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**PALESTINIAN LEADERS URGE ESCALATION
OF INTIFADA WITH FIREARMS AND KNIVES**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- Palestinians in the administered territories are being exhorted to escalate the intifada with firearms and knives.

The call for deadly weapons, an apparent outgrowth of last week's violence on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, was contained in the latest leaflets circulated by both Hamas and Al Fatah, rivals for leadership of the Palestinian masses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hamas is an Islamic fundamentalist group that originated in the Gaza Strip after the Palestinian uprising began there in December 1987. Fatah is the military wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization controlled by Yasir Arafat.

The Hamas leaflet is the more virulent. It says it is "compulsory" to "murder and kill any soldier or Jew and to damage their property." It urges Palestinians to burn crops in Israel on Oct. 21 and 22.

The Fatah leaflet says that because demonstrations, stones and firebombs have failed to achieve the intifada's goals, it is necessary to resort to guns and knives.

PLO headquarters in Tunis has also called for an intensification of the uprising, but has not authorized the use of firearms, the Israeli news media have pointed out.

Until now, the intifada leadership has made much of the fact that the uprising has pitted only rocks against bullets.

The order to change to deadlier weapons is believed to be a result of the fatal shooting of 21 Palestinians by Israeli border police during the Oct. 8 riots on the Temple Mount.

There is reportedly no shortage of weapons in the administered territories. Palestinians have access to guns stolen from the army or sold to them by criminal elements in Israel.

The Jewish National Fund, Israel's land reclamation agency, has already reported a sudden upsurge of forest fires bearing evidence of arson. According to the JNF, they could be revenge for the Temple Mount killings.

**BRITISH OFFICIAL FAILS TO PERSUADE
ISRAEL TO COOPERATE WITH U.N. TEAM**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd apparently has failed to convince Israel to receive a special U.N. team to investigate the fatal shooting of 21 Arabs by Israeli police last week on the Temple Mount.

But Israel continued to come under pressure from Washington to cooperate with the investigation, which was mandated by a U.N. Security Council resolution adopted last Friday.

The British diplomat, who flew here Monday night from Cairo, met separately with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister David Levy.

According to information leaked to the news media Tuesday, the Israeli leaders were unmoved by Hurd's suggestion that the Cabinet reverse its decision Sunday not to receive the U.N. fact-finding mission.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker urged Israel on Tuesday to cooperate with the United Nations, because "it is the only way we think that Israel will be able to make its case."

At the United Nations, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was reportedly waiting for Israel's reply to his request Monday for clarification of its intentions before deciding whether to send a three-member investigating team to Israel.

In addition to welcoming such an investigation, the Security Council resolution condemns Israel for "acts of violence committed by the Israeli security forces" against some 3,000 Arabs who staged riots on the Temple Mount on Oct. 8.

The Israeli Cabinet declared Sunday that the resolution was "totally unacceptable."

But Israel has not broken off discussions at the United Nations in New York. Its acting permanent representative, Johanan Bein, met Monday with Perez de Cuellar to submit his government's formal statement.

Bein also discussed the Security Council resolution Monday with Thomas Pickering, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Baker Condemns Violence At The Wall

At the State Department, Baker rejected Israel's contention that the United States backed the resolution in order to preserve its international coalition against President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

"This resolution is one that the United States would have voted for had there been no Iraqi crisis, because we were and remain disturbed by the killings that took place," he said at a news conference.

"At the same time," he added, "we were also disturbed by the violence against innocent worshipers at the Western Wall. We don't think there is any excuse for that either."

That remark seemed aimed at assuaging Israel's indignation that the United Nations had completely overlooked the stoning of Sukkot worshipers at the Wall that took place during the Oct. 8 rioting on the Temple Mount above.

Several Jews were hurt, none seriously. But Israeli leaders were outraged by the very idea of an attack on the holiest place of the Jewish religion.

