



**IF PALESTINIANS HALT UPRISING,
PERES WILL BACK LOCAL ELECTIONS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres promised Monday that if the Palestinians halted their uprising, the Labor Party would call for elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in three to six months.

He also spoke of putting the Gaza Strip under an Arab civil administration in two years.

Peres appeared at a joint news conference here with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The two Labor Party leaders expounded on their plans for the next four years should Labor win the Nov. 1 Knesset elections and head the new government.

Peres said the balloting in the administered territories would be held to elect Palestinian representatives to peace talks. He said he would wait three to six months after calm is restored to give the populace of the territories time to show it can observe law and order.

Every Palestinian living in the territories would be eligible to vote, Peres said, stressing as well that only residents could stand for election.

That would eliminate Palestine Liberation Organization leaders and activists who have long been living abroad.

Peres said that while the PLO would be excluded from the talks, the past records of those elected by popular vote in the territories would not be inspected.

Any agreement reached in the peace talks would be put to a national referendum, Peres said. If the talks were successful, the Gaza Strip would be turned over to an Arab civil administration in 1990.

Talks With New U.S. Regime

If by 1991 the Knesset has not legislated a change in the electoral system, another referendum would be held in Israel to determine the issue.

It was not immediately clear if Peres was hinting by this that Arabs in the territories would get the vote.

The two Labor Party leaders dwelt at some length on their ideas for Israel's future relations with the United States.

They said that in the event they headed the next Israeli government, their first step would be to coordinate with the new administration in Washington. Americans will elect a new president on Nov. 8, just one week after the Knesset elections.

Israel would seek to sign a new memorandum of understanding with the next administration to ensure the continuity of strategic and economic cooperation between the two countries, the Laborites said.

They would also renew the agreement with Washington to exclude the PLO from Middle East peace negotiations unless it recognizes Israel and renounces terrorism.

Peres told a meeting of the Foreign Press Association here Sunday that if he becomes the next prime minister he will immediately act to revive the American peace process in the Middle East.

He made it clear to the press group and at

the news conference here Monday that he has not lost faith in the idea of an international conference to set the stage for direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab adversaries, including the Palestinians.

Optimistic About Hussein

Nor has Peres given up on King Hussein of Jordan as a negotiating partner. He spoke Monday of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to be invited to the negotiating table.

He said that was based on an agreement he reached with Hussein at a meeting in London in April 1987. But the Jordanian monarch has since washed his hands of any involvement in the affairs of the West Bank Palestinians.

Peres remains optimistic that Hussein will change his mind, because he "is serious in his desire for peace" and "neither he nor we have any alternative.

"Otherwise we will destroy our economies and the future of our children," Peres told the press group.

Peres and Rabin promised Monday that if elected, Labor would keep inflation at an annual rate of under 10 percent. It is currently running at about 18 percent.

They pledged to establish a national hospitalization authority to avoid a repetition of the health care crisis that bedeviled Israel this past year.

**CHAIRMAN OF U.N. PANEL DEPLORES
ISRAEL'S 'REPRESSIVE POLICIES'**

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- The chairman of a United Nations committee has sharply attacked Israel's "repressive policies" against Palestinian rioters in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, calling on the international community to take "appropriate action" against the Jewish state.

In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, circulated here Monday, the chairman of the U.N. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Absa Claude Diallo, claimed that since the beginning of the uprising last December, at least 302 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops.

This figure is about 20 percent higher than figures reported by the Israel Defense Force, which put the number of Palestinians killed in clashes with Israeli troops at slightly over 250.

Expressing its "profound concern at the repressive policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power," Diallo said the international community must ensure Israel's adherence to the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and its provisions "concerning the safety and protection" of the Palestinians.

Diallo charged that Israel has recently intensified its repression of the Palestinians, "in particular by army raids on villages and refugee camps to prevent demonstrations, and by keeping the schools and universities closed."

The letter also deplored the fact that "live ammunition and plastic bullets are being used more and more frequently and have resulted in an increase in casualties."

TWO ISRAELI ARABS ARRESTED FOR MURDER OF COLLABORATOR

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Security forces have arrested two Israeli Arabs for the murder of a Palestinian from the West Bank alleged to have collaborated with the Israeli authorities.

The suspects, Mahmoud Othman Jabarin and Mohammad Ahmad Jabarin, were apprehended on Oct. 8, two days after Ahmad Zaaghur was shot to death in a coffee shop in the Israeli Arab town of Umm el-Fahm.

They reportedly confessed to the crime and produced the weapon used. A Hadera magistrate on Monday ordered them held in custody for another 15 days.

