



PLO NOW SAID TO FAVOR DECLARING AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Leaders of the various Palestine Liberation Organization factions have agreed unanimously to declare an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to reports here.

The decision was adopted over the weekend during a three-day meeting of the PLO leadership in Tunis. It was reported by Salah Khalaf, a senior PLO official popularly known as Abu Iyad.

The unified command of the Palestinian uprising in the administered territories issued a statement Sunday urging the Palestine National Council to declare an independent state. "Communique No. 27" suggested that such a state be put under international auspices for the present.

According to Khalaf, the PNC will convene to act on the matter before the Israeli elections on Nov. 1.

The PNC is sometimes referred to as the Palestinian parliament in exile. Israelis consider it to be an adjunct of the PLO.

Moves to declare an independent Palestinian state have gathered momentum since King Hussein of Jordan announced July 31 that he was severing all ties to the West Bank.

Close aides to Yasir Arafat have endorsed the idea, but the PLO chairman himself has appeared unwilling to make such a move without achieving a consensus among the terrorist organization's rival factions.

PNC meetings aimed at reaching such a consensus have been repeatedly postponed since August.

RABIN BACKS USE OF 'MAXIMUM FORCE,' AS UPRISING CONCLUDES 10TH MONTH
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force will continue to exercise "the maximum force permitted by law" to quell unrest in the administered territories, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared Saturday.

He spoke during another bloody weekend of violence, as Palestinians marked the end of the 10th month of their uprising.

Three Palestinians were killed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in clashes with the IDF on Sunday. The violence continued Monday in Jerusalem, where police dispersed Arab women demonstrators who were stoning security forces and disrupting traffic.

IDF troops raided dozens of villages in the territories over the weekend to quell violent demonstrations. Scores of Palestinians were wounded and many more were arrested.

Two of the fatalities occurred in Yatta village, south of Hebron. The third was a resident of the Rafah refugee camp on the Israeli-Egyptian border. He was identified as Ossama Abu-Dehi, 20.

Abu-Dehi was shot to death by an Israeli border guard, whom he stabbed in the head and arm. The guard had just boarded a bus from Egypt when the incident occurred.

Another Rafah resident was wounded in the shooting, possibly the victim of a stray bullet.

Speaking during a visit to Beersheba, Rabin said he takes full responsibility for the IDF's tough policies, and he maintained that they are working.

"The mass demonstrations, which were the symbol of the uprising, no longer exist, because the army has instructions to suppress them as they develop," Rabin the defense minister said.

"The State of Israel must exercise force in the territories, the maximum force permitted by law, to face those inciters. And I believe that this is so essential that we shall eventually win with patience."

About 250 Palestinians have been killed since the uprising began last Dec. 9, according to Rabin. He said about 18,000 have been jailed. There are about 6,000 Palestinians presently under detention for participating in riots, in addition to some 4,000 imprisoned for terrorist acts.

ARABS RIOT INSIDE ISRAEL OVER DEMOLITION OF HOMES
By Gil Sedan

TAIBA, Israel, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- It could have been happening anywhere in the West Bank or Gaza Strip:

Young Arab men grabbed by cops, roughed up and hustled to a line of waiting police vans. Arab women hurling stones. Police reinforcements, loaded with tear-gas grenades, preparing to fire into the crowd.

The atmosphere was electric with violence. But the scene Monday morning was inside Israel, in this village near Kfar Sava. And the clash was between police and Israeli citizens.

Taiba is one of the largest Arab villages in Israel. It sits astride a major road junction in the region known as the "Arab triangle." It has been part of Israel since 1948.

By the end of the morning, four police officers and two residents were injured and 11 Arabs were detained.

The strife had nothing to do with Palestinian nationalism. It was caused by the demolition of two unfinished houses, which local residents had put up without obtaining permits.

Huge bulldozers crushed the buildings. Angry Arab women hurled rocks. Local youths joined in and eventually grappled with police.

The houses were not occupied. In fact, the authorities usually refrain from demolishing inhabited buildings. But the problem of illegal construction is proliferating.

More Demolitions Planned

More illegal homes are slated to be bulldozed within 30 days if their owners fail to get restraining orders from the courts, which has been the case so far.

As a result, more disorders can be expected.

There is a certain irony in the situation in Taiba. The illegal structures were erected by Bedouin families evacuated from their traditional lands in the Negev several years ago to make way for the construction of two huge air force bases.

They built their homes on agricultural land, because it was cheaper and they could avoid certain taxes.

"They evacuated us from the Negev in the

name of peace. Now they are removing us from here in the name of the law," said Ismail Abdul Kader, who owns an illegal house in Taiba.

"Doesn't the law take account of the peoples' need for housing?" he asked.

