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**TALKS WITH U.S. ON PEACE PROCESS
CONTINUE AS SHAMIR BEGINS VACATION**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir began his summer vacation Monday, leaving the next phase of discussions on the peace process to senior aides, working together with U.S. officials.

Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein and the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosef Ben-Aharon, were to begin work Tuesday on a "memorandum of understanding" with an American team of Middle East experts.

The U.S. team is led by Dan Kurtzer, deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, and Aaron Miller, a member of the State Department's policy planning staff.

The memorandum is expected to summarize the various agreements reached these past months between Shamir and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on the modalities of the Middle East peace conference that the United States and Soviet Union hope to host in October.

The three main issues expected to be covered in the document are the role of the U.N. observer, the question of reconvening the plenary once direct talks begin, and the nature of Palestinian representation.

On this last point, Israeli officials maintain there is full accord between Israel and the United States that the Palestinians in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation must not include a representative of East Jerusalem nor a representative of the Palestinian "diaspora," meaning those who live outside the administered territories.

The Israelis say the Americans' task now is to persuade the Palestinians to accept these restrictions. To that end, Baker spent last week-end enlisting the help of North African leaders, who have close ties to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Peace Settlement In Months?

The memorandum is unlikely to be specific on substantive issues -- such as territorial compromise or the status of Jerusalem -- given that the United States is working on parallel documents with other conference participants and must preserve its own role as an honest broker.

Still, the Israeli side hopes to get at least a reiteration of Washington's on-the-record opposition to a separate Palestinian state.

The White House has expressed the belief that an Arab-Israeli settlement could be achieved within months of the start of a peace conference.

In Washington, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater made this assessment Monday when he was asked to give a reasonable time frame for a resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Fitzwater said it could be "any point in the future. But if you're asking for a likely time frame, I would say the most likely is the next several months."

Although President Bush has said the anticipated conference would take place in October, he gave neither the exact date nor a location.

Fitzwater denied that any secret agreements have been made with the Arabs or Israelis to bring them to the talks.

"We have made no secret deals on end results," he said. But he added, "Obviously we've had a lot of secret talks about these things."

Meanwhile, Shamir's ruling Likud bloc has been rocked by internal fireworks stemming from Sunday's Cabinet debate over the peace conference, which the ministers voted 16-3 to endorse.

Demands For Sharon's Ouster

But Shamir's aides said the prime minister is not paying attention, at least at this stage, to mounting demands from some of his supporters to fire Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, who gave a blistering attack of the government's peace policy at Sunday's session.

Sharon accused Shamir of withholding information from the Cabinet and from the nation, of "amateurish" handling of the negotiations with the U.S. secretary of state, and of leading Israel into a conference that might well trigger a war, according to reports emanating from the Cabinet room.

Sharon made clear Monday he has no intention of resigning of his own accord.

Shamir is legally entitled to dismiss a minister and politically empowered to fire a Likud minister. And he has used this power in the past.

But sources close to him say he does not feel the need for a showdown with Sharon, whom the premier openly accused Sunday of "an unbridled urge to seek power."

Observers point to the premier's strong standing, both within the coalition and among the opposition parties, which have asked that they, too, be given an opportunity to express their support for the government's decision to attend the peace conference.

By beginning his vacation Monday, Shamir signaled that he is not concerned about a loss of support on the government's right flank.

Aides said the premier and his wife would rest at home, with Shamir catching up on his reading. His preferences at the moment, they said, are biographies about such great world leaders as Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt.

(JTA correspondent David Friedman in Washington contributed to this report.)

**AS PEACE PROSPECTS BRIGHTEN HORIZON,
RADICAL PALESTINIANS STEP UP TERROR**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Radical Palestinian nationalists in the administered territories are waging a campaign of intimidation and terror aimed at sabotaging the Middle East peace conference that the United States is trying to arrange.

The campaign is reminiscent of the events of the Great Arab Revolt that began in 1936 and continued through 1939.

