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**U.S., ISRAEL SAID TO REACH ACCORD  
ON HOW TO DEAL WITH BLACK HEBREWS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) -- Israeli and U.S. authorities reportedly have reached an "interim solution" to the problem of some 3,000 stateless Black Hebrews, which will give them the option of returning to the United States or accepting temporary Israeli visas.

The community has been living illegally in squalor near the Negev development town of Dimona for more than 20 years.

The group of black Americans, originally from the Chicago area, came to Israel in the 1960s, claiming residence rights as Jews. Their numbers increased as other sect members arrived in the country as tourists and stayed on illegally.

They refused to convert to Judaism, asserting they were the "true Hebrews" and that Israelis were not, in fact, authentic Jews.

The Black Hebrews renounced their U.S. citizenship and demonstratively turned in their American passports to the U.S. Embassy. They could not therefore be returned to the United States, though about 100 have been expelled from Israel over the past two decades.

As illegal aliens, they are not entitled to work permits, social services, health benefits or schooling.

They have lived on a subsistence basis at an abandoned immigrant absorption center, isolated to the point of burying their dead secretly in unauthorized burial plots.

Residents of Dimona and other Negev towns complain frequently that the Black Hebrews have a "negative influence" on their children.

The United States has now offered to renew the Black Hebrews' U.S. citizenship and issue them new passports. On that basis, the Interior Ministry will grant them official status in the form of work permits for up to two years.

More than 100 are reported to have applied for new U.S. passports. Interior Ministry officials say no decision has been made how to deal with those who refuse to accept the offer.

**NEWS ANALYSIS:****U.S. AND ISRAEL LOOKING TO EGYPT  
TO HELP BREAK PEACE PLAN DEADLOCK**

By GII Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA) -- Both Israel and the United States appear to be looking toward President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to rescue the Middle East peace process.

Speculation here is rife about a possible summit meeting between Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

According to unconfirmed media reports, President Bush suggested such a meeting in a message to Mubarak, conveyed last week when Bush met at the White House with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid.

The U.S. president's strategy was said to be to get Mubarak to influence the Israelis to soften their opposition to the U.S. proposal for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations on the Israeli peace plan.

News of the message, first reported by the Arabic-language Radio Monte Carlo, came from

sources in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. That was seen as an indication that Mubarak was seriously considering a meeting with Shamir.

In Washington, the State Department said Monday that it was unaware of the Radio Monte Carlo report. A White House official confirmed that there had been "an exchange of views" on the subject, but no message conveyed to Mubarak.

But in recent days, Shamir, too, has given credence to the idea of a summit with Mubarak. He told a group of German journalists Sunday that "not only the United States, but also Egypt could play an important role in the promotion of the peace process."

**Shamir Praises Mubarak**

The Israeli leader said it was in Egypt's best interest not to remain the only Arab state that has made peace with Israel.

Meeting Monday with a delegation from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the pro-Israel lobbying group in Washington, Shamir again suggested Mubarak could act with Israel "to stabilize the area and to advance peace."

He praised the Egyptian president's leadership, observing that Mubarak is "so popular in his own country and with the rest of the Arab world" that he could help guide the region to a peace settlement.

Mubarak has said in the past that he would meet with Shamir only if there were "substantive progress in the peace process." Now he may be reversing the order, on the understanding that a meeting itself would advance the process.

Shamir has good reason to want a summit with Mubarak. From a public relations point of view it would give his right-wing government the appearance of extricating Israel from the current stalemate.

Diplomatically, a Shamir-Mubarak summit would shift attention away from the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue sought by Washington. It might also divert the Americans from reviving the idea of an international peace conference, which Israel rejects.

Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersen told a visiting group of Israeli leftists in Stockholm last week that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had told him the Bush administration was losing patience with Israel and would give it only limited time to agree to Baker's formula for a dialogue with the Palestinians.

