

**E.C. DEPLORES ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS,  
PLANS MAJOR ROLE IN PEACE CONFERENCE**  
By Yossi Lempkowicz

LUXEMBOURG, June 30 (JTA) -- The European Community condemned Israel's settlement policies in the administered territories Saturday, as it prepared for a role in a proposed Middle East peace conference on which the parties have yet to agree.

A statement issued following a two-day E.C. summit meeting here called Israel's continued settlement building on disputed land "illegal" and "incompatible with the will to make progress toward peace."

But it contained no suggestion of pressure to make Israel comply.

The meeting was the last held under the guidance of Luxembourg. The rotating chairmanship of the E.C. Council of Ministers passes Monday to Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek of the Netherlands, who will hold it for the next six months.

Holland has been described by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as the most pro-Israel of the 12 E.C. member states. Van den Broek told a news conference at E.C. headquarters in Brussels on Friday that agreement has been reached with the United States and Israel "on a formula for European participation in a peace conference."

He said Europe "will participate on the same basis and alongside the United States and the Soviet Union."

The two superpowers are the putative sponsors of the conference, which is supposed to serve as the opening for direct, bilateral talks between Israel and its Arab adversaries.

**Support For U.S. Initiative**

Van den Broek stressed that European participation would be based "on the same conditions that will be agreed upon between the parties directly involved in the conflict."

But to date the parties have been unable to agree even on the nature or duration of the conference.

While the E.C. statement in Luxembourg offered "firm support" for the U.S. Middle East peace initiative, the initiative seems at the moment to be hopelessly stalled.

A U.S. plea last month for "flexibility" on both sides was rejected by Israel, while Syria has still not replied. Israel is also demanding veto power over the composition of the Palestinian negotiating team.

But van den Broek sounded an optimistic note. "Europe will be present, above all, to support and, if possible, enhance the American peace initiative," he said.

"We also think that the European Community will have a role to play not only in the negotiations but also in the working groups to discuss subjects such as regional development, arms control or regional economic cooperation," the Dutch minister said.

He was referring to the purported willingness of Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf states to play a peripheral role in an Arab-Israeli peace conference, confining themselves to broad regional issues.

**ABIE NATHAN SUPPORTERS CONDEMN  
HIS LATEST MEETING WITH ARAFAT**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 30 (JTA) -- Israeli peace activist Abie Nathan, who recently ended a 40-day hunger strike to protest an Israeli law banning contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization, has apparently broken the law again by meeting over the weekend with PLO leader Yasir Arafat.

But this time, some of Nathan's traditional supporters condemned the meeting, which took place in Tunis.

Four prominent members of the political left, who have said they consider the prohibitive law "bad, undemocratic and foolish," have nonetheless described Nathan's latest act as foolish and professed support for the law until such time as it is abolished.

In interviews with Israel Radio, Amnon Rubinstein of the Center-Shinui Movement, Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement, Haim Ramon of Labor and Haim Oron of Mapam agreed that the law must be obeyed so long as it remains in effect.

The 64-year-old Nathan, who served four months of a seven-month prison term last year for a 1989 meeting with Arafat, was unable to change Israeli policy by his highly publicized hunger strike, which he finally abandoned at President Chaim Herzog's personal request.

Nathan ended the fast by declaring his readiness to go to jail again. And he very well may, considering that he has a three-month suspended sentence over his head and is scheduled to go on trial in September for one of his other meetings with the PLO chief.

**Arafat Speaks Of Concessions**

Police Inspector General Ya'acov Terner told the Cabinet on Sunday that Nathan would be detained for questioning as soon as he returns to Israel.

Geula Cohen of the Tehiya party and others on the far right are demanding Nathan's immediate arrest and a stiff sentence.

And now his previous support team is questioning Nathan's latest meeting with Arafat. Rubinstein, who called the PLO chief "that clown," said Nathan's latest meeting with Arafat could do nothing to advance the peace process.