Moreover, they are convinced that the resolution and its investigation were contrived to undermine Israel's claim to sovereignty over all of Jerusalem, including the Arab eastern sector it annexed in 1967.

"The basis of the resolution was a severe and predetermined charge sheet against us," Levy told reporters Tuesday morning after a two-and-a-half-hour meeting with Hurd at the Foreign Ministry. He said that Israel traditionally does not reject U.N. missions, but this case is unique.

Both Levy's and Shamir's meetings with Hurd were described as cordial, though the British minister recently has been severely critical of Israeli policies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

According to the leaked reports, Hurd did his best to persuade Shamir and Levy that to persist in rejecting the U.N. mission would keep world opinion focused on Jerusalem, instead of on Iraq, where it rightfully belongs.

The same argument was used to no avail by Baker, but he is persisting.

He told his news conference that the United States "appreciates" the "low profile" Israel has taken in the Persian Gulf crisis and that is one of the reasons it wants Israel to admit the U.N. team, so as to return to the status quo ante.

Comparison To Saddam Hussein

Baker confirmed he had warned Shamir in a letter that "if Israel rejects the Security Council decision, there will be some who compare you, even though it is not justified, to Saddam Hussein and his rejection of Security Council decisions."

The secretary stressed he was not making such comparisons, but he fears "some will try."

Israel, meanwhile, enjoys the support of U.S. Jewry insofar as it is represented by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Conference Chairman Seymour Reich, who has been in Israel since last week, said the umbrella group's constituents are united in their criticism of the Security Council resolution.

After meeting twice with Shamir in 24 hours, Reich said an early release of the Israeli government's official investigation into the Temple Mount incident would "help alleviate" tensions between Jerusalem and Washington, and might also "satisfy the needs of the Security Council."

Reich said he understood the report would be available early next week. Other sources said it was more likely at the end of next week.

The three-member panel is headed by reserve Gen. Zvi Zamir, a former head of Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence agency. The panel interviewed Police Minister Ronni Milo for two hours Tuesday.

The panel heard Monday from national Police Chief Ya'acov Terner and also heard evidence from officials of Shin Bet, the internal intelligence agency, which is supposed to provide information to the police.

(Contributing to this report were JTA correspondents David Friedman in Washington and Aliza Marcus at the United Nations.)

NEWS ANALYSIS:

U.S.-ISRAELI TENSIONS RESURFACE IN THE WAKE OF TEMPLE MOUNT RIOTS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- Tensions between the United States and Israel that were temporarily put aside after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait have resurfaced in the aftermath of last week's violent riots on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Because of their common interest in thwarting Iraqi aggression, the Bush administration and the Likud-led government of Israel had tacitly agreed to put on hold their sharp differences over the Middle East peace process and Jewish settlements in the administered territories.

The United States, in effect, eased up the pressure on Israel to negotiate with a Palestinian delegation, and Israel agreed to Washington's request that it maintain a "low profile" in the Persian Gulf crisis.

But that cooperation was shattered last week, when the United States actively supported a U.N. Security Council resolution sharply criticizing Israel for its handling of the violent riots on the Temple Mount on Oct. 8, in which 21 Arabs were killed and some 150 wounded.

Israel responded by saying it would refuse to

cooperate with the U.N. investigation mandated in the resolution. And Housing Minister Ariel Sharon announced plans to construct 15,000 new apartments in East Jerusalem, despite strong objections from the United States.

In the organized American Jewish community, too, the U.S. vote has been greeted with almost unanimous dismay. Jewish groups see the resolution as a one-side condemnation of Israel that overlooks what many believe was a premeditated riot by Arabs on Judaism's holiest site.

A Willingness To Endanger Israel

Washington's support for the resolution has only increased the growing concern in the Jewish community that the Bush administration is willing to endanger Israel's interests in order to keep intact the international coalition against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The Bush administration, on the other hand, appears to have expected plaudits for what it believes was a success in thwarting an attempt by Hussein's supporters, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, to link the Palestinian issue to Iraq's seizure of Kuwait.