Death threats made against Palestinian leaders who have been meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker echo warnings that were issued to Palestinian moderates a half-century ago and, in some cases, carried out.

In 1936, under the leadership of religious leader Haj Amin al-Husseini, the Supreme Arab Committee -- the senior Arab authority at the time -- declared an uprising, both against the

Jewish community and the British Mandatory authorities.

Then, as now, the revolt against the Jews and British was characterized more by internecine strife, with hundreds of Palestinians brutally murdered by fellow Arabs. During the present intifada, now entering its 45th month, hundreds of Arabs have been executed on suspicion of collaborating with the Israeli authorities.

Paradoxically, the main target of the current threats is a member of the same Hussein family that guided the extremists of the 1930s.

East Jerusalem leader Faisal Hussein received death threats after his meeting last Friday with Baker, a marathon session that outlasted all previous talks between the two parties.

Security Officials Concerned

And just as 55 years ago, the threats came from radical Moslem circles. The fanatic Islamic Jihad group, operating in the Gaza Strip, distributed a leaflet declaring it had issued death sentences against Hussein and his colleagues, Professor Hanan Ashrawi of Bir Zeit University and Dr. Zakariya al-Agha.

The leaflet included statements such as "Palestine will not be sold that cheaply, and the day will come when it will be freed from the sea to the River Jordan."

Moreover, various Islamic organizations in the territories issued a joint statement Sunday saying, "It is about time to declare that the Palestinian group of Al Fatah, which bargains on our rights, does not represent the Palestinian public, not inside the territories and not outside."

Fatah is the largest and least radical wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization. For Islamic fundamentalists, it apparently has become too moderate, while for Israel it remains beyond the pale of acceptability as a negotiating partner.

Israeli security officers are taking the death threats seriously. Senior police officers reportedly have met with Hussein and warned him to take special precautions. Jerusalem police increased security patrols near his residence on the Mount of Olives.

The Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, projects further escalation of hostilities and terrorist activities the closer the Middle East gets to a peace conference.

Sheik Akram Sabri, religious leader at Al-Aksa Mosque on the Temple Mount, last Friday called the planned peace conference "a surrender conference, whose purpose is to bend the Arab regimes to the American will."

His words intriguingly echoed that of Israeli hard-liner Ariel Sharon, the outspoken Likud minister of housing, who bitterly warned that a conference would lead to war and accused Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of conceding on all issues they had previously said they would fight over.

Bethlehem Elections In Doubt

Sheik Sabri said the Arabs and the Moslems would be the main losers of the peace process. He attacked Egypt for its proposal to drop the Arab boycott of Israel in return for a freeze on Israeli settlements in the territories. He said the proposed peace conference would neglect the Palestinians and focus on Arab recognition of Israel.

Baker, in Algiers as part of his tour of North Africa in a quest for support for the peace plans, expressed hope Monday that the threats would not "derail the peace train."

But it was obvious the threats would have a negative effect.

Another of the extremists' targets are elections scheduled for Wednesday for the Bethlehem Chamber of Industry.

The elections were initiated by the Israeli Civil Administration, whose policy lately has been to promote independent economic activity in the territories.

Local business leaders were enthusiastic about the elections, hoping that the new chamber would deal with the European Community, which has promised grants of nearly \$80 million for development of the administered territories.

But the threats have raised doubts about whether it is safe to proceed with the elections.

Spearheading the campaign against the elections is the uprising's Unified Command, guided by the PLO. Leaflet No. 73 demands that the 20 candidates boycott the elections.

The leaflet may have been triggered by fear that Moslem fundamentalists would capture the vote, as happened during elections in June for the Chamber of Commerce in Hebron.

Bethlehem industrialists have tried to reverse the Unified Command's decision, but so far to no avail.

Israeli officers are concerned that if the elections are canceled, it will jeopardize efforts to stabilize the situation in the administered territories.

