

VOL. 68 - 73rd YEAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1990

NO. 205

**ISRAELI POLICE DEPT. TO BE RESHUFFLED
FOLLOWING REPORT ON TEMPLE MOUNT RIOT**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- Police Minister Ronni Milo announced Thursday a major reorganization of the Israeli police -- mainly in Jerusalem -- six days after a special commission issued a report sharply critical of the way the top police brass handled the Temple Mount riots on Oct. 8.

A spokesman for the minister said it would include personnel changes, but he did not specify any. Apparently no dismissals or disciplinary action are contemplated.

The official announcement Thursday said the changes were the result of the "special need to cope with security problems in Israel, particularly in Jerusalem."

In practical terms, it is expected that Jerusalem will be made an independent police district headed by an officer with the rank of commander.

The reorganization process is expected to take several months, by which time the personnel changes would be depicted as a routine reshuffle rather than punitive action.

The police commander of the southern district, Rahamim Comfort, is expected to retire somewhat earlier than he had planned.

Assistant Commander Arye Bibi, head of the Jerusalem police, will be reassigned to a different post, apparently outside Jerusalem.

The highest-ranking police officer, Inspector General Ya'acov Terner, will retain his rank and his job. But Milo will become more involved in routine police operations, as the commission, headed by reserve Gen. Zvi Zamir, a former chief of Mossad, recommended.

**U.N. CHIEF CALLS FOR MEETING
ON PROTECTION OF PALESTINIANS**
By Aliza Marcus

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar issued a report Thursday criticizing of Israel's handling of the Oct. 8 riot on the Temple Mount, and suggesting that the Security Council convene a meeting of signatories to the Fourth Geneva Convention to discuss possible measures to protect the Palestinians living in the administered territories.

Referring to recent outbreaks of violence, Perez de Cuellar said the issue was what possible steps could be taken by the international community to ensure the safety of the Palestinians.

"Clearly, the numerous appeals . . . to the Israeli authorities to abide by their obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention have been ineffective," he wrote in his report.

The convention, whose applicability to the administered territories -- including East Jerusalem -- has been affirmed in previous Security Council resolutions, "entitles the civilian population" in the territories "to safety and protection," Perez de Cuellar said.

But Perez de Cuellar also said it was "evident that for any measure of protection to be ensured, the cooperation of the Israeli authorities is, under the present circumstances, absolutely essential."

Israel, although a signatory to the conven-

tion, does not accept the legal applicability of the convention, and it considers Jerusalem to be its undivided sovereign capital.

In a statement issued late Thursday, Israel's U.N. mission said the status of the areas of "Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and Gaza is not clear under international law and the Geneva convention regarding occupied territory does not legally apply."

Stating its intent to act "de facto in accordance with the humanitarian provisions of that Convention," Israel's position on not allowing other parties "to review or intervene" in its responsibility was emphasized.

The secretary-general's report was issued in response to an Oct 12 Security Council resolution calling for a U.N. mission to investigate the Temple Mount shooting. Israel refused to receive the mission and offered instead its own investigation, which last week laid blame on the Palestinians for inciting the rioting.

**ISRAELI BLACKSMITH STABBED
BY FORMER ARAB EMPLOYEE**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- An Israeli blacksmith in Rishon le-Zion was stabbed and severely wounded Thursday by an Arab worker from the Gaza Strip he once employed.

The suspect was arrested later trying to re-enter the Gaza Strip at the Erez checkpoint.

The stabbing was the latest in the wave of random attacks on Israelis that began with the murder of three Jews by an Arab worker in the Baka neighborhood of Jerusalem on Oct. 21.

Thursday's victim, Shalom Shtazi, was stabbed 10 times in the chest at his workshop and underwent surgery. His condition was reported stable.

The suspect, who reportedly confessed, was not immediately identified by police but was said to have worked for Shtazi in the past.

He reportedly came to the blacksmith's shop Wednesday and was given permission to spend the night.

An altercation developed between the two on Thursday morning and the suspect attacked Shtazi with a knife, police said.

