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SHAMIR HINTS HE IS CONSIDERING ACCEPTING BAKER COMPROMISE PLAN By David Landau and Allison Kaplan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir gave the distinct impression Monday that he is leaning toward U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's compromise formula for starting an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

In a briefing to the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and in comments to reporters, the prime minister at least refrained from denying he had Baker's proposals under consideration.

Until now, Shamir has refused to accept Palestinians from East Jerusalem or anyone deported from the administered territories as a member of the Palestinian delegation with which Israel would negotiate.

But he told reporters Monday that this was not really important.

Baker, who met in Washington last Friday with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, is said to have proposed that Israel ignore such labels as "East Jerusalemites" and "deportees," and focus instead on individuals.

According to informed sources, that means a Palestinian with a home or office in East Jerusalem would be accepted as a negotiator, as would at least one former deportee with no direct link to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Baker emphasized to Arens that a "very quick" response was expected from Israel.

Although Shamir told reporters not to expect any "dramatic" decisions when the Cabinet addresses the issue shortly, the political community here is convinced he is indeed contemplating a concession along the lines suggested by Baker.

Labor Accepts Baker Position

That apparently was sensed in the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, where Shamir won rare praise from a dedicated dove, Yossi Sarid, but bitter reproaches from hard-liner Geula Cohen of the right-wing party Tehiya.

Shamir insisted that the projected dialogue with the Palestinians would be a strictly "technical" discussion of the proposed Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, not negotiations.

As far as the Labor side of the unity coalition is concerned, Baker's proposals are entirely acceptable, and the opportunity to negotiate "must not be missed." Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told a high school audience Monday.

"We are not holding a stopwatch," he added, saying that it does not matter whether the Cabinet takes one week or two to reach a positive decision

The Labor Party, with Rabin's assent, last week gave Likud a two-week deadline to reach the required decisions or risk dissolution of its coalition with Labor.

Vice Premier Shimon Peres, who heads the Labor Party, said Monday that what Baker asked of Arens was "perfectly reasonable."

He told members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that Labor members "don't need to be convinced."

ian deportees, that will be no problem," Peres said, "What counts is the beginning of dialogue." But Justice Minister Dan Meridor of Likud.

"Whether there will be one or two Palestin-

speaking to the same audience Sunday night, was less than enthusiastic over the American ideas.

"I hope the Americans don't make the mistake of thinking that if they build a bridge of words it will hold, so that people can walk over it. I don't think it will." he said.

He warned that if the United States manages to get the PLO into the peace process and "get Israel cornered," no peace will result and "maybe just the opposite."

Likud Faction Defects

Israeli peace diplomacy is on hold until Arens returns later in the week from Warsaw. where he was to participate in official ceremonies Tuesday marking the formal restoration of full diplomatic relations between Poland and Israel.

Shamir, for his part, has serious problems on the domestic political front.

A breakaway faction of Likud's Liberal Party wing, led by Economics and Planning Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, has petitioned the Knesset House Committee for formal status as a new party.

Labor immediately demanded rotation of the office of prime minister, on the grounds that Likud would no longer be the largest single faction in the Knesset.

Within Likud itself, 22 Knesset members. including some supporters of the Shamir-Arens camp, petitioned the prime minister Monday to brief them behind closed doors on the latest diplomatic moves.

One Shamir supporter, Uzi Landau, warned that if media accounts of the recent Baker-Arens talks are correct, the proposed dialogue with Palestinians in Cairo "would mean, in effect, the creation of a Palestinian-PLO state.'

An obviously beleaguered Shamir confessed to reporters Monday that thoughts of resignation have indeed crossed his mind. But he said his sense of responsibility outweighed his personal penchant.

PAPER SAYS U.S. SHELVED STUDY ON LEGALITY OF THE SETTLEMENTS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- The Bush administration shelved a secret U.S. study on the legality of Jewish settlements in the West Bank two weeks after it was launched, the Jerusalem Post claimed in a report published Monday.

