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## LEVY BACK AT WORK, BUT MAY NOT BE WELL ENOUGH TO MEET BAKER IN PARIS
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Doctors are not yet sure whether Foreign Minister David Levy, who suffered a mild heart attack on June 14, will have recovered enough by next week to go to Paris for a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

A medical decision is expected this week.

The meeting could be crucial for U.S.-Israeli relations, which have been strained by the Likud government's rejection of Baker's formula for preliminary Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo.

Levy, who visited his office Monday for the first time since he was sworn in, remains adamantly opposed to the plan's two key elements: the inclusion of Arab residents of East Jerusalem and Palestinian deportees in a delegation with which Israel would discuss its plan for elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Levy stressed that the composition of the Palestinian delegation is not "a marginal and insignificant matter."

He contends that the Baker formula is tantamount to letting the Palestine Liberation Organization choose the Palestinian delegates, a view shared by his Likud colleagues.

Nevertheless, the foreign minister appeared optimistic that his meeting with Baker could achieve a breakthrough in the peace process.

Levy's first appointment since returning to his office was with Seymour Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Much of their conversation was devoted to Israel's precarious relations with Washington.

Reich spoke of a "warming up" since June 13, when Baker bluntly told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Israel should call the White House when it became serious about the peace process.

### 'New Formulas' In The Works

But the Jewish leader said he did not expect the United States would consent to a new Israeli demand that the United States provide written guarantees that it will not force Israel to negotiate with the PLO and that it will never support the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Reich said he had the impression Israel was seeking "new formulas" that would be acceptable to the U.S. administration. But he said he did not think the Likud government could give in on the Baker plan.

He suggested that a review of names in the Palestinian delegation without categorization was a possible compromise that might "satisfy all the parties."

As Levy prepared for his tentative meeting with Baker, Egypt continued to insist Monday that there was no alternative to talking to the PLO.

The Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Mohammed Basyouni, told members of the Moshe Sharett Institute that Israel should negotiate with the PLO.

He insisted that PLO chief Yasir Arafat, whom he referred to affectionately as "Abu-Ammar," is the only one who can deliver peace.

## GOVERNMENT WEATHERS FIRST STORM IN THE KNESSET BY A WIDE MARGIN
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud government easily survived its first test in the Knesset on Monday.

Five no-confidence motions were defeated by a comfortable 60-51 margin, with five abstentions.

The Labor Party, which promised to be a fighting opposition, showed little fight, though the issues were politically potent. One dealt with the growing numbers of homeless Israelis, as the influx of immigrants from the Soviet Union drives up the price of housing beyond the means of low-income families.

The other objected to Defense Minister Moshe Arens' decision to allow Jewish settlers in the West Bank towns of Kiryat Arba and Ariel to establish armed civil guards, a departure from past policy.

The only Knesset member to speak out with any passion was Ran Cohen of the leftist Citizens Rights Movement. He demanded to known what answer the prime minister had for young couples who now live in tents for lack of proper housing.

Is it "that he was too busy bribing Ephraim Gur?" Cohen asked, referring to the Labor Knesset member whose defection gave Likud the 62nd vote it needed to form a government. He charged that the government lost precious time delaying housing starts, thereby causing a rise in their cost.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon accused the opposition of inciting the public, "in order to make doubtful political gains." He said that instead of criticizing the government, it should help shoulder the burden "out of national responsibility."

Labor Knesset member Nawaf Massalha charged that arming the West Bank settlers was like letting the cat guard the milk.

Arens responded that it was the duty of the government to give the local residents every means to protect themselves.

The government's comfortable margin of victory in the Knesset set the stage for the opening of coalition talks between Likud and the Agudat Yisrael party. If the ultra-Orthodox Agudah joins the coalition, the government will have a 67-vote majority in the parliament.

Agudah's four Knesset members abstained in Monday's voting. The fifth abstention reportedly was cast accidentally by a Laborite.

