

# **ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL IMPERIL DIALOGUE, U.S. AGAIN WARNS PLO** By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, March 5 (JTA) -- The United States warned Friday that the increasing number of attempted attacks against Israel planned by groups linked to the Palestine Liberation Organization "raises questions" about the PLO leadership's commitment to meet the conditions of the U.S.-PLO dialogue.

Responding to Thursday's attempt by members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine to infiltrate northern Israel, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said, "The U.S. views with concern the increasing number of Palestinian attacks in South Lebanon, most recently by the DFLP.

"When the PLO renounced terrorism last December, we assumed Mr. (Yasir) Arafat spoke in the name of the PLO Executive Committee and its constituent groups, and that the PLO could exercise control over these constituent groups," he said.

"We recognized from the beginning that some groups and factions, particularly those based in Damascus, were opposed to the positive evolution in PLO attitudes toward Israel, and would be trying to undermine the U.S.-PLO dialogue and block movement in the peace process.

"Nonetheless, if the PLO leadership cannot or will not exercise such control, it raises questions regarding the commitment undertaken in the name of the PLO -- indeed questions about the PLO's ability to carry out their commitment," Redman said.

The subject will be raised at a future U.S.-PLO meeting in Tunisia, he said.

In Beirut, the Palestinian official who has led the PLO delegation in previous talks with the United States was quoted by The New York Times on Sunday as rejecting the U.S. warning.

Yasir Abed Rabbo, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and deputy leader of the Democratic Front, said the United States should "stop stalling and settle down to genuine and meaningful discussions with the PLO."

# **SOVIET JEWRY GROUPS URGE BAKER NOT TO WAIVE JACKSON-VANIK YET** By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, March 5 (JTA) -- Two major Soviet Jewry organizations told Secretary of State James Baker Friday that they do not at present support waivers of the Jackson-Vanik or Stevenson amendments.

The two measures, which restrict U.S. government aid, most-favored-nation trade status and loans to Soviet-bloc countries, could be waived this year by Congress should Soviet human rights improvements be judged sufficient.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, in separate meetings with Baker, urged him to raise specific concerns at his March 6 meeting in Vienna with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Both groups were assured that human rights will figure prominently on the agenda.

Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the National Conference, said Baker was told that the organization is reassessing its position, which has been to oppose waivers of the amendments.

Micah Naftalin, national director of the UCSJ, said his group told Baker not to support a waiver of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment until the Soviets follow through on promised emigration reforms.

These include elimination, as early as April, of the waiting period for those designated as holding state secrets; resolution of all outstanding refusenik cases; and an increase in emigration to levels approaching the 1979 high of more than 51,000.

In a UCSJ report submitted to Baker, the group said the Stevenson Amendment should be lifted if all of the above promises are met and emigration reaches somewhere between 30,000 and 35,000 Soviet Jews annually, Naftalin said.

"Baker made it clear that he fully understood our position" on Jackson-Vanik, Naftalin said. But "he did not make a specific commitment to any single point we made."

# **Concern About Anti-Semitism**

Other administration officials at both meetings included Robert Kimmitt, undersecretary of state for political affairs; Richard Schifter, outgoing assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs; Dennis Ross, director of the policy planning staff; and Alexander Vershbow, director of the State Department's Soviet desk.

Cardin said her group urged Baker to support both freedom of emigration for Soviet Jews and freedom to practice one's "cultural heritage" on Soviet soil. The conference presented Baker with a list of 2,597 refuseniks who want to emigrate.

Both groups expressed concern about the rise of anti-Semitic groups under glasnost. At the UCSJ meeting, Naftalin said Baker responded that "whatever else we hear about the improvements under glasnost, there are adverse effects" that have led to more anti-Semitism.

On possible increases in the U.S. refugee ceiling for Soviet Jews, "the secretary did ask us to recognize that there are budget constraints," Cardin said.

The National Conference also said it wants to see the new Soviet Jewish cultural center codified under Soviet law and that Hebrew be recognized as the official language of Soviet Jews.

# **UJA 'PASSAGE TO FREEDOM' DRIVE TO RAISE \$75 MILLION FOR REFUGEES** By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal has officially launched a special campaign to raise \$75 million to resettle Soviet Jews in the United States and Israel.

The campaign, to be called "Passage to Freedom," was formalized last week at a meeting of UJA campaign officers and the heads of agencies most severely affected by an enormous influx of immigrants.

Specific plans for the campaign remain sketchy, but are expected to be worked out

among various Jewish fund-raising and service agencies over the next few weeks.

The first major events of the campaign could begin as early as the first week in April, according to Raphael Rothstein, vice president of UJA, who provided details of the new campaign.

