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**ISRAEL DEMANDS THAT SYRIA  
CURB HEZBOLLAH IN LEBANON**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 26 (JTA) -- Reminding Syria that it is part of the current peace process, Israel has demanded that Damascus restrain Hezbollah and other "warlike" elements in Lebanon from attacking Israeli and allied targets or face a "dangerous situation."

The warning was sounded Tuesday by Foreign Minister David Levy as the Israeli air force and Israel Defense Force artillery continued to pound Hezbollah targets for the sixth consecutive day.

He said Israel demanded an "unequivocal statement" from Damascus as a first step, to be followed by concrete action.

According to the Israelis, Syria is in de facto control in Lebanon, and the activities of Islamic fundamentalists there, such as the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, could not take place without its "backing and protection."

Levy spoke to reporters after news agencies reported that Syrian groundfire was aimed at Israeli aircraft strafing Hezbollah positions in southern Lebanon on Tuesday. Israeli military sources quoted by the army radio denied knowledge of such groundfire.

But the Israeli air force reported anti-aircraft fire from Syrian-controlled batteries at planes flying over Baalbek in the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon on Tuesday.

The air force said all planes returned safely to their bases.

**U.S. and U.N. Voice Concern**

In Washington, the State Department said Tuesday that it was "deeply concerned about the recurrence of violence in southern Lebanon."

"We are in touch with the Israeli, the Lebanese and the Syrian governments on this latest escalation of violence, and we have once again reiterated the need to exercise maximum restraint," said Richard Boucher, the department's deputy spokesman.

Boucher said that the request for restraint is also being passed through third parties to the Hezbollah.

He urged the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict to try to achieve peace and security through negotiations rather than "on the battlefield."

Similarly, at the United Nations, a spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said the U.N. chief was "concerned by the recent escalation of violence" and had urged all sides to "exercise maximum restraint."

"The secretary-general believes that a continuation of hostilities can only heighten tensions in the region, and might even jeopardize the efforts that are presently under way to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict," the spokesman said.

In Jerusalem, Foreign Minister Levy said Israel had approached Damascus "through international channels, to cease supporting those organizations who have made it their purpose to strike at Israel and to create a conflagration in southern Lebanon. We hope our message will be rightly received," he added.

Levy stressed that Israel "is not interested in any escalation, but we were the party attacked" and "we are still under attack by hostile elements on Lebanese soil, with Syrian backing and protection."

The latest clashes in southern Lebanon began with a well-executed Hezbollah attack on a position of the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army in the southern Lebanon security zone on May 19. Israel has been retaliating with air and artillery attacks ever since.

**'We Are Waiting And Watching'**

Levy observed that Syria could hardly be a party to the peace process and act aggressively "in parallel" with it. "It is time for sobriety and responsibility. We are waiting and watching," he said.

Syria has participated in five rounds of bilateral peace talks with Israel since October. Along with Lebanon, however, it boycotted the multilateral phase of the peace process dealing with Middle East regional issues.

Levy said Syria has shown in the past that it could restrain warlike action in Lebanon. "If the situation remains dangerous, it will be dangerous for everyone," he warned.

He said an "unequivocal statement" from Syria would have a "positive impact on the situation." Damascus must restrain the warlike elements and "tell them their continued action can result in a sharp reaction from Israel."

"I want to be sure that Syria is not interested in a deterioration. I believe she is not," Levy said.

Reports Tuesday from Lebanon said four Israeli aircraft attacked Hezbollah installations and facilities in four towns in the Tufach area northeast of Tyre. Other low-level flights were reported over Tyre and other coastal towns without bombs being dropped.

(Contributing to this report were JTA correspondents Hugh Orgel in Tel Aviv and Howard Rosenberg in Washington.)

**ARAB WHO KILLED ISRAELI GIRL  
SAID TO CONFESS, HAD ACCOMPLICE**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 26 (JTA) -- The young Gaza Strip Arab who allegedly stabbed to death 15-year-old Helena Rapp in Bat Yam on Sunday was remanded in custody for 15 days Tuesday by the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

The suspect, Fuad Abdul Atti Amran, 19, allegedly confessed to police and implicated an alleged accomplice who was remanded for five days.