## ADVENT OF TENT CITIES IN ISRAEL IS TESTAMENT TO HOUSING SHORTAGE
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Tent cities springing up all over Israel, including one near the Knesset, have become a highly visible testament to the government's failure to anticipate the housing shortage created by the mass immigration of Soviet Jews.

As thousands of olim arrive each month and receive subsidies for housing, established Israelis, primarily young couples, are being driven into the streets by soaring rents.

Rather than pay hundreds of dollars for rent

each month, they take advantage of the warm, dry weather and pitch their tents in any available location they can find.

So far, about 100 such tents have been set up around the country. The latest temporary tent colony sprang up last weekend in the town of Yehud, east of Tel Aviv.

Others have been set up recently in Holon, Rehovot, Carmiel, Rishon le-Zion and the Rose Garden opposite the Knesset in Jerusalem.

According to figures released by the Bank of Israel, the country's central bank, about 13 percent of Israelis are homeless. That adds up to about 500,000 people, including 150,000 families.

Avraham Shohat of Labor, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, charged in Tel Aviv that the government knew over a year ago that more than 100,000 immigrants would come here in 1990 and "had plenty of time to prepare itself" for the influx, but neglected to do so.

Construction and Housing Minister Ariel Sharon has been given "emergency powers" to deal with the housing and settlement of Soviet immigrants. He has proposed importing tens of thousands of prefabricated homes, a solution opposed by local builders and the construction workers union.

Sharon spent Sunday shuttling in his helicopter from one potential housing site to another.

Last Friday, he appeared before hundreds of angry homeless in Rishon le-Zion to explain his solutions. He promised that imports, more rentals and construction "in the long run will bring down housing costs."

But most Israelis fear the housing crisis will get worse before it improves.

**ISRAEL BOMBS HEZBOLLAH BASES FOR THE SECOND TIME IN 24 HOURS**
**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Israeli air force jets raided Hezbollah bases in southern Lebanon on Monday, for the second time in 24 hours.

A military spokesman said the targets were in the a-Lueiza region, north of the border security zone in southern Lebanon. The bases were used by the Islamic fundamentalist group, whose name translates as Party of God, "for organizing and launching attacks" on Israel, the spokesman said.

Reports from Lebanon said two people were killed when a-Lueiza village, 25 miles south of Beirut, was attacked by four Israeli planes firing air-to-ground missiles.

The target on Sunday was Jarjua village, also north of the security zone.

That raid followed two separate but simultaneous strikes by Israeli jets last Friday against bases of Ahmed Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command in areas of Lebanon under Syrian control.

Monday's raid was the 16th by the Israeli air force against targets in Lebanon so far this year. Reports from Lebanon said 13 people were killed and 75 wounded in the previous strikes.

**ARAFAT THANKS U.N. LEADER FOR HELP**
**By Tamar Levy**

GENEVA, July 9 (JTA) -- U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar met with Yasir Arafat for 90 minutes here Sunday.

The Palestine Liberation Organization chairman said later that he had thanked Perez de Cuellar "for what he is doing for our people."

He was believed to be referring to the special emissary dispatched by the secretary-general last month to assess the situation of Palestinians in Israel and the administered territories after the recent upsurge of violence.

The report of the envoy, Jean-Claude Aime, was a subject of discussion at the meeting.

The PLO leader also said they discussed ways to protect Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israeli security forces.

**SUSPECT IN RISHON LE-ZION DEATHS GOES TO COURT, BUT REMAINS SILENT**
**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Ami Popper, charged with murdering seven Arab laborers in a May 20 shooting rampage near Rishon le-Zion, appeared Monday in Tel Aviv District Court to stand trial.

But the 21-year-old dishonorably discharged former Israel Defense Force soldier refused to utter a word. He would not even state his name.

The court accepted his silence as a not-guilty plea, after the three-judge panel upheld the findings of five psychiatrists who examined Popper while he was under observation at a mental hospital.