Post correspondent David Makovsky said the study was ordered two weeks ago by either National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft or White House Chief of Staff John Sununu.

It was killed by Secretary of State James Baker, Makovsky reported. He attributed his information to "U.S. sources."

According to one version, Baker acted to avoid greater friction with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, at a time the United States is pressing Israel for significant concessions to start an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Another reason suggested for the cancellation was that Baker was unsure of the results of -2-

the study, said to have been ordered to produce the basis for a tougher U.S. stand against Israel's settlement policies.

While President Bush, unlike former President Jimmy Carter, has never termed the settlements illegal, he has consistently called them "unhelpful to the peace process."

The study also would have involved Jordan's annexation of the West Bank in 1950, never recognized by the United States.

The study was to have been conducted by Charles Rostow, legal adviser to the National Security Council, in cooperation with the State Department's legal counselor, Abraham Sofaer, the Post report said.

Shamir Urged To Make Statement

In Washington, an official in the State Department's Bureau of Near East and South Asian Affairs was unaware of the study in question, but said that any policy paper on the legality of the settlements "could not serve the peace process" at this time.

The Israeli-administered territories have reemerged as an international issue of late because of fears in the Arab world that Israel plans to settle Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union there to displace the Palestinian population.

Israeli sources quoted by the Jerusalem Post say President Bush did not accept at face value Shamir's assurance in a telephone conversation last week that Israel has no policy of directing immigrants to West Bank settlement.

The president is reported to have asked, "But are you giving them advantageous incentives?"

Shamir responded that incentives for living in the West Bank are the same as for development towns in Israel proper.

American Jewish leaders, meanwhile, are said to be quietly urging Shamir to declare publicly that Israel is not offering Soviet immigrants incentives to settle in the West Bank.

Officials of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jowish Organizations, which is holding its annual seminar in Jerusalem this week, reportedly told Shamir that such a declaration would help ease U.S. concern and also would encourage the Soviet Union to re-examine its opposition to direct flights from Moscow to Tel Aviv.

(JTA correspondent Howard Rosenberg in Washington contributed to this report.)

ISRAEL TO REOPEN JUNIOR COLLEGES IN WEST BANK CLOSED FOR TWO YEARS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- Israel is reopening 16 vocational and training colleges in the West Bank that it shut down more than two years ago because they became centers of unrest, Shlomo Goren, coordinator of government affairs in the territory, announced Monday.

The colleges, which served nearly 5,000 students, were closed in January 1988, a month after the intifada broke out.

Arab universities closed at the same time will remain closed, Goren said.

He said he summoned the college heads this week to inform them that the reopenings will be in stages and must be closely coordinated with the Israeli Civil Administration.

If disturbances occur, the colleges will be immediately re-closed, he warned.

ISRAELI ARABS STAGE GENERAL STRIKE, PROTESTING LACK OF MUNICIPAL FUNDS By Gil Sedan

HAIFA, Feb. 26 (JTA) - Israeli Arabs staged a nationwide general strike Monday, to protest the lack of government funds for Arab municipalities, which are beset by mounting deficits and crumbling infrastructures.

They received a show of solidarity from officials of Jewish municipalities, which often face the same problems.

Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel joined leaders of Israel's 750,000 Arab citizens at a massive rally here called to draw attention to the issue.

"This is not only your battle, it is our battle as well. On this issue there is no difference between Arabs and Jews," the mayor told the cheering throng.

"We cannot complete our sewage system," said Dr. Hisham Abu Romi, the Communist mayor of Tamra, an Arab town of 20,000 north of Haifa.
"We owe the water company thousands of

"We owe the water company thousands of shekels, we have no budget to fix our roads and we are unable to complete our soccer stadium, which was started 12 years ago," he said.

The general strike was called after the government seemed to renege on a promised \$50 million loan to cover the municipal deficits in Arab townships.