Tensions between Arabs and Jews in Israel have been mounting precipitously since the shooting deaths by Israeli police of at least 17 Arabs at the Temple Mount on Oct. 8.

In the Tel Aviv suburb of Bat Yam, a 5-year-old boy was seriously injured in what was reportedly an accident when an Arab worker dropped a plank from the third floor at a construction site.

On Thursday, parents at a Bat Yam school refused to allow their children to take a school trip on a bus whose driver was an Israeli Arab.

Meanwhile, B'Tselem, the Israeli Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, announced a sharp rise in the number of Palestinian deaths at the hands of Israeli security forces in October.

It counted 31 dead in the territories, including 16 fatally shot during the Temple Mount riots of Oct. 8.

B'Tselem did not count the 17th victim, who

was an Israeli citizen.

The Associated Press reported that 21 Palestinians were murdered in October by fellow Arabs who suspected them of collaborating with Israel.

A Palestinian shot by Israel Defense Force troops Wednesday in Jenin in the West Bank died Thursday of his wounds.

According to the latest estimate by B'Tselem, 712 Palestinians have been killed by security forces since the intifada began in December 1987.

Meanwhile, soldiers Wednesday night demolished the home of Amer Abu Sirhan, the Palestinian accused of stabbing three Jews to death last Sunday in revenge for the Temple Mount killings.

ISRAELI PLANES HIT TERROR BASES DAY AFTER TERRORISTS CAPTURED By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- Israeli aircraft attacked terrorist bases in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley at midday Thursday, and all returned safely, a military spokesman announced.

The raid, which hit at bases near Majdal Balhis, was the second over Lebanon in eight days, the spokesman said. The destroyed targets, located in the area of Lake Karoun, were staging areas for attacks against Israel, according to the spokesman.

The air attack was launched a day after two terrorists were captured in the Tel Nahas region of the southern Lebanon security zone in a car filled with 330 pounds of explosives.

The pair, who might have been on a suicide mission, were described as Moslem extremists. However, their identities and affiliations were not disclosed.

According to some sources, they belong to the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) militia.

The two men were captured by troops of the Israel Defense Force and its allied South Lebanon Army. SLA sappers detonated the explosives without casualties.

Several suicide car-bomb attacks have occurred in and around the security zone in the recent past and a few have succeeded.

Eight IDF soldiers were killed and seven wounded when Hezbollah blew up a car at a border crossing in 1988.

Five IDF soldiers were injured by a car bomb in the same area last year.

LIKUD IS EXPECTED TO SURVIVE ANOTHER NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- The deterioration of the security situation and consequent spread of hard-line sentiment is shaping up as a political plus for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud-led government, analysts here believe.

Although pressed by the Labor opposition on such issues as the shortage of housing and beset by some of its allies on the far right, the Likud government is expected to survive a no-confidence vote in the Knesset next week.

This time it will do so with a more comfortable margin than the 53-51 vote with which it squeaked by on Oct. 22, the analysts say.

But in the unlikely event a motion is passed, and enough votes can be mustered to dissolve the 12th Knesset, Shamir is not afraid to face the electorate, sources close to the prime minister insist.

They say he is confident of a favorable outcome for Likud in new elections, because the Iraqi crisis and the wave of terrorist attacks in Israel have shifted the public consensus from middle-of-the-road to the right.

Moreover, Likud could count on the thousands of Soviet Jews pouring into Israel whose political bias is said to lean toward the right.

Likud nevertheless is trying to widen its shaky 62-58 parliamentary majority.

Shamir is scheduled to meet Friday morning with the leadership of the Orthodox Agudat Yisrael party, with whom he hopes to wrap up long drawn-out coalition negotiations.

The Agudah's four Knesset votes would strengthen the government and act as a hedge against a possible defection by the Orthodox Shas party.

On the far right, Moledet's two-man Knesset faction is split.

Its leader, reserve Gen. Rehavam Ze'evi, broke coalition discipline when he opposed the government in the Oct. 22 confidence vote.

The party's No. 2 man, Yair Sprinzak, abstained, admitting later in an army radio interview that he and Ze'evi were at odds over the timing of a move to topple the government which they think is too soft on the Arabs.

