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# **SHAMIR WRITES TO BUSH, STANDS FIRM AGAINST BAKER PLAN**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told President Bush on Thursday that Israel is determined to continue with the peace process.

But in his lengthy letter delivered to the White House, Shamir reiterated Israel's rejection of the formula proposed by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker for an Israeli-Palestinian peace dialogue.

The letter was Shamir's response to a private communication he received from Bush two weeks ago asking how the new Israeli government thought the peace process should proceed.

It was phrased in friendly terms, Israeli officials said, and expressed appreciation for American contributions to Middle East peace efforts.

But it gave no ground on the key Baker proposals and disputed the longstanding American view that Jewish settlements in the administered territories are "an obstacle to peace."

Another Israeli position expressed in the letter was that the crux of the Middle East conflict is not the Palestinian issue, but the "refusal of the Arab states to put an end to the state of belligerency with Israel."

In Washington, Secretary of State James Baker said the letter from Shamir is "very long and detailed" and "requires careful study and careful consideration."

But he would not confirm reports from Jerusalem that Shamir had rejected his proposals on the makeup of the Palestinian delegation.

"If the letter was absolutely definitive, we wouldn't need to study it," Baker said during a White House briefing on the upcoming NATO meeting in London and the economic summit in Houston.

## **Covers Broad Spectrum**

"It covers quite a broad spectrum of questions and issues," he added.

But Baker indicated that he was sticking to his proposals to allow Palestinians who had been deported or are residents of East Jerusalem to be in the Palestinian delegation.

Baker would not say whether the letter left him optimistic about chances for moving ahead in the peace process.

"It is not a simple issue, black and white," he said. He said there are elements of the letter that are "on both sides of that equation."

Bush administration policy has stressed the primacy of resolving Israel's dispute with the Palestinians.

While that is an element of the peace initiative launched by Shamir in May 1989, the prime minister's letter to Bush pointed out that another element, ending the state of war between Israel and its neighbors, has been largely ignored.

According to Shamir, most efforts now should be directed toward achieving peace with the Arab states.

He nevertheless expressed readiness to cooperate with Baker "to advance the dialogue with a Palestinian delegation."

But Shamir remained adamantly opposed to the compromise advanced by Baker to persuade the Palestinians to agree to a dialogue.

"As you know, Mr. President, we are opposed to the participation of deportees in the Palestinian delegation and also the participation of the East Jerusalem Arabs," Shamir's letter said.

Baker proposed that a Palestinian deported from the territories by Israel be admitted to the dialogue as well as a Palestinian who, while a resident of the West Bank, also has an address in East Jerusalem.

Shamir's government contends that would be tantamount to allowing the Palestine Liberation Organization to choose the Palestinian delegation.

Israel's ambassador to Washington, Moshe Arad, was expected to arrive here late Thursday with a verbal message from Baker for Shamir and Foreign Minister David Levy. Its gist was said to be that the United States still expects a positive Israeli response to his plan.

Arad, who conferred with Baker on Wednesday night, was reportedly told that in the absence of a positive response from Israel, the United States would consider "alternatives," meaning an international peace conference, which Israel strongly opposes as the means to settle the Middle East conflict.

*(JTA correspondent David Friedman in Washington contributed to this report.)*

# **HOUSE LEAVES AID TO ISRAEL INTACT AND INCREASES FUNDS FOR SOVIET JEWS**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, June 28 (JTA) -- The 1991 foreign aid spending bill, approved Wednesday by the House of Representatives, not only continues the \$3 billion annual U.S. aid package for Israel, but also provides enough money for U.S. Jewish groups to bring close to 50,000 Soviet Jews here next fiscal year.

In addition to holding the line on Israel's all-grant economic and military aid package, Jewish lobbyists succeeded in gaining a \$20 million increase in funds for resettling Soviet Jews in Israel. A total of \$45 million has now been earmarked for this purpose.

They also gained enough of an increase in the refugee budget to ensure that all Soviet Jews who come to the United States next year will receive government funding.

This fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, the government is not providing funding for 8,000 of the 40,000 Soviet Jews expected to arrive. That has been a burden on the American Jewish community, whose resources are already strapped by the massive exodus from the Soviet Union.

The \$15.8 billion spending bill, which now goes to the Senate, was approved by a vote of 308-117. In addition to providing aid, it includes various policy statements critical of some of Israel's biggest enemies.

One statement reaffirms U.S. policy of withholding funds to any United Nations body that accords membership to any group that "does not have internationally recognized attributes of statehood." Its intent appears to be to prevent the Palestine Liberation Organization from en-

hancing its international status.

Another provision calls for a suspension of U.S. aid to U.N. programs that provide benefits to the PLO, Iran or Libya.

This year, U.S. Jewish groups intensified their advocacy for maintaining the \$3 billion level of aid to Israel, because of concern that it could be adversely affected by a number of pressures on Congress, said Martin Raffel, director of the Israel Task Force at the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

These include growing U.S. budget constraints, new competition for foreign aid dollars from emerging democracies in Eastern Europe and Latin America, and dismay with some of Israel's policies.

Rep. James Traficant Jr. (D-Ohio) tried to pare most items in the foreign aid budget by 10 percent, including aid to Israel and refugees.

"I do not want to cut education anymore. I do not want to cut housing. I do not want to cut nutrition. I am tired of roads falling apart," he said in a speech on the House floor.

Traficant, who often boasts about challenging organized lobbies such as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee and the National Rifle Association, said, "I know I am a demagogue; I am anti-Semitic; I am the whole ball of wax."

But Traficant could not muster enough support to bring his amendment to a vote. Instead, a substitute amendment, offered by Rep. Bob Clement (D-Tenn.), cut many areas in the bill by 2 percent, but left aid to Israel and refugees intact.

Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on foreign aid, supported Clement's amendment, which he said was "in contrast to the blunderbuss approach" by Traficant.

But earlier, Obey warned that he would support a cut in Israel's aid level in 1992 if it expands existing settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

To the chagrin of Israel's supporters, the House Appropriations Committee has asked the Bush administration to report to it by Feb. 1, 1991, on the extent of Israel's investment and expansion of settlements in the territories.

Later this summer, the Senate is expected to approve easily Israel's aid package, which includes \$1.8 billion in military aid and \$1.2 billion in economic aid.

#### **IDF COLONEL CITES DOUBLE STANDARD OVER ORDERS TO BEAT PALESTINIANS** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force colonel charged at his court-martial trial Wednesday that a "double standard" was practiced regarding the beating of Palestinian activists in the West Bank.

According to Col. Yehuda Meir, the official policy, formally enunciated for the record by senior officers, restricted beatings to riot situations, but unofficial orders were to apply beatings as a punitive measure.

Meir is charged with ordering his troops deliberately to break the bones of Palestinian detainees in the West Bank villages of Beita and Huwara, near Nablus, in January 1988, a month after the intifada began.

He said such unofficial orders were communicated orally in small groups.

Meir was cross-examined by the chief milita-

ry prosecutor, Col. Menahem Finkelstein.

He was shown documents proving that the commander of the central region at the time, Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, and the commander of the Samaria district, Brig. Gen. Ze'ev Livne, issued explicit orders restricting the use of physical punishment.

Finkelstein quoted a directive by Mitzna that the ban on beating people in IDF custody "must be emphasized to the last soldier."

Meir responded that "in every forum where minutes were kept, efforts were made to say the right things. But in the field, other things were said."

But he could produce no documents to support his contention that orders to beat Arabs were transmitted orally.

#### **HEAD OF SICARII UNDERGROUND IS RELEASED FROM JAIL ON BAIL** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 28 (JTA) -- A Jerusalem man suspected of heading a Jewish underground group called Sicarii was released from jail Thursday on \$25,000 bail.