Zaaghur lived in Anin village, near Jenin, in the West Bank. He was ousted several months ago by the local leaders of the Palestinian uprising.

The police are investigating the suspects to find out if they have been involved in other crimes or security offenses, and whether they have links to any terrorist organization.

The security forces are cracking down on crimes against alleged collaborators. They nabbed four terrorists in Nablus last week for the murder of three local residents, and also apprehended the killers of the head of Bidya village.

HERZOG ARRIVES IN PARIS AMID POMP AND PAGEANTRY

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Hundreds of blue and white Israeli flags fluttered over the Champs Elysees and adorned every public building here in honor of the visit of President Chaim Herzog of Israel.

He arrived at Paris airport Monday, where he was personally greeted by President Francois Mitterrand. The French leader assured him, and the people of Israel, of France's enduring friendship and support.

Herzog is the first Israeli chief of state to make an official visit to France. All prime ministers of Israel, with the notable exception of Menachem Begin, have come here in their official capacity.

Under the strict, traditional protocol observed by the French, those were treated as working visits that did not warrant special pomp and pageantry.

But for President Herzog, the French outdid themselves. Mitterrand waited on the tarmac until the presidential plane landed and then embraced the visitor. Military bands played the French and Israeli national anthems.

Accompanied by Mitterrand, Herzog was driven to the Hotel de Marigny, a former Rothschild residence that serves as France's official guest house for visiting VIPs.

The motorcade was escorted by two cavalry squadrons of presidential guards in their early 19th-century dress uniforms of white breeches, black frock coats, horsetail helmets and with drawn swords.

But Herzog's five-day visit is more than simply an occasion for display. French and Israeli diplomats see it as an affirmation that Franco-Israeli relations have normalized after 40 years during which they gyrated between warm friendship and bitter acrimony.

A peak of sorts was reached in the "great

alliance" of 1956 between David Ben-Gurion and French Premier Guy Mollet at the time of the ill-fated Suez campaign.

At other times, relations were openly hostile, as on the eve of the 1967 Six-Day War, when President Charles de Gaulle imposed an arms embargo on Israel.

According to protocol, Herzog is returning Mitterrand's 1982 visit to Israel.

Will Visit Normandy

Herzog also is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Michel Rocard; Alain Poher, president of the French Senate; and Laurent Fabius, speaker of the National Assembly.

Herzog, who served in the British army with the rank of major during World War II, participated in the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944.

During his stay in France, he is to visit those Normandy beachheads and the cemetery of Allied servicemen who fell in battle.

The Israeli president was born in Ireland, where his father served as chief rabbi. His father later became chief rabbi of the British Empire and chief rabbi of Palestine.

Herzog will attend services at two Paris synagogues, one on the Rue des Pavces, believed to be one of the oldest in Western Europe. He also will play host to leaders of the French Jewish community Thursday night, the eve of his return to Israel.

POLIO OUTBREAK IN ISRAEL IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM, SAYS CDC

NEW YORK, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Americans planning to visit Israel need not worry about the recent outbreak of polio there, according to an expert at the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

"Polio is not a reason not to go to Israel or to change your travel schedule while there, so long as the standard of your immunization is updated," said Dr. Walter Orenstein, director of the Division of Immunization at the Atlanta health agency.

His statement was made public this week by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, through its National Committee on Tourism to Israel.

Earlier this month, a health adviser at the CDC urged tourists to get inoculated before departing for Israel. "We strongly advise a traveler getting the vaccine at this time," Jim Mize told the Jewish Exponent of Philadelphia.

The Conference of Presidents stressed in a statement issued Monday that the nationwide vaccination program launched by the Israeli Health Ministry this month was a preventive measure, not an emergency.

Most countries in the world inoculate their entire populations against the disease, the World Health Organization has reported.

Tourists coming to Israel need not have prior vaccination, the Israeli Health Ministry said. But it advised those who have never received the polio vaccine to consult their physicians.

Tourists in Israel have been able to receive vaccination free of charge under a program begun Oct. 12, the Israel Government Tourist Office announced.

For more information, persons planning visits to Israel may call the hot line maintained by the National Committee on Tourism to Israel, at (800) TRAVL-40.

BILL MAKING GENOCIDE A CRIME MUST CLEAR ONE LAST HURDLE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- The bill making genocide a crime in the United States, adopted by the Senate Friday night, still has one more congressional hurdle to clear before it can go to President Reagan for signature.

The House must vote on the legislation for a second time, since the Senate made some technical changes in the bill approved by the House last April. The House Judiciary Committee is expected to send the bill to the floor sometime this week.

One change was to name the bill the Proxmire Act, after Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.), who is retiring from the Senate this year. Proxmire was the leading advocate for Senate ratification of the United Nations convention outlawing genocide and the current legislation implementing the treaty.