JEWISH SETTLEMENT EXPANDED IN TWO WEST BANK LOCATIONS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- The compound of the old bus station in central Hebron will soon serve as dormitory buildings for students of the nearby Shavei Hebron yeshiva, Danny Naveh, media adviser to Defense Minister Moshe Arens, announced Monday.

The bus station was confiscated by the army several years ago, following a terrorist attack. The buses were relocated away from the center of the predominantly Arab West Bank city.

For years, the army has resisted pressures by Jewish settlers to expand the Jewish Quarter of Hebron. Monday's decision creates a territorial continuum of Jewish settlement from the Jewish Quarter to the heart of the Arab section of the city.

Local Palestinians said the army's move was a reprisal for the stabbing of a resident of the Jewish Quarter last week. They charged that the army once again has bent to the will of Jewish extremists in the city.

In another development, the Defense Ministry on Monday confirmed reports that 15 families have been allowed to settle in Eshkolot, a military post held until now by a paramilitary Nahal unit.

Eshkolot is located in the Hebron Mountains, south of the city of Hebron. The settlers are being housed in mobile homes, which were brought from Kiryat Arba.

Arens' media adviser said the post was turned into a civilian settlement on the basis of a Cabinet decision made as long ago as 1983.

A spokesman for Ariel Sharon's Housing Ministry expressed satisfaction that the Defense Ministry had agreed to the conversion. The Housing Ministry will now treat Eshkolot "just like any other settlement in Eretz Yisrael," the spokesman said.

**JEWISH LEADERS INSISTING ON APOLOGY
FROM POLISH CARDINAL BEFORE U.S. TRIP**
By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Polish Cardinal Jozef Glemp will have to apologize explicitly for anti-Semitic remarks he made two years ago if he expects to meet with Jewish religious and organizational leaders during his planned visit to the United States next month.

That is the consensus that has emerged from discussions Jewish communal leaders have had about Glemp's planned tour of 14 American cities, which is set to begin in Washington on Sept. 20 and end in New York on Oct. 7.

The cardinal, who heads the Roman Catholic Church in Poland, charged in a homily he delivered in Czestochowa on Aug. 26, 1989, that Jews "got peasants drunk," "spread communism" and control the international media.

The resulting outcry from Jews and Catholics alike forced Glemp to cancel a trip he had planned to the United States shortly thereafter.

At the time, Catholic-Jewish relations were severely strained by a dispute over the presence of a group of Carmelite nuns in a convent on the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Relations have improved since construction began on a new convent away from the camp, where the nuns will eventually be relocated.

During his upcoming visit, Glemp reportedly wants to clear the air and shore up Catholic-Jewish ties.

Glemp is "a man of good will and has indicated a willingness to meet with Jewish groups," said Dr. Eugene Fisher, director of Catholic-Jewish relations for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington.

We've "gotten the impression that he wants to issue a statement, wants to create a new chapter in Catholic-Jewish relations," said Seymour Reich, chairman of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, or IJCIC, the Jewish body recognized by the Vatican as the vehicle for dialogue with the church.

A Statement 'From The Heart'

If an improvement in the atmosphere is to happen, Reich said, Glemp must personally make a sincere statement of regret for his past remarks. "It must come from the heart and have a true ring," he said.

In his now-infamous homily, Glemp also attacked Rabbi Avi Weiss of New York, who had led a demonstration to the convent at Auschwitz with six followers the month before. The cardinal accused Weiss of trying to kill the Polish nuns.

The rabbi has demanded that Glemp retract the comments and apologize, and is suing him for slander in the Polish courts.

If he does not issue an apology, Weiss' lawyer, Harvard Law School Professor Alan Derшовitz, plans to serve Glemp with court papers for defamation and libel when he arrives in the United States.

Jewish community leaders at national organizations, community relations councils and federations across the country are calling on Glemp to apologize for his remarks and condemn anti-Semitism before he comes to this country.