Baker reportedly told Andersen that if Israel's response was not sufficiently affirmative, he would propose an international conference.

**Arafat To Meet With Mubarak**

That report matched strong indications in Jerusalem that Washington is dissatisfied with Shamir's June 28 reply to a letter from Bush asking whether Israel was prepared to accept the Baker proposal for preliminary peace talks.

The talks are aimed at hammering out the modalities of elections that Israel has proposed to hold in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Those elected would negotiate with Israel on limited Palestinian self-rule and eventually the final status of the territories.

Shamir's letter expressed Israel's continued support for the peace plan. But it rejected the

idea of holding preliminary talks with a delegation that would include Arabs with residency in East Jerusalem or Palestinians deported from the territories, as Baker has proposed.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Monday that the United States would be responding to the Shamir letter "in some shape, fashion or form," but she declined to say how or when.

Meanwhile, Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat may have sensed that closer contacts between Egypt and Israel are imminent.

The Kuwaiti newspaper A-Siassa reported Sunday that Arafat will visit Cairo "within a few days" to brief Mubarak on the mood in the PLO after the U.S. suspension of its dialogue with the PLO last month. Arafat also is to be briefed on Meguid's meetings in Washington.

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

# **KOLLEK DEMONSTRATES CITY'S SAFETY BY HOLDING A MEETING IN ARAB AREA** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA) -- Mayor Teddy Kollek confronted the escalating violence in Jerusalem by holding a leisurely meeting with his aides Monday at an Arab coffee shop near Damascus Gate, in the heart of the Old City.

The 79-year-old mayor invited the news media to help make his point that the security situation in the capital is not as grave as some outsiders believe and that Jews should have no qualms about entering Arab neighborhoods.

"I want to set a personal example, so that people will once again visit here like before," Kollek told the reporters and camera crews who surrounded him.

Although the coffee shop is only a few hundred yards from City Hall, very few Jews now venture this far into the Old City -- for good reason it would seem.

Some have been attacked in the narrow alleyways. Jewish-owned cars parked on Saladin Street, the main thoroughfare of East Jerusalem, have been set on fire. And for the first time in months, riots have broken out in Arab suburbs.

The fact that reporters found it newsworthy for the mayor to be sitting in an Arab cafe was itself an indication of the tension in the city.

Kollek spoke to them little more than 12 hours after a bomb exploded near a crowded western Jerusalem shopping mall Sunday evening, slightly injuring three people, including a 4-year-old girl.

It was the most serious incident in Jerusalem since a bomb killed one Israeli and wounded 10 people in the Machaneh Yehuda outdoor market on May 28.

Kollek admitted "there is reason to be afraid, but it is exaggerated. We don't run away every time there is a little fear."

He observed that tension between Jews and Arabs in the city cannot be eradicated, but can be reduced. The mayor noted that he came without his bodyguard.

Reporters pointed out that Kollek is an exception and that not every Jew can visit the Old City with impunity these days. Kollek responded that, in fact, he is a prime target for a terrorist act, since he is the symbol of Jerusalem's reunification under Jewish rule.

Nevertheless, the mayor said he felt completely safe.

# **SOVIET IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL SURPASSES 50,000 MARK FOR 1990**

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA) -- Soviet Jews continued to arrive in Israel at a record pace last month, comprising all but a small number of olim from various parts of the world.

Out of 12,600 immigrants who arrived here in June, 11,015 were Soviet Jews, the highest monthly total ever. The numbers were reported by the Jewish Agency for Israel and by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry in Washington.

An additional 182 Jews left the Soviet Union for the United States in June, according to the New York-based Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, which assists those who have received permission to come to America.

So far, 37,563 Soviet Jews have come to the United States since the beginning of the fiscal year last Oct. 1. The U.S. refugee quota for the fiscal year is 50,000 from the Soviet Union, about 40,000 of whom are expected to be Jews.