But Tel Aviv District Court Judge Ariel Even-Ari ordered the suspect, 46-year-old Yoel Adler, held under house arrest with his telephone disconnected, and forbade any remarks by him to be published or broadcast by the media.

Adler, a contractor, was arrested June 3 on suspicion of directing a wave of violence against Arabs and prominent Israelis he considered left-wing.

Adler has been formally charged with arson, causing bodily harm and membership in an illegal organization. He denies the charges.

He is the alleged founder and chief operative of Sicarii, which takes its name from the "sica," or dagger carried by a radical gang of zealots active during the Jewish revolt against Rome in the first century C.E.

A search of Adler's home yielded pamphlets that police said incited lawless behavior, and lists of names of prominent personalities. They also found a copy of the Sicarii oath.

Adler's group, which police say consists of himself and no more than one or two accomplices, is accused of murdering one Arab and wounding others during a shooting spree at the Jaffa Gate in the Old City in April 1989.

The right-wing Tehiya and Moledet parties, meanwhile, have dissociated themselves from Adler, as has the Temple Mount Faithful.

#### **LABOR DECIDES TO POSTPONE DECISION ON NEW CHAIRMAN** By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- The Labor Party's Leadership Bureau decided Thursday to defer debate on whether to hold elections for a new party chairman.

The one-week postponement was a plus for Shimon Peres, whose incumbency faces a powerful challenge from former Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Peres had asked to appear before the leadership forum to make a case against a contest now. But he said he needed several days to organize his brief and bring in legal experts.

Peres points out that he was re-elected party chairman in 1988 for the full term of the present Knesset.

## HUNGARY WAS HAVEN FOR TERRORISTS, INTERIOR MINISTER TELLS PARLIAMENT

By Yehuda Lahav

BUDAPEST, June 28 (JTA) -- The former Communist regime in Hungary provided a haven for some of the world's most notorious terrorists, Interior Minister Balazs Horvath told a session of Parliament here Tuesday.

Among them were the mysterious Carlos, alleged mastermind of the June 1976 Air France hijack to Entebbe, Uganda.

Letters and documents made public by Horvath at a subsequent news conference confirmed that the welcome mat put out for international terrorists in the late 1970s and early 1980s was done with the approval of top government officials.

Hungarian newspapers on Wednesday published a letter dated April 2, 1980, in which Carlos thanked Hungary's longtime Communist boss, Janos Kadar, for the asylum given his group the past year.

"Feeling the advantage of the security provided by socialist Hungary, we have been struggling for a year now to achieve our revolutionary goals," the letter said in part.

"From our base in Hungary," Carlos added, "we have developed international ties, getting in contact with the revolutions of every nation without hindrance on the part of Hungarian authorities."

Carlos was the probable assassin of Sir Edward Sieff, president of the British Zionist Federation, in 1973, and played a role in the 1975 attack on the ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries who were meeting in Vienna.

### Organized Entebbe Hijack

Carlos is also believed to have organized the Air France jet hijack, whose passengers, including Americans and Israelis, were held hostage at Entebbe.

According to Interior Minister Horvath, the granting of asylum to Carlos had "obviously been a political decision" of the Kadar government.

The socialist daily Nepszabadsag said Wednesday that the sheltering of the terrorist groups was dealt with by "a very narrow circle of prominent leaders," and their safety was the task of the state security.

The newspaper maintained, however, that Carlos and other international terrorists stayed in Hungary for "rest and relaxation."

"According to information we have, their stay was not linked to any terrorist action," Nepszabadsag said.

But Horvath displayed a copy of an inventory drawn up at the Interior Ministry in October 1980 listing weapons and ammunition left behind by Carlos and his group.

They included more than 100 pounds of explosives, 5,000 rounds of ammunition and pistols.

Asked if there are still terrorists on Hungarian soil, Horvath said as far as he knows there are none, but there could be some in the country without his knowledge.

Carlos was last in the news in 1984, when French authorities suspected he was responsible for several bombings in southern France.

