# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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BAKER REVIEWING ARENS SUGGESTIONS, SUBJECT OF SUBJECT O

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Secretary of State James Baker on Wednesday ruled out making any changes in his five-point proposal for Israeli-Palestinian talks, in response to Israeli concerns, because it might trigger similar demands for modifications by Egypt.

But Baker said he would nevertheless review "the suggested changes" he received Monday night in a letter from Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

In the letter, Arens said Israel accepts "in principle" Baker's proposals for Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo, with two reservations.

These reservations, as outlined by Ruth Yaron, the spokeswoman for the Israeli Embassy here, are that Israel would not be asked to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organization and that the Cairo meeting would be confined to negotiations on implementing Israel's proposal for Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Baker, responding to questions during a White House news conference, said his five points are "reasonable" and were "designed, in fact, to implement the Israeli government's own proposals for elections" in the territories.

"But if we start making changes for one side, we will find ourselves in an extended negotiating session in terms of making changes that might be requested, for instance, by Egypt," he warned.

"It would be much better if both sides would accept the five points as a general framework for moving forward," he continued. "And then let's get on with the nitty-gritty business of sitting down face to face and determining the rules that would govern the Palestinian elections in the territories."

# Peace Effort 'Has Life'

The secretary indicated that he sees the Arens letter as a positive sign, following a week in which the State Department and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had hurled accusations at each other.

"Over the last week or so, many people have wanted to basically write this effort off, they wanted to declare it dead," Baker said. "I think the events of the last two or three days at least indicate that the effort has life."

At the same, the State Department has made it clear that it does not consider Arens' letter an acceptance of the Baker proposals, since it includes reservations.

Baker spoke with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid by telephone Tuesday and presumably discussed the Arens letter, a State Department official said Wednesday.

But the official indicated no details of the conversation were known within the department bureaucracy, since Baker has been conducting negotiations personally by telephone with Arens and Meguid for the last several weeks.

"I don't think we can say it is a probability that we will be able to put a dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians together," Baker said Wednesday. "I do think it may be a possibility."

KNESSET DEFEATS NO-CONFIDENCE VOTES, BUT WITH SCANT HELP FROM LABOR PARTY By David Landau

NEW YORK, NY 10001-5010

JERUSALEM, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- New cracks appeared in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud-led coalition government Tuesday, when its Labor Party component largely boycotted Knesset votes on six no-confidence motions relating to the peace process.

In any case, the motions, introduced by leftist opposition factions critical of Shamir's policies, were easily rejected, by a margin of 34-13, with six abstentions.

Only eight Labor members supported the government, most of them associated with their party's hawkish wing. The rest of the faction "voted with their feet" by staying away from the chamber while the electronic balloting was under way.

The Laborites wanted to express displeasure with what they consider to be Shamir's uncompromising position on proposed Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo. But they were unwilling to wreck the coalition at this time by siding with the opposition.

The absentees got a tongue-lashing from Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino, a Labor hard-liner, who said avoiding the vote was "unparliamentary."

Nevertheless, she said she would be willing to reconsider Labor's participation in the government if, after Shamir's scheduled visit to the United States next month, there is no progress toward peace.

### Firestorm Over Moledet Remark

Those who abstained from voting included members of the ultra-Orthodox party Agudat Yisrael. Its Council of Sages has given the government a two-week ultimatum to make good on religious legislation promised when the party agreed to join the government last year.

Agudah threatens to quit unless the government provides more money for Orthodox schools, tougher enforcement of Sabbath observance and legal action against what the pious consider "immodest" advertisements.

Tuesday's Knesset session was more stormy than usual because of a racist remark allegedly made by Rehavam Ze'evi, leader of the extreme right-wing opposition party Moledet.

Ze'evi made the remark during a floor argument he was having with Mohammed Miari, an Arab member of the radical left-wing Progressive List for Peace, over how many Arabs and Jews have died in the 22-month-old Palestinian uprising, or intifada.

When Miari said there was no difference between the life of an Arab or a Jew, Ze'evi was reportedly heard in the press gallery to remark: "For every Jew, a thousand Arabs."

The Knesset's five Arab members, supported by others, immediately demanded that the Knesset discipline Ze'evi, whose faction advocates the mass transfer of Arabs out of Israel and the administered territories, as part of a negotiated peace settlement.

But Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky of Likud refused to act, saying he had not heard Ze'evi's



alleged remark. He called for a recess to calm tempers. Later, however, Shilansky ordered the Knesset House Committee to investigate discrepancies in accounts of what Ze'evi had said.

Most of those who heard Ze'evi believe he favored killing 1,000 Arabs for every Jew killed.

killing. "But if you want a correction of my statement, write 10,000 instead of 1,000," he told a reporter.

