

SHAMIR AND BAKER AGREE THAT IRAQI MILITARY POWER CAN'T BE LEFT INTACT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir indicated Sunday that he believes the United States will not agree to a solution of the Persian Gulf crisis that allows Iraq's military power to continue to be a threat to Israel and others.

"I don't think the world can live with such a (military) machine intact," Shamir said in an appearance on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation."

He said there was a "moral commitment" from the United States, as well as "a convergence of interests, that in the Middle East, if we want to have stability, if we want to have peace, Israel must be a part of all this stability."

This also means that "Israel is not to be exposed to dangers and threats of Iraq," Shamir added.

The Israeli leader is expected to receive assurances on this position when he meets with President Bush at the White House on Tuesday morning.

But he already has public support for this from Secretary of State James Baker, who was interviewed Sunday on the ABC-TV program "This Week With David Brinkley."

"We agree that the disproportionate military power of Iraq and the weapons of mass destruction that Iraq possesses must be dealt with in some way," Baker said.

He said this means that there must be some sort of "security arrangement" at the conclusion of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Shamir made it clear that Israel cannot accept any solution that leaves Saddam Hussein's war machine intact. "Israel will defend itself when it will be necessary," he vowed.

"I think the only way to avoid any dangers of war is the strongest possible American position," the prime minister said. He said U.S. support for Israel "is the most deterring factor" in preventing war.

U.S. Would Respond To Iraqi Attack

Baker stressed that the United States continues to be committed to Israel's security. He repeated his statement before congressional committees last week that "if Israel were attacked (by Iraq), there would be an appropriate response from the United States."

But Baker would not say what this response would be. Neither did Brent Scowcroft, Bush's national security adviser, who appeared Sunday on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" program.

Scowcroft said that while an attack on Israel by Iraq would be taken "very seriously," he could "not say precisely" how the United States would respond.

Baker praised Israel's position throughout the Gulf crisis. "Israel has adopted a low profile policy throughout this crisis, a position that the United States is very appreciative of," he said.

Israel's low profile has allowed the United States to deal with the crisis "in the manner which we think it should be dealt with," he added.

U.S. SAYS IT OPPOSES STATEMENT NOW ON CONVENING OF A PEACE CONFERENCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The Bush administration continues to be opposed to including any reference to an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict in a resolution now being considered by the U.N. Security Council, Secretary of State James Baker said Sunday.

Interviewed Sunday on the ABC-TV program "This Week With David Brinkley," Baker said that while the United States is not opposed to such a conference at the "appropriate time," it should not be included now because it would be seen as linkage to the Persian Gulf crisis.

A vote on the resolution, which criticizes Israel's treatment of the Palestinians, was originally scheduled last week, but it has repeatedly been postponed because of U.S. concerns.

The council convened Saturday to discuss the resolution but put off a vote until Monday.

For the third time in two months, the Bush administration is again in a bind over a resolution criticizing Israel. If it vetoes the resolution, it fears the move will antagonize the Arab nations in its coalition against Iraqi aggression.

But if it lets the resolution go through by either supporting it or abstaining, Washington is likely to offend Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is now visiting the United States and scheduled to meet Tuesday with President Bush.

Shamir, interviewed Sunday on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation," said Israel opposes an international conference. "Israel will not accept it; we will not participate in it; it is a non-starter," he said.

'Not The Way To Get Peace'

Bush's national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft, said Sunday that he doubted the president would support an international conference. "This is not the way to get peace," he said on the NBC-TV program "Meet the Press."

At the United Nations, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering reportedly has circulated a working paper proposing removal of the reference to the international conference from the resolution and including it in a separate, non-binding council statement.

But the four sponsors of the resolution-- Colombia, Cuba, Malaysia and Yemen -- have rejected Pickering's proposal.

The Security Council president, Abdalla al-Ashtal of Yemen, has formed a committee with Pickering and Finnish Ambassador Klaus Tornudd to work on a compromise.