But Dov Shayish, the district commissioner, said the Bedouins knowingly built illegally after they were warned. Now, overwhelmed by an unprecedented number of illegal dwellings in Arab villages -- estimated at several thousand -- the authorities have decided to crack down, Shayish said.

He said Taiba was chosen as an example, because it is one of the largest Arab villages in Israel. It is hoped the action here will deter others.

But the authorities are mindful of the effects on the local Arab population, which is generally sympathetic to the Palestinian uprising in the administered territories.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who is also acting interior minister, has been warned that the demolitions could damage Likud's standing with Arab voters in the Nov. 1 elections.

But he gave the green light anyway to continue the demolition process.

ISRAEL'S ELECTION HEATS UP WITH RADIO AND TV CAMPAIGN
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Israel's election campaign began last week as a low-key, dignified appeal to the electorate. It then slid rapidly downhill into lunges for the jugular.

Labor and Likud first mounted their campaigns on radio and television by projecting themselves as moderate, responsible and statesmanlike.

Each party portrayed its leader -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Likud and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Labor -- as a thoughtful, temperate man.

Labor dwelt on its success -- and Likud's failure -- to extricate the Israel Defense Force from the unpopular war in Lebanon.

Both parties claimed credit for beating down inflation, and both avoided insults and invectives.

Television viewers assumed that Likud campaign manager Moshe Arens had decided to pursue a moderate policy in defiance of the party's firebrands, who were crying for blood.

They were wrong.

Last Wednesday night, Likud commercials showed provocative footage of Arab rioters waving Palestinian flags, spliced with film clips of a gun-toting Yasir Arafat and close-ups of Shimon Peres.

The unobtrusive message was that Peres in power would lead to a Palestinian state and the destruction of Israel.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin appeared for the Labor Party, refuting Likud charges that Labor wanted to return Israel to its pre-1967 borders.

Rabin pointed out that he was chief of staff during the Six-Day War, and was well qualified to say that no Labor government would again allow Israel's population centers to come within close range of enemy forces.

Both parties trotted out their complements of reserve generals to support their theses.

Former Chief of Military Intelligence Yehoshua Saguy insisted, for Likud, that Israel cannot afford to withdraw from the West Bank.

Avigdor Ben-Gal, former commander of the northern front, appeared on behalf of Labor saying that Israel should "exploit its military victories to make peace."

This was followed by an exposition of Labor's defense platform. Its strategy calls for deploying troops along the border with Jordan, but withdrawing them from Arab towns in the West Bank and total demilitarization there.

Scrutinized By Court

In the economic sphere, Labor claimed it beat inflation. Likud focused on Finance Minister Moshe Nissim's stand against the trade unions' inflationary demands.

"Labor cannot run a free economy," he claimed.

Likud grew ever more acerbic in radio broadcasts last Wednesday.

It portrayed Peres as a vacillating leader whose own friends say he "doesn't know what he is doing."

Each party studies the other's propaganda and counters it with speedily produced videotapes. All broadcast material must pass the scrutiny of High Court Justice Eliezer Goldberg, who is chairman of the Central Election Committee.

New parties are allocated only 10 minutes of air time apiece, and are saving their precious time to nearer Election Day, which is Nov. 1.

The ultranationalist Tehiya party's television commercial opened with a pastoral view of the West Bank landscape, suddenly screened by the wire grid that settlers put on the windows of their cars as protection from Palestinian rock-throwers.

The dovish Citizens Rights Movement and the Shinui Party juxtaposed Israel's declaration of independence with their perception of the perversion of the spirit in Israel today.

The National Religious Party, worried by the emergence of a new moderate religious party, Meimad, is trying to woo voters seeking a traditional life.

Former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef is promising a heavenly blessing for everyone who votes for the ultra-Orthodox Shas party.

CHERNOBILSKY RECEIVES PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE, AFTER 13-YEAR BATTLE

NEW YORK, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Former prisoner of conscience Boris Chernobilsky, who spent one year in a labor camp during a 13-year battle to leave the Soviet Union, has received permission to emigrate to Israel, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Also receiving permission, according to the SSSJ reports, were his wife, Elena; son, Joseph, 3; and daughters, Evgenia, 14, and Anya, 17.

Anya is married, but there was no indication whether her husband or his family had requested or received permission to emigrate.

Soviet officials first denied Chernobilsky permission to emigrate in 1976. Unable to find work afterward in his field, radio engineering, Chernobilsky worked at a series of odd jobs.

Elena Chernobilsky taught Hebrew classes.

He was twice arrested for taking part in protest demonstrations, and in 1981 was sentenced to a one-year term in the Gulag for "resisting arrest."

There was no indication when the family would be able to leave the Soviet Union.

DUKAKIS TELLS NEW JEWISH PANEL HE FAVORS MORE PLURALISM IN U.S.

