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# ARAFAT SEEKING DIPLOMATIC PLATFORM IN EUROPE, NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON JTA Staff Report

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat is embarking on a diplomatic offensive that includes a heavy schedule of meetings with top European leaders and plans to address the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Sources in Brussels disclosed Tuesday that Arafat will meet with top European Community officials during his visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Sept. 13. The visit will mark the first time the PLO leader has been received by the European parliamentary institution.

Arafat is scheduled to confer with Lord Plumb, a British conservative who is president of the European Parliament, and Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, current chairman of the E.C. Council of Ministers.

PLO officials have circulated reports in recent weeks that Arafat also plans to address the U.N. General Assembly after the Palestine National Council discusses plans to declare an independent Palestinian state and set up a government in exile. The council is scheduled to meet in Algiers sometime in September.

Diplomats at U.N. headquarters in New York, however, said Tuesday that it is "premature" to talk about Arafat visiting the United Nations. They said U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has not yet invited Arafat to address the General Assembly, which officially opens Sept. 20.

The two men met Saturday at U.N. headquarters in Geneva and were scheduled to meet again later this week to discuss a General Assembly appearance by the PLO leader.

One diplomat also pointed out that an Arafat address will depend on the outcome of the meeting in Algiers. "Without a mandate from the PNC, Arafat cannot come to New York," the diplomat said.

## Press Club Invitation

Arafat also has been invited to address the National Press Club in Washington, which regularly holds "newsmaker" luncheons. He has never before appeared in the U.S. capital.

But it is unclear at this time whether the PLO leader would be allowed to enter the United States for the purpose of addressing either the General Assembly or the press club.

Under U.S. immigration laws, the U.S. government may bar individuals belonging to terrorist organizations from entering the United States. The government has used the provision on many occasions to prevent foreign officials from visiting the United Nations, a State Department source said in Washington.

"It has been United States policy, sanctioned by the Congress as recently as 1979, to deny visas to members of the PLO," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said in 1986, when a U.N. visit by Arafat was being considered.

Even if Arafat is issued an entry visa, it will likely contain a restriction that bars him from traveling further than 25 miles from U.N. headquarters in New York. That would make it

impossible for Arafat to address the press club.

U.S. Jewish groups have expressed disappointment in the press club invitation, which was issued Aug. 17.

David Brody, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said his group is "opposed to giving (Arafat) that kind of a platform."

Warren Eisenberg, director of the International Council of B'nai B'rith, said he doubted that Arafat's appearance could "advance the cause for peace," because the PLO "still threatens to use terror."

In Europe, meanwhile, Arafat's upcoming visit to Strasbourg is being viewed as important, following recent diplomatic developments in the Middle East, particularly Jordan's decision to cut all links to the West Bank.

According to sources in Brussels, Arafat may use the European Parliament appearance to make an important political announcement regarding the formation of a Palestinian state.

Arafat was invited to the European Parliament by the chairman of its Socialist Group, Rudi Arndt of West Germany. As a matter of principle, the parliament itself invites only heads of state to address the 518-member assembly, which represents 12 nations.

(Contributing to this report were JTA correspondents Yossi Lempkowitz in Brussels, Howard Rosenberg in Washington and Yitzhak Rabi at the United Nations.)

## U.N. CHIEF URGES ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESSURE ISRAEL TO NEGOTIATE By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The secretary-general of the United Nations has called on non-governmental organizations to exert international pressure on Israel to "promote an effective negotiating process and to help create the conditions necessary for it to succeed."

Javier Perez de Cuellar also recommended Tuesday that the international community make a concerted effort to persuade Israel to accept the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to the administered territories.

The convention prohibits the expulsion "for any reasons whatsoever" of civilians from an area under military occupation. Israel insists that the convention does not apply to the territories, since it has not extended Israeli law to the areas it administers.

Perez de Cuellar was addressing the fifth international meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations at U.N. European headquarters here.

The secretary-general referred to the NGOs as a "network of organizations" devoted to "the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in conformity with U.N. resolutions." He described the NGO role as "pivotal."

While describing certain measures taken to deal with the emergency situation in the territories, Perez de Cuellar also strongly emphasized that "measures to enhance the safety and protection of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, though urgently needed, will neither remove the causes of the recent tragic events nor bring peace to the region."

He emphasized the need for a political settlement to the problem, "which responds both to the refusal of the Palestinian population of the territories to accept a future under Israeli occupation and to Israel's determination to ensure its security and the well-being of its people."

The secretary-general's statement followed by two days his meeting with Yasir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman. Arafat told the U.N. leader Sunday that establishing a Palestinian government in exile is one of the ideas he plans to present next month at a meeting of the Palestine National Council in Algiers.