The latest draft of the resolution, which originally was introduced three weeks ago, drops the idea of sending an ombudsman to the administered territories to report on the status of the Palestinians living there. Instead, it requests that the secretary-general, using U.N. staff already in the area, monitor events in the territories.

The draft also urges that a meeting be convened of the 164 signatories to the Fourth Geneva Convention, which sets out the protection to be afforded to civilians living under occupation.

(JTA correspondent Aliza Marcus at the United Nations contributed to this report.)

CURFEW BLANKETS TERRITORIES ON THIRD INTIFADA ANNIVERSARY

By Cathrine Gerson

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- A million Palestinians were confined to their homes Sunday, under a curfew imposed over the West Bank and Gaza Strip to guard against violence on the third anniversary of the start of the intifada.

But neither curfew nor Israel Defense Force reinforcements could eliminate violence entirely.

One Palestinian was killed and an Israeli border policeman was wounded slightly in a disturbance in the Gaza Strip.

The dead man, Mohammad el-Madani of Bani Suheila village, was promptly hailed by local residents as the first intifada martyr of the fourth year of the Palestinian uprising.

Since the uprising began on Dec. 9, 1987, 712 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli security forces, according to an official count, and 23 Israelis have died from violence related to the intifada.

In addition, Palestinian activists murdered 191 fellow Arabs accused of collaborating with Israelis.

In fact, while the number of Palestinians killed by the IDF has declined from year to year, internecine killings have climbed. They numbered 21 in the first year of the uprising, 134 in the second and 136 in the third.

Arab fatalities resulting from clashes with Israeli forces were down to 124 in the third year, compared to 285 and 303 in the first and second years respectively. Most of the fatalities were inflicted by live ammunition, plastic or rubber bullets fired at stone-throwing rioters.

Nature Of Intifada Has Changed

But the nature of the intifada has changed in recent months, in a way for the worse.

While rioting and stonings have subsided, stabbing attacks on individual Jews have increased in recent weeks and have spread from the territories and East Jerusalem into areas of Israel proper where such attacks were hitherto unknown.

Many officials and politicians fear, moreover, that intifada activists are about to resort to firearms.

Leaflet No. 65, circulated last week by the so-called Unified Command of the intifada, exhorted Palestinians to resort to all available means to achieve their goals.

That was taken to mean firearms, which were eschewed until recently for fear of Israeli retaliation in kind.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens said last week that he was convinced the Palestinians know "bullets would be met by bullets" and will not solve the problems of the territories.

But Palestinian nationalist leader Faisal Husseini said he was not sure the intifada leadership will be able to contain the young street fighters much longer.

He told Ma'ariv in an interview Friday, "No one wants the killing and the knives. What you see today is the action of individuals. We still control the people. But what is frightening is that in about two years you will have to talk to men who know only the language of the jungle," Husseini said.

When the intifada erupted three years ago, Yitzhak Rabin of the Labor Party was minister of defense. He estimated it would take a few months to quell the uprising. Now Rabin, in the opposi-

tion ranks, says the only thing that will end it is a political solution.

Three years ago, most Likud leaders dismissed the demonstrations as a passing phenomenon which could be ended quickly if the Israel Defense Force was allowed to get tough. Now Likud realizes that while the IDF has learned to deal with the unrest, it can not end the uprising.

ORTHODOX MINISTERS COMPLAINING NON-JEWS IMMIGRATING FROM USSR

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Orthodox Cabinet ministers are continuing to complain that non-Jews are being admitted to Israel as Soviet immigrants.

Menachem Porush, appointed deputy minister of labor and social affairs when his Agudat Yisrael party joined the Likud-led government last month, is the latest to make such claims.

He charged at Sunday's Cabinet meeting that Soviet non-Jews are resorting to fraud to gain admission to Israel as immigrants.

His allegations were similar to those of Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz, who, during and following a visit he made to Moscow, claimed that 30 to 35 percent of the Soviet olim arriving here do not qualify as Jews by halachic standards.

