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**U.S. URGING MIDEAST PARTIES
TO ACCEPT CONFIDENCE-BUILDERS**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- The United States is urging Israel, the Arab states and Palestinians to agree to specific "confidence-building" measures to advance their bilateral talks in the aftermath of the Madrid peace conference.

The Israeli news media said Sunday that the Americans will be pressing Israel to freeze settlement-building in the administered territories.

The Palestinians will be asked to stop the intifada as they begin face-to-face talks with the Israelis on a proposed five-year self-governing arrangement for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The United States will call on the Arab countries to proclaim a temporary cessation of their state of war with Israel.

According to media reports, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir may feel the first direct American pressure during his nine-day visit to the United States, which he begins later this week.

He is going there to address the annual General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in Baltimore on Nov. 21 and could possibly visit Washington for a meeting with President Bush.

But the Israeli Embassy in Washington says there are no plans for such a visit and no White House stop has been scheduled, at least not yet.

The Israeli Labor Party daily Davar reported Sunday that the U.S. administration is trying to arrange a public meeting between Shamir and Jordan's King Hussein somewhere in the United States as a means of boosting the peace process.

The newspaper noted that Israeli and Jordanian officials publicly shook hands in Madrid last weekend, breaking the taboo against public contact between them.

Israel Rejects Washington Site

At the moment, however, the Israelis and Arabs are still unable to agree on the site of their bilateral talks, which began in Madrid and are supposed to be resumed shortly.

According to informed sources, Israel has balked at an American proposal to hold the sessions in Washington.

Shamir told his Cabinet on Sunday that Israel remains convinced that the talks should be held in the Middle East, alternating between Israeli and Arab locales.

Syria wants its bilateral talks with Israel to continue in Madrid. Israel flatly rejects that on grounds that it would perpetuate the ceremonial conference mode, rather than the bilateral nature of the talks.

Nor is there any firm agreement, sources here said, where or when the multinational phase of the peace talks will convene.

The United States seems determined that the preliminary session will be held soon, if possible this month, and that high-level representatives will attend, not only from the Middle East but from economically advanced powers outside the region.

Syria is resisting, saying it will not attend the regional talks until there is tangible progress in its bilateral meetings with the Israelis.

The United States is said to be pushing the Saudis to exert pressure on Damascus. But even if Syria remains recalcitrant, Washington is confident of a good turnout from the Arab world, including Jordan, Egypt, the Persian Gulf states and the Maghreb countries: Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

Washington is also said to be encouraged by the responses of Japan and several European countries to Bush's strong hints in Madrid that they would be asked to foot the bill for some of the regional cooperation projects that might emerge from the multilateral meetings.

The United States is hopeful that the talks will be attended by representatives of the G-7 group of leading industrialized nations, including Japan and Canada, at least on the foreign ministerial level.

Shamir is scheduled to arrive in the United States on Friday. In addition to his speech in Baltimore, his schedule calls for major addresses in Boston and Los Angeles.

He will be in Los Angeles from Nov. 15 to 18 to receive an honorary degree from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. While in Boston on Nov. 19 and 20, he will be awarded an honorary degree by Boston University.

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

**PALESTINIAN DELEGATES RETURN
TO BIG WELCOME IN TERRITORIES**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- The Palestinian delegates who attended the Middle East peace conference opening in Madrid returned home Sunday to tumultuous welcomes in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem.

Thousands cheered them in the streets and from rooftops. It was the largest outpouring of Palestinians that the Israeli authorities have allowed in years.

Israeli border police, in fact, formed a protective cordon around the buses, lest the returnees be unintentionally injured by the euphoric crowd.

For the moment, at least, the Palestinian peace camp seems to have gained ascendancy over the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement, which tried to derail the Madrid conference by calling strikes and demonstrations in the territories before it opened.

Hamas is especially disturbed by the tendency of mainstream Palestinians to accept an interim stage of autonomy in the territories.