During the meeting of the NGOs, which has been addressing the "question of Palestine," PLO representatives have described atrocities allegedly carried out by Israel Defense Force soldiers.

Zehdi Terzi, the PLO's permanent observer to the United Nations, said that since December 1987, Israeli authorities have brutalized his people by burning and burying them alive, shooting them with live as well as rubber bullets, using lethal gas and breaking bones. He accused Israel of flaunting "any of the norms of civilized society."

There appeared to be much sympathy for the PLO position here.

Mikko Lohikoski, chairman of the NGO coordinating committee, said, "The mass-based popular uprising of Palestinian people of the West Bank and Gaza has forcefully demonstrated that the Palestinian people, united in resistance to the Israeli occupation, is demanding a political settlement based on the recognition of the right of self-determination in the form of an independent Palestinian state."

#### Diplomatic Recognition Urged

He said the "intifada" has "exposed to the daylight various plans that failed to recognize and respect the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to their own independent state in the West Bank and Gaza with its capital in East Jerusalem."

He added, "The international community must raise its voice to protest against the action of Israel."

An Italian member of the European Parliament, Luciana Castellina, said the NGOs had to urge their countries' governments to "recognize the Palestinian state" and, as soon as it would be created, the "provisional Palestinian government."

But the British representative, Ernie Ross, said London "would not recognize any government in exile for the Palestinians in the same way it recognizes states."

Nevertheless, Ross said that "all NGO action should now be in support of the intifada and to help the Palestinians toward an international peace conference, so that peace might be achieved."

#### **PRISON OFFICIAL ASSURES SUPPORTERS OF BETTER TREATMENT FOR POLLARDS**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Bureau of Prisons Director J. Michael Quinlan assured a group of religious leaders Tuesday that Anne Henderson Pollard, wife of convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, will receive certain improvements in her treatment in prison, bureau spokeswoman Kathryn Morse said Tuesday.

She said that Quinlan agreed to allow rabbis to visit Anne and Jonathan privately. Also, he promised to allow two of Anne Pollard's doctors

to visit her.

But Morse disputed a claim by one member of the group, Rev. William Harter of Chambersburg, Pa., that Pollard would also be allowed to take certain medications currently being denied to her. Morse said Quinlan simply agreed to "look at" the medicine issue. The drug in question, Domperidone, would help her digest food.

Morse could not be reached to confirm or deny Harter's statements that Quinlan also agreed to lift media restrictions on Anne Pollard, and to consider transferring her to a prison closer to her hometown. She is currently at the Federal Medical Center in Rochester, Minn.

Anne Pollard, who is serving a five-year sentence with no parole for being an accessory to her husband's crime, suffers from a debilitating disorder called biliary dyskinesia, and has had difficulty digesting food.

Jonathan Pollard, who was sentenced to life imprisonment without parole, is incarcerated at the U.S. Penitentiary in Marion, Ill., which Morse said is the highest security U.S. prison.

Quinlan met with an ad hoc group called the Ecumenical Coalition to Save Anne Pollard's Life, represented by Bernard Henderson, Anne Pollard's father; Rev. Frank Eiklor, president of Shalom International; Rabbi Richard Yellin, of Congregation Mishkan Tefila of Chestnut Hill, Mass.; Sister Rose Thering, professor of education at Seton Hall University; and Harter.

#### Heartwarming Promises

After the meeting, the group held a rally for more than an hour near the Bureau of Prisons here. Henderson, one of the last speakers, said "to come here and hear promises made after months and months of struggle, is truly heartwarming and has made a difference."

Henderson also used the platform to say that "my daughter is not really guilty of any crime. Taking a suitcase to a closet . . . is not a crime anywhere in the world."

Yellin, who is also chairman of the domestic affairs committee of the Synagogue Council of America, read a letter he has written to President Reagan urging that the Pollards be pardoned.

An official at the Synagogue Council in New York said Yellin's letter does not convey the council's position, but is a "personal" one.

On Anne Pollard's treatment in prison, Henderson said she was "deprived of her access to the press . . . adequate medical treatment, and suffered cruel and unusual punishment. She was deprived of the ability to see her own rabbi. She has had two rabbis now who have been forbidden to see her."

In addition, he said, "There are religious violations that have occurred weekly if not daily."

Marvin Wilson, professor of biblical and theological studies at Gordon College in Wenham, Mass., recited a prayer asking that God intercede on Anne Pollard's behalf, and asking Him to "stay the hands of any who would deal with this precious life in a cavalier, hardhearted or pitiless manner."

Eiklor, organizer of the ad hoc group, heads Shalom International, based in California, which "serves as a Christian catalyst in confronting walls of hatred," as stated in the group's literature.

It combats anti-Semitism and defends "Israel's unequivocal importance to America as a genuine friend and ally."