If he does not, they say, they will not meet with him.

"He has to unequivocally condemn anti-Semitism, must apologize for his Czestochowa homily and explicitly state that Avi Weiss, during

his demonstration, had no intention of harming the nuns," according to one organizational head.

"He must also recognize the Jewish dimension of the Holocaust. Unless we feel confident these conditions will be met, he will not be received by American Jewish organizations," the organizational leader added.

Not Seeking A 'Brouhaha'

The specifics of what the major national organizations of the American Jewry expect of the Polish primate were discussed at an IJCIC meeting last week.

Representatives of IJCIC member agencies, including the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League, B'nai Brith International, the Synagogue Council of America and the World Jewish Congress, "were in agreement that Glemp would have to address certain issues," Reich said.

"We're trying to suggest things that would make Glemp's trip a success rather than a brouhaha," he said.

But Gunther Lawrence, a Synagogue Council of America representative who said he was "designated sole spokesman" for IJCIC on the matter, said no decision had been reached about what specifically to expect from Glemp.

IJCIC has "absolutely not conveyed to the Polish Episcopate any language. IJCIC has not done anything," he said.

The Bishops Conference has considered input from Jewish leaders about the content of the statement they would like Glemp to make.

"We will be communicating to people in the Polish (Catholic) hierarchy what we heard" from Jewish communal leaders, said Fisher.

"That will include discussion of the Avi Weiss dispute, confirmation by Glemp of plans to relocate nuns (in the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz), all of the points raised," he said.

There have been indications that Glemp has changed his attitude toward Jews since the 1989 homily.

He gave his imprimatur to a pastoral letter on Jews and Judaism, read in all of Poland's Catholic churches last January. And he appears to have monitored progress on the construction of the new convent complex near Auschwitz.

Atoning For His 'Sin'

But American Jews would like to see the changes in Glemp's perspective made explicit, through a condemnation of anti-Semitism and a confirmation of the pledge that the new head of the Carmelite order made to have the nuns relocated by October 1992.

A positive attitude toward Jews and Judaism on Glemp's part would not necessarily indicate that he underwent some philosophical transformation, say observers, but rather that he has finally endorsed a position that both the Vatican and Polish President Lech Walesa have recently articulated: that anti-Semitism is unacceptable.

"We are not asking for something out of this world, but simply for Glemp to reconfirm Vatican II documents," Leon Klenicki, director of interfaith affairs at the Anti-Defamation League, said, referring to the 1965 documents that reshaped the church's attitude toward Judaism.

American Jews expect Glemp to openly denounce anti-Semitism, "especially since his 'landsman,' the pope, called it a sin," Klenicki said. "So perhaps he is in a state of sin."

"Glemp has to do a 'heshbon ha-nefesh,' an accounting of his soul," he added.

**NIGERIAN OFFICIAL SAYS HIS COUNTRY
WILL RESTORE TIES SOON WITH ISRAEL**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- The visit here this week by Nigeria's minister for external affairs, retired Maj. Gen. Ike Nwachukwu, marks major progress in Israel's gradual return to normal relations with African nations.

No official statement on a resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries was made Monday after Foreign Minister David Levy met with his Nigerian guest.

But the Nigerian minister told reporters that his very presence in Jerusalem showed Nigeria's willingness to restore relations, "which would take place not too long from now."

He spoke of the necessary resolution of "certain modalities," and said a the formal announcement would be made when Foreign Minister David Levy pays a reciprocal visit to Nigeria.

Nigeria, like most African nations, severed ties with Israel in the wake of the 1973 Yom Kippur war. Since then, at least nine countries have restored ties, including Zaire, Liberia, Kenya, Ethiopia and several smaller countries on the southern coast of western Africa.

Following Monday's talks, Levy said Nigeria and Israel have a lot in common and they intend to increase cooperation.

Nigeria is seeking aid from Israel in agriculture and other spheres. The extent of that aid will be determined in contacts between the two countries in the coming weeks.