The Madrid delegation no sooner returned to Jerusalem than one of its spokesmen, Ziyad Abu-Ziyad, announced the formation of a new political mechanism "to advance the peace process."

It will be the first Palestinian political body in the territories since Israel outlawed the National Guidance Committee 10 years ago.

The committee had consisted of the heads of the major public institutions serving the Palestinian community and local Arab mayors. The Israelis abolished it because of its nationalist tendencies.

The new body, which will have branches in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem,

will be headed by Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, a lecturer in philosophy at Bir Zeit University.

Nusseibeh, whom the Israelis kept off the Palestinian negotiating team in Madrid, recently served three months in jail under administrative detention for allegedly passing security information to Iraq during the Persian Gulf War.

An Intifada Of Olive Branches

The Palestinian delegates, officially part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, came home via Jordan and the Allenby Bridge. They were greeted at the crossing by U.S. diplomats and American security guards.

As their bus passed through Jericho, the first large town in the West Bank near the Jordan River, they were hailed by throngs as "the heroes of Madrid."

Men, women and children waved olive branches in a display of popular support for their peace mission.

"I am absolutely overwhelmed," said Hanan Ashrawi, who was the delegation's spokeswoman in Madrid though she was not officially part of it.

Ashrawi was one of the six Palestinians who accompanied the official delegation as an advisory committee.

Its leader, Faisal Husseini, whom the Israelis refuse to negotiate with because he lives in East Jerusalem, was widely considered the de facto leader of the Palestinian negotiators.

Husseini told reporters that the Palestinians have proven by their demonstration their genuine desire for peace and an immediate solution to the conflict. He also said he is convinced Israel wants peace and will do its utmost to achieve it.

But he did not promise an end to the intifada, the Palestinian uprising that began almost four years ago.

Rather, Husseini said, the face of the intifada is changing. "At a certain time, this movement was characterized by stones. Now the movement of the intifada is equipped with olive branches," he said.

He urged the Israeli people to create confidence-building measures to advance the direct negotiations that began in Madrid.

The massive demonstration repeated itself as the bus arrived at the Hakawati Theater in East Jerusalem. Husseini, wearing the traditional Arab headdress, was carried on the shoulders of the crowd as thousands shouted "Biladi, biladi" (My country, my country).

PALESTINIANS GIVE U.S. A LIST OF 25 TOUGH DEMANDS ON ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- Israeli officials are reported to be furious over 25 demands the Palestinian leadership is said to have conveyed to the United States and Soviet Union as conditions for bilateral negotiations with Israel.

Israel's political leadership has dismissed them as "cheap Arab propaganda," which can only poison the atmosphere before the substantive phase of peace talks begins, Ma'ariv reported Sunday.

According to the Israeli daily, the document presented to the two powers that jointly sponsored the Madrid peace conference is titled "Confidence-Building Measures Demanded From Israel With the Convening of the Peace Conference."

The signatories are Faisal Husseini, Hanan

Ashrawi and Zakaria al-Agha. They are members of the unofficial panel of six advisers that accompanied the Palestinian negotiating team to Madrid, but not of the delegation itself, which had a cordial first round of direct talks with the Israelis in Madrid on Nov. 2.

According to Ma'ariv, the 25 demands are:

1. An Israeli commitment to fully apply the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to the territories it administers.
2. The fulfillment of U.N. Security Council resolutions relating to the return of Palestinians expelled from the territories.
3. Suspension of the Emergency Regulations, which are a holdover from the British Mandate of Palestine.
4. A reduction of the Israel Defense Force presence in all Palestinian cities, towns and refugee camps.
5. The granting of all members of the Palestinian National Council who reside in the territories the right to travel to and participate in all sessions of the PNC, which is the Palestine Liberation Organization's parliamentary body.
6. The release of all political prisoners.
7. An end to torture in Israeli prisons.
8. An end to restrictions on the freedom of activity and political organizations in the territories, and the cancellation of military decrees related to those restrictions.
9. An end to censorship and the bans on newspapers, books, magazines, songs and plays.