## PALESTINIANS LOSE A LEGAL BATTLE AS COURT REJECTS HUSSEINI APPEAL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Israel's supreme court rejected an appeal Tuesday by a Palestinian activist under administrative detention, foiling another attempt to use Israel's legal system to counter security measures.

The High Court of Justice ruled against Faisal al-Husseini, 48, who was detained a month ago under an administrative arrest order, after being identified by the authorities as a key leader of Al Fatah in Jerusalem. Fatah is the military arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization controlled by Yasir Arafat.

Husseini demanded that he be allowed to view a secret file in his case, saying that he was unable to present a defense as long as he was unclear about the charges against him. He also asked that the legal proceedings be held openly, and not "in camera," as has been the practice until now.

But the court rejected both appeals, citing "security reasons."

The court then met to review a separate appeal against the six-month detention itself, the third Husseini has been under in 18 months. The court has not issued its decision, but it has never annulled an order of administrative arrest.

Administrative detention orders have become one of the major tools in the authorities' attempts to curb the Palestinian uprising. Since the beginning of the unrest, more than 3,000 Palestinians have been put in detention camps without trial.

Administrative detainees have limited means to challenge the arrest orders, short of appealing to the High Court. Each arrest order must be approved by a military judge, and in very few cases have the judges reversed them.

### Change Of Strategy

Likewise, Palestinians who received deportation orders have been reluctant to work within the Israeli legal system, arguing that it is biased against them.

Only recently, with the mass deportation order against the 25 Palestinians, did this tactic change. On Monday, lawyers on behalf of the 25 vowed to press their appeals to the High Court.

In response to this change of strategy, some politicians have proposed enacting legislation that would render the High Court of Justice off-limits to residents of the administered territories.

But Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that he is against such a move.

## RABIN RULES OUT SEPARATE TALKS WITH LOCAL PALESTINIAN LEADERS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday ruled out separate peace talks with the local Palestinian leadership from the administered territories.

In a briefing to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Rabin said negotiations on the future status of the territories could only be conducted with a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

Talks with local Palestinian leaders, the defense minister said, could cover a variety of subjects, but not the overall issue of peace. He

also indicated that he would not rule out future talks with Arab residents now under administrative detention.

Rabin's remarks were seen as an attempt to clarify statements he has made since Jordan's King Hussein announced he was severing ties to the West Bank.

Some of his statements have been construed as encouraging the development of a local Palestinian leadership that would serve as an alternative to both the Palestine Liberation Organization and Jordan.

Since Hussein's July 31 announcement that he was cutting all ties to the West Bank, and subsequent Jordanian actions putting that policy into effect, Israel has been confronted with the question of with whom it will negotiate.

Recently, major figures in the PLO have expressed a willingness to negotiate with Israel on the basis of the United Nations partition agreement of 1947, though PLO chief Yasir Arafat has not made such a statement.

Israeli leaders, including Rabin, have been reticent to endorse the possibility of discussions with the PLO, even if it renounces terrorism and recognizes Israel's right to exist -- moves it shows no sign of making. Israel has a longstanding policy of not dealing with the PLO, which it considers a terrorist organization.

## MACHINE GUN RETURNED TO SETTLER, BUT HIS HUNGER STRIKE CONTINUES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Under pressure from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, police agreed here Tuesday to return a weapon confiscated earlier from a Jewish settler in Hebron.

The settler, Michael Cohen, had his Uzi submachine gun confiscated by police after he fired warning shots into the air as Arab demonstrators threw stones at him near the village of El-Arub, on the Jerusalem-Hebron highway.

In protest, Cohen staged a hunger strike outside the Jerusalem residence of the premier. His protest was backed by the entire Jewish community of settlers in the Hebron area.

Rallies were held there, blaming the government for taking harsher measures against the settlers rather than adopting a tough policy against those who attack them, namely the rioting Palestinians in the territories.

Shamir publicly said Tuesday that the security forces should not confiscate weapons possessed by settlers in the West Bank, who use them for self-defense. The premier's aides then contacted the police command and exerted pressure for the return of the weapon to Cohen.

Despite the return of the Uzi, Cohen continued his hunger strike in front of Shamir's residence. He was joined in his protest by Knesset member Eliezer Waldman of the ultranationalist party Tehiya, who is a resident of Kiryat Arba, a Jewish settlement adjacent to Hebron.

The two vowed to continue with the strike until clear regulations are issued regarding the opening of fire by settlers who are attacked.

Soldiers, meanwhile, have been instructed to use rubber bullets as a first recourse against Palestinian stone-throwers.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that the army recently received a new supply of the rubber bullets, which are considered less harmful than live bullets.