Aloni, noting that Nathan always rejected advice, even from supporters, said she thinks Nathan is driven by an "uncontrollable impulse" and "general frustration."

Ramon and Oron agreed that Nathan has good intentions but say they are badly carried out. Peace cannot be pursued by breaking the law, Oron said.

In Tunis, meanwhile, Nathan said he met Arafat "together with other journalists" and presented him with a list of questions.

He said he would have a second meeting with the PLO chief later Sunday to get his replies and hoped they would show the PLO genuinely wants peace with Israel.

According to Nathan, the PLO leader told him the Palestinians were prepared to make more concessions.

Nathan was head of a group that was supposed to have met with Arafat in Geneva on June 21. That meeting was canceled shortly before it had been scheduled to take place because of the Israeli group's inability to find an official international body willing to sponsor the meeting.

A meeting with Arafat not under the aegis of an official organization exposes Israelis to prison terms for violating the Israeli law.

The Geneva-based World Ecumenical Council, which opposes Israeli policies, did not want to anger the Israeli government, a spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

*(JTA correspondent Tamar Levy in Geneva contributed to this report.)*

#### **MURDER OF WEST BANK JEWISH SETTLER RAISES DOUBTS ABOUT WANING INTIFADA** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA) -- The murder of a West Bank settler Friday night has sparked fears that intifada unrest is on the rise again.

In fact, the stabbing death of Avi Osher, a 39-year-old father of two children, has been attributed to recent speculation in the Israeli media that the level of intifada-related violence has declined of late.

Some sources said that such talk and the stalemated peace process convinced extremist elements they had to prove the Palestinian uprising is not on the wane.

Osher, who lived in Bekaot, in the Jordan Valley region of the West Bank, was killed while picking dates at nearby Moshav Masua. Arab villages in the vicinity were placed under curfew on the assumption the killers are among their residents.

A preliminary investigation indicated that Osher was attacked from behind by several assailants. He put up a struggle but was overcome. His body was hidden in the luggage compartment of his pickup truck, which was driven to a nearby vineyard and abandoned.

Osher and his wife, Eilat, were 12-year residents of Bekaot. She summoned the security forces when he failed to return home by late Friday night. Searchers found his truck early Saturday morning.

#### **CHRISTIAN ARABS TO BE ALLOWED TO VOLUNTEER FOR ISRAELI ARMY** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force is about to break a tradition that has governed it since the state was founded 43 years ago: It will now admit Arabs.

Dr. Alexander Blei, the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, announced over the weekend that Arab citizens of Israel would be accepted as volunteers for the IDF.

At this stage, however, only Christian Arabs will be eligible. There are about 107,000 Christians out of an Israeli Arab population of 800,000.

Blei's announcement drew a sharply negative reaction from Ibrahim Nimer Hussein, chairman of the National Committee of Arab Mayors. He objected to the artificial distinction between Christian and Moslem Arabs, noting that all are Arabs.

According to Hussein, no Arab should enlist in the IDF until there is peace in the region.

The only other minority allowed to volunteers are Bedouins, who serve in the IDF mostly as trackers. Israeli Druse and Circassians, on the

other hand, are subject to compulsory military service, like the majority of Jewish citizens.

Blei said he asked Arab Christian leaders at a meeting in the Nazareth area last week to prepare the first list of volunteers.

Though he did not expect more than a dozen names, it is "a step forward toward institutionalizing the military service of the Christian community," Blei explained.

He said the Arab recruits would be assigned to units on the basis of merit, like other soldiers.

#### **KASHMIRI GROUP PROMISES TO FREE ISRAELI TAKEN CAPTIVE LAST WEEK** By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, June 30 (JTA) -- The head of a Kashmiri separatist group has promised to free an Israeli tourist its members took hostage last week near the northern Indian city of Srinagar, but only to a U.N. representative.

Amanola Khan, leader of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, a Moslem group seeking the separation of Kashmir from India, told Israel Radio on Sunday that his group does not trust Indian officials.