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Gov. Michael Dukakis told a group of leading Jewish supporters last week that a lesson of the Holocaust is that anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry must be fought and Israel's survival assured.

"That terrible event taught us that we must never consider human rights anywhere simply an 'internal problem,' that we must always speak and act forcefully against every form of bigotry, and that we must never take Israel's survival for granted," the Democratic presidential nominee said.

Dukakis made his comments Oct. 5, as he met in Boston with the newly formed National Jewish Leadership Council for Dukakis/Bentsen, which endorsed his candidacy because it believes he "will work for the strengthening of a pluralist America."

The council, which has seven co-chairpersons and a 34-member executive committee, also stressed that Dukakis "has an unblemished record of support for Israel's security and for ever-stronger cooperation between Israel and the United States."

Dukakis said he believes that "Israel's fate is our fate. That when Israel is threatened, all those who cherish freedom are threatened."

He repeated his pledge "to work together with the leaders of Israel, and with Arab leaders who are willing to respect Israel's right to exist within secure borders and reject terrorism, to protect democracy and further the cause of peace in the Middle East."

May Become Permanent Group

The Democratic candidate also told the Jewish leaders he is committed to "the best America," which "celebrates the importance of religious faith and respects the separation of church and state. The best America rejects racism, bigotry and anti-Semitism."

During the hour-long meeting, Dukakis was asked about the potential influence of the Rev. Jesse Jackson on his administration if he is elected. He assured the Jewish leaders that he had not made any deal with Jackson.

"I am my own man," he said, emphasizing that his stated positions on the Middle East are what he believes.

Dukakis also noted that he had denounced anti-Semitism before general audiences in Chicago and Washington, and not just during his speech to B'nai B'rith International last month.

Hyman Bookbinder, a special adviser on Jewish affairs to Dukakis, said no decision will be made until after the elections whether to make the council a permanent institution, as is the National Jewish Coalition in the Republican Party.

The council's executive committee includes three Jewish members of the Carter administration: Philip Klutznik, who was secretary of commerce; Stuart Eizenstat, who was an assistant to the president for economic affairs; and Alfred Moses, counsel to the president.

It includes many former leaders of Jewish organizations, among whom are: Herschel Blumberg of Hyattsville, Md.; Esther Landa, Salt Lake City; Jacqueline Levine, West Orange, N.J.; Robert Loup, Denver; Richard Maass, White Plains, N.Y.; Theodore Mann, Philadelphia; Maynard Wishner, Chicago; and Harriet Zimmerman, Atlanta.

LE PEN'S PARTY MEMBER EXPELLED FOR FAILING TO DEFEND HIM

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- The extreme right-wing National Front's only member of parliament was expelled from the party Monday, for refusing to defend a gross reference to the Holocaust by its leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Mrs. Yann Piat, who was elected to the National Assembly last June, was accused of "failing to follow party discipline." She will, however, retain her seat as an independent.

Le Pen, who personally ordered her ouster, shocked his countrymen, including many of his supporters, by making an ugly play on the words "oven" and "crematorium" in the course of a verbal attack on a member of the Cabinet in August.

Piat, who had been a Le Pen protegee, incurred his wrath by publicly expressing regret for "his ill-chosen words."

Their strained relations came to a head last week, when Piat refused to follow party orders to vote against a government-proposed law that would grant certain social benefits to immigrant workers.

POPE MEETS WITH FRENCH JEWS, IS MUTE ON RECOGNIZING ISRAEL

By Edwin Eytan

STRASBOURG, France, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II strongly reiterated his condemnation of anti-Semitism at a meeting with Jewish leaders here Sunday, but made no response to requests that the Vatican recognize the state of Israel.

The pontiff, on an official visit to Alsace, received a local Jewish delegation at the archbishop's residence, where he spoke briefly on the need for cooperation between Christians and Jews.

He paid tribute to the "roots of European civilization based on the Bible," and to "the contribution of both Christians and Jews to the history and culture of all the nations of the continent."

He avoided answering a plea made by Rene Gutman, the Strasbourg chief rabbi, for Vatican recognition of Israel and the establishment of diplomatic ties.

Gutman stressed the connections between the Holocaust and Israel, and the responsibility Western Europe must bear in the deaths of millions of Jews.

The pope replied by saying, "I join you in formally condemning anti-Semitism and racism in all their forms."

The Jewish delegation included the presidents of various Jewish communities in the region, members of the Alsatian consistory and various French-Jewish personalities.

TWO TERRORISTS KILLED IN LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Two terrorists planning an attack inside Israel were killed in a clash Monday in southern Lebanon.

They are believed to have been attempting to infiltrate into Israel when they tried to ambush a South Lebanon Army patrol.

The patrol spotted a cache of explosives on a roadside near a-Shiya village. As it approached, it came under fire from a concealed position.