"The administration feels they did an excellent job keeping the resolution from being one-sided and even more critical of Israel," said Jess Hordes, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

But Hordes said the resolution did not take into account the "murderous incitement" of the Arab mob that threw rocks down from the Temple Mount onto worshipers at the Western Wall.

"I don't think we can be successful in our policy approaches if we are not willing to recognize realities and simply play to expediency," he said.

"The administration engaged in a fairly cynical pre-emptive strategy" said Martin Indyk, executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a pro-Israel think tank.

But he said that as long as the Gulf crisis continues, "it is inevitable Washington is going to take their (Arab) views more into account, giving their sensitivities higher priority."

He said the United States should remember that it is "risking our soldiers to protect Saudi Arabia and Kuwait," countries that "may not survive without our help."

'Catering' To The Arabs

In trying to protect Arab countries from Iraqi aggression, "we are catering to them, instead of the other way around," said Robert Lifton, president of the American Jewish Congress.

Most observers expect U.S.-Israeli relations to suffer while the Gulf crisis continues, although no real break is expected.

Hordes pointed out that the U.N. vote was only one of a number of events that have increased tensions between the two countries. Another is the proposed massive arms sale to Saudi Arabia and the administration's "inability to keep its rhetorical commitment to maintain Israel's qualitative (military) edge."

Lifton of AJCongress took the most optimistic view. He said if the Israeli commission investigating the Temple Mount incident comes up with an unbiased and honest report, "that will take the issue off the table."

He said it would also remove the need for a U.N. investigation, which he said would be prejudiced, since the Security Council has already made its judgment.

BUILDING HOMES IN EAST JERUSALEM WOULD VIOLATE PLEDGE, SAYS BAKER

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- Israel will be violating assurances it gave the United States if it carries out plans to build 15,000 new apartments in East Jerusalem for Soviet Jews, Secretary of State James Baker said Tuesday.

"We think that the United States is and should be entitled to rely upon assurances received from the foreign minister of Israel," Baker said at a State Department news conference. "We are relying on those assurances."

The secretary of state was reacting to Israeli Housing Minister Ariel Sharon's announcement Monday that the Ministerial Absorption Committee had decided to build 17,000 new apartments in Jerusalem, all but 2,000 of them in the eastern part of the capital, which Israel annexed in 1967.

The apartment project, which still needs Cabinet approval, is viewed in both Washington and Jerusalem as an angry response to the U.S. vote for the U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel for last week's violence on the Temple Mount.

Baker, continuing the practice at the State Department for the last few weeks, refused to state directly that Israel had promised it would not settle Soviet Jews in East Jerusalem.

Instead, he pointed to an Oct. 2 letter he received from Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, providing assurances Baker had sought before approving U.S. guarantees for \$400 million in loans Israel will use to house Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union.

"The letter is quite clear, I think, in speaking about areas outside the Green Line," Baker said, referring to the boundary that divided Israel and Jordanian-held territory before the 1967 Six-Day War.

'Letter Speaks For Itself'

Baker quoted the letter as saying that "the government of Israel's policy is not to direct or settle Soviet Jews beyond the Green Line."

The letter, which Levy signed at the conclusion of a weeklong visit to New York, further states that the "use of the housing loan guarantees will be restricted to the geographic areas which were subject to the government of Israel's administration prior to June 5, 1967," Baker said.

He then explained that "the Green Line ran through East Jerusalem, and we know that East Jerusalem was not subject to the administration of (the) government of Israel prior to June 5, 1967."

Israel, however, does not consider East Jerusalem to be part of the disputed territories it administers, but an integral part of its united capital.

When Baker was asked about this, he replied, "I am not going to interpret it (the assurances) for the government of Israel. I think the letter speaks for itself."

East Jerusalem has been a sore point between Israel and the Bush administration. Earlier this year, President Bush included East Jerusalem as part of the disputed areas in which the administration is opposed to Jewish settlements.