Reports of his death have appeared since then but none could be confirmed. His present whereabouts are unknown.

## YOUTH MAGAZINE IN YUGOSLAVIA SUED FOR PRINTING 'PROTOCOLS'

By Ruth E. Gruber

LJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, June 28 (JTA) -- A prominent member of the tiny Jewish community in Slovenia has sued the youth magazine Tribuna for publishing the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," a notorious anti-Semitic forgery that originated in Czarist Russia at the turn of the century.

Mladen Svarc, whose father was president of the Jewish community, brought the suit saying he was deeply concerned by this and other anti-Semitic acts that seem to accompany the spread of democratic freedoms in the region.

Slovenia, one of the six republics that make up the Yugoslav Socialist federation, has a Jewish population of about 70 mostly elderly persons in a total population of 2 million.

Even before World War II, there were no more than 1,000 Jews in the region.

"I don't want to imply that Slovenes are deeply anti-Semitic," Svarc said in an interview. "The population is largely indifferent. The intelligentsia had a long tradition of intellectual anti-Semitism but there was never a large, popular anti-Semitic movement in Slovenia," he said.

Svarc expressed doubt that recent troubling incidents, including publication of the "Protocols," were motivated by deliberate anti-Semitism.

One of the four Jewish cemeteries in Slovenia was vandalized last year, but while grave-stones were knocked over there was no graffiti.

Catholic cemeteries were also vandalized, Svarc pointed out, and in all cases the authorities were helpful about making repairs.

Nonetheless, he is deeply upset by publication of the "Protocols."

Svarc and others who reacted say they are not so much distressed by the "Protocols" as by the uncritical way they were presented, without material explaining their context.

The magazine responded to Svarc's protest by publishing a crude caricature of a Jew burning a copy.

But Svarc believes the publication of the "Protocols" was more anti-Communist than anti-Semitic in intent.

The magazine carried a cover picture of Slovenian President Milian Kucan, a Communist, wearing a Star of David.

## AUSTRALIAN WAR-CRIMES TRIAL WILL NOT HEAR TESTIMONY ABROAD

By Jeremy Jones

ADELAIDE, Australia, June 28 (JTA) -- The prosecution of Australia's first war-crimes trial suffered a setback this week, when Magistrate Peter Kelly ruled that the court may not hear evidence abroad because the defendant, 74-year-old Ivan Polyukhovich, is too ill to travel.

The Department of Public Prosecutions agreed not to oppose the ruling in order to prevent further delays.

But the prosecution admitted that its case has been weakened.

The court, based in Adelaide, South Australia, had planned to sit in the Ukraine, Israel and the United States in order to hear testimony from witnesses of Polyukhovich's alleged crimes.

Although some witnesses may travel to Australia, others are too old and too weak to make the journey.

**JEWISH GROUPS HAVE MIXED REACTION  
TO RULING ON MINORITY PREFERENCES**  
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 28 (JTA) -- Two Jewish organizations had different reactions to a landmark affirmative action ruling issued by the Supreme Court this week.

In a 5-4 decision announced Wednesday, the high court upheld the constitutionality of two Federal Communications Commission policies aimed at increasing the representation of minority broadcasters on the air waves.

The case, Metro Broadcasting Inc. vs. Federal Communications Commission, involved two FCC policies that give minority broadcasters special preferences in obtaining FCC licenses. One of those policies allows a broadcaster who is about to lose a license to sell it to a minority applicant at a reduced price.

Justice William Brennan, who wrote the court's decision, ruled that the FCC policies do not violate the equal-protection clause of the 14th Amendment, since they are in line with "longstanding congressional support" for achieving "the important governmental objective of broadcast diversity."

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith expressed disappointment with the decision. In a "friend-of-the-court" brief filed jointly with the conservative Mountain States Legal Foundation, ADL argued that the FCC policies are unconstitutional, since they give preferences to certain races.

ADL maintained that program diversity is not a "compelling" interest to justify using a racial preference. "Program diversity could best be achieved by a freely operating marketplace," the ADL brief said.