For 19 years until the Senate ratified the convention on Feb. 19, 1986, Proxmire delivered a speech calling for ratification each morning the Senate was in session -- more than 3,000 times.

Proxmire was praised by several senators for his efforts in winning ratification of the treaty and adoption of the implementing legislation. He introduced the bill along with Sens. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) and Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio).

David Harris, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, expressed appreciation for Proxmire's effort, calling the Senate action "a most appropriate retirement gift."

'Historic Achievement'

"This is an historic achievement," said William Korey, director of international policy research for B'nai B'rith International. Korey has written numerous articles urging ratification of the treaty and adoption of the implementing legislation.

Although some have seen the congressional action as serving more a symbolic than a practical purpose, Korey said that the legislation serves a number of functions, including "ending America's embarrassment in international forums."

He said the United States can now "play a more effective role in promoting human rights" and "no longer be challenged as a hypocrite in blowing the whistle on genocide or would-be genocide" such as the Iraqi action against the Kurds.

Korey noted that he wrote his first article on the genocide treaty, called "An Embarrassed America," for the Saturday Review in 1964.

...In it he pointed out that Morris Abram, then a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and now chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, was challenged by the Soviets on the U.S. failure to sign the genocide convention, when he pressed them on human rights issues.

The latest delay in congressional approval is the final chapter in the long struggle to have the genocide treaty accepted by the United States. The crusade began on June 16, 1949, when President Harry Truman sent the U.N. convention to the Senate.

Conservatives managed to block ratification for 38 years, and a small group of conservatives fought it to the last minute, despite the support of Reagan.

Reagan also supports the implementing legislation, which makes genocide a crime under

the U.S. criminal code, a requirement of the U.N. treaty.

Reagan Worked Behind Scenes

The president worked behind the scenes to snap the impasse in the Senate Judiciary Committee, where Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) said he would only support the legislation if it included the death penalty, a move that might have caused many supporters of the bill to vote against it.

Thurmond's move was seen as a strategy to get the Democratic-controlled committee to act on confirming judges nominated by Reagan. Democrats held up those confirmations in the hope that if Gov. Michael Dukakis was elected president, he would fill the vacancies with Democrats.

An agreement was reached in the committee and immediately after the implementation bill was approved, the Senate voted to confirm 11 judges.

The implementing legislation imposes a fine of up to \$1 million and/or 20 years in prison if the act of genocide results in a death and a fine of up to \$500,000 and/or five years in prison for "incitement to genocide."

Once the president signs the bill, it will be sent to the United Nations, where the United States will become the 100th nation to ratify the treaty.

GREEK PROTEST OVER 'TEMPTATION' TURNS VIOLENTLY ANTI-SEMITIC

By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- A protest by Christians here against the film "The Last Temptation of Christ" culminated in a violent outburst of anti-Semitism by a mob that damaged a local theater where the film was being shown.

In Israel, meanwhile, the film was banned from being screened.

Despite precautions by police and private security guards, the Embassy theater in downtown Athens was invaded by knife-wielding protesters who ripped the screen while shouting, "The Zionists are trying to mock Christianity."

The mob was the vanguard of hundreds of unruly demonstrators, led by priests, who marched through the streets of Athens last Thursday, brandishing wooden crosses.

Riot police broke up the attack on the cinema with tear gas.

The film, which seeks to depict the human side of Jesus, was directed by Martin Scorsese, a Catholic of Italian ancestry, and produced by Universal Studios. It is based on a novel by Nikos Kazantzakis, a Greek who was born into the Orthodox church.

But the protestors hold Jews responsible and publicly burned an Israeli flag to make their point.

The film generated anti-Semitic demonstrations in the United States when it opened this summer, because Lew Wasserman, the chairman of Universal's parent company, MCA, is Jewish.

Although American Catholics objected to the film, it was American Protestant fundamentalists who scapegoated the Jews.

In deciding Monday to ban the screening of "The Last Temptation," the Israel Board of Censorship on Plays and Motion Pictures ruled that the film is "offensive to Christian believers." The move was passed by a majority vote of the panel.

(JTA correspondent Gil Sedan in Jerusalem contributed to this report.)

DON'T USE 'WHO IS A JEW' BILL AS BARGAINING CHIP, SAYS GROUP

By Howard Rosenberg

JERUSALEM, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress approved a resolution at its 70th annual convention here this week urging Israel's political parties not to use the inflammatory "Who is a Jew" issue as a bargaining chip should they need to form a coalition government after the Nov. 1 elections.