### AMNESTY ACCUSES ISRAEL OF USING 'EXCESSIVE' FORCE IN TERRITORIES London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organization, has accused Israel of using "excessive and indiscriminate force" in response to the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The "death or injury of thousands, including many children," were the consequence, according to Amnesty's 1989 report, released here Wednesday.

The 310-page report details extra-judicial killings and human rights violations in 133 countries.

Iran, Iraq and Israel with the territories it administers have the longest entries of the 18 countries in the 34-page section on the Middle East and North Africa.

The report says that at least nine Palestinians reportedly died from beatings in 1988 while "in the hands of Israeli forces."

At least five died "in suspicious circumstances" while in detention, and others died "apparently as a result of deliberate misuse of tear gas by Israeli forces," the report says.

It states that more than 5,000 Palestinians were detained without charge or trial, some of whom were "prisoners of conscience."

Hundreds of teen-agers and young people were "summarily" tried and imprisoned, "often without legal representation," Amnesty charges.

Iraq is accused of "a systematic and deliberate policy" to "eliminate large numbers of Kurdish civilians," 400 of whom, including women and children, were said to have been murdered by the military in one day.

Iran is charged with the execution of more than 1,200 political prisoners.

In Egypt, thousands of political and religious activists were arrested under emergency laws in effect since 1981, the report says.

Syria is accused of continuing to detain thousands of "actual or suspected opponents of the government." Torture there is reported to be "routine and widespread."

### FOUR GUNMEN KILLED IN SOUTH LEBANON By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Four armed intruders were killed Tuesday by the Israel Defense Force and its allied South Lebanon Army in separate encounters in the security zone Israel maintains along the border in southern Lebanon.

A patrol of the IDF's Golani Brigade surprised two armed intruders in the central sector of the zone Tuesday evening and opened fire, killing both.

They were armed with Kalachnikov assault rifles, ammunition pouches, magazines and dozens of grenades. The IDF has not established whether they were Palestinians or Lebanese.

SLA troops clashed Tuesday morning with gunmen believed to be members of the radical, pro-Iranian Hezbollah, or Party of God. The incident occurred near Houneh village, in the eastern sector of the zone.

The gunmen were caught planting road mines Ze'evi said later he meant punishing, not along a route used by the IDF and SLA in an area where Hezbollah often operates. Two of them were slain. A trail of bloodstains indicated that at least one other gunman escaped after being wounded.

> There were no IDF or SLA casualties in either encounter.

# WEST BANK ARAB GETS LIFE SENTENCE FOR KILLING HIS JEWISH CO-WORKER By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- A young West Bank Palestinian who had been a watchman at a Tel Aviv construction site was sentenced to life imprisonment plus 20 years Wednesday for the calculated murder of a Jewish fellow watchman on Sept. 7.

In pronouncing the sentence, the Tel Aviv District Court said Ahmed Mohammed Shukri, 20, of Ramallah deserved the death penalty. Capital punishment is not legal in Israel.

Shukri confessed last month to slaying his co-worker, Michael Ashtrumer, 38, a divorced father of three children, for no other reason than that he was a Jew.

The case has an unusual twist inasmuch as Shukri admitted the murder before his victim's death was discovered.

He made the confession while under questioning for another crime, the stabbing of an Egged bus driver on the night of Sept. 9, while the vehicle was en route from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The driver, Shlomo Assov, suffered stomach wounds but recovered.

It had been Shukri's intention to wreck the bus by forcing it off the road. But he was overcome by fellow passengers who held him for the police.

After confessing, Shukri led police to the construction site on the Tel Aviv beachfront where he had concealed Ashtrumer's body in a pipe. The victim, who was known to drop out of sight on occasion, had not even been reported missing.

### PERES STILL BEDRIDDEN, BUT FEISTY By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Vice Premier Shimon Peres is almost home from the medical wars and in a fighting, feisty mood in his bed at the Emck Hospital in Afula.

So says Yediot Achronot reporter Orli Azulai-Katz, who was the first journalist allowed to see Peres since the 66-year-old finance minister was hospitalized last week with chills and a fever.

Peres, who is also leader of the Labor Party, was stricken while touring Druse villages in northern Israel on Oct. 17. Doctors found he had a urinary tract infection that spread though his bloodstream, a serious condition if not treated.

Peres described his ordeal with good humor. "It's all a big show. I just wanted a few days far from the madding crowd," he said.

Peres is working in bed, reading and receiving visitors. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin dropped by Tuesday. He told reporters that Peres "seemed fine," adding, "but I'm no doctor."

# TRADE LINKED TO PEACE PROGRESS, EUROPEAN LEADER TELLS ARENS By Yossi Lempkowicz

BRUSSELS, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Israel's economic relations with the European Community are inextricably linked to political movement toward resolution of the Middle East conflict.