But after a storm of protest from Israeli officials and American Jewish leaders, the White House issued a statement saying the United States upholds the right of Jews to live anywhere in Jerusalem.

POLICE RECOMMEND DERI BE CHARGED WITH SEVEN COUNTS OF MALFEASANCE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- After months of investigation, the police have recommended that charges be leveled against Interior Minister Arye Deri on seven counts of malfeasance, according to media reports.

The charges presented to the state prosecutor relate to allegations that Deri illegally channeled government funds to institutions affiliated with his Shas party, the reports said.

They said four other files were closed for lack of evidence but the investigation into related matters was continuing.

Deri's reaction was to demand publicly Sunday that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir order the police to stop repeated leaks to the news media.

"I demand the prime minister put an end to it," Deri declared.

According to the 31-year-old minister, Israel's youngest Cabinet member, the police instigated the leaks to divert attention from criticism that they used excessive force to quell the rioting Oct. 8 on the Temple Mount, in which 21 Arabs were fatally shot and some 150 wounded.

But the police involved in the Temple Mount incident, now the subject of a special government inquiry, were the paramilitary border police. Deri and his associates have been under the scrutiny of the regular police.

According to the media, the police are still examining charges that the minister and his aides were involved in illegal wiretapping and illegal real estate transactions in Jerusalem's Har Nof neighborhood where Deri lives with his wife, Yaffa, and their four children.

Deri, who has been questioned by police several times, denies any wrongdoing.

Other officials of Shas who have been interrogated refused to cooperate with the investigation. Some have been held in custody.

YAIR KLEIN ON TRIAL IN ISRAEL FOR DEALINGS WITH DRUG CARTEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force reserve officer went on trial Tuesday in Jerusalem Magistrates Court for alleged dealings with a Colombian drug cartel.

Lt. Col. Yair Klein has been charged with the illegal export of military information, know-how and equipment to Colombia.

Klein heads Hod Hahanit (Spearhead), an Israeli consulting firm licensed to export military equipment and expertise overseas. According to charges by the Colombian government, he and his associates trained assassination squads for the drug syndicate in Colombia.

Klein has denied the charges. He admits doing business in Colombia but insists he trained security guards to protect farmers from cattle rustlers and guerrilla bands.

Klein has also been linked to a mysterious \$200,000 shipment of Israeli weapons to Antigua-Barbuda, a Caribbean island nation.

The weapons were later found at the ranch of a Colombian drug lord, Jose Rodriguez Gacha, who was killed in a shootout with law-enforcement officers last December.

But no charges have been filed against Klein in Israel about illegal exports to Antigua.

TRIAL OF ARYAN LEADER OPENS IN PORTLAND, ORE.

By Tim Sills
Portland Jewish Review

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 16 (JTA) -- One of America's most notorious white supremacists faces a \$10 million civil suit here for a 1988 racist murder.

Tom Metzger, leader of the White Aryan Resistance -- or WAR -- and his son, John, head of the affiliate Aryan Youth Movement, are being sued for \$10 million by the family of Mulugeta Seraw, an Ethiopian national who was bludgeoned to death by three Portland Skinheads in November 1988.

The plaintiffs are being represented pro bono by the New York offices of the Anti-Defamation League and by the Southern Poverty Law Center, an anti-racist legal aid organization based in Montgomery, Ala.

Metzger, who resides in Fallbrook, Calif., near San Diego, is representing himself.

The Skinheads pleaded guilty last year and said they were members of WAR. ADL and the Law Center say Metzger incited the Skinheads to look for victims and kill them, thus making them liable under Oregon law.

In asking for \$10 million in damages, they are also seeking to bankrupt the defendants. It is a tactic that was used successfully in 1984 in a case against the Ku Klux Klan. The mother of a black youth who was lynched in Alabama was awarded \$7 million and title to the headquarters of the United Klans of America.