The interior minister, Rabbi Arye Deri, told Arab mayors last week, "You have just demands, but we need more time."

'Second-Class Citizens'

In fact, the Bank of Israel, Israel's central bank, vetoed the promised loans, on the grounds that they were insufficiently secured.

While the refusal affected Jewish as well as Arab communities, the Arabs' financial condition has always been much worse than that of their Jewish neighbors.

The general strike Monday shut down schools. Arab businesses closed, and workers failed to show up at their jobs.

Thousands swarmed into Haifa in the sunny afternoon. The big port city, a Labor stronghold, is traditionally sympathetic to the economically downtrodden.

But while Mayor Gurel radiated solidarity, the Islamic fundamentalist mayor of Umm el-Fahm, Raed Mahajneh, sounded a discordant note. "Let us not mince words. We are considered

second-class citizens, because they (the Jews) consider it their state," he declared.

Mahajneh went on to warn against Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union "taking over jobs from Arab workers."

Arab demonstrators carrying banners and chanting slogans marched on the local office of the Interior Ministry to protest what they charged was the government's "racial discrimination against Arabs in Israel."

Mohammed Miari, the sole Knesset member of the radical Progressive List for Peace, compared the situation of Israeli Arabs to the blacks in South Africa.

Although some harsh words were spoken, the general strike and related demonstrations were entirely peaceful.

A Druse poet, Salman Natour, explained, "This is a demonstration by Arab citizens of Israel against discrimination. They are demanding equal rights, not national goals. They are demonstrating as Israelis, not as Palestinians."

SHARANSKY ASSAILS NJCRAC RESOLUTION ON SETTLING IMMIGRANTS IN WEST BANK By Allison Kaplan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- Soviet Jewry activist Natan Sharansky on Monday denounced a resolution adopted last week by leaders of Jewish communities across the United States that warned Israel not to settle Soviet Jews in the West Bank.

A Jewish group should not be highlighting an issue that "simply doesn't exist," Sharansky contended, citing Israeli government statistics that show only a tiny fraction of Soviet immigrants settle in the administered territories.

He spoke of his dismay at the 216-207 vote on the matter at the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council's plenary in Phoenix last week, saying that a Jewish group should not be drawing attention to an issue that has been overblown in the news media.

Sharansky spoke Monday, along with a number of fellow Soviet Jewry activists and recent emigres, at the annual Israel seminar of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Both Sharansky and the recent arrivals from the Soviet Union related the now-familiar stories of panic among Jews there about threats of anti-Semitic violence from ultranationalist groups.

Also speaking at the session on Soviet aliyah was Ze'ev Bielsky, the mayor of the town of Ra'anana. Bielsky spoke so glowingly of his community's successful absorption experience that one recent arrival asked plaintively what his telephone number was, clearly interested in settling there.

Bielsky and Sharansky strongly urged absorption to take place on the municipal level, with Diaspora communities entering partnerships with Israeli towns.

70 ARRESTED NEAR SOVIET MISSION PROTESTING ANTI-SEMITISM IN USSR

NEW YORK, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Some 70 activists demanding that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev publicly denounce the growing wave of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and that the Kremlin allow direct flights to Israel were arrested Sunday at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations.

The activists, assembled by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, were released after being charged with disorderly conduct. They must

appear March 26 in Criminal Court here.

Braving bitter cold, wind and frequent gusts of snow blown from the rooftops, the activists, ranging in age from teen-agers to middle-aged adults, blew shofarim and blocked traffic by sitting down in the middle of the street outside the mission.

On hand in addition to rabbis, students and members of synagogue congregations was 17-year refusenik Karmela Raiz of Vilnius, who is visiting the United States on a tourist visa with her 12-year-old son, Moshe. Her husband, Vladimir, and younger son, Shaul, remain in the Soviet Union.

Raiz, who did not get arrested, told the crowd that "Soviet Jews don't ask anything more than to be able to go to their own home, Israel. Time is short. We don't know what will happen tomorrow."