An End To Provocative Phrases

10. The reopening of Palestinian universities, colleges, institutions, organizations and unions that have been closed by Israeli edict.
11. Restoration of the local town councils elected in 1976 but removed by the Israeli administration.
12. An end to the use of provocative phrases such as "Judea and Samaria" and "terrorist organizations" by official Israeli elements.
13. Cancellation of taxes introduced by the Israeli authorities since 1967.
14. Return of lands and property confiscated from their legal owners.
15. An end to restrictions on movement in the territories and Jerusalem.
16. Facilitation of family reunification and an end to restrictions on travel abroad.
17. An end to restrictions on exports from the territories and on the development of projects under the auspices of United Nations agencies.
18. An end to the destruction of homes and cancellation of restrictions on construction in the territories.
19. Public disclosure by Israel of the accounts and budgets allocated to the territories.
20. An end to restrictions in the territories on the activities of international organizations, such as the International Red Cross and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees.
21. Evacuation of Jewish settlers from the St. John's Hospice in East Jerusalem, Dir al-Sultan and Tomb of the Patriarchs/Matriarchs in Hebron.
22. Closure of the Nafha and Ketziot detention camps.
23. An end to restrictions on investments in the territories by individuals and institutions.
24. Cancellation of decrees and laws that prohibit displaying the Palestinian flag.
25. Cancellation of Israeli government control over the East Jerusalem Electric Co.

SOUTH AFRICAN LEADER VISITS ISRAEL FOUR MONTHS AFTER SANCTIONS LIFTED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- Israel spread out the welcome mat Sunday for South African President F.W. De Klerk, the first president of his country to visit the Jewish state since 1975.

Accompanied by his wife, Marike, De Klerk was formally welcomed by President Chaim Herzog and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in the Jerusalem Rose Garden overlooking the Knesset.

Other government leaders and members of the opposition attended the ceremonies, at which De Klerk hailed the contributions of South African Jewry and commended them for their loyalty both to their home country and "their country, Israel."

De Klerk's entourage included a contingent of leaders from South Africa's Jewish community, headed by Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris.

Ronny Silbermann, executive director of the South African Zionist Federation, said everyone was "truly moved" by the South African president's recognition and approval of the double loyalty of South African Jews.

De Klerk said he was making the visit to inform Israelis about the dynamic process in South Africa, which, under his government, has dismantled much of the structure of apartheid.

Herzog praised De Klerk's "courageous and far-sighted" policy and said Israel is following closely "the emergence of a new South Africa under your leadership."

Shamir expressed Israel's appreciation of the changes taking place in South Africa, especially in the realm of human rights.

De Klerk promised that the "new South Africa" would maintain the strong relationship it has had with Israel over the years. During his stay, the two countries will sign memoranda of agreement on cooperation in a number of fields.

A Major Trading Partner

De Klerk's visit would not have been possible a few months ago. It was only in July that Israel, following the lead of the United States, lifted the economic and cultural sanctions it had imposed on South Africa four years earlier.

Israel all along coordinated its policy toward South Africa with U.S. policy. It acted swiftly when President Bush decided on July 10 that Pretoria had complied with the five conditions set by the U.S. Congress to remove sanctions.

South Africa was one of Israel's foremost trading partners until 1986, when the U.S. Congress overrode then President Ronald Reagan's veto and penalized South Africa for its apartheid policies by imposing economic sanctions.

Israel did the same in March 1987, after Washington threatened to cut off aid to any country that continued dealing with South Africa.

Israel claimed the cutoff of commerce with South Africa cost it dearly in terms of its trade deficit. But Israeli sources have admitted that some commerce continued. Commercial, cultural and even military contacts continued as long as they were conducted on the basis of contracts signed prior to March 1987.

De Klerk's visit ends Wednesday. In addition to meetings with government leaders, he will attend a Jewish National Fund tree-planting ceremony and will visit projects funded by South African Jews through the United Israel Appeal-Keren Hayesod.