Nwachukwu said his country is also seeking Israel's "influence with international financial bodies," and he believes world Jewry could bring about significant investment in Nigeria.

Close Business Ties

The Nigerian official also called on Israel to play a leading role in what he called the "democratization" of South Africa.

"Knowing the very strong democratic values which you hold dear," he said, "we would like to see that strong Israeli arm pushing for that change in South Africa."

Nigeria, the vast majority of whose population is Moslem, is the largest and richest black African country, with a long record of Israeli involvement, despite the freeze in formal relations.

It is the world's 10th-largest oil producer and the second-largest supplier of crude oil to the United States, after Saudi Arabia.

Its 100 million residents create the largest market in Africa for Western imports. The Nigerians have invited foreign companies to engage in large-scale development projects, and Israeli companies are among the most active ones.

Despite the absence of formal ties, some 2,000 to 2,500 Israelis are presently working in Nigeria, engaged in projects involving hundreds of millions of dollars. Israeli exports to Nigeria last year totaled \$22 million, and a sharp increase is expected this year.

Israeli imports do not exceed \$100,000.

Despite the close business contacts, and Nigeria's strong standing in Africa, its government gave in to Arab pressure and severed diplomatic relations with Israel on Oct. 25, 1973.

Nigeria's anticipated formal announcement on the resumption of relations with Israel is expected to serve as a green light for other African countries to follow suit.

**PSYCHIATRIST SAYS SCHWAMMBERGER
SUPPRESSING KNOWLEDGE OF EVENTS**
By David Kantor

BONN, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Josef Schwammberger is purposely suppressing knowledge of wartime events which he is capable of remembering, according to an expert witness called to testify at the accused Nazi war criminal's trial in Stuttgart.

Dr. Hans Lauter testified last Friday that the 79-year-old former SS official has an intact memory and relatively good capacity to reconstruct events that happened 50 years ago.

Another psychiatric specialist told the court that Schwammberger is in a position to stand trial but that his appearances in court should be limited to four hours a day, with a break lasting two hours or so.

The experts were called in response to a request by the defense to substantiate Schwammberger's claim that he is too physically and mentally weak to continue.

On several occasions when a judge pressed him to answer specific question, Schwammberger said he could not go on.

Schwammberger, who was extradited here last year from Argentina, stands charged with atrocities of a particularly brutal nature, including the murder of at least 45 persons and complicity in the murders of 3,377 people, most of them Jews, while he was commandant of several labor camps in Poland, including those at Przemysl, Mielec and Rozwadow.

Another witness called last Friday told the court that he had personally seen an SS official under Schwammberger's command kill several ailing individuals. The witness, a 63-year-old rabbi, said he was once personally badly beaten by Schwammberger and then tortured by other officials at the camp.

The rabbi told the court that other inmates had been present when Schwammberger killed a rabbi named Fraenkel in Rozwadow on Yom Kippur of 1942.

In previous court appearances, Schwammberger has denied personal involvement in the killings, saying he had killed only one individual in his lifetime and that had been in self-defense.

He also said he remembers nothing that happened in the Rozwadow camp, and claimed he could not remember any involvement in beating or torturing inmates.

**GAD YA'ACOBİ THROWS HIS HAT
INTO RING FOR LABOR LEADERSHIP**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Gad Ya'acobi, the minister of communications in Israel's last national unity government and a past minister of economic planning, announced Monday that he is a candidate for leadership of the Labor Party.

The announcement puts him in the ring with the two veteran Labor leaders, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin, who have been the sole contenders for chairmanship of the Labor Party since the late 1970s.

Ya'acobi, speaking at a news conference in Tel Aviv, vowed Monday to break the pattern and rid Labor of its "bureaucratic image." He said it is time the leadership was contested by more than just the two rivals.

In fact, that is already starting to happen. Knesset member Ora Namir has also declared her candidacy, and others are expected to follow suit.