**'Benign Race-Conscious Measure'**

But in a brief filed with several other groups, the American Jewish Committee argued that the FCC practices only consider minority status to be a "plus factor" or "enhancement" in the awarding of contracts. The policies do not guarantee a minority applicant will receive a license, it said.

AJCommittee's president, Sholom Comay, praised the Supreme Court for having "acknowledged that the U.S. Congress has authority to utilize this 'benign race-conscious' measure in order to seek increased diversity of voices and viewpoints on the airwaves."

This policy does exclude anyone from applying for a license, since "minority ownership and management is but one factor in a complex multi-factor proceeding," he pointed out.

Despite their differences in this affirmative action case, both ADL and AJCommittee are supporting the Civil Rights Act of 1990, now before Congress. The legislation strengthens protection against discrimination on the basis of race or sex that was weakened by five Supreme Court decisions in 1989.

The Senate is expected to act on the civil rights bill when it comes back from its July 4 recess. The House of Representatives is waiting for Senate action before it moves on the bill.

ADL, AJCommittee and other Jewish groups have supported the bill, believing that it will not result in quotas. But one Jewish group, Agudath Israel of America, has argued that the bill could lead employers to impose quotas on their own to protect themselves from legal challenges.

**PLAN TO REFORM DIASPORA EDUCATION  
STILL ALIVE, DESPITE WZO OPPOSITION**  
By Charles Hoffman

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- A plan to reform Diaspora Jewish education programs was rescued from possible defeat Thursday by Diaspora leaders, who mustered a large majority for it in the final session of the Jewish Agency Assembly.

The plan calls for the establishment of a Jewish Education Authority, run jointly by Israeli and Diaspora leaders. The authority is supposed to consolidate and streamline the Jewish education programs for the Diaspora now run by the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization, which spend about \$50 million each year in this area.

It appeared earlier this week that the plan was doomed, after it was narrowly rejected by the WZO General Council. Since the Jewish Agency is run jointly by the WZO and Diaspora leaders, the WZO vote was seen by some as a veto of the plan.

The Diaspora community and fund-raising leaders, however, were determined to push the plan through, despite WZO opposition.

For years, Diaspora leaders have resented the fact that while the WZO is funded by their contributions, they have very little say in how the WZO runs its educational programs, which are supposed to serve Diaspora youth.

The Jewish Agency Assembly, which has 398 members, passed a resolution giving agency and WZO leaders one more chance to iron out their differences over the plan. It called for a revised plan to be presented to the Jewish Agency Board of Governors in October.

The resolution says that if agreement is not reached by that time, each of the partners in the Jewish Agency "may consider such action as they deem appropriate with respect to Jewish education."

This is seen as a threat that if the WZO continues to resist reform, then the Jewish Agency will set up its own Jewish education department and stop funding WZO programs.

**PIG'S HEAD LEFT ON SHUL'S GATE  
SECOND SUCH INCIDENT IN A WEEK**

JOHANNESBURG, June 28 (JTA) -- A pig's head was impaled on the gate of a synagogue Monday, the second such incident in a week, according to a report in The Citizen.

According to Aubrey Epstein, president of the Brakpan United Hebrew Congregation, it was found by Rabbi Larry Weinstein when he arrived for morning services.

The police, who were called to remove the head, say the perpetrators remain unknown. Epstein said the pig's head was clean, with no marks of swastikas or anti-Semitic slogans.

That was not the case with the pig's head found last week on the gate of a Jewish family's home in the Raumarais Park section of Johannesburg. There, swastikas had been etched on the pig's ears, cheeks and chin along with the words "Jews out" in incorrect German.

Meanwhile, a non-Jewish nursery school adjacent to a synagogue has been the target of anti-Semitic attacks in recent weeks.

Mrs. C. Donker, the supervisor, told reporters, "We bought the school several years ago, but because we have left the Hebrew writing on the wall outside our school, the school has been vandalized."