The U.S. limits have resulted in a sharp influx of Soviet Jews to Israel. In January, a little more than 4,500 arrived here. In May, the monthly number had climbed to 10,202, which was exceeded by more than 800 in June.

That brings Soviet immigration to Israel during the first six months of 1990 to approximately 50,000, Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz said Sunday.

Jewish Agency officials told a news conference here Saturday that 165,000 were expected by the end of 1990.

# **PERES-RABIN SHOWDOWN POSTPONED AS LABOR PANEL SIDESTEPS DECISION** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) -- The drama of a knock-down-drag-out battle for leadership of the Labor Party faded Sunday into what promises to be a prolonged legal wrangle.

The incumbent chairman, Shimon Peres, and his challenger, former Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, appeared before the party's legal committee, accompanied by batteries of lawyers.

Peres asked that the election of a new chairman be postponed for the duration of the present Knesset's term. Rabin, who seems to have a substantial majority behind his leadership bid, insists on a speedy showdown.

The legal committee was unable to offer a clear ruling on Peres' request. That means the party's Central Committee, which was to have met last Thursday to decide the issue, may have to postpone again.

Peres complained that Rabin is trying to have him fired. He said he was being unfairly blamed for losing the 1988 elections to Likud and for his inability to establish a Labor-led regime after toppling the unity government in March.

According to Peres, Rabin was privy to his every move and, having raised no objections, was equally responsible for what went wrong.

But Rabin says Peres was solely to blame and should be removed now as Labor's candidate for prime minister, in the event it overturns the Likud coalition or wins the next elections.

The Knesset's term ends late in 1991. Peres says he was re-elected in 1988 for the duration of that term and should remain in office until then.

At that time, Peres favors primary-type elections, in which the Labor rank and file would choose the party leader.

## BUSH PRAISED FOR URGING REPEAL OF 1975 RESOLUTION ON ZIONISM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 2 (JTA) -- President Bush has received high marks from Jewish groups for signing a congressional resolution calling for repeal of the 1975 U.N. General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism.

"We continue to work actively for its renunciation," Bush said in signing the resolution last Friday. "It is long overdue that all of the member states of the United Nations join us in renouncing" the resolution.

Seymour Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, praised Bush's "vigorous statement repudiating the U.N. action and his pledge of continuing support for the effort to rid the record of this pernicious equation, which was initiated by the enemies of Israel."

Momentum for a repeal of the infamous U.N. resolution has grown in recent months. Last December, Vice President Dan Quayle called on the Soviet Union and other nations to join the United States in sponsoring a resolution rescinding the 1975 action.

More recently, the legislatures in a host of Latin American countries have adopted statements calling for a repeal. They include Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, according to the World Jewish Congress, which has been encouraging such efforts.

An official at the Israeli Mission to the United Nations confirmed that support for a repeal has been growing in recent months. But the mission could not provide a hard count on the number of countries that have pledged support.

The Bush administration has been engaged in diplomatic efforts of its own to persuade U.N. members to agree to the repeal. While it reportedly has had some success, the United States has not been able to convince the Soviet Union to join the repeal effort.

The administration itself is moving cautiously on the issue, because of uncertainty about the procedure for repealing a resolution, a Jewish official said.

He explained that the administration is concerned that a resolution for repeal could be encumbered by amendments from Arab countries that could make it meaningless.

The resolution in favor of repeal was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Bill Green (R-N.Y.). A similar resolution in the Senate was sponsored by Sens. Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) and Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

## N.Y. COURT REINSTATES FRAUD CHARGES AGAINST JNF FILED BY FORMER DONORS

By Allison Kaplan

NEW YORK, July 2 (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund has suffered a legal setback in its fight against a group of former donors trying to pressure it to fund projects in the Israeli-administered territories.

A New York appeals court voted 4-1 last month to reinstate charges that JNF defrauded contributors by suggesting in campaign materials that it provides funds to the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights.

In fact, funds raised by JNF of America go to projects located only within Israel's 1967 borders.