Raiz will begin a five-day vigil March 4 at the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Her presence before the Soviet Embassy is slated to end on the Fast of Esther, March 8.

DAVID GOLDFARB, REFUSENIK RESCUED BY ARMAND HAMMER, IS DEAD AT 71 By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA) - David Goldfarb, the Soviet refusenik whose seven-year attempt to emigrate became entwined with the fate of an American magazine correspondent arrested in Moscow for alleged espionage, died in Washington on Saturday of heart failure, at the age of 71.

Once a geneticist of renown in the Soviet Union, Goldfarb had worked since December as a visiting scholar at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. He had been working on a history of Soviet biomedical science in the 1940s and 1950s, and was assessing current trends in Soviet scientific research.

Goldfarb, who suffered from acute diabetes and heart disease, had lived in New York with his wife, Cecilia, since October 1986, when the Soviets finally allowed him to fly to the United States for medical treatment.

He arrived on the private jet of industrialist Armand Hammer, who had persuaded the Soviets to make the humanitarian gesture.

Goldfarb technically never received emigration permission or an exit visa. He came to this country under the humanitarian parole system, without receiving U.S. refugee status.

Only a month after coming here, Goldfarb underwent a successful operation to remove a cancerous lobe on his lung, discovered during a medical exam given upon his arrival.

The retired geneticist had been hospitalized in Moscow in grave jeopardy during the publicity over the case of Nicholas Daniloff, Moscow correspondent for U.S. News & World Report.

Pressed To Testify Against Daniloff

Daniloff was arrested Aug. 30, 1986, following the U.S. apprehension of an alleged Soviet spy in the Bronx. Daniloff, a friend of Goldfarb's, was imprisoned in Moscow and then exchanged for the alleged spy, Gennady Zakharov, a physicist who worked at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations

Goldfarb had reportedly refused Soviet urgings that he testify against Daniloff, then and in 1984. His son, Alex, who was living in New York, said Goldfarb had lost his just-received visa in 1984 because of his refusal to testify in a trumped-up case against Daniloff.

Goldfarb was not adequately treated medically and was in danger of losing his leg, alteady partially amputated because of complications of diabetes. Goldfarb lost his other leg in the Battle of Stalingrad.

Fear for his life prompted Alex to seek media attention and ask Hammer's help in rescuing his father. The highly publicized case came to a happy ending on the tarmac of Newark Airport in October 1986, when Goldfarb, strapped to a stretcher, was lifted to the ground, weak but smiling.

Goldfarb later told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he had really wanted to go to Israel, but came here to join Alex, who immigrated to Israel in 1975 but came to the United States in the early 1980s to get a doctorate in microbiology.

In December 1986, on his first Chanukah in freedom since 1923, David Goldfarb said his visit to a synagogue was "an event to remind me of many things about which I thought a long time."

FEBRUARY 27, 1990

BEHIND THE HEADLINES: STUDY FINDS BLACK ANTI-SEMITISM NOT AS WIDESPREAD AS IS BELIEVED BY Elena Neuman

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- The popular perception that anti-Semitism among black Americans is widespread may be unfounded, according to a study of the attitudes of black churchgoers.

In a soon-to-be-published book, entitled "Black Protestantism and Anti-Semitism," Rev. Hubert Locke, professor of sociology at the University of Washington, studies the prevalent views of a sample group of religious blacks living in three American cities.

He gave a preview of his findings at a recent forum here on "The Future of the Jewish Past: The Jewish People in a Post-Holocaust World," sponsored by the American Friends of Hebrew University.

"If one steps back from the volatile, localized conflicts that have marred black-fewish relations in a few cities, there is strong evidence to suggest that the claim of anti-Semitism as a prevalent attitude among black Americans is greatly overdrawn," Locke told the approximately 250 people in attendance.