Rapp was assaulted while waiting for a bus to school outside her home Sunday morning. The attack followed the non-fatal stabbing of a yeshiva student in Jerusalem last Friday and was the third time this month that a Jew was victim of a knife attack by an Arab in Israel.

As the judicial process began, heavily reinforced police patrolled the streets of Bat Yam, Rishon le-Zion, Holon and other communities in the Greater Tel Aviv area to forestall renewed anti-Arab rioting.

The mood was sullen but quiet after two

days of vigilantism. Arabs were attacked on sight by bands of Jewish youths who roamed the streets chanting "death to the Arabs."

They were attacked in Holon where Rapp was buried Monday, before and after her funeral. In Rishon le-Zion, a Jewish crowd attacked and inflicted serious stab wounds on an Israeli Arab from Nazareth, whom they claimed they mistook for a Gaza Arab.

The Gaza Strip was sealed off for three days Sunday by the Israel Defense Force, mainly for the protection of its own residents. Thousands of day laborers who seek employment in Israel were unable to go to work. But they may well have been seriously hurt had they ventured into the Tel Aviv area.

Meanwhile, nine Jewish youths were detained by court order to face possible assault charges.

Jewish violence was incited in large measure by members of the extremist Kach movement, followers of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, whose stated goal was to rid Israel of all Arabs.

#### DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER CONFERS WITH PALESTINIANS ON PEACE TALKS

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, May 26 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, one of the three foreign ministers of the European Community currently assigned to deal with Middle East issues, received a two-member Palestinian delegation at The Hague on Monday.

It was the first time a foreign minister of Holland met officially with Palestinians.

His visitors were Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation engaged in bilateral talks with Israel, and Nabil Sha'ath, political adviser to Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat at PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Ashrawi, though not a member of the official Palestinian delegation, nevertheless represents it before the world news media.

They reportedly discussed with van den Broek ways that Holland might contribute to the Middle East peace process and whether the PLO's status in the Netherlands could be upgraded.

At present, the PLO is allowed to have an information office in The Hague but no representative with diplomatic status.

#### MILAN LUBAVITCH SHUL VANDALIZED

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, May 25 (JTA) -- Police are investigating the vandalism last Friday of the Lubavitch synagogue in Milan but are not treating the case as an anti-Semitic incident.

"The police unit that normally investigates incidents of possible religious or political intolerance was not even informed of the affair," according to a report in Corriere della Sera.

According to the newspaper's account, a member of the congregation left the second-floor prayer room at about 6 p.m., locking the door behind him.

When he returned a half-hour later, the reporter said, "he found before him a desolate sight."

A glass-covered bulletin board used for posting announcements to the congregation was pulled down. Seats were broken, a bookshelf was knocked down and a curtain was torn.

But there were no signs of forced entry.

#### RABIN ADMITS HE HAD A BREAKDOWN, AS PARTIES AGREE TO STOP HECKLING

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 26 (JTA) -- Labor Party leader Yitzhak Rabin has admitted he did suffer a brief "breakdown" on the eve of the Six-Day War in 1967. But he has vigorously denounced Likud allegations that he drinks too much.

Rabin's "confession" was contained in a lengthy interview published in the Israeli newspaper Hadashot over the weekend in response to Likud jibes depicting him as a drunkard and someone who cannot function under pressure.

Personal attacks on Rabin have become a centerpiece of the Likud election campaign, especially since Labor seems to be ahead in the polls. Labor claimed Tuesday that the slurs were not harming their man with the voters.

But the Labor and Likud campaign managers, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Police Minister Ronni Milo, have now agreed that the rival parties would desist from disrupting electioneering speeches by the other's leader.

Likud hecklers blow shrill whistles when Rabin addresses a crowd. Labor said it has ordered a consignment of whistles and warned that if Rabin is not allowed to speak, neither may Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Shamir reportedly expressed distaste for the personal attacks on Rabin and was backed up by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon.