**COURT ORDERS CROSS REMOVED  
FROM MARINE BASE IN HAWAII**  
By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- A federal district court judge in Washington on Tuesday ordered the removal of a 65-foot illuminated cross that has dominated the night sky over a U.S. Marine base in Hawaii for more than 20 years.

Judge Thomas Hogan's decision was a victory for the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, which contended in a lawsuit that the cross, as a religious symbol erected on government property and maintained by public funds, violated the constitutional prohibition against government-established religion.

The cross was erected in 1966 for a sunrise Easter service at Camp H.M. Smith on Oahu, not far from Pearl Harbor. Hogan's decision rejected the government's argument that the cross had since become a non-sectarian monument to prisoners of war and those listed as missing in action in Southeast Asia.

"The principal symbol of Christianity, this nation's dominant religion, simply is too laden with religious meaning to be appropriate to a government memorial assertedly free of any religious message," Hogan said in his decision.

The judge's decision represents the second time that the cross has been ordered removed from the base. Following complaints by the Hawaiian Jewish community, Navy Judge Advocate General Admiral T.E. Flynn concluded in 1985 that the cross violated the constitution and should be removed.

But Marine Corps Commandant General P.X. Kelley overruled Flynn's decision in 1986, after an outcry from people living near the base.

Kelley and former Navy Secretary James Webb were named in the suit.

**JWV Hails Decision**

Herbert Greff, national commander of the JWV, hailed the federal court's decision in a statement, saying those missing in Southeast Asia represent all races and religions.

"Surely America can memorialize these brave souls in a manner which would honor all equally and bring comfort to their loved ones," he said.

Ronald Koerner, lawyer for the veterans group, said the decision is significant, because it helps define what is appropriate for a war monument.

The government has 60 days in which to appeal the judge's order. A spokeswoman for the Justice Department said government lawyers were reviewing the judge's decision and would take a few weeks before deciding whether to appeal.

**RELIC FROM FIRST TEMPLE  
GOES ON DISPLAY IN ISRAEL**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- A small ivory pomegranate verified to be the first known relic from the First Temple has gone on display at the Israel Museum.

The thumb-sized pomegranate -- a "rimon" -- clearly bears the inscription "Belonging to the Temple of the Lord, Holy to the Priests."

The rimon, which was acquired last week by the Israel Museum in Jerusalem for \$550,000, is less than two inches tall and one inch wide. Carved from a single piece of ivory, it has a flat base through which is cut a small hole.

The rimon may have topped the scepter of a high priest, according to instructions laid down in Exodus and Kings I. Rimonim were also used to adorn the high priests' robes.

According to the Book of Exodus, "And upon the skirts of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue and of purple and of scarlet round about; and bells of gold between them round about; a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the skirts of the robe round about."

The rimon is the first artifact to be attributed to the First Temple built by King Solomon. Scientists who analyzed the small object have dated it to around the 8th century B.C.E.

Solomon's Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E.

The 2,800-year-old object is badly chipped on one side. The validating inscription is written in ancient Hebrew in completely legible script. It is believed to be the oldest known inscription with the Hebrew name of God.

The only other relic of the First Temple is said to be silver scrolls bearing the benediction of the Kohanim, the high priests. The scrolls were recently found in a burial cave overlooking Jerusalem's Hinnom Valley, outside the Old City.

The rimon is believed to be at least 100 years older.

The ivory pomegranate's acquisition by the Israel Museum marks the end of an international journey that began nine years ago, when the rimon was bought in Israel by an unknown party and smuggled out of the country. The buyer in turn sold the object to an anonymous party in Switzerland, who bought it for the museum.

An Israeli archaeologist examined the rimon in Switzerland and verified its authenticity.

Israeli newspapers speculated Tuesday that the rimon might have been purchased by an Israeli for a few hundred dollars from a local dealer and smuggled to Europe, where it was placed on display in France. The object's value was estimated when the exhibition curator sought advice for insurance purposes.

**ISRAEL'S FOREIGN MINISTRY HEAD  
MEETS WITH CHINA'S U.N. AMBASSADOR**  
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Avraham Tamir, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, met here Monday evening with China's ambassador to the United Nations, Li Lu Ye.

China does not have diplomatic relations with Israel and meetings between officials of the two countries are rare.

According to sources here, the meeting lasted more than 90 minutes and focused on the current situation in the Middle East.

The Chinese ambassador told Tamir that his country is interested in bringing about a settlement to the Middle East conflict, and that China will not stand in the way of any comprehensive settlement in the region.

Tamir later told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that despite the decision by King Hussein of Jordan to break ties with the West Bank, a final solution of the Palestinian issue cannot be found without the participation of Jordan.

Tamir contended that Hussein acted out of "frustration that the high expectations resulting from his talks in London with then premier Shimon Peres two years ago had led only to a stalemate."