But Porush said he was not focusing on the "dubious cases" of persons with tenuous links to Judaism. His main concern, he said, is Soviets without the remotest connection to Jewry who used forged documents to enter Israel as olim.

He said he had that information on the authority of an "eminent dayan" (religious judge) who made an on-the-spot investigation in the Soviet Union and was "aghast" at what he found.

Porush did not identify the sage. But he is urging the government or the Jewish Agency to send Orthodox officials to Moscow to weed out "goyim masquerading as Jews" among the olim.

Otherwise, he warned, "we will have a Russian problem alongside our Palestinian problem."

A Cynical Way To Leave USSR

He said there should be no reluctance on humanitarian grounds, because Israel was established as a homeland for Jews, not for just anyone who wants to leave his country.

Porush alleged that Soviet emigres latched on to Jewishness as a cynical way to get out of the Soviet Union because other countries were closed to them.

Peretz first raised the issue during a visit to Moscow last month. He has brought it up several times since, despite warnings by other ministers and Knesset members that it is a delicate matter with many ramifications that could harm aliyah.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has scheduled a meeting with Israel's two chief rabbis when he returns from his current American visit to discuss the religious credentials of Soviet olim.

The ministers of religious affairs, interior and absorption, all rigorously Orthodox, have been invited to attend.

Peretz, formerly a member of the Orthodox Shas party, sits in the Cabinet as an independent.

Porush, a veteran Agudat Knesset member, was elevated to sub-Cabinet rank as part of his party's coalition agreement with Likud.

Although the Council of Torah Sages, which governs Agudah, forbids its politicians from accepting full ministerial portfolios, Porush is privileged to attend Cabinet meetings.

SHAMIR JOINS FARM LOBBY IN URGING WAIVER OF JACKSON-VANIK SANCTIONS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir added his voice Sunday to those calling on President Bush to consider waiving U.S. trade sanctions against the Soviet Union as a reward for the large number of Soviet Jews being allowed to emigrate.

Israel is "happy" some 150,000 Jews have arrived from the Soviet Union this year, Shamir said on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation."

"We are grateful to the Soviet Union, we are grateful for this change of their policy, for allowing these people to come now," he said.

"I think for this reason it is time to suspend for a year or so the Jackson-Vanik Amendment in such a way to facilitate trade relations between Soviet Russia and the United States," he said.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry issued a statement last week also urging Bush to grant a one-year waiver of sanctions contained in Jackson-Vanik. The amendment to the Trade Act of 1974 links U.S. most-favored-nation trade benefits for the Soviet Union with increased emigration.

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews has opposed such a waiver at this time, contending that the Soviet Union should first codify promised emigration reforms and then prove that they have been implemented.

Will Seek More Aid From U.S.

Shamir, who is scheduled to meet with Bush on Tuesday, is expected to ask for more U.S. help in absorbing the Soviet immigrants.

Speaking of Bush's longtime commitment to the Soviet Jewish emigration movement, Shamir said, "It would be just for America to help this process," since "Israel alone cannot afford it."

The United States has already approved guarantees for \$400 million in loans that Israel would use to build housing for the new immigrants. Shamir expressed confidence Sunday that the United States would find a way to provide additional assistance.

While the positions announced by Shamir and the National Conference may make it easier for Bush to waive Jackson-Vanik sanctions, the impetus to do so may have more to do with a desire to help U.S. farmers than anything else.

The Bush administration is currently considering such a waiver to allow Moscow to receive credits that would enable it to buy food, in order to help prevent possible starvation in the Soviet Union this winter. The Soviets need the credits since they do not have hard currency.

Up to now, Bush has maintained that he would not grant a waiver of the trade sanctions until the Kremlin adopts the long-promised emigration reform law.

The administration has been under heavy pressure to grant a waiver for the last year from wheat and grain farmers in the American Midwest, whose produce is selling at the lowest price in over a decade. They also fear they will lose sales to farmers from other countries that are granting credits to the Soviet Union.