That was the message conveyed here Tuesday to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Jacques Delors, president of the European Executive Commission.

Delors visited Arens at his hotel, a courtesy appreciated by the Israelis as a sign of the importance he attaches to European relations with Israel.

But during his subsequent meeting with Arens and the Israeli ambassadors to the 12 E.C. member states summoned here to discuss future relations with Europe, Delors was friendly but claiming "The Holocaust is an evil lie." stern, diplomatic sources said.

He made clear that the E.C. cannot dissociate its economic relationship with Israel from the political dialogue.

That apparently means that the chances of increased economic cooperation with Israel will depend on the evolution of the Middle East situation.

Arens, who also met for an hour Tuesday with his Belgian counterpart, Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens, reportedly replied that Israel is ready for dialogue with the E.C. on both political and economic levels.

"We are ready to hear their opinion, but they also have to hear ours," he was quoted as sayıng.

The political dialogue at the moment is centered around Israel, the United States and Egypt, who are striving for agreement on an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue to be held in Cairo.

# Talks With U.S. In Progress

Arens said Tuesday that "procedural talks" are in progress among the three parties. He said he was confident they would lead to a consensus on the technicalities of Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the first phase of Israel's peace initiative.

Before leaving for a visit to Luxembourg on Wednesday, Arens told reporters that Israel agrees with the five-point plan proposed by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to effect a dialogue between Israelis and a Palestinian delegation.

But "a number of small but significant

changes must be made," he said.

He explained that Israel seeks an understanding with the Americans about the framework for a dialogue on the election plan.

Arens said a great deal of progress has been made through daily contacts with Baker and the Egyptian foreign minister, Esmat Abdel Meguid.

He stressed, however, that Israel will under no circumstances engage in talks with a delegation in any way associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Arens' trip to Brussels, where the E.C. is headquartered, was occasioned by concerns about Israel's economic future with Europe.

The ambassadors to the E.C. countries met here at his behest to consider Israel's trade prospects with Europe after 1992, when the community abolishes all internal trade barriers but may erect tariff walls against outsiders.

Israel already has a \$3.5 billion trade deficit with the community.

NEO-NAZIS DISRUPT CONFERENCE ON A BRITISH WAR-CRIMES LAW London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- A small but raucous gang of British neo-Nazis demonstrated outside a London hotel Monday while members of Parliament and others deliberated over the need for legislation to allow the prosecution of Nazi war criminals who found refuge in Britain.

The members of Parliament joined turnout of government officials, legal authorities and concentration camp survivors attending an all-day "Time for Justice" conference called by the Parliamentary All Party War Crimes Committee.

But as they arrived at the Royal Westminster Hotel, the M.P.s were greeted by members of the neo-Nazi British National Party, who were shouting and waving Union Jacks and placards pro-

The neo-Nazis also handed out copies of revisionist writer David Irving's "Leuchter Report," which claims there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Later, the Board of Deputies of British Jews accused the police of "inadequate" handling of the demonstrators.

It said they allowed a dozen or more to stand at the hotel entrance for an hour before moving them across the road, where they soon dispersed.

There was a brief disturbance when Rabbi Hugo Gryn, a Holocaust survivor attending the conference, confronted demonstrators distributing an anti-Semitic hate sheet.

He called them Nazis who would have murdered had they had the chance.

### Four Could Be Tried

The conference was held in advance of a scheduled debate in the House of Commons on pending legislation to try suspected war criminals in Britain.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, a former director of public prosecutions, said there are three British citizens who should be charged immediately.

Ephraim Zuroff of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center handed over the name of a fourth suspect. All four were members of the same mobile killing squad, he said.

The Wiesenthal Center provided Britain with its first list of 17 war-crime suspects three years ago, which led to the establishment of an official inquiry.

Members of Parliament are expected to vote across party lines when the legislation is introduced.

Hetherington said the first suspects are not in the "Nuremberg class" of war criminals, but nor are they "small fry."

Neal Sher, director of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, said no war criminal is "small fry."

He related the case of Bohdan Koziy, a Ukrainian, one of 1,200 suspects investigated by the OSI.

One day during the war he picked up a 4year-old Jewish child, Monica Singer.

"She was begging for her life to be saved, begging to be let go. He put his pistol to her head and blew her brains out. Then he went on to murder a Jewish family," Sher said.

"To those who say that all that are left are the small fry, would anybody say he was small fry?" Sher asked.

# RED CROSS GIVES OBSERVER STATUS TO'MAGEN DAVID ADOM, PLO GROUP By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- Magen David Adom, Israel's equivalent of the Red Cross, is making the most of its presence at the biennial General Assembly of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which opened here last Saturday and will end Oct. 27.