53 YEARS AFTER KRISTALLNACHT, GERMANS PROTEST NEO-NAZI ATTACKS

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- At least 100,000 Germans demonstrated all over the country Saturday to protest the escalation of attacks on foreigners by neo-Nazis and demanded that the government do something about it.

The marches, which included church and labor leaders, took place in some 100 cities. The huge turnout coincided with the 53rd anniversary of Kristallnacht, the first officially sanctioned pogrom in the Third Reich, which occurred during the night of Nov. 9-10, 1938.

The demonstrations marked, as well, the second anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

In Cologne, some 40,000 marchers carried window frames with broken glass, to recall both Kristallnacht and recent violence.

Tens of thousands marched in Berlin, too.

Violence in Germany, particularly in the eastern part of the country, has been palpably racist, aimed mainly at Africans, Asians and East European refugees seeking asylum. But the Jewish community is deeply disturbed.

In fact, even as anti-racist marches were taking place, attacks flared in Wismar, a northern port in eastern Germany, where right-wing youths fought foreign students in a university cafeteria and dormitory.

Saarbrücken, in the southwest corner of Germany, near the French border, was the scene of the largest anti-racist rally, which brought out both government and opposition politicians.

Neo-Nazis and other right-wing extremists tried to stage counter-rallies. But they were vastly outnumbered by anti-Nazi crowds, who bloodied them in street clashes.

Neo-Nazis also marched in the eastern German city of Leipzig. In nearby Halle, about 400 neo-Nazis marched, screaming, "Sieg heil!" and "Foreigners out!" They ended their parade a few hundred yards from where some 2,000 anti-Nazis had gathered.

Israel Singer, secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress, who was in Berlin to observe the Kristallnacht anniversary, suggested that neo-Nazism in Germany would hardly be a problem if the authorities attacked it with as much zeal as they do the crimes of former East German Communists.

ISRAELI TESTIFIES AGAINST NAZI

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- A witness from Israel testified in a Stuttgart court Friday that during World War II he saw Nazi war criminal Josef Schwammberger murder two Jewish women and a child in cold blood.

Zvi Sharon, an Israeli, said the child was shot in the head by Schwammberger in December 1942 at the Przemysl concentration camp in Poland, where Schwammberger was commandant and Sharon an inmate at the time.

The witness said that at the beginning of 1943, he saw Schwammberger shoot two Jewish women in their heads while they stood near the ghetto walls trying to exchange jewelry for food.

Schwammberger, 78, was extradited from Argentina last year to stand trial for war crimes, including the murders of several thousand Jewish inmates of concentration camps in Poland that he commanded. He has denied the charges.

LIBERAL CONGREGATION IN MOSCOW FINALLY GETTING A PERMANENT HOME

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- The first Liberal Jewish congregation in the Soviet Union, ousted from its first home in Moscow, has now been given a permanent place for worship.

Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov has signed papers authorizing the transfer of a building in the heart of the city to Congregation Hineni, according to Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the Jerusalem-based World Union for Progressive Judaism, with which Hineni is affiliated.

The two-story, 20,000-square-foot building, located on the corner of a major thoroughfare, is now occupied by government offices, which are scheduled to be relocated within four months.

Hirsch will visit Moscow in the spring to coordinate plans for the gut-renovation of the building, which will likely have three stories and 30,000 square feet added to it by the time the work is done, at a yet-undetermined cost.

Hineni's new home will include a sanctuary, classrooms for a religious school, a Jewish library, Judaica museum, conference facilities and a center that will disseminate information about Liberal Judaism, known in North America as Reform.

The project will be funded by gifts from American, Canadian and other contributors through the World Union, and by a number of successful Soviet Jewish entrepreneurs who have indicated an eagerness to invest time, energy and money in Hineni, Hirsch told delegates to the recent biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in Baltimore.