Locke admitted there had been a "deterioration in attitudes and interactions" between lews and blacks in the late 1960s, particularly after the assassination of Martin Luther King.

He said stumbling blocks to black-Jewish harmony included battles over such contentious issues as affirmative action and the emergence of the black consciousness movement.

But he said that the souring of relations was primarily at the level of leadership and that it occurred in specific urban locales.

New York And Chicago Excluded

"These qualifications are important," said Locke, "for while, a generation later, they came to be generalized as a characteristic of black-Jewish relations across the nation, very few studies sought to assess what, in fact, were the attitudes of black citizens toward Jewish people as a general proposition."

In an attempt to fill the vacuum, Locke, under a grant from the Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Anti-Semitism, undertook a study in 1987 of the attitudes of black Protestant churchgoers toward Jewish Americans in St. Louis, Seattle and Buffalo, N.Y., cities considered neutral in the black-Jewish conflict.

Locke said that he specifically chose to stay away from New York and Chicago, where "local events and personages have tended to exacerbate the issue of black-Jewish relationships."

In the study, Locke asked respondents to evaluate various statements about Jews on a sixpoint scale, with I being strongest disapproval and 6 being strongest approval. The responses to the statements were as follows:

 "A major fault of the Jews is their conconcording overbearing pride and their idea that they are the chosen race" received a rating of 2.3, indicating moderate disapproval.

 "The true Christian can never forgive the Jews for their crucifixion of Christ" received a strong disapproval rating of 1.8.

"Jews should stop complaining about the Holocaust," got a 2.6 disapproval rating.

"Jews are more willing to combat discrimination," got a 3.6 approval rating.

on," got a 3.6 approval rating.

""Jews are more helpful than harmful in

the civil rights struggle," got a 3.4 approval

Locke extrapolates from the data that the general black middle-class American view of Jews is benign.

More Prevalent Among Young

He did concede, however, that the attitudes of black Protestant churchgeers is only one of several profiles of black America, suggesting that a sample of younger black respondents would have responded differently.

"If, in fact, there is a set of my kinspeople about whom I would register concern with respect to the general issue of black-Jewish relations, it would be young black Americans," he said.

"Their ties to their religious roots may be weak, (their) knowledge of and participation in the area of the civil rights struggle are limited, and (their) views of the era of the grand alliance between black and Jewish organizations and leaders are likely to be distorted."

But in the question-and-answer period, Locke also discounted the effect on young blacks of leaders such as Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, who has made various strongly anti-Semitic public statements.

He denies that such leaders represent a set of attitudes that can be ascribed to a majority or even a significant portion of the 28 million black Americans in the United States.

"Farrakhan's media coverage totes him as a leader, but the numbers do not," said Locke. "Only 200,000 to 250,000 black Americans are members of the Nation of Islam; that's 1 percent of the American black population."

"The effort to peddle black anti-Semitism simply hasn't sold, and I don't think it will in the future." he said.

REFORM SHUL CAN STAY TILL HEARING By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- Kehilat Ramat Aviv, a Reform congregation in northern Tel Aviv, will be allowed to remain in its city-owned quarters, pending an eviction hearing scheduled for May 6.

The congregation, which belongs to the Israeli Movement for Progressive Judaism, was given occupancy of the site on a temporary basis.

That was six years ago. The municipality demanded last month that it move immediately. The congregation obtained an injunction, after which the city agreed to let it stay until the court decides.

NAZARETH ARABS WIN SOCCER POOL By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26 (JTA) -- Two Christian

Arab brothers-in-law from Nazareth became
instant millionaires this week.

They won the \$2.5 million jackpot in the weekly soccer pool by guessing correctly the winners of all 14 games.

The sum was the second largest ever paid out by the state-run Payis Lottery.

The winners, who asked that their names not be published, are a 30-year-old newly married hotel employee and his 24-year-old brother-in-law, who works in a carwash. Both said they intend to keep their jobs.

The men invested some \$15 between them to complete the 10-column lottery form.