The campaign is a response to the largest Soviet Jewish emigration in 10 years. If emigration levels reached in January and February are maintained through the rest of the year, more than 30,000 Jews could be let out of the Soviet Union in 1989.

Local Jewish federations are often responsible for most of the services needed by Jewish immigrants, from English classes to housing to health care.

With increasing caseloads and declining federal dollars available for refugee resettlement, Jewish welfare agencies and federations say they face financial chaos without the transfusion of additional funds.

"Passage to Freedom" thereby becomes the first campaign in the memory of many fund-raisers in which the UJA will be collecting funds to be redistributed for domestic needs.

#### Half For Overseas Needs

Ordinarily, UJA raises funds primarily for services in Israel and, on a smaller basis, the overseas relief activities of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

But UJA does have a tradition of helping immigrants. It funds the activities of the New York Association for New Americans, which handles almost 50 percent of all Soviet Jews who enter the United States. A founding body of the UJA was the National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugees, NYANA's predecessor.

The special campaign will be run by local federations, who will raise money and turn it over to the UJA. Fund-raisers are expected to ask for donations in cash, rather than pledges, in order to make money immediately available for resettlement.

UJA officials agreed to the special campaign -- requested by federation leaders -- on the condition that it would not cut into their already dipping annual campaign. Last year, UJA collected \$357.8 million, compared with \$372.2 million in 1987.

Half of the funds raised in the special campaign will be available for domestic needs and half for overseas needs.

The overseas portion will include money for the Joint Distribution Committee and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. Both provide services for Soviet emigrants when they arrive at migration facilities in Western Europe, and both are reporting huge deficits.

The 50-50 split was insisted upon by the UJA and its major beneficiary, the Jewish Agency for Israel, as a way of protecting the integrity of the UJA as a fund-raiser for Israel and enhancing Israel as a destination for Soviet Jews.

Israel and the Jewish Agency remain bitterly disappointed that only 10 percent of the Soviet Jewish emigrants in recent years have chosen to make aliyah.

The Jewish Agency maintains it will need at least \$39 million to absorb those who do come to Israel, and to maintain facilities in hopes of attracting even more.

Local federations are not bound to take part in the campaign, but most of the close to 180 federated communities in the United States are

expected to do so, according to UJA's Rothstein.

"There's a sense of responding to a historic challenge and responsibility," he said.

#### Three Local Drives Started

Three communities -- Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco -- have already begun special efforts to raise resettlement money.

Los Angeles will merge its effort with the national campaign, according to a spokesman for the federation there. How the other two cities' campaigns will be integrated with the national effort remains to be seen.

UJA's last special campaign took place in 1984, when local federations raised \$60 million on behalf of the migration of Ethiopian Jews to Israel. Fund-raisers are hopeful that individual donors will react to the Soviet Jewish emigration with the same generosity.

"We think there's going to be a heck of a lot of education necessary. But I think this is a cause around which we can create furious excitement," said Carmi Schwartz, executive vice president of the Council of Jewish Federations, an umbrella group of more than 200 North American federations.

Schwartz said contributors will be reminded of 1987's "Freedom Sunday" rally in Washington, in which more than 200,000 demonstrated for free Soviet Jewish emigration.

"We have to make them understand that the challenge is a direct consequence of that," said Schwartz.

Details of the "Passage to Freedom" campaign will be refined at a meeting March 16 of the planning committee, headed by Marvin Lender of New Haven, Conn.

#### **VISITING BRITISH OFFICIAL URGES ISRAEL TO CHECK FOR SHIFT IN PLO** By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 5 (JTA) -- A British diplomat who recently met with Yasser Arafat in Tunis has urged Israel to "explore whether there has been a genuine shift" by the Palestine Liberation Organization and if it is possible to have a "dialogue without endangering security."

William Waldegrave, minister of state at the Foreign Office, told a meeting of the Israeli Council on Foreign Relations here that the PLO may not, in fact, be seeking an independent Palestinian state.

"It is worth remembering that the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament in exile, has declared that its ultimate objective is a confederation with Jordan," he said.

He implied that Britain favored that too, saying, "A third (Palestinian) state would not be our preferred solution."

He recommended a "non-coercive" international conference to resolve the Middle East conflict. "We would not be a party to a coercive conference," and it would not work, he said.

Waldegrave, whose six-day visit to Israel was to end Monday, is the highest-ranking British diplomat ever to have met Arafat. He said there were no plans for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to meet with the PLO chief.

Waldegrave met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Vice Premier Shimon Peres during his stay in Israel. Shamir will visit Britain in a few weeks, and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe plans a trip to Israel in the first half of this year.

**FORMER NAZI COLLABORATOR FLED  
U.S. FOR PARAGUAY IN DECEMBER**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- A former Nazi collaborator who lived in the United States for 40 years deported himself to Paraguay in December, according to the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations.