At a Nov. 30 White House news conference, when Bush announced he was studying the possibility of a Jackson-Vanik waiver to help U.S. farmers, the president expressed astonishment that farmers would think he supports a grain embargo

against the Soviet Union. "I'm one of the strongest proponents against a grain embargo," he said.

But at a hearing last week of the House Agriculture subcommittee on wheat, soybeans and feed grains, the president was accused of enforcing a "de facto grain embargo."

The hearing included testimony not only from representatives of farm groups, but from leaders of the National Conference and the Union of Councils, as well.

'A Virtual Grain Embargo'

Although both Soviet Jewry umbrella groups have been testifying before congressional committees for two decades, this was the first time they had appeared before an agriculture committee.

"The Bush administration's historic refusal to grant this waiver is causing American farmers to suffer through what they perceive to be a virtual grain embargo," said Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.), the subcommittee's chairman.

"U.S. farmers are being forced to step aside and watch their foreign competitors, through the use of credits, meet Soviet food needs once met by them."

Glickman said he has long supported Soviet Jewry and has relatives seeking to emigrate from the USSR. But he said that the present increased level of emigration should be rewarded. The Bush administration should not "insist on technical compliance" with promises of legislation, "which may never happen," he said.

Both the National Conference and the Union of Councils told the subcommittee that they support providing the farm credits, but they differ sharply on a waiver of Jackson-Vanik sanctions.

A waiver for a year "would be fully consistent with the objectives of the legislation, which are to contribute to the goal of truly free emigration," Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the National Conference, told the subcommittee.

She said that by the end of the year, some 180,000 Soviet Jews will have emigrated, a figure that could double in 1991.

Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils, told the subcommittee that for "humanitarian purposes, the UCSJ will not oppose a one-year waiver of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment."

But she said the president should not grant the Soviet Union tariff concessions or submit to the Senate the trade agreement signed last spring by Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, "until emigration legislation is passed."

"It is clear that Mr. Gorbachev can generate an acceptable emigration law if he chooses to make it a personal priority," Cohen argued.

Emigration Law Might Not Pass

But Cardin said that despite earlier optimism that the Supreme Soviet would quickly adopt the emigration law, it now appears that Gorbachev cannot push it through.

The National Conference has never linked a waiver to adoption of the emigration law, she said. "We have tied it to performance."

Up to now the Jackson-Vanik "was used as a stick" to force Soviet compliance with international human rights agreements. But now it can be "used as a carrot" to encourage further improvements, Cardin said.

Bush has indicated that some in his administration believe he has authority to make such an exception. But some experts on Jackson-Vanik believe that a waiver must include all credits and tariff restrictions covered by the legislation.

JEWISH INSTITUTIONS AND BUSINESSES ARE TARGET OF RECENT VIOLENCE IN PERU

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Several recent acts of terrorist violence in Peru have been directed at Jewish targets there, according to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and other sources who are in touch with the Peruvian Jewish community.

The violence includes the bombing of a synagogue and Jewish businesses and the kidnapping of a prominent Jewish industrialist.

Responsibility for these acts has been taken by the Revolutionary Movement of Tupac Amaru, which has blamed Jews and Jewish-owned businesses as symbols of "reactionary imperialism."

The terrorist group, known by the Spanish initials MRTA, claimed responsibility for the bombing of a synagogue in the capital city of Lima on Nov. 9. The group is also believed responsible for bombing the U.S. Consulate in Lima two days later.

No one was injured in the synagogue blast, which destroyed the front wall of the building. The Ashkenazic synagogue is not currently in use.

The Jewish Association of Peru condemned the bombing as an affront to the "religious sentiments of all Peruvians," and called on all sectors of society to reject the attempt to attack religious institutions "as a means of attaining political objectives," ADL reported.

Jewish Industrialist Kidnapped

Last Monday, a Jewish industrialist, Hory Chlimper, 69, was kidnapped in his office at his pharmaceutical plant in Lima, according to the Israeli daily Ma'ariv.