Acquisition of the new building caps a two-year effort by Hineni to obtain a home.

It had been using the Polyakov Synagogue, but was forced to look for other quarters after a Lubavitch Hasidic congregation challenged its right to be there. In May 1991, the Moscow City Council voted to allow Lubavitch to retain rights to the Polyakov building and to find another home for Hineni.

Hineni congregants met in apartments in the interim and held High Holiday services, attended by 400 people, in a rented cultural center. During the summer some services were held outside, according to Hirsch.

SOVIET OLIM ADVISING KIN NOT TO COME

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- While 71 percent of the Soviet Jews who immigrated since September 1989 want to remain in Israel, 52 percent say they are advising friends and relatives in the Soviet Union to postpone their aliyah, according to a poll taken by the Tazpit Research Institute in October.

The results, published here last week, contrast with those of a Tazpit poll conducted in June which showed that 37 percent of the new olim were advising their relatives to stay home.

Aharon Fein, who conducted the poll, said 22 percent of the respondents were advising friends and relatives to immigrate to Israel, 16 percent suggested another country and 10 percent counseled them to remain in the Soviet Union.

Another finding of the poll was that nearly 30 percent of the 809 Soviet olim questioned hoped to be living somewhere else within the next five years. Five percent said they would like to return to the Soviet Union.

MAXWELL, COLOSSUS EVEN IN DEATH, LAID TO REST ON MOUNT OF OLIVES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 10 (JTA) -- British media tycoon Robert Maxwell was buried Sunday on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, according to his wishes, with all the pomp of a state funeral.

President Chaim Herzog and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir headed a galaxy of dignitaries and politicians, both government and opposition, who attended the funeral.

Herzog delivered the eulogy for the multimillionaire publisher, whose holdings in Israel, including Ma'ariv, are estimated at \$300 million.

"He scaled the heights of human endeavor. Kings and princes waited on him. Many admired him. Many disliked him. But none was indifferent to him," Herzog said.

Maxwell's widow, Elizabeth, and their seven sons and daughters were at the graveside for the traditional Jewish burial service. Kaddish was recited by Maxwell's longtime attorney and personal friend, fellow Holocaust survivor Samuel Pisas.

Also present were the archbishop of Canterbury, as well as a group of the "Chernobyl children" Maxwell had helped save by his involvement in bringing them to Israel from the Soviet Union.

Earlier, his body had lain in state at Jerusalem's Binyanei Ha'uma convention center, an honor usually reserved for Israel's government leaders.

Maxwell, 68, died mysteriously Nov. 5 while cruising in his yacht near the Canary Islands. His nude body was recovered from the sea and taken to Las Palmas, Grand Canary Island, for an autopsy. It was flown to Israel last Friday after its release by the Spanish authorities.

Family Investigating Death

Preliminary results from the autopsy revealed that Maxwell suffered a heart attack and died before his body fell into the sea. But further forensic tests have yet to be completed, and his family is investigating his strange death.

Since Maxwell's mysterious death, reports have abounded that his financial empire was buckling under the weight of vast debt.

But his widow told Ma'ariv she absolutely discounted the possibility of suicide, since Maxwell was a "fighter" and not the kind of man to take his own life.

Maxwell, born in Czechoslovakia to an impoverished Orthodox family that perished in the Holocaust, distinguished himself as a British soldier during World War II. He went on to amass a fortune in Britain and eventually worldwide in communications and various business ventures.

"He wanted to close the circle of his life here in Jerusalem," said his eldest son, Philip, a university don who eulogized his father on behalf of the family.

"Welcome home, Robert Maxwell," declared Haifa Chief Rabbi Sha'ar Yashuv Cohen, a close friend of the deceased.

Herzog recalled Maxwell's heroism in the British army during the war, which won him the Military Cross, presented by Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery.

Speaking of his meteoric rise in the financial world, Herzog observed that at the height of his success, Maxwell "returned to his roots," which he rediscovered in the State of Israel.