Moledet's platform calls for the transfer of the Palestinian population out of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Ze'evi and his followers believe the public mood has shifted far enough to the right to guarantee them at least 10 Knesset seats if elections were held soon.

Another Likud ally on the far right, the two-man Tsomet faction, gave formal notice Thursday evening that it would quit the coalition unless the government expedites legislation for electoral reform within the next three weeks.

Political pundits believe new elections are unlikely because, given the drift of public opinion, Labor fears the outcome.

Therefore, according to the political experts, Shamir's position is strong. Even if his government falls, there is no alternative in sight.

His own rivals for power in Likud -- Ariel Sharon, David Levy, Yitzhak Moda'i -- prefer to avoid elections which would probably ensconce the 75-year-old Shamir in the office of prime minister for four more years.

FRANCO-ISRAELI TIES AFFIRMED DURING LEVY VISIT TO PARIS By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister David Levy of Israel left Paris on Thursday after a three-day working visit during which controversial issues were avoided and Franco-Israeli friendship was strongly affirmed.

In fact, President Francois Mitterrand said he "understood" that "Jerusalem is the very soul of the Jewish people," and that Israel would never give it up, Levy reported.

The two countries are in solid agreement that President Saddam Hussein of Iraq must not be allowed to reap any benefits from the present confrontation in the Persian Gulf.

France and Israel remain very much at odds, however, over a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But Levy agreed with his hosts that they would not allow their divergence of views to impair their long-standing friendship.

QUEBEC POLICE ARREST 9 YOUTHS FOR SHABBAT ATTACKS ON HASIDIM

By Bram D. Eisenthal

MONTREAL, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- A prompt response by police to four attacks on Shabbat eve on members of the Hasidic community here has resulted in the arrest of nine youths, all from the area.

The attacks, all perpetrated in the Outremont municipality near Montreal, began at about 10:15 p.m. Oct. 26, while the Hasidic community was celebrating Shabbat. A youth gang attacked at least nine individuals in several areas, all Hasidic males between 20 and 47 years old. The victims were kicked and pushed, their shtrimeim, or traditional fur hats, knocked off and stolen and their eyeglasses broken.

Witnesses say the van drove through Outremont searching for Hasidic Jews, easily identifiable from their distinctive garb. Outremont has approximately 2,500 Hasidic residents.

The police arrests, said to be the first apprehension of persons involved in a racially motivated attack on Montreal's Jewish community, was announced by the Quebec Region of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights at a news conference on Wednesday.

The victims had immediately notified the police and B'nai Brith Canada Quebec Region. B'nai Brith officials urged them to press charges, which was done immediately after Shabbat.

Police, who were aided by the B'nai Brith decision not to make a public announcement until the news conference, were able to trace the van's license number.

French-Speaking Youths

One male youth was immediately arrested, followed by the apprehension of six other boys and two girls. Their identities cannot be revealed because they are under 18.

The alleged perpetrators are from Quebec's St. Jean d'Iberville region and are French-speaking, according to Lt. Detective Pierre Bernaquez of the Montreal Urban Community Police, who is heading the investigation.

It is not believed that they are members of any Skinhead or other white supremacist groups, which are suspected of having committed a series of acts of racist vandalism in Montreal in the last seven months.

Among the crimes for which white supremacists are believed responsible are the spraying of swastikas and Nazi slogans on gravestones in Montreal's Jewish cemetery in April, and the burning and vandalizing in June of a yeshiva and synagogue in Outremont.

The youths who allegedly attacked the Hasidim on Shabbat "were apparently at a party and got drunk," said Bernaquez.

It is presently known that the first youth arrested had no prior arrests, and did not have a shaven head, "which is why we don't think that he is part of any Skinhead group," said Bernaquez. "We will, however, be investigating this possibility further."

Solomon Feldman, one of those attacked, appeared at the news conference to answer questions. He said that he left his house at about 10:15 Friday night, en route to a celebration at a nearby synagogue, when he was detained.