Speaking from a base in Karachi, Pakistan, Kahn said he instructed his people to release 22-year-old Yair Yitzhaki, a resident of the Old City in Jerusalem, to an emissary from the United Nations.

Meanwhile, the captors have allowed Yitzhaki to be interviewed by reporters in Srinagar and to send taped and written messages to his family, notifying them that he is alive and well.

A companion, Erez Cohen of Ramat Efal near Tel Aviv, was killed in a gun battle with the Kashmiris on June 26. His body was flown to Bombay, where it was waiting to be returned to Israel for burial.

The separatists, apparently out to seize foreign hostages, attacked a party of seven Israelis and a Dutch woman vacationing on a houseboat on Lake Dal near Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir province, which borders on Pakistan.

They kidnapped Yitzhaki, who was reported missing and became the object of a search by the Srinagar police.

The other Israelis resisted. Cohen was killed, but three hostages managed to escape, though wounded, and were treated at the military hospital in Srinagar. They sent word that they would return home together regardless of whether they were released from the hospital at different times.

Yitzhaki told reporters in Srinagar that he was first beaten by his captors but their treatment of him has since improved. He said he was promised his freedom as soon as they investigate the gun battle with the Israelis, in which one of their own men was killed.

Moshe Yegar, deputy director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, flew to India on Sunday to oversee the situation. There is no Israeli diplomatic representation in New Delhi, since India has only de facto relations with Israel.

But India, especially picturesque Kashmir, is a favorite of Israeli tourists and backpackers. In fact, they were virtually the only foreigners left in Kashmir because of the local unrest.

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The JTA Daily News Bulletin will not be published on Friday, July 5, because of the Independence Day Holiday in the United States.

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## NAZI CRIMINAL WHO COULDN'T BE FOUND MAY HAVE RECEIVED A GERMAN PASSPORT

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 30 (JTA) -- The West German government gave accused Nazi war criminal Josef Schwammburger a passport while he was in hiding in Argentina and supposedly could not be located, the prosecution at Schwammburger's trial in Germany told the judge Friday.

The Polish government had an outstanding warrant for Schwammburger's arrest in 1954, at the time passport documents were filed at the German Embassy in Buenos Aires, said Elliot Welles, director of the Nazi Task Force of the Anti-Defamation League, who just returned here from attending the opening of the trial last week in Stuttgart, Germany.

Schwammburger, who was extradited to West Germany from Argentina last year, had already been incarcerated for war crimes in the French occupation zone of Austria in 1945. He had escaped, and his record as a commandant of forced labor camps in Poland during the war was known, observed Welles, who has been pursuing this case for many years.

Schwammburger arrived in Argentina in 1948, it is now known. He lived and worked in that country using his own name.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, which mounted a large campaign to find and apprehend Schwammburger, believes he was helped by the Nazi organization Odessa. The center's namesake also attended the opening of the trial.

Welles said Schwammburger also told the judge last week that he had Red Cross travel documents after the war.

The prosecutor produced copies of documents from the German Embassy in Buenos Aires dating from 1954 and again in 1964, when Schwammburger's passport was extended, Welles said.

Schwammburger, an Austrian who served as a lieutenant in the elite Waffen SS, is accused of shooting and torturing thousands of Jews in Poland, as well as stealing their valuables.

### A Particularly Fierce Killer

Survivors have described him as a particularly fierce killer, who dashed babies' heads against walls, tossed people into bonfires and shot individuals mercilessly.

Schwammburger was finally apprehended in November 1987. It was reported at the time that he had been arrested in Cordoba, in Argentina's northern interior.

Welles said it was reported last week in the Stuttgart courtroom that Schwammburger had been found in San Carlos de Bariloche. This is a town on Lake Nahuel Huapi, some 50 miles from the Chilean border.

Schwammburger had said he wanted the German passport to travel to Chile and Europe, Welles recounted Sunday.

"The point," said Welles, "is that as orderly as they (the Germans) are," the passport "was filed away."