George Theodorovich, 66, who lived in Troy, N.Y., obtained a safe-conduct pass from the Paraguayan consul general in New York City on Dec. 6, 1988. It was signed by Felix Aguero.

Theodorovich was stripped of his American citizenship and ordered deported from the United States because of his involvement in the persecution of Jews in the Ukrainian city of Lvov.

Neil Sher, director of the OSI, in announcing the former collaborator's departure Thursday, called it "a victory" that Theodorovich was no longer in this country.

In the past, OSI has come under criticism from Jewish groups who believe war criminals should be deported to Europe to stand trial for their crimes.

But OSI maintains that self-deportation in effect carries out the Justice Department's aim of denying former Nazis safe haven.

Theodorovich is the 26th person to have been removed from the United States as a result of OSI investigations and prosecution.

Among the evidence OSI submitted were papers Theodorovich signed, as a Ukrainian policeman, accounting for the number of bullets used to kill individual Jews.

OSI also charged him with not disclosing his wartime activities when he entered the country in 1948.

The Ukrainian police reports indicated that in 1942, during brutal "actions" against Jews in Lvov, Theodorovich twice fired bullets, killing two Jews each time.

**Soviets Wanted To Try Him**

Sher told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Thursday, "I think this brings home, on a personal level, that individual men were taking the lives of innocent civilians. It took hundreds upon hundreds of Theodoroviches to perpetrate these ghastly crimes."

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1984 stripped Theodorovich of his U.S. citizenship. OSI then initiated deportation proceedings against him, and Theodorovich stood trial in federal court in Baltimore in 1985.

The government's opening witness at the trial was Professor Raoul Hilberg of the University of Vermont.

Hilberg testified that the Nazi-organized Ukrainian police were instrumental in the roundup of Jews in Lvov in 1941 and 1942, reducing a population of an estimated 130,000 Jews to about 1,000, who survived only by hiding.

Theodorovich first denied, then admitted, having been in the Ukrainian police and having written the reports obtained from Soviet archives.

In 1987, an immigration judge found Theodorovich deportable on all charges. Theodorovich, who was a meatpacker, had asked to be deported to Argentina.

The OSI requested the Soviet Union, which indicated it would accept and try Theodorovich. But a deportee has the right to choose the country to which he will be deported. And the United States has no extradition treaty with the USSR.

**FOUR YEARS AFTER MENGELE INQUIRY,  
SOME STILL DOUBT EX-NAZI IS DEAD**

By Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES, March 5 (JTA) -- Amid new claims that Josef Mengele may still be alive, both the American and Israeli governments have refused to make public their inquiries into the fate of the Auschwitz death camp doctor.

Almost four years after six respected American experts identified a body exhumed from a Brazilian cemetery as that of the infamous "Angel of Death," two veteran Nazi-hunters have raised new doubts that the forensic experts may have been the victims of a hoax.

The doubters, according to a lengthy review of the Mengele case in the Los Angeles Times, are Menahem Russek, chief Nazi war crimes investigator for the Israeli government, and Simon Wiesenthal.

Adding fuel to the speculation is the refusal of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations to release its final case report under the Freedom of Information Act, as requested by the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and a Holocaust survivors group.

The Israeli government has refused similar requests.

Nazi-hunter Wiesenthal himself, who initially accepted the experts' findings, told the Times he now sees "the whole matter of Mengele in absolutely another light -- it was too perfect."

He added that he has information about "a possible new man in a South American country. They say that this is Mengele."

Russek in Israel reportedly has written a 60-page memorandum in which he contends that the six experts were misled by a sophisticated sleight of hand.

**Wiesenthal Center Backs Experts**

These questions are disturbing enough to Hans-Eberhard Klein, who heads the West German investigation of the case, to have proposed use of a new DNA genetic "fingerprinting" technique to determine if the disinterred skeleton is that of Mengele.

Klein also told the Times that he has invited Russek and Neal Sher, head of the Office of Special Investigations, to meet with him in Frankfurt during the week of March 20.

Sher declined to discuss in any detail why he would not close the case or make public the report. He would only say that diplomatic considerations are among his reasons.

A U.S. government source who requested anonymity told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on Sunday that it was the Israeli government that had requested the report not be released.

But the source maintained that even the Israelis have concluded that the exhumed body was Mengele's.

In Los Angeles, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Wiesenthal Center, also expressed confidence in the original report of the six experts, all of whom have reaffirmed that the remains they identified in 1985 on the basis of skull measurements, bone analysis and dental records, were undoubtedly those of Mengele.

But Hier expressed disappointment at Washington's refusal to release its findings. "Keeping the report secret perpetuates a conspiracy theory," he said.

(JTA staff writer Susan Birnbaum contributed to this report.)

