

**ISRAEL STEPS UP ACTION IN LEBANON  
AFTER ROCKET KILLS BOY IN THE NORTH**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Israel stepped up military action in Lebanon after a Katyusha rocket hit an apartment bloc in northern Israel shortly after dawn Tuesday, killing a sleeping 14-year-old boy and wounding his father, sister and infant nephew.

Israeli planes hit terrorist targets several hours after the attack on the Galilee panhandle town of Kiryat Shmona, in which two other persons sustained slight injuries.

Israeli aircraft flying over Lebanon scored accurate hits against bases of the Islamic fundamentalist Hezbollah and other terrorist groups north of the Israeli-controlled buffer zone, the Israeli army spokesman said.

The air sorties followed a day of intensive Israeli air, artillery and naval bombardment of Hezbollah and other terror bases across a broad front, from the coast in the west to the Har Dov region in the east.

Those attacks were in retaliation for the bombing of an Israeli army convoy by Hezbollah forces in southern Lebanon on Sunday that left five soldiers dead and another five wounded.

There were also reports Tuesday of Israeli tanks and other military equipment streaming north toward the border, raising the possibility of a ground attack. But foreign news agencies quoted Israeli military sources as saying there were no imminent plans to mount such an assault.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin made clear he was determined to "restore quiet" to the area. But he also said Israel would remain engaged in the peace talks in Washington rather than play into the hands of extremists by walking out.

Similar sentiments were expressed in New York by the new Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Gad Ya'acobi. In his maiden address to the U.N. General Assembly, Ya'acobi said provocation would not divert Israel from the peace track, though the country would defend its citizens with its "full force and authority."

**More Violence In Territories**

The rocket attack on Kiryat Shmona was the latest round in a cycle of violence that began last weekend with the killing of five soldiers in southern Lebanon and the shooting death of a soldier in the West Bank town of Hebron.

In Kiryat Shmona, Vadim Shuchman was killed when a rocket slammed into the wall of a second-floor enclosed balcony in which he was sleeping. His sister received treatment for light injuries but stayed at the hospital to help care for her seriously wounded 9-month-old son. The father, too, was seriously hurt.

The family arrived in Israel two years ago from the former Soviet Union.

Continued violence also was reported Tuesday in the administered territories.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, a 40-year-old member of Moshav Ganim, Motti Biton, suffered serious chest and head injuries when he was shot at close range. His wife returned fire with a pistol and sustained slight wounds.

In the Gaza Strip, a member of Moshav

Netzer Hazani was struck with an ax in an attack by three Palestinians. He was hospitalized in Beersheba.

Those incidents and other recent terrorist attacks against Jewish civilians in the territories prompted hundreds of angry settlers to stage a rowdy protest in Jerusalem on Tuesday evening.

The demonstration, outside the prime minister's official residence, turned violent, with protesters battling police and eventually being driven back by water cannon. Some two dozen arrests were made.

The government's handling of the security situation also came under criticism in the Knesset. Knesset member Moshe Peled of the right-wing Tsomet party urged the government to call the peace negotiators home from Washington.

But other opposition politicians were less direct. Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir said suspension of the peace talks was something the government "might consider doing," but he did not specifically recommend it.

**Meeting With U.S. Envoy**

Both coalition and opposition members questioned the efficacy of the heavy shelling attacks that began Monday against targets in southern Lebanon.

Eliahu Ben-Elissar of Likud and Yossi Sarid of the left-wing Meretz bloc, which is a partner in Rabin's coalition, argued that the shelling achieved scant military effect while provoking terrorists to respond with Katyusha rockets.

Rabin, for his part, said Israel's military actions were intended to "send signals" to the Syrians, in addition to directly punishing terrorist groups involved in the recent attacks on Israeli targets.

Rabin also explained his policy in southern Lebanon to the U.S. charge d'affaires, who came to see him on the instructions of acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, reportedly to urge restraint.

In New York, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations sent a message to the White House on Tuesday asserting that Iran bears major responsibility along with Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the upsurge of anti-Israel violence.

"As the party that convened and is hosting the Middle East peace talks, the United States has an obligation to insist that Syria end its support of Iranian and Palestinian terrorist gangs, and that the PLO order a halt to the latest round of violence by Palestinian groups that claim PLO membership," the message said.

It was signed by Shoshana Cardin, the umbrella group's chairman, and by Malcolm Hoenlein, its executive director.

One bright spot in the otherwise gloomy situation is that it may help resolve a domestic political crisis that threatened to unravel Rabin's governing coalition.

Political observers believe the security situation will make it easier for the prime minister's two feuding coalition partners, Shas and Meretz, to back away from their confrontation over recent controversial statements made by Education Minister Shulamit Aloni.

The two parties are holding informal discus-

sions and the hope is that they can resolve the crisis peaceably before a scheduled no-confidence vote in the Knesset next Monday.