"It means that the German government must have been quite aware" of Schwammburger's whereabouts, "because his request was filed in the Buenos Aires Embassy. He had to fill out certain forms to apply for a passport," he said.

Meanwhile, defense attorneys requested that a specialist in geriatric psychiatry be called in from Munich to examine Schwammburger to determine whether he is mentally fit to stand trial.

## CANADA INTENDS TO PROSECUTE NAZIS, PRIME MINISTER ASSURES JEWISH GROUP

By Bram D. Eisenthal

MONTREAL, June 30 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Brian Mulroney found it necessary last week to reassure Jewish leaders that he is still firmly committed to bringing Nazi war criminals living in Canada to justice.

Mulroney's personal telephone call to Milton Harris, chairman of the Canadian Jewish Congress War Crimes Committee, followed a disturbing encounter between a CJC delegation and Justice Minister Kim Campbell on June 21.

Members of the delegation who came to Ottawa from all parts of the country for a meeting planned three weeks earlier were stunned when Campbell stormed out of the room after learning that the CJC had alerted the news media to the meeting.

But behind the episode was mounting frustration over the government's failure to win a single conviction since Parliament amended the Criminal Code in 1987 to allow Canadian courts to try war criminals for offenses committed abroad.

But despite the setbacks and numerous delays, Mulroney assured Harris the war crimes issue is still an important governmental concern.

"I was president of CJC in 1983 when Mr. Mulroney was leader of the opposition," said Harris. "He made a personal commitment to me to move on the war crimes dossier, and he totally delivered on his word."

"Time is running out. Witnesses are dying," Harris said. "It is time for the government to give a clear sign that it still believes in this issue by recognizing the urgency surrounding it."

Harris said he was much more optimistic after Mulroney's call. "Our main purpose in wishing to meet with Ms. Campbell was to get some reassurance," he said. "Her rebuff did not give us much confidence."

"But I really appreciate the fact that the prime minister of Canada considered this an important enough issue to call me and give me the reassurance that we did not receive from the justice minister."

### SIGNS ORDERED REMOVED FROM AUSCHWITZ

By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, June 30 (JTA) -- Five companies that leased warehouse space on the grounds of the former Auschwitz death camp have been instructed to remove their signs from the perimeter fence. But the change is only cosmetic.

Jerzy Wroblewski, director of the Auschwitz Museum, said the signs violated the agreements signed by the companies when they leased the property. But their removal does not end commercial exploitation of the site described as the graveyard of European Jewry.

Auschwitz is visited by thousands of tourists each year. But the signs, including one for a brewery, were made public here only last week by the secretary-general of the European Jewish Congress, Serge Cwajgenbaum, who had just returned from a visit to Poland, where he took photographs at Auschwitz.

They showed, among other things, that the controversial convent maintained by the Carmelite order has been renovated and expanded.

Although the nuns are supposed to be relocated off the Auschwitz grounds, there are no signs that the nuns are preparing to move.

## REFORM RABBIS ADOPT A CODE OF ETHICS THAT SPELLS OUT PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., June 30 (JTA)-- A rabbinic code of ethics adopted here last week by the Central Conference of American Rabbis spells out explicitly how Reform rabbis are expected to behave in their professional and personal lives.

The code, adopted at the Reform rabbinical group's 102nd annual convention here last week, is lengthier and more specific than one adopted in 1982, and it reflects some of the trends in American society that have arisen in the last decade.

The last code of ethics began by urging rabbis to avoid any semblance of commercialism when officiating at life cycle events and conversions.

While the new code mentions that issue, it begins by stressing the need to balance family demands with those of the congregation.

And a central focus of the new code is its admonition not to submit to the temptations of "yetzer ha-ra," the evil inclination, "particularly in matters of sexuality and substance abuse."

The new code states frankly that it is unethical to take "advantage of our position with those weaker than ourselves or dependent on us."

The rabbis are also warned against "embezzlement, non-payment of just debts or other illegal monetary dealings."

Most of the rabbis interviewed here last week agreed that a general code of ethics is a positive document for the Reform rabbinate to adopt.