The psychiatrists found Popper mentally fit to stand trial. The judges said they would agree unless evidence to the contrary could be produced.

Popper's lawyer, David Ofek, said the psychiatric testing was superficial and asked for more thorough tests to be made.

The lawyer admitted an insanity plea was the only possible defense. He asked to be relieved of the case, on grounds that his client refused to speak to him.

The court rejected the request, but postponed further hearings for several weeks.

**MARATHON TALKS FAIL TO SETTLE STRIKE BY ISRAELI PHYSICIANS**
**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- A marathon negotiating session over the weekend failed to settle the weeklong doctors' strike, which has reduced public health services to the bare minimum in Israel.

The talks involved the doctors, the Histadrut labor federation, the Israel Medical Association and representatives of the Finance and Health ministries. The talks started as soon as the Sabbath ended Saturday night and continued through most of Sunday, to no avail.

The public got a 12-hour respite however. Physicians worked a full schedule Sunday while the negotiations were in progress.

But on Monday morning, they reverted to work sanctions that have virtually closed down hospitals and outpatient clinics operated by the government and by Kupat Holim, the Histadrut health care agency.

All elective surgery has been indefinitely postponed.

The strike began July 1 when some 12,000 Kupat Holim doctors walked off the job to protest the Treasury's cancellation of overtime pay for working a second shift in operating rooms.

A similar number of doctors employed at government hospitals and public health clinics joined them two days later.

**THOUSANDS TURN OUT FOR DEDICATION OF HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL IN BUDAPEST**
**By Elena Neuman**

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- The streets of central Budapest were filled Sunday with more than 10,000 people who gathered to witness the unveiling of the first government-sponsored memorial in Eastern Europe dedicated exclusively to Jewish martyrs of the Holocaust.

A procession of people, including the president and prime minister of Hungary, as well as the mayor of Budapest, filed into the courtyard of a plaza a few steps from the famous Dohany Synagogue.

There, where the entrance to the Budapest Ghetto once stood, some 6,000 Jews were buried during the war in a mass grave. Now, a granite-and-steel monument by Hungarian sculptor Imre Varga marks the site and commemorates the 600,000 Hungarian Jews who died in the Shoah.

On Sunday, throngs of people, many wearing kipot, stood before the memorial and lit candles in remembrance of the dead. They said Kaddish, recited the El Moleh Rachamim, and sang the Hungarian and Israeli national anthems.

The ceremony "was powerful, moving, emotional and, while tragic, in some way uplifting," Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said in a telephone interview from Budapest, where he attended the ceremony.

So many thousands of people turned out for the event, said Steinberg, that the crowd spilled into adjoining streets and loud-speaker systems had to be installed.

Hungarian President Arpad Goncz and Prime Minister Jozsef Antall addressed the crowd, along with Zevulun Hammer, Israel's minister of education and culture, and WJC President Edgar Bronfman also made speeches.

Pledge To Protect Jewish Culture

The participation of the Hungarian government in the ceremony represented a significant departure from the policies of the former Communist governments in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, which played down the uniqueness of Jewish martyrdom during World War II.

In private meetings with WJC leaders, Goncz and Antall asserted that the legacy of Hungarian Jewry is an integral part of Hungarian culture and will be protected. They also expressed their firm opposition to any expression of anti-Semitism in their country.

The Hungarian leaders specifically condemned the surge of anti-Semitic epithets that colored Hungary's recent divisive elections for its first democratic government.

They also pledged their opposition to the 1975 U.N. General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism, supported by the former Communist government in Hungary, and they affirmed Hungary's continued willingness to serve as a way station for Soviet Jews en route to Israel.

The Hungarian Holocaust Victims and Heroes Memorial consists of a powerful tree trunk, shaped like an overturned menorah with scar marks at the ends of each of its fire-singed branches. Each branch of the weeping willow contains thousands of leaves inscribed with names of Hungarian victims of the Holocaust.