The Metzger case, which began Oct. 8, is receiving national attention and is considered by many to be a litmus test of the First Amendment's right to free speech.

The American Civil Liberties Union, appearing as a friend-of-the-court, presented Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Ancer Haggerty with a brief that defended Metzger's right to advocate racism if it cannot be proved that he intentionally incited criminal violence.

Responding to ACLU's action, attorneys from the National Lawyers Guild submitted an opposing opinion arguing liability if Metzger's racist speech constituted reckless or negligent conduct.

According to Portland police spokesman Dave Simpson, the city maintains a "hard-core" population of 50 to 100 neo-Nazi Skinheads, putting it far behind similar populations in major West Coast cities.

'Proven Weapon' Against Anti-Semitism

In spite of the statistics, Portland's Jewish community is acutely aware of the proliferation of anti-Semitism in the past decade, particularly as expressed by the Skinhead movement.

According to the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, what is occurring in Portland is consistent with the national picture. Local Jewish leaders, however, are less in agreement about the implications of the Metzger trial.

"This trial is symbolic of how society responds when a person breaks the law," says Rabbi Emanuel Rose of Portland's oldest synagogue, Beth Israel. "But the facts that give rise to hatred aren't legal, they're cultural, and they're the real problem."

Rose is not convinced that a legal arena can deal effectively with the "residual anti-Semitism that followed World War II." He is especially concerned with those forms of anti-Semitism that

have used Christianity as a smoke screen for blatant hatred.

Metzger is a past minister of a supremacist cult known as the Christian Identity Church, which regards Jews as the children of Satan and blacks as subhuman.

Metzger, who was a minister of James Warner's New Christian Church, later disavowed them.

He was also grand dragon of the California Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1980, Metzger won the Democratic nomination for Congress with 33,000 votes in an overwhelmingly Republican district. He lost the election.

Rabbi Joshua Stampfer of Portland's Neveh Shalom Synagogue is rather optimistic about the consequences of a successful prosecution of Metzger.

"Trials like this are a proven weapon against the organization of anti-Semitism," Stampfer claims. He considers the rise of anti-Semitism to be directly related to racist groups such as WAR.

"Metzger's organization isn't protected by the guarantee of free speech," Stampfer added. "Because this isn't a matter of that freedom, it's about a conspiracy to incite illegal acts."

The trial is expected to last at least three weeks. Jury selection was completed Oct. 9, and opening arguments were heard the following morning.

Security at the Multnomah County Courthouse in downtown Portland is high, as police expect a minor invasion from out-of-town Skinheads in support of Metzger.

In San Diego last month, the Federal Courthouse was bombed by a group calling itself "The Holy Church of the White Fighting Machine of the Cross," which warned "all concerned" to drop the Metzger case.

To win their case, ADL and the Southern Poverty Law Center must convince the 12-person jury of a "preponderance of evidence" in support of Metzger's intent to incite criminal violence.

Chances of that verdict returned in a civil case such as this are far better than in a criminal prosecution, where proof must go "beyond reasonable doubt."

REWARD OFFERED FOR GRAVE VANDALS

By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 16 (JTA) -- A \$2,000 reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest of anti-Semitic vandals who ravaged two Jewish cemeteries in the state of Baden-Wurtemberg in southwestern Germany last weekend.

The police reported extensive damage to the graves of concentration camp victims at the cemeteries in Vaihingen-Enz and in Markgroningen-Unterriexingen.

They said 138 headstones were daubed with swastikas at Vaihingen and several epitaphs were destroyed beyond repair.

An unspecified number of headstones were overturned at the other cemetery. The walls surrounding both were daubed with Nazi symbols and anti-Semitic slogans.

The savage attacks capped a wave of anti-Semitic vandalism in Baden-Wurtemberg that began in July.

The state prosecution in Stuttgart has opened proceedings against unknown parties for inciting racial hatred, membership in outlawed organizations and damage to the gravestones.