At issue were maps JNF uses in campaign literature that show Israel along with the territories it captured in the Six-Day War of 1967. A lower court had dismissed the donors' claim that by using those maps, JNF was in violation of New York consumer protection laws.

But the lower court also had imposed an injunction requiring JNF to state in its campaign literature that "funds contributed to the Jewish National Fund of America are used only for projects within the Green Line," as Israel's 1967 border is called.

The appellate court upheld that order, but also overturned the lower court's dismissal of the fraud claim.

According to the appeals court's June 21 majority ruling, JNF failed to show that its fund-raising activities were exempt from the same laws against fraud as any business.

Since JNF is not a political advocacy group and solicits money from donors, its rights of free speech under the First Amendment are limited by consumer laws prohibiting false advertising, the court ruled.

JNF's attorney, Stephen Wagner, expressed disappointment with the decision, saying it "curtails the JNF's First Amendment rights and sets a bad precedent for other charities."

The ruling, he noted, said a charity can be held liable for fraud, whether or not the organization intentionally misled donors.

## A Two-Year Legal Battle

Wagner said he did not yet know if JNF would bring the case to the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court.

The Ad Hoc Committee for Jewish Survival in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Gaza and the Golan Heights, the organization supporting the list of plaintiffs in the lawsuit, hailed the ruling as a "major victory."

The committee, which has been fighting a legal battle against JNF for more than two years, contends that JNF should fund afforestation and land reclamation beyond the Green Line.

The group is led by Michael Teplow, head of the U.S. branch of Tehiya, a right-wing political party in Israel that favors annexation of the administered territories.

The lone dissenting judge in the appeals court decision argued that because the plaintiff's motives appeared to be strictly political, the entire complaint against JNF should be thrown out of court.

Judge Theodore Kupferman wrote that the Ad Hoc Committee did not sufficiently demonstrate "in what way they have been injured" by JNF's advertising.

"They merely contend that political concerns for Israel would require that the defendant use funds collected in the United States in a political manner. It is not the function of this court to decide such a political or foreign policy question," Kupferman wrote.

"New York State has no interest in deciding where in Israel funds legitimately collected here shall be spent," he wrote.

But the court's majority opinion said that the "controversy does not require the court to determine whether the State of Israel encompasses territories across the Green Line. The only issue raised by plaintiffs is whether defendant is misrepresenting the use to which funds obtained from contributors are put. Therefore, there is no political question involved," it said.

## **MONTREAL YESHIVA IS VANDALIZED AS WHITE SUPREMACISTS STAGE RALLY**

By Bram D. Eisenthal

MONTREAL, July 2 (JTA) -- Yeshiva Gedola became the latest victim of race-related vandalism in Montreal, when it was broken into twice over the weekend, robbed and extensively spray-painted with anti-Semitic graffiti.

Although no arrests have been made, local Skinheads, racist youths who attack Jews and other minorities, are suspected.

The incident coincided with a rally of white supremacists and neo-Nazis on a farm in Carlsbad Springs, Ontario, not far from the Canadian capital of Ottawa.

The 200-student yeshiva was first broken into sometime between midnight and 6:00 a.m. Saturday.

Slogans such as "Heil Hitler," "Death to the Jews" and "KKK" (Ku Klux Klan) were spray-painted on the walls.

A night watchman, who was asleep in the basement, discovered the damage in the morning and called the police and school administrators.

About \$2,000 was stolen from the main office's petty cash box, and a plate glass window was removed from the building. Cars parked along a neighboring street were vandalized and sprayed with racist graffiti.

Montreal police investigators were uncertain how the vandals gained access to the building.

The crime is being treated as two separate incidents, because there were no graffiti inside the building, where the robbery occurred.

Late Sunday evening, intruders broke into the rabbi's study, in an apparent robbery attempt, but no money was found and there was no vandalism reported.