Meanwhile, the two parties' leaders, Arye Deri of the fervently Orthodox Shas and the avowedly secularist Aloni of Meretz, are participating together in the ongoing Cabinet consultations with Rabin over the unfolding situation in the north.

*(Contributing to this report were JTA correspondents David Landau and Gil Sedan in Jerusalem.)*

## UNREST IN LEBANON, TERRITORIES CASTS A SHADOW OVER PEACE TALKS

By Cynthia Mann  
States News Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The intensified hostilities in southern Lebanon and the recent upsurge of violence in the administered territories have threatened to throw the Middle East peace talks off course a year to the week after they opened in Madrid.

Israeli and Arab negotiators here said they intended to persevere but acknowledged that the violence had heightened tensions and led to heated exchanges in the sessions between the Israelis and the Lebanese.

At the same time, there appeared to be progress in the talks with the Palestinians, which are aimed at reaching an agreement on an interim Palestinian self-governing authority.

The Israelis agreed to review a 12-point plan submitted by the Palestinian delegation to improve conditions for Arab residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The latest cycle of violence began last weekend with a roadside bombing in southern Lebanon that killed five Israeli soldiers and the shooting to death of an Israeli soldier in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Israel retaliated with large-scale bombing raids in southern Lebanon. But the violence continued early Tuesday with the killing of a 14-year-old boy in a series of Katyusha rocket attacks on Israel's northern settlements.

Uri Lubrani, chairman of the Israeli team negotiating with Lebanon, said this week's violence "was triggered by forces which are dedicated to upset the peace process, to do whatever they can in order to undermine the efforts which we here in the bilateral talks are trying to achieve."

### Must Stop 'Permissiveness'

Lubrani charged the Lebanese and Syrians with responsibility for allowing the attacks to occur. He said he told the Lebanese delegation "either there is a permissiveness on the part of these forces, or there are other designs on the part of these forces to allow these terrorists to do their work."

For their part, the Lebanese said the violence proved the futility of Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon and that Israel should withdraw. The Syrians reportedly called the attacks justified resistance to an occupation force.

The seventh round of bilateral talks began last week with conflicting expectations. Many believed the negotiations would be stuck in a holding pattern while the chief mediator, the U.S. administration, was occupied with the final days of the presidential election campaign.

But optimists believed the time was ripe for

a breakthrough on the Israeli-Syrian track after Israel offered a newly explicit statement that it was willing to withdraw from part of the Golan Heights in exchange for a peace accord.

Israel had already embraced the application of the land-for-peace provisions in U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 to the Golan Heights. But until last week, the Israeli team had referred only ambiguously to the need for a "territorial dimension" in an agreement with Syria, studiously avoiding the word "withdrawal."

In fact, the Israeli-Syrian talks got bogged down following a news report that Israel had said it might even be willing to give back all of the Golan, which Syria has demanded in return for a peace agreement.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's subsequent denial of that report quenched political unrest at home but triggered a harsh response from the Syrians.

"If Israel is not considering withdrawal, that means in other words that Israel is not considering peace," Mouwafak al-Allaf, the chief Syrian negotiator, was quoted as saying this week. He went on to say there was no progress in the talks and "there might even be some regression."

Israel's chief negotiator with the Syrians, Itamar Rabinovich, disputed Allaf's dismal account. "We are not in the same movie," he said.

He said the parties were continuing to work toward a joint statement of principles that would serve as a basis of the negotiation of a peace agreement.

### Some Progress With Palestinians

Rabinovich said the two sides did not negotiate about the situation in Lebanon. But he warned that the continued violence there would erode Israeli public support for the peace process on all tracks.

"The patience of the Israeli people and the Israeli government is (not) unlimited," he said. The government and the delegation "have a mandate to pursue the peace process, but such pursuits are not taking place in a vacuum," he continued. "They are taking place in a political context."

Jonathan Jacoby, president of Americans for Peace Now, said the talks were in a "crisis which cries out for a neutral third party to mediate," but that it is "obvious Americans have their minds on other things."

He said the situation should send a "very clear signal" to both the Bush and Clinton camps that "on Nov. 4, they have to turn their attention to the negotiations."

Meanwhile, the Israeli and the Palestinian teams reported some progress in their efforts to work out an interim Palestinian self-governing arrangement. They said there were informal discussions on the shape of a self-governing body and on land use in the territories.

The 12-point proposal for improving conditions in the territories calls for guarantees against the deportation and administrative detention of Palestinians, and against demolishing homes and destroying trees, among other provisions, according to a Palestinian source.

The source reported a "tense atmosphere" in Tuesday's session following the Israeli raids in southern Lebanon, which he said claimed the lives of Palestinian civilians.

The current negotiating round was scheduled to recess late Thursday until Nov. 9, the week after the U.S. elections.