The soldiers returned the fire, killing two of the assailants. There were no SLA casualties.

**EUROPEAN BODY TO VOTE AGAIN
ON TRADE ACCORDS WITH ISRAEL**

By Yossi Lempkowitz

BRUSSELS, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- The Parliament of Europe is scheduled to take a crucial vote Wednesday that Israel hopes will reverse the severe rebuff it suffered at the hands of that body last March.

The agenda item is ratification of three economic accords Israel signed with the 12-nation European Community in 1987. The accords would adjust Israel's trade relations with the European Community in light of its admission of Spain and Portugal.

Normally, the accords would have been endorsed as a matter of routine by the parliament, which is the European Community's legislative body.

But last March, sentiment was running high against Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It proved impossible to muster the 260 votes required to endorse the accords in the normally pro-Israel legislative body.

Prospects for a positive vote this Wednesday seem better, but the outcome remains uncertain, according to parliamentary sources here and in Strasbourg, France, where the legislative body is based.

One of the issues is an agreement by Israel to allow Palestinians in the territories to export their citrus and other produce directly to the European Common Market, under their own label.

Until now, exports from the West Bank and Gaza Strip were not designated in this way and had to be shipped through the Israeli government's export agencies.

Cheysson's Word Is Key

Israel was accused last March of not honoring its agreement. Parliamentary sources said the vote this week will depend on a statement by Claude Cheysson of France, the European Community's commissioner in charge of Mediterranean policy.

According to commission sources, Cheysson will tell the deputies that Israel has given assurances not to put obstacles in the way of Palestinian exports.

Nevertheless, the largest political factions in the parliament -- the Socialists, Christian Democrats and Liberals -- reportedly will vote for the accords.

Rudi Arndt of West Germany, leader of the 165-member Socialist faction, has said as much. He indicated his deputies will support ratification to send a "clear signal" that the Socialists are fair.

They not only are ready for dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat, but they can also "make concrete gestures in favor of Israel," he said.

Uncertain is the vote of the European Democratic Group, made up mainly of British Conservatives, which forms the rejectionist bloc along with the Communists and Greens.

They point to the increased number of fatalities among Palestinians as unrest continues in the Israeli-administered territories.

But there is another factor that could work in Israel's favor. The parliament is scheduled to vote on ratification of economic accords between the European Community and Syria immediately after the vote on Israel.

**GREEK COURT RULES PALESTINIAN
CAN BE EXTRADITED TO U.S.**

By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- The Court of Appeals here has decided to extradite Mohammad Rashid, a Palestinian wanted in the United States in connection with two fatal airplane bombings.

The court announced its decision Monday after a week of deliberations that followed Rashid's third hearing.

According to the U.S. Justice Department, Rashid was involved in the 1986 bombing of a TWA airliner over Greece in which three people were killed, and the bombing of a Pan Am plane over Honolulu in 1982 which killed a child.

He was arrested here last May 30 for entering Greece illegally and for possessing a forged passport.

While serving a seven-month sentence, Rashid's extradition was requested by Washington.

His first two extradition hearings ended inconclusively for lack of evidence. He claimed mistaken identity, saying his name is Mohammad Hamdan and that he was framed by the CIA and its Israeli equivalent, the Mossad.

The last hearing was marked by charges of Israeli atrocities against Palestinians.

One witness, Haralambos Boukis, president of the Athens Medical Association, charged that the CIA trained a selected Israeli army unit how to break the arms of Palestinians.

Rashid himself said that Israelis slashed the wombs of pregnant Arab women to destroy the fetuses and cut the tongues out of Arab children.

ISRAEL IMMUNIZES THOUSANDS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- The Health Ministry began its polio vaccination campaign Sunday to immunize a half-million Israelis under 40, but all did not run smoothly.

Thousands of anxious mothers brought their infants to public health clinics to get the Salk or Sabin vaccines.

But many also brought kindergarten children and first graders, who were supposed to wait until Monday and get their vaccine at school.

Spot shortages developed at the clinics as a result, and some mothers panicked until new stocks were rushed from central stores.

Israel Radio did not help matters by reporting Monday that Professors Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, inventors of the vaccines that bear their names, were quarreling over which is the more effective.

The Salk vaccine, consisting of dead virus, is administered by injection into the bloodstream. The Sabin vaccine, containing live but weakened virus, is taken orally.

Doctors and health specialists say the polio outbreak is on the wane. In all, only 10 cases were confirmed since the disease was detected late in August.

Another three or four are "suspected," pending full laboratory examination results.

Nevertheless, the Health Ministry decided on a mass vaccination program. It acted on the recommendation of three international polio experts who proposed that both the Salk and Sabin vaccines be used.

The experts say that people over 40 here and abroad are naturally immune, because of widespread polio epidemics in the 1950s.