"We need an objective standard," said Rabbi Michael Eisenstat of Temple Judea in Coral Gables, Fla.

### 'Things Rabbis Are Supposed To Know'

But the specificity of the code has left many rabbis distressed about the image of the rabbinate it reflects.

"It's demeaning," said one rabbi. "These are things that rabbis are supposed to know."

Another rabbi, who also spoke on the condition that he not be identified, said, "It doesn't make us look very good if we need these kinds of things spelled out."

But Rabbi Donald Rossoff of Temple B'nai Or in Morristown, N.J., likes the clarity of the new document. "It's in good Jewish tradition that the intuitively obvious be made explicit," he said. "If we expect to apply any standards to the Jewish community at large, we must be able to apply standards to ourselves."

Another rabbi who asked not to be identified said that the code is merely symbolic and "almost worthless," because "it has no teeth. How are they going to enforce it?"

"There is no one policing us," the rabbi said. "We know right from wrong, and if we're going to do wrong, this won't have much effect."

The CCAR has an Ethics and Appeals Committee, which makes a formal review of any allegations of rabbinic impropriety submitted to it in writing by congregants, temple employees, other rabbis or even people with other dealings with a Reform rabbi, like an associate from an outside business.

If found guilty of a breach of ethics, a rabbi can be punished at any one of four levels: reprimand, censure, suspension or ultimately expulsion from the CCAR.

But only one rabbi has been expelled from

the organization in recent years, said Rabbi Herbert Schaalman, chairman of the Ethics and Appeals Committee.

The rabbi was expelled for being unrepentant about not following the Reform movement's placement system of matching rabbis with congregations. But he was readmitted to the organization just a year later.

### 'Not Looking To Judge. But To Help'

Each year there are a handful of rabbis who commit more serious violations of morality, said Schaalman. But none of these rabbis has been expelled.

In cases where the rabbi has clearly transgressed, he will often leave his community and go to a new one, Schaalman said.

The committee is "not looking to judge, but to help the rabbi," Schaalman explained.

"Some rabbis have left the rabbinate, and others have overcome difficulties in their past and gone on to be productive and responsible," explained Rabbi Samuel Karff of Congregation Beth Israel in Houston, who just ended a two-year term as CCAR president.

The new ethics code "is not intended to be punitive," he said. "We want to help a colleague renew his or her life, rather than destroy it."

A desire to rehabilitate is not the only factor informing the ethics committee's decisions, according to one rabbi at the convention. "None of us wants to judge the other," he explained. "We try to protect each other."

The need for a code of ethics stems from the fact that Reform rabbis, while committed to serve as positive role models for their congregants, are not bound by halacha, the Jewish legal standards which set limits for their Orthodox and Conservative colleagues.

Since the previous code of ethics did not venture into many of the areas that pose special challenges to rabbis, there were no universally accepted boundaries in the Reform rabbinate on some delicate, though important, areas of behavior.

The timing of the two-year process which led to the newly adopted code of ethics is no accident, said Karff.

### Public Concern About Personal Morality

Society as a whole "is much more concerned about the personal morality of those in public places," said Karff, citing the current controversy surrounding the travel practices of White House Chief of Staff John Sununu and a series of past scandals involving Evangelical Christian preachers, such as Jim Bakker.

About 400 of the CCAR's 1,500 members attended the group's conference, which was held here June 24 to 28.

Sessions covered a wide range of topics such as social justice, interreligious affairs, Israel; feminism and rabbinic spirituality. But no single issue galvanized the rabbis as it did last year, when the viability of ordaining openly gay and lesbian rabbis was passionately debated.

Turnout at the individual sessions, even the one on the code of ethics, was light.

But in many respects, the stage was set for controversial and complicated issues that are likely to arise next year, when the agenda is to include discussion of ceremonies of sanctification for homosexual couples and the "reappropriation" of traditional rituals that had been shed by the Reform movement, such as the use of mikvahs.