"A van pulled up, stopped, and three or four boys jumped out. I ignored them, but they blocked my way on either side," he said. "They then

shoved me, tripped me and hit me in the face, all the time screaming something without any words I could make out. Then they drove off."

Feldman said that he tried to note the license plate number, but the van's lights were off. He was able to summon police by asking his son to set off a "panic button" in his home.

Outremont resident Alex Wertzberger also made an appearance on behalf of his son-in-law, another assault victim.

Others who took part in the news conference included Professor Steven Scheinberg, chairman of the League for Human Rights, Quebec Region; Professor Julien Bauer, an executive member of the League; and Magali Marc, B'nai Brith Canada Quebec Region director of communications.

The purpose of the news conference, said Scheinberg, "is to stop the spread of further rumors about the incident and also to give the Jewish community of Outremont a greater feeling of security as Jews."

CANADIAN GRADUATE SCHOOL CANCELS HALL RENTED TO HOLOCAUST REVISIONIST

By Gary Pogrow

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, a degree-granting graduate school, says it was duped into renting its auditorium in Toronto for a lecture by David Irving, the British author who denies the Holocaust occurred.

Walter Pitman, the director of the institute, which promotes multiculturalism and anti-racism, said he canceled the contract because he decided that Irving's lecture "was not an appropriate use of our facilities," the Toronto Globe and Mail reported.

Irving's lecture was booked by The Council on Public Affairs, "which sounded like an educational organization, but we later became aware that indeed it was not quite as simple as that," Pitman said.

Irving testified for the defense in the second trial of neo-Nazi propagandist Ernst Zundel, who was charged with violating Canada's anti-hate laws by circulating the book "Did Six Million Really Die?" which claims the Holocaust was a Jewish hoax.

Irving is on a Canadian tour. His announced subject is "German reunification and other related topics."

The tour visited Vancouver, but began across Puget Sound in Victoria, British Columbia, where it was sponsored by the Canadian Free Speech League.

Rabbi Victor Reinstein of Victoria said that "when the Holocaust is challenged," it is not an issue of free speech. "It is a matter of hatred and denying suffering that has occurred as a result of that hatred," he said.

Michael Elterman, Vancouver regional chairman of the Canadian Jewish Congress, was quoted in The Province as saying, "What Irving is saying is an insult to the memory of the people who died in the Holocaust. It is an insult to the families of those Canadians who died in the Second World War."

But Franz Weltschnigg, who organized Irving's Canadian tour, complained that "pressure groups" deprived people of an opportunity to "find out what actually happened during the war or after the war from sources other than so-called recognized historians."

THE 1990 ELECTIONS: IN HOUSE RACES, PRO-ISRAEL PACs MAINLY SIDING WITH THE INCUMBENTS

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- Despite strong anti-incumbent sentiment among voters this year, pro-Israel political action committees are counting on most members of the House of Representatives to be re-elected.

That is why, for the most part, they are throwing their support behind incumbents, whose re-election rate in the House has hovered around 98 percent in recent years.

But even if challengers succeed in pulling off upset victories in several races, the House is likely to remain a bastion of support for Israel.

Pro-Israel PACs have provided money to more than 175 incumbents this campaign cycle and to a few dozen challengers. But most challengers backed by the PACs lost their party primaries.

The biggest such defeat took place in Illinois, where Mel Reynolds lost in his bid to defeat Rep. Gus Savage in the Democratic primary.

Savage, infamous for campaign speeches in which he assails "Jewish money" and Jewish control of the media, was despised so much by the PACs that they gave Reynolds \$26,300. Savage is considered a shoo-in in the general election.

Only one House incumbent was defeated in this year's primaries: Rep. Donald "Buz" Lukens (R-Ohio), who resigned last week rather than face possible expulsion from the House on the basis of charges of sexual misconduct. Lukens lost after he was convicted of engaging in sex with a minor.

Jewish Challengers Not Backed

For the most part, the pro-Israel PACs are banking on incumbents even in those races where the challenger is Jewish.

In a race containing lots of rhetoric about who is more pro-Israel, Rep. Harry Johnston (D-Fla.) is being challenged by Scott Shore, an Orthodox Jewish Republican. Johnston has received \$9,800 from several PACs, with Shore receiving \$1,000, all from the Washington PAC.