## PEACE NOW ACTIVISTS ARE THWARTED IN MOVE TO MEET WITH PALESTINIANS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 5 (JTA) -- Peace Now, the largest and most effective grass-roots peace movement in Israel, is running into physical obstacles and ideological difficulties as it presses for direct talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

About 3,000 activists planning to hold "peace meetings" with Palestinians in the administered territories Saturday were stopped by Israel Defense Force roadblocks.

Except for a relative handful who managed to elude the soldiers, the activists were frustrated in their attempt.

But that is not the only impasse facing Peace Now. The movement itself is faced with significant defections for the first time since it was formed to advance the cause of peace in the aftermath of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem in 1977.

Veteran activists, including some on the political left, have quit in protest over what they regard as Peace Now's deviation from the middle road.

The great strength of the movement, they argue, was its broad appeal. It campaigned for peace, but it did not draw maps or adopt a specific stand on the delicate issues of negotiating with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

It was therefore able to rally many diverse groups to the peace camp. Now, it is alienating many of them by preaching talks with the PLO.

That is not acceptable even to many on the left, at least not as long as the intifada, or Palestinian uprising, continues.

### Welcomed By Villagers

The IDF threw up the roadblocks Saturday at the specific orders of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He laid down the rule that "peace meetings" could not be held without the advance permission of the military authorities.

This is a paradox, because Rabin is the primary advocate of elections in the territories so that the Arabs can choose local leaders with whom Israel could negotiate.

But defense establishment sources pointed out that "there is one law for the settlers and the Peace Now activists." He was referring to the fact that the 80,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are forbidden from holding political demonstrations.

About 200 Peace Now emissaries managed to infiltrate the IDF cordons and were warmly received by Palestinian villagers, who had been alerted to expect them.

In fact, the underground leaders of the intifada gave instructions to receive the Peace Now people enthusiastically.

In Beit Ummar village, near Hebron, hundreds of villagers waiting in the main street from early morning cheered as the peace activists approached. They were invited to the home of the village head for a long talk.

Elsewhere in the territories, the IDF continued to clash with demonstrators, and casualties mounted.

Two Palestinians were shot and wounded Sunday in Ramallah, in a stone-throwing skirmish with soldiers. Six youths were wounded in other clashes Friday and Saturday.

In East Jerusalem, two gasoline bombs were

thrown from the Moslem Quarter of the Old City at a house in the Jewish Quarter. No one was hurt, and only slight damage was done.

The curfew on Nablus, the West Bank's largest Arab city, entered its second week Sunday. It was imposed on Feb. 24, after an Israeli soldier, Binyamin Meisner, was killed in the casbah.

### Husseini En Route To U.S.

Meanwhile, Palestinian activist Faisal al-Husseini left for London on Sunday, en route to the United States to participate in a meeting sponsored jointly by the magazine New Outlook and the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al-Fajr.

It is Husseini's first trip abroad in 12 years. He was freed from prison last month after spending 12 of the previous 13 months under administrative detention.

He said he has not yet received his American visa.

Husseini, though a supporter of the PLO, is now considered a moderate. The meeting in New York will be attended by senior PLO officials and by several left-wing Knesset members: Shulamit Aloni, Yossi Sarid and Ran Cohen of the Citizens Rights Movement and Yair Tsaban of Mapam.

### 70 PERCENT OF ISRAELI WOMEN FAVOR DIRECT TALKS WITH PLO

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 5 (JTA) -- More than 70 percent of Israeli women favor direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization, compared with 50 percent of men, according to Professor Naomi Chazan of the Hebrew University.

The data come from three separate surveys, Chazan said in an address to women employees of the Foreign Ministry.

A recent opinion poll showed that 54 percent of the overall population favors talks with the PLO, something Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir repeatedly has vowed will never occur.

Chazan, who heads the university's African studies department, said that until two or three years ago, there had been a common misconception that women's attitudes toward war and peace were similar to those of men. But research shows that there are major differences, she said.

Chazan, and Professor Galia Golan, a Hebrew University Sociologist, have been examining women's attitudes for the past 18 months. They found changes since the Lebanon war, when women were more hawkish than men.

They said religious women now seem to be more hawkish than religious men, secular women more dovish than secular men and better-educated women more dovish than others.

With respect to nuclear warfare, they found that 47.7 percent of men would be willing to use nuclear weapons to defend Israel's existence, compared with only about 25 percent of women.

### JEWS REPORTED SAFE IN CARACAS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- Despite widespread rioting last week, the Jewish community in Caracas is relatively safe, according to Rabbi Pinchas Brenner of Caracas, Venezuela.

Brenner told the World Jewish Congress that "the community is well, although Jewish establishments and stores suffered from the riots, as did others."