pollard affair have been controversial and have brought about criticism of Israel from some American Jews.

"But criticism of Israel and its policies from American Jews is not something new," Yegar asserted. "Differences of opinion always existed. Sometimes more and sometimes less."

He pointed out that American Jewish leaders "had a major disagreement with David Ben-Gurion on the issue of aliyah, since Ben-Gurion claimed that being a Zionist means living in Israel."

Yegar observed that American Jewry is not a monolithic group. "At times of tension and crisis," he said, "the differences within the community start to surface."

As for criticism of Israel's policy in the territories in the last year, Yegar said: "To the best of my knowledge, the overwhelming majority of the Jews in America support the State of Israel as she is, regardless of the different political factions in the government.

"I also believe that those Jewish leaders who support only a particular political view in Israel are a minority," he said. "I have good reasons to assume that they do not even represent the organizations on whose behalf they speak."

Yegar declined to name any of these leaders, but he was apparently referring to those Jews who advocate a territorial compromise with the Palestinians and who are critical of Israel's tough measures in dealing with the uprising.

Yegar, however, was quick to add: "I think, nonetheless, that everybody has the right to criticize. Israel is an open, democratic society and so is the American Jewish community.

"But those who criticize should be aware that criticism can go both ways," he said. "Israeli citizens, too, can criticize American Jewry and find fault in negative developments among American Jewry, like assimilation, the lack of Jewish education or the absence of aliyah among Jews here.

"American Jewish leaders must realize when criticism against Israel turns into anti-Israel propaganda, that weakens the entire Jewish state," the outgoing consul general continued. "I am not going to name names, but I was very disturbed to read in newspapers that several prominent Jews urged the administration to cut aid to Israel to pressure it to change its policies in the territories."

Limits Of Criticism

Asked to define the line between criticism and "anti-Israel propaganda," the Israeli envoy said: "The limit of criticism is where it begins to harm Israel and weaken her. Everyone must be his own judge and set his or her own limits."

But, Yegar stressed, "the national interests of Israel will be decided only by Israeli citizens. Those Jews who want to take part in the decision-making process are more than welcome to come on aliyah and participate in the democratic process of Israel. You cannot influence by remote control," the consul said.

Yegar's diplomatic posting in New York was not his first in America. He previously served for three years as consul of Israel in Los Angeles (1966-69) and for three years as consul general in Philadelphia (1969-72).

"I feel today, in the summer of 1988, the same warmth and solidarity of American Jews with Israel as I felt in the summer of 1966 in Los Angeles," Yegar said. He said that he never found the same feeling of warmth and friendship toward him as representative of Israel in any other country in the world where he had served.

"The support and solidarity of American Jews with Israel is a special 20th century phenomenon," he remarked. "I do not believe it will ever disappear."

Yegar, who is scheduled to assume the post of Israel's ambassador to Sweden this fall, said he cannot explain the fact that American Jewish tourism to Israel has declined dramatically since the beginning of the uprising.

Deeper Reasons

"Maybe it can be attributed to fear or, with some Jews, to protest over the continued uprising and Israel's handling of the situation. But I think that there are deeper reasons," Yegar said.

"At least 60 percent of American Jews have never visited Israel," he noted. "This is puzzling considering their general support and love of Israel. I think that had they more Jewish conscience and historical knowledge of their origins, they would have come in greater numbers to Israel."

Yegar, who was born in Argentina and immigrated to Israel with his family as a child, said that the serving in the largest Jewish community in the world at the time of Israel's 40th anniversary has enriched his service here.

He said that the cultural events of the last year, sponsored jointly by the consulate and the American Jewish community, have helped "strengthen Israel's positive image in America at a time when it was most needed" because of the uprising in the territories.