Foreign Minister David Levy and Benjamin Netanyahu, a deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office, also have publicly criticized the smear campaign.

But Laborites and members of the leftist Meretz bloc questioned these protestations by Likud leaders. They charged that Shamir and his ministers encouraged the personal attacks from which they publicly dissociated themselves.

#### Working Under Intense Pressure

Some in the Labor camp thought Rabin should ignore Likud campaign propaganda depicting him as a heavy drinker who lacks the "capacity to take decisions under pressure."

But Rabin apparently thought it necessary to confront the stories of his "collapse" in 1967, especially as it is not a new disclosure.

Rabin was Israel Defense Force chief of staff in May 1967, a time of tension in Israel. Egyptian President Gamel Abdel Nasser was said to be massing troops in Sinai and U.N. Secretary-General U Thant had ordered U.N. truce observer forces out of the Israeli-Egyptian border zone.

Rabin told Hadashot that he was working under intense military and political pressures at the time. Responsibility for keeping the IDF instantly ready for battle rested entirely on his shoulders, he said.

One night, his wife Leah insisted he must rest. She called an army medical officer who administered a sedative. Rabin said he slept for the next 24 hours to regain his strength.

Rabin's 24-hour breakdown was disclosed in 1974 by Gen. Ezer Weizman, who was deputy chief of staff in 1967. Weizman was trying at the time to convince Labor to choose Shimon Peres instead of Rabin as its leader.

It was unclear, meanwhile, whether the Labor-Likud pact to refrain from heckling applies only to their respective leaders, Rabin and Shamir. Peres, now Labor's No. 2 man, was the target of a thrown tomato at a campaign rally Monday.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:****ONE YEAR AFTER AIRLIFT, ETHIOPIANS MAINLY STILL IN TEMPORARY HOUSING**

By Michele Chablin

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- One year after Operation Solomon, the daring airlift that brought more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel, the vast majority of the Ethiopian immigrants are still living in temporary housing.

Just who is responsible for this depends on one's point of view. Many immigration officials are critical of the Housing Ministry, while the ministry blames the government. The government, of course, blames both.

Of the 14,160 Ethiopians who arrived during Operation Solomon, 1,145 have moved into public rental housing. Another 506 have purchased homes with large grants from the government. The rest live in absorption centers, immigrant hotels or mobile homes.

Even more disturbing is the fact that of the 43,000 Ethiopians who have immigrated to Israel overall, including 7,500 during Operation Moses in 1984-85, 24,000 still live in temporary dwellings.

All sides agree that the immigrants need real homes where they can live a normal family life. The communal-style living characteristic of hotels and absorption centers disrupts the family hierarchy and deprives the olim of privacy.

"Our goal is to move every immigrant into permanent housing by the end of the year," says Micha Feldmann, head of the Jewish Agency's Department of Immigration for Ethiopians. "Whether we can do so will depend on how many units the Ministry of Housing makes available to us. So far, we've filled every apartment that has come our way."

**Don't Want To Leave Mobile Homes**

The Housing Ministry says that the apartments are available and that all Ethiopians from Operation Solomon will be out of hotels and into apartments or mobile homes by the end of next month, in accordance with a promise it made to the Cabinet last June.

"We have apartments for every family that wants one," says Shia Segal, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon's press secretary. "The fact is that many of the Ethiopians like the mobile homes and don't want to leave them. When they do agree to leave, they want to live with their extended families, and it's hard to find a building with 15 empty apartments."

Realizing that home ownership is a concept foreign to most Ethiopians, the ministry would like to rent out 13,000 brand-new apartments. However, the Treasury rejects this idea, on the grounds that the units' value will decrease once they have been lived in. The Knesset has ordered the two sides to reach a compromise.

At Bat Hatzur, a caravan park near the town of Gedera, 3,000 new immigrants live in tiny mobile homes while trying to become accustomed to their new country.

For the residents, half of whom are Ethiopian, life is a struggle. While the policy-makers and politicians battle it out elsewhere, the immigrants try to come to terms with an alien culture.