But it is not clear that he was kidnapped because he is Jewish. While Chlimper identifies as a Jew, he is not actively involved in Jewish communal affairs, according to the Latin American Jewish Congress. His kidnapping may be more connected to his profession, the congress said.

The pharmaceutical industry received beneficial treatment during the previous administration of President Alan Garcia, and now the extreme left is accusing that industry of having enriched itself at the expense of the poor.

Although it is believed that Chlimper was abducted for that reason, officials point out that it was a Jewish businessman of that industry who was kidnapped. But there has been nothing to substantiate that he was singled out because of his Jewishness.

"If the Jewish community had the conviction or a well-founded assumption that this is an anti-Semitic event, it would immediately have reacted," said a prominent member of the Latin American congress, Eduardo Bigio of Buenos Aires.

Still, Yuval Metzger, Israeli ambassador to Peru, told Ma'ariv there has been an ongoing cycle of terror against Jews in recent weeks.

A mattress store owned by Jews was set afire and its owners identified in a pamphlet as Zionists, according to Ma'ariv.

The Tupac Amaru name appeared on a letter sent last month to a Jewish school in Lima with a list of Jews identified as imperialists marked for death. Following this, the bomb was delivered to the synagogue, ADL reported.

Tupac Amaru took responsibility in a communique published in *Diario*, the group newspaper.

Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, director of ADL's Latin American affairs department, said Tupac

Amaru is linking Jews with what it calls "North American imperialism."

The targets seem to match those found on documents in the possession of three members of the Abu Nidal terrorist organization who were caught in Lima in July 1988. Their targets included prominent Jews, Jewish and Israeli institutions and American institutions.

Last May, the three men were freed and are somewhere in Peru, according to Rosenthal.

An Abu Nidal Connection?

One of the three, Hocine Bouzidi, is suspected of links to the November 1985 hijacking of an Egyptian jetliner in which an Israeli woman was killed. He is also suspected of helping plan the December 1985 attacks at the El Al counters of the Rome and Vienna airports, in which 20 people were killed and more than 100 injured.

Rosenthal said there may have been contacts between members of Tupac Amaru and the Abu Nidal terrorists in prison. But precise ties between the groups are not known, he said.

In July, the secretary of the Jewish Association of Peru, Jacobo Hasson, was shot while driving near his home. Following surgery on his hand, he left Peru for Israel, where he remains.

"We've spoken to the government," Rosenthal said. "You have to recognize that the government is besieged by attacks on other targets. They are hitting power sources, electricity to the capital. It is a tough situation."

About 5,000 Jews live in Peru. A member of the community visiting the United States, who asked not to be identified, said, "It can't be said it's a dire situation for the Jews. It's the general situation of the country."

SOCCKER RACISM FLUSTERS AUTHORITIES

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The authorities are in a quandary over how to handle the anti-Semitism and other forms of racism and bigotry that plague soccer matches in the Netherlands and elsewhere in Europe.

It may be easier to deal with physical violence, such as the large-scale damage done to railroad coaches by traveling soccer fans, than the verbal violence from spectators in the stands.

Verbal assaults are directed against Jewish and black players and homosexual referees.

When Amsterdam's Ajax football club takes to the field, it is greeted by a mass hissing, which is supposed to signify gas escaping from the gas chambers. Because Ajax had some star Jewish players years ago, it gained the reputation of being a Jewish club, which it is not.

Black players are assaulted with so-called "jungle" noises and bananas thrown at them.

LOST SOLDIER RESCUED BY ARABS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- A lost Israel Defense Force soldier feared captured by terrorists was rescued by Arab villagers Saturday in the West Bank suffering from heat and exhaustion.

The soldier, whose name was not made public, had been reported missing two days earlier and was the object of a widespread search.

He was found by residents of Jatt village, near Nablus, clad only in underwear and in a dehydrated condition. He was also reported to be suffering from a mental disorder.