The resolution, adopted unanimously, stated that any change in Israel's Law of Return altering the definition of a Jew would undermine the unity of the Jewish people and alienate the vast majority of American Jewry.

The Law of Return makes every Jew automatically eligible for Israeli citizenship. It defines a Jew as a person born of a Jewish mother or converted to Judaism.

The Israeli rabbinate and the religious political parties have been trying for decades to have the law amended to exclude persons converted by non-Orthodox rabbis.

The religious parties have made their participation in coalition governments conditional on promises to force the amendment through the Knesset. Though introduced many times, it has so far failed to win adoption.

Robert Lifton, AJCongress national president, distributed the resolution Sunday in Tel Aviv, at a meeting of WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization, devoted to the upcoming elections.

KOOR'S AUSTRIAN CREDITORS TRYING TO BLOCK LIQUIDATION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Some Austrian creditors of Koor Industries may try to save the giant Histadrut-owned conglomerate from bankruptcy.

An 11th-hour reprieve seemed possible Monday, when three major banks in Austria indicated they would ask a Tel Aviv court to reject an American bank's request to liquidate Koor to satisfy an unpaid debt.

The district court was to hold open hearings on the petition Tuesday. Israeli banks, which hold some \$850 million of Koor debts, are expected to join the Austrian rescue effort.

The petition to force liquidation of the company was filed a week ago by Bankers Trust Co. of New York, Koor's largest overseas creditor. It seeks recovery of a \$20 million default by Koor.

Koor's top management flew to New York last week, but failed to persuade Bankers Trust officials to cancel the liquidation request.

This placed the fate of Koor in the hands of the government, which is not well disposed to a costly bailout. But allowing Koor to fail could be an economic and political disaster for Israel.

The industrial complex, owned by the Histadrut trade union federation, employs more than 27,000 and is said to account for over 10 percent of Israel's gross national product and its exports.

Israeli bankers and senior officials of the Finance Ministry and of the Bank of Israel were closeted in meetings Monday. They were trying to work out government guarantees that will satisfy Koor's creditors that their loans are protected.

The Bank of Israel is the country's central bank.

EMIGRATION FROM EAST EUROPE

TO ISRAEL IS DOWN THIS YEAR

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Fewer Jewish emigrants from Eastern Europe have gone to Israel since the Palestinian uprising began 10 months ago than in the previous period, according to figures released here by the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration.

Regina Boucault, a spokeswoman for the Geneva-based committee, stressed that the figures cover only Jews from the Communist bloc and Middle Eastern countries, not emigrants from Western Europe and North America.

From January to June 1988, 900 Jewish refugees went to Israel, of whom 840 were from the Soviet Union and 60 from other countries.

The figures for all of 1987 were 3,403 Jews settling in Israel, 1,969 from the Soviet Union and 1,434 from elsewhere.

The committee also provided a breakdown of Jewish emigration from Eastern Europe and Middle Eastern countries over the last 36 years.

Since 1952, 419,329 Jewish refugees have arrived in Israel, 169,953 from the Soviet Union and 249,376 from other countries.

Annual arrivals from the Soviet Union rarely exceeded 1,000 between 1952 and 1969. In most of those years, they were under 250.

But between 1970 and 1980, more than 150,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel, an average of about 15,000 a year.

Thereafter, the arrivals dropped to only several hundred a year. In 1987, however, the number rose to 1,969, because of regulations that took effect under Mikhail Gorbachev.

The flow of Jewish refugees leaving other Eastern European and Arab countries followed a different pattern. The peak years were between 1955 and 1970.

Since then, an average of 1,500 Jews a year have come to Israel from those countries, the Intergovernmental Committee reported.

ITALIANS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF TWO ANTI-JEWISH EVENTS

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Oct. 17 (JTA) -- Italian Jews marked the 50th anniversary Sunday of the imposition of anti-Semitic laws by the fascist regime and the 45th anniversary of the Nazi deportation of the Jews of Rome.

Solemn ceremonies at the Campidoglio (the city hall) were attended by Giovanni Spadolini, president of the Italian Senate, and other leading political figures.

Prominent members of the Jewish community included Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff of Rome and Tullia Zevi, president of the organization of Italian Jewish communities.

The occasion served to rally Jewish protests against the upcoming visit here of Annelise Kappler, widow of a Nazi war criminal who ordered the massacre of dozens of people in the Ardeatine pits of Rome during the war.

Kappler, who arrives Saturday, is promoting her book, which denies the atrocities in Rome during the Nazi occupation.

"The Roman people should not allow it," Toaff said on Italian television.

He said a two-day conference on the fascist racial laws would open here Monday. They were promulgated by Benito Mussolini to impress Hitler.