The three-member delegation, headed by Arieh Harell, the society's president, have observer status at the conclave, which is being attended by more than 40 delegates from 120 national societies.

The Israelis are making valuable contacts and holding meetings with senior representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross aimed at developing bilateral relations.

The hope is to gain the ICRC's recognition of the Israeli first-aid agency's symbol, the red Viktor now awaits another "dirty bit of Star of David, which has been denied for more than 40 years, although recognition has been accorded the Red Crescent, the Islamic counterpart of the Red Cross.

The MDA has expressed consternation that observer status on the same level of protocol was granted to the Palestinian Red Crescent, an adjunct of the Palestine Liberation Organization headed by Dr. Fathi Arafat, brother of PLO leader Yasir Arafat.

forum to the PLO will cause both immediate and long-term damage to Israel and the MDA.

It could add to the pressure the PLO is exerting on the Swiss government to be allowed to become a signatory to the Geneva Conventions, of which Switzerland is custodian.

Only sovereign nation-states may sign the conventions, which delineate the rules of warfare and the treatment of civilians in time of war.

The PLO is not a nation-state by any definition, the MDA pointed out. But the ICRC is said to support its request.

### SAMOILOVICH FAMILY OUT OF USSR. BOUND FOR U.S. AFTER LONDON STOP London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- "For these dirty bits of paper," said Viktor Samoilovich, "we waited 10 years."

The "dirty bits of paper" were exit visas for Samoilovich and his mother, Vera, two refuseniks who were reunited in Vienna last week with Viktor's father, Georgi.

Georgi Samoilovich became a cause celebre for the British government to test the Soviet Union on its human rights commitments. This week, the family was in London to say thanks.

Last year, Georgi Samoilovich, a 66-year-old Moscow Jewish mathematician who had been a refusenik for 16 years, was diagnosed as having lymph cancer.

After fierce pressure by the Medical Campaign for Soviet Jewry, the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry and the British Foreign Office, Soviet authorities allowed Samoilovich to come to Britain in April for treatment at London's Royal Marsden Hospital.

In an emotional ceremony at the hospital Monday, Samoilovich and his son presented two platelet rotators to the hematology department at the hospital, where he was successfully treated.

Dr. Daniel Catovsky, a native of Buenos

Aires who is professor of hematology, told an applauding staff, "We are very grateful for this gift, and we are so happy that George is better and that his family is here."

As his nurses waved, Samoilovich recalled the help he and his family received from the British government.

"One thing is sure -- without the help and support of the British government, nothing would have succeeded in saving my life and my family. Even in Vienna, the British Consulate opened specifically, late at night, to give us visas for Britain," he said.

Viktor Samoilovich echoed his father. "All the time my father was being treated in London, the British Embassy in Moscow invited my mother and me for meetings and kept in touch with what was happening." That was so important, he said, because, "the biggest disaster for the Jews is to be forgotten."

paper," this one for his wife, Tanya, a physician who hopes to join the entire family in America.

The Samoilovich family will settle in New Jersey, at the invitation of the head of the Hackensack Medical Center Oncology Department, Dr. Richard Rosenbluth, and his wife, Susan, publisher of the Jewish Voice and Opinion, a private monthly magazine published in Englewood, N.J. Both have lobbied extensively on behalf of the Samoilovich family.

According to the MDA, opening the ICRC. Vera Samoilovich, who suffered a heart attack after her husband went to London, was taken ill when the family arrived this week in London. She was swiftly taken to Hillingdon Hospital's intensive-care unit.

> The family hopes to come to the United States once she recovers.

# POLL SHOWS RIGHT-WING PARTY LACKS VOTES TO ENTER GERMAN PARLIAMENT By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 25 (JTA) -- The extreme rightwing Republican Party, which has made impressive gains in recent local elections, would not now win enough votes in national elections to enter the West German parliament, according to a poll conducted for the State-owned ZDF television network in Mainz.

The Munich-based party, headed by former Waffen SS officer Franz Schoenhuber, is widely regarded as neo-Nazi, despite its own statements to the contrary.

The party surprised and disturbed moderates and conservatives alike Sunday by winning 10 percent of the popular vote on average in local elections in the state of Baden-Wurtemberg.

In some constituencies, it garnered as much as 20 percent. The Republicans did almost as well in last month's elections in North Rhine-Westphalia, West Germany's largest state.

But analysts say these successes were in referendums that do not attract the same voters who participate in national elections.

A minimum of 5 percent of the popular vote is needed to gain representation in the Bundestag. as the national parliament is called. According to the ZDF poll, the Republicans would get only 3 percent at best, if elections were held now.

General elections are scheduled for December 1990, and Schoenhuber is already preparing by trying to shed his party's extremist image. He has deliberately alienated declared neo-Nazis as he tries to gain acceptance as a "respectable" party.