"I made up my mind that I would not die without placing (the monument) in the center of Budapest," Leslie Keller, a Hungarian Jew who lost his entire family in the Holocaust, said in a telephone interview from Budapest.

Keller is the president of the Emanuel Foundation for Hungarian Culture, which organized the memorial construction and ceremony.

"I'm very satisfied now. This is my way of memorializing my parents. And the people of Hungary are happy," he said.

**BONN INVESTIGATING ROLE OF FIRMS IN HELPING IRAQ BUILD ARMS FACTORY**
**By David Kantor**

BONN, July 9 (JTA) -- The federal government here is cracking down on West German firms that illegally export weapons technology and equipment to radical Arab regimes.

The Economics Ministry announced Monday that it has opened an investigation into allegations that German companies are heavily involved in the construction of an arms factory near the Iraqi capital of Baghdad that is designed to produce cannons.

If their participation is confirmed, it would constitute a flagrant violation of German law, a ministry spokesman said.

Local press reports say at least six German companies helped the Iraqis build the factory.

On July 2, the state prosecutor accused the Ferrostaal Co. in Essen of illegally shipping giant gun barrels to Iraq, in violation of the export laws. The barrels were said to be part of a huge cannon the Iraqis were assembling that could hurl missiles as far as Israel or deep into Iran.

The West German government, meanwhile, is going out of its way to demonstrate to friends and allies that it will take strong measures against the illegal export of weapons and weapons technology.

The Bundestag decided at the beginning of June to tighten existing export laws. But they are still well below the standards of West Germany's major allies.

**PARTY RE-ELECTS GERMAN EXTREMIST**
**By David Kantor**

BONN, July 9 (JTA) -- Franz Schoenhuber, recently ousted leader of West Germany's extreme right-wing Republican Party, made a surprise comeback Sunday night at the party's convention in the Bavarian town of Ruhstorf.

But the former Waffen SS officer's re-election to the office of party chairman was at the expense of a serious split in the party, which many in Germany consider to be neo-Nazi.

Schoenhuber's chief rival, Harald Neubauer, walked out of the meeting hall with a group of supporters after the decisive vote was taken. He charged the election was manipulated.

Schoenhuber urged his followers to exercise restraint and promised to work to "heal the wounds" within the party.

But many observers say the Republicans face a major crisis.

The power struggle that resulted in the unseating of Schoenhuber less than three months ago followed a series of defeats in local and regional elections during the past year.

Before that, the Republicans were acknowledged to be the most successful party ever to emerge on far right in West Germany.

They polled about 8 percent of the popular vote in the 1989 general elections to the Parliament of Europe.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**
**SUPPORT FOR THE POLLARDS GROWS AS DOUBTS LINGER ABOUT FAIRNESS**
**By Allison Kaplan**

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- Jonathan Pollard's family and supporters are meeting with increasing success in bringing their case to the American Jewish community, as a federal court reviews his move for a withdrawal of the guilty plea that resulted in his life sentence in prison.

Winning recognition from mainstream Jewish groups has been a long-sought goal for supporters of Pollard, a U.S. naval intelligence analyst who was convicted of spying for Israel.

But despite these victories, there appear to be growing tensions within the Pollard clan.

Pollard and his wife, Anne, have been estranged for the four months since she was released on probation, after serving two-and-a-half years in prison, according to Dr. Morris Pollard, Jonathan's father.

Dr. Pollard said Anne had not visited her husband in prison nor written him since her release, though she has had permission to do both. "It's disturbing to Jonathan and disturbing to us," he said.

Anne is currently a patient at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. She was admitted after an attack of pancreatitis, which is related to the digestive disorders that plagued her in prison.

As a result of the attack, she postponed a trip to Israel, which had been set for Tuesday.