Whereas immigrants from the former Soviet republics are usually educated and versed in the rudiments of Western society, the Ethiopians come much less equipped to deal with life in Israel, says the park's director, Shai Fruchtman.

In his tiny caravan-cum-office, Fruchtman

and his staff seem to handle a dozen things at once.

"During the first year, the (Jewish) Agency provides all immigrants with housing, furniture, clothing, health care and education," he explains. "Basically, the Ethiopians came with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. We've had to teach them how to use a refrigerator and oven, how to go to the bank and buy food in the supermarket."

**'Different Values And Customs'**

In many ways, the caravan park operates like a small town. There is a supermarket, a doctor's office, a school and a police station. And, like many small towns with different ethnic groups, there are clearly defined "neighborhoods."

The Ethiopians and Russians do not mix very much, Fruchtman notes, "and this is our luck. They are very different people with different values and customs. If they were to live right on top of one another, it would create tension."

Bat Hatzur, which was created 14 months ago, "has learned from other's mistakes," he says. "In other parks, the immigrants lived all together, and the Russians didn't like the Ethiopians' cooking smells and music, while the Ethiopians found the Russians aloof."

"Here, the two populations get together to celebrate holidays and some other communal events. It seems to be a good balance," Fruchtman says.

Malhik Admasu, 35, and his wife, Ronitu, 29, came to Israel from Gondar exactly one year ago. They moved to Bat Hatzur four months ago, after first residing in an immigrant hotel.

A farmer by profession, Malhik is now unemployed, though he hopes to find a job soon. Like virtually all Ethiopian mothers, Ronitu does not seek work outside the home, preferring instead to raise the couple's four children.

They have turned their caravan, with its tiny children's room, another bedroom and a kitchen, into a home. Photographs and colorful hand-made baskets lend a personal touch to the standard-issue furnishings.

The children, all dressed in clothes donated by Israelis following last May's airlift, give shy smiles. The younger ones speak good basic Hebrew, thanks to daily lessons in school.

**'Wanted A Real Apartment'**

"We are happy to be out of the hotel," says Malhik, "but we wanted a real apartment, not a caravan. My father, who is all alone, lives in Rehovot, and he has no one to take care of him. We've asked for a rental apartment in Rehovot, but so far, nothing."

David Mengistu, the father of nine children, has been in Israel a year and a half, and he says he is frustrated. "We spent a year in an absorption center in Tivon before coming here. We wanted a real apartment, a permanent place in a real town."

Sitting on a curb outside a row of mobile homes, a half-dozen men compare their old and new homes.

Negate Tezazu, who immigrated less than a month ago, tells the gathering that "there is never enough food to eat in Ethiopia. There is no land, no democracy."

When Tezazu has finished, someone admits, "It's easy to forget why we came here."

In true Israeli fashion, he adds in Hebrew, "Yehiyeh be'seder (It'll all turn out OK)."

## HERZOG UNEVEILS MEMORIAL STONE IN EMOTIONAL VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 26 (JTA) -- Visibly anguished and tearful, President Chaim Herzog of Israel unveiled a rock from Jerusalem at the Auschwitz death camp Tuesday which will serve as a permanent memorial to the 1.65 million Jews who perished there.

"In this dread place, I stand here broken-hearted," he said. "This ground on which we stand was drenched in the blood of the pure and holy.

"In this place, a fearful fire consumed all that was generously supplied by the Nazi annihilation machine," said Herzog, the first chief of state of Israel to set foot in the most notorious of the Nazi death camps.

"I stand here representing the state that came into being for us, the Jewish people, three years after the conclusion of the ineffable crime," he declared. Israel was founded in 1948.

The slab of rock from Jerusalem, inlaid with a memorial plaque, was intended for Auschwitz. But it took the Israeli president six months before his visit to convince the Polish authorities to place it at the site.

The Poles agreed only after the personal intervention of President Lech Walesa.

The monument will serve from now on as the spot where wreaths will be placed by visiting Israeli dignitaries and ordinary citizens.