### **Former Canadian Official Linked**

The rally near Ottawa, held on Canada Day, brought together Canadian, American and British white supremacists, including the Aryan Resistance Movement, a Montreal white-power group.

Last year, a similar rally in Minden, Ontario, attracted some 100 white supremacists.

The 180-acre chunk of farmland used for this year's rally apparently was purchased six months ago by the movement for \$50 (Canadian) from a retired federal trade commissioner, Ian Macdonald.

In a recent interview, Macdonald denied the sale, but defended the racists' right to hold a celebration on the property. He admitted he was "not antagonistic toward them."

The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada condemned the rally and lobbied politicians and local religious leaders to do the same.

In recent months, Skinhead-related incidents have been on the rise in Montreal. In April, a Jewish cemetery was desecrated with racist graffiti and headstones were broken.

Two weeks earlier, a party in an apartment in the mainly Jewish suburb of Cote St. Luc was disrupted by Skinheads, who beat a teen-age boy, sending him to the hospital. Skinheads have harassed other young people in recent weeks.

The KKK has just established a French chapter in Montreal, called "Longitude 74," Montreal's geographical location.

The Jewish community is concerned about the escalation of activity by hate groups. "It's a deplorable situation," said Yechiel Glustein, director of B'nai Brith Canada's Quebec office.

## **'SHALOM' TV PROGRAM IN POLAND CONVEYS POSITIVE IMAGE OF ISRAEL**

By Ruth E. Gruber

WARSAW (JTA) -- A television program called "Shalom" seems to be having much success here in changing the popular image of Israel as a country perpetually engulfed in war and ethnic strife.

Intended to be informative as well as entertaining, the weekly series that began broadcasting in April is one of several new ventures aimed at spreading Jewish culture and information about Israel in Poland, a country with a singularly small Jewish population since the end of World War II.

The show was made possible by the re-establishment of full diplomatic relations between Poland and Israel in February.

"We go on the air Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. and run for about 40 minutes," said Michal Nekanda-Trepka, Shalom's creator and producer, who is not Jewish.

The program is a mixture of talk show, explanatory narration and films about Israel, mainly provided by the Israeli Embassy in Warsaw. It is seen all over Poland and in Vilnius, capital of the breakaway Soviet republic of Lithuania.

"The show is an absolute shock for the Polish people," Nekanda-Trepka said. "The usual image of Israel seen on TV is one of war, repression, Palestinian uprising, etc. What our program does is to give information about Israel as a normal country."

According to Nekanda-Trepka, response to the show has been good. "Viewer ratings are high. We started at 18 percent, and now we have received many interesting letters from viewers, very good letters, not bad ones," he said.

Other initiatives aimed at fostering good relations with Jews and Israel include the Polish-Israel Friendship Society, which is headquartered in Warsaw and has some 10 branches all over the country, and a Jewish kindergarten that opened in February.

The kindergarten has only a half-dozen children enrolled, but enthusiasm is high.

In the northeastern Polish city of Bialystok, a major Jewish center before the war, researcher Tomasz Wniewski hopes to take advantage of the new private enterprise laws to start a business selling postcards with Jewish themes only.

In Krakow, the Hadar gallery, devoted exclusively to Jewish artists or Jewish themes, opened in September 1989 just off the old Market Square. It is the first gallery of its kind in Poland.

### **CAT STEVENS BARRED FROM ISRAEL** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) -- Pop singer Cat Stevens, who converted to Islam some years ago and changed his name Yusuf Islam, was denied entry to Israel on Monday for "security reasons" as an "undesirable alien."

Interior Ministry sources said Islam was black-listed because of virulently anti-Israel and anti-Semitic statements he made during a visit here two years ago. He has also spoken out in favor of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The folk/rock star of the 1970s, born Steven Georgiou, was turned away at Ben-Gurion Airport, where he arrived with his 8-year-old son, Mohammed. He did not protest and left aboard the same British Airways plane on which he arrived.