Dr. Pollard credited the recent flurry of activity related to the Pollard affair in the Jewish organizational world to the involvement of high-profile attorney Alan Dershowitz in his son's case.

Action By AJCongress, B'nai B'rith

Dershowitz, who has taken on Jonathan Pollard's cause pro bono, contends that his life sentence for spying was grossly disproportionate to that received by spies who have pled guilty to similar crimes. He believes a key reason Pollard received unfair treatment was his Jewishness and the fact that he was spying for Israel.

In the wake of Pollard's conviction in 1985, most of the organized Jewish community avoided involvement in the case. But last month, after its Commission on Law and Social Action heared a presentation by Dershowitz, the American Jewish Congress cautiously advocated a re-examination of Pollard's sentence.

"It has been brought to our notice," reads a resolution approved by the group's governing council, "that substantial allegations have been made that the fairness of the sentence imposed upon Jonathan Pollard and the manner in which the government has dealt with his case were affected by the fact that Pollard is Jewish and the nation he is charged with aiding is Israel.

"Because such allegations raise questions of concern to the American Jewish Congress, we support the call for full, open and fair hearings before appropriate tribunals on these issues," the statement said.

A resolution containing even stronger language was passed July 4 at a convention of B'nai B'rith's District Four in Long Beach, Calif. District Four covers the western United States.

The resolution declared unequivocally that Pollard's treatment "was unduly harsh and excessive in that his sentence was unprecedented and far more severe than those historically meted out to most persons convicted of espionage."

The convention resolved that it would present a resolution at the B'nai B'rith International convention in Dallas at the end of August that, like the AJCongress measure, would call for a review of the case before "appropriate tribunals."

Need To Deter American Jews

Robert Lifton, national president of AJCongress, said the resolutions represent a general belief in the Jewish community that questions over the severity of Pollard's sentence will not go away.

"There is a lingering doubt in the Jewish community that is not healthy," Lifton said. "We're not saying (Dershowitz) has proved his case. But he presented enough material to say it's worth looking into."

Phil Baum, AJCongress associate executive director and chairman of a committee on the Pollards organized by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, stressed that the passage of the AJCongress resolution in no way implied his group's approval of the Pollard couple's espionage activities.

"I think the Pollards are abhorrent," Baum said. "What they did is indefensible and totally wrong."

But such sentiments have recently appeared to be overshadowed in the Jewish community by doubts over why he was sentenced so severely in comparison to other spies.

It has not been a purely spontaneous shift, but one fed by pressure from a vocal and tireless cadre of supporters, led by Pollard's family.

Pollard's father said he has traveled throughout the country, speaking to a number of Jewish community federations and community relations councils, as well as lobbying national organizations.

"I'd like to get Hadassah to come around. But they say they are not political," Pollard said.

Support from Jewish groups is important, Dershowitz wrote in the summary of his presentation. "Indeed, efforts by grass-roots Jews to engage in a dialogue with government officials about the Pollard case have been hindered, because such officials have noted the apparent lack of concern by the major Jewish organizations," he said.

Open Sympathy For The Pollards

But from parts of the American Jewish community, open sympathy for the Pollards, particularly Anne, has been forthcoming.

After her release from prison, Anne Pollard was invited to address audiences as a guest speaker at AMIT Women and the Women's Council of Young Israel. Emunah Women presented her with its "Women of Valor" award at a luncheon that also honored a U.S. congressman, Rep. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.)

Shirley Singer, Emunah's executive vice president, said the group "separated the issues" of the Pollards' activities and what she perceived as Anne's bravery during her prison ordeal.

"It was like what people underwent in concentration camps," she said.

Ironically, as sympathy for the Pollards has grown since Anne's release, discord between her family and Jonathan's has grown worse.

Dr. Pollard said that the falling-out occurred when he refused to let Anne's father, Bernard Henderson, who works in public relations, coordinate the efforts to free Jonathan from prison. Instead, he put the task in the hands of his son's attorneys.