Rep. Chuck Douglas (R-N.H.), a strong supporter of Israel, has received \$4,000 from four PACs. His Democratic challenger, energy developer Dick Swett, received \$1,750 from three PACs. Swett, who is Jewish, is a son-in-law of Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.).

Rep. George Sangmeister (D-Ill.) has received \$3,350 from four PACs. His Republican challenger, City of Homewood Mayor Manny Hoffman, who is Jewish, received \$250 from the Modrn PAC.

Another incumbent who faces a Jewish challenger is Rep. Peter Hoagland (D-Neb.), whose opponent is Republican Ally Milder. Hoagland has received \$10,250 from seven pro-Israel PACs this election cycle, with Milder not receiving any funds. Hoagland won by 2,981 votes in 1988 against a different challenger, who had defeated Milder in the Republican primary.

Most of the challengers who have received pro-Israel PAC money are expected to lose. The challenger with the most support is former Oregon state Rep. Mike Kopetski, a Democrat who received \$6,750 from nine PACs in a repeat of his 1988 race against Rep. Denny Smith (R-Ore.), which he lost by 707 votes.

There are much greater odds for those seeking the 29 seats where lawmakers are retiring or running for other offices. Pro-Israel PACs have weighed in on the side of 11 of these contestants.

Among them is New Jersey state Sen. Richard Zimmer, a Jewish Republican who received \$2,750 from five PACs in his race against Democrat Marguerite Chandler. The seat is now held by Rep. Jim Courter, a Republican.

31 Jewish Incumbents Running

One race of note where no pro-Israel PAC money has been spent is in Vermont, where Rep. Peter Smith, a Republican, is being opposed by Democrat Dolores Sandoval and former Burlington Mayor Bernard Sanders, who is running as an independent. Sanders, a Jewish Socialist, lost to Smith by 8,911 votes in 1988.

Sanders and Zimmer of New Jersey appear to have the best chances at expanding the House's Jewish membership, which now stands at 31.

Of the 31, all of whom are seeking re-election, Rep. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) received the most pro-Israel PAC money, totaling \$24,350.

The next highest were Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.), \$18,700; Howard Wolpe (D-Mich.), \$18,700; Steven Schiff (R-N.M.), \$16,900; Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.), \$16,250; John Miller (R-Wash.), \$15,900; Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.), \$15,250; Sidney Yates (D-Ill.), \$13,500; Lawrence Smith (D-Fla.), \$13,417; and Mel Levine (D-Calif.), \$10,929.

Engel, Schiff and Lowey are all completing their first terms, which makes them more vulnerable than longer-term incumbents.

Wolpe and Miller have had close races because their constituents tend to identify more with the other party. Yates, the dean of Jewish members of Congress, who is seeking his 21st term, this year faced his first competitive primary in recent memory.

Non-Jewish incumbents receiving the most such money were Reps. Vin Weber (R-Minn.), \$22,950; David Obey (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, \$21,150; House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.), \$16,750; Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, \$16,000; Les Aspin (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, \$15,250; Wayne Owens (D-Utah), \$15,100; and Peter Kostmayer (D-Pa.), \$13,500.

Democrats Favored Over Republicans

Weber, secretary of the House Republican Conference, has taken over the mantle from former Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.) as the leading House Republican in support of Israel. Kemp is now secretary of housing and urban development.

Notable members of Congress not receiving any pro-Israel PAC money are House Speaker Thomas Foley (D-Wash.); Rep. Jamie Whitten (D-Miss.), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; and five of the top eight Republicans on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

By contrast, only three of the top 20 Democrats on the committee received no such PAC money: Reps. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.), Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) and George Crockett Jr. (D-Mich.), who is retiring. Dymally and Crockett have anti-Israel records, while Studds' is considered mixed.

Rep. Charles Wilson (D-Texas) was the only member of Obey's powerful subcommittee not to receive pro-Israel PAC money.

With Crockett's retirement, a whopping nine of the top 17 Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs Committee will be Jews, should they all be re-elected, as is expected.