The Irish-born Herzog, accompanied by his wife and daughter, was in Poland on a five-day visit during which he was to visit the towns where his father and grandfather were born. His father later became chief rabbi of Ireland.

Although Poland is facing a serious internal crisis, Walesa met Herzog for 90 minutes Monday. They agreed that relations between their countries should be developed.

But Walesa reportedly complained that Israeli businessmen were not taking advantage of the economic opportunities open to them in democratic Poland.

He told reporters later that anti-Semitism was only marginal in Poland. According to Walesa, the political parties with anti-Semitic planks in their platforms did not win a single seat in Parliament in the last elections.

## ISRAEL TO BE FIRST FOREIGN NATION TO DISPLAY RUSSIAN CROWN JEWELS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 26 (JTA) -- The Russian Parliament has decreed that Israel will be the first foreign country to display the crown jewels of the czar and other priceless Romanov gems, which will be exhibited worldwide for the first time, starting here in December.

The announcement was made by Moshe Schnitzer, chairman of the Israel Diamond Institute, who just returned from a visit to Russia.

Schnitzer, who is president of the Israel Diamond Exchange, said Israel was chosen as a gesture of good will and because Russia is determined to forge good trade and economic relations with the Jewish state.

The jewels were property of the Soviet state since the Bolsheviks executed the czar and his family after the 1917 revolution. They have never been displayed outside the Soviet Union.

But that will change when the entire array,

including a 162-carat diamond, goes on exhibition for eight weeks at the Israel Diamond Exchange's Harry Oppenheimer Diamond Museum in Ramat Gan, a suburb of Tel Aviv.

The Russian Parliament had to pass a special law before the national treasure could leave the country, Schnitzer said.

He said Moscow sees a good match between Israel, one of the world's main diamond-cutting and polishing centers, and Russia, one of the main producers of rough diamonds in the world.

The Russian diamond-mining and manufacturing industries plan to open offices in Israel's new free-trade zone, Schnitzer said.

He said there was an agreement between Russia and De Beers, the London-based diamond syndicate which controls the quantity and the price of diamonds on the world's markets.

Moscow sells its entire output of rough diamonds through the syndicate and Israel obtains its uncut stones from the cartel.

## MIDEAST ENVOY PHILIP HABIB DEAD OF HEART ATTACK AT 72

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 26 (JTA) -- Philip Habib, who was President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East in the early 1980s, died Monday while on a private visit to France. Habib, who was 72, suffered a heart attack.

A career diplomat who retired in 1980 as undersecretary of state for political affairs because of a history of heart attacks, Habib was sent by Reagan as a special emissary to the Middle East in 1981 to try to lessen the growing tension then along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Habib helped bring about an unofficial ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian terrorists shelling Israel from across the Lebanese border.

In July 1982, after Israel's incursion into Lebanon, Habib, who was of Lebanese extraction, was in Lebanon and worked successfully to get the Palestine Liberation Organization out of Beirut and eventually out of the country.

In November 1982, Reagan put Habib in charge of overall Middle East peace negotiations and of U.S. efforts to get Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces out of Lebanon.

Habib, who was known for his fairness and ability to maintain diplomatic confidentiality, helped shape the ill-fated peace agreement between Israel and Lebanon, which collapsed when Syria refused to go along.

In 1983, he became a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington.

Also that year, he was presented the Covenant of Peace Award by the Synagogue Council of America.

In 1986, President Reagan sent Habib to the Philippines following the disputed election results in the contest between President Ferdinand Marcos and Corazon Aquino.

In 1987, Habib quit his post as Reagan's special envoy to Central America following rumors he was unhappy with the president's failure to give him a major role in working out a regional peace settlement.

The son of a grocer, Habib was born Feb. 15, 1920 in New York and raised in a Jewish neighborhood of Brooklyn. He would later recall being a "Shabbos guy" who would turn lights on and off on the Sabbath in Jewish homes.

Despite his years as a diplomat, he never lost his Brooklyn accent.