## QUEBEC'S JEWS TOLD NOT TO WORRY DESPITE REJECTION OF UNITY ACCORD

By Bram D. Eisenthal

MONTREAL, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Despite an overwhelming rejection of a new constitutional accord across Canada this week, Quebec's Jews are being told by community leaders that nothing will change in the foreseeable future.

In a nationwide referendum Monday, 53 percent of Canadian voters rejected the Charlottetown Accord, while 48 percent voted in favor of it.

The accord, agreed to by all 10 provincial premiers last summer, was aimed at reforming the constitution to allow French-speaking Quebec greater autonomy while preserving Canadian unity.

In Quebec, the proposal was rejected by a vote of 57 percent to 44 percent. Only four of the 10 provinces -- New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Ontario -- voted in favor of the accord.

Max Bernard, who chairs the Canadian Jewish Congress' National Unity Committee and the Constitutional Coalition, composed of members of the Greek, Italian and Jewish communities, spoke to the campaign team of the Combined Jewish Appeal the morning after the referendum.

"Canadians told the politicians that they don't like the deal," said Bernard, whose committees toured Canada pushing the proposal. "It's also clear that the lack of confidence voters had in our politicians affected them enormously."

He admitted that the vote reflected some anti-Quebec sentiment, "but only in that they (Canadians) felt Quebec got too much in the deal and we (Quebecers) felt we didn't get enough. It was actually quite clear that Quebec wasn't alone in rejecting the accord."

Had Quebec been the sole province to reject the accord, the results would have been "disastrous," Bernard added.

Canadians on both sides of the issue rejected the accord. With voter turnout unusually high, hovering around 80 percent nationwide, the reforms were rejected by 57 percent of Quebecers for offering too little political autonomy and by 68 percent of British Columbians for giving the French-speaking province too much.

### Quebec Jews Have 'Role To Play'

Canadians have been very critical of the leadership of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney during the constitutional negotiations. Canadians' distaste for their prime minister was stated as a major factor in the decision to vote against the accord, according to polls taken prior to the referendum.

A federal election is a virtual certainty in 1993, at which time Canadians will decide whether to elect Mulroney to a third term.

Bernard was careful to stress that Quebec's separatist forces will attempt to use this renunciation of the accord as a spurning of a united Canada. "There is no option for them other than sovereignty," he said. "But they will have a tough time convincing Quebecers that the accord was rejected for that reason."

And he said that Quebec's Jews had a role to play in keeping the country together. "What we (Jews) have to continue doing is what we've been doing all along. We have to be extremely pro-active on the political front and make it clear that we are not only Quebecers, but Canadians who intend to remain in Quebec.

"The Jewish community has to continue playing an extremely strong role," he said.

Joe Gabay, president of the Communauté Sepharade du Quebec, which represents the Sephardic, largely French-speaking Jewish community in Montreal, said there was "no significant difference" between the voting patterns of his community and those of the Ashkenazic, largely English-speaking Jewish community.

### 'Go Back To The Drawing Board'

He admitted that some Sephardic Jews supported the separatist movement in Quebec, but many of those who voted against the accord did so for the same reason that many Anglophones rejected it: they did not like the provisions of the deal.

"They are saying (to the politicians), go back to the drawing board. You didn't do it well enough this time," said Gabay.

Harvey Wolfe, president of Montreal's Federation CJA, said in a prepared statement from Israel that "the best thing about the referendum is that it's over. This will allow our country, our province, our cities, our people, to get back to the business of living, working, planning, building and dreaming together."

CJC National President Irving Abella said that "this was a vote against the accord, not against Canada. We recognize that many of the individuals who lobbied hard for the 'no' vote are federalists, who did not concur with the agreement reached" by provincial leaders.

But Abella said that CJC would continue its fight for a united Canada. "Right now, we plan to go back to our respective communities for further consultation to evaluate the implications of Monday's vote. National unity will remain a CJC priority."

### UKRAINIAN RIGHTEOUS GENTILES ARE INDUCTED INTO YAD VASHEM

By Alexander Lesser

MOSCOW, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- In the first ceremony of its kind in Ukraine, seven Ukrainian citizens were inducted Sunday into Yad Vashem's Righteous Among the Nations for their efforts to save Jews during the Holocaust.

Their numbers decimated by time, only two of the seven attended the ceremony in their honor, which was held in Lvov. Two had passed away, one had gone to America years ago, one was too ill to come and the seventh could not be found. The deceased and ill were represented by their relatives.

Two of those honored were related, cousins Roman and Julian Bilecki. In the autumn of 1943, a group of 18 Jews who survived the Nazi extermination of the Jewish community in Polgraitza, eastern Galicia, found their way to the Belicki farm, according to Yitzhak Lev and Sima Weissman, witnesses now living in Israel.

The Bilecki family took them in. And, as Weissman wrote, they "not only hid us, but spent time with us, reading the Bible and praying for our salvation.

"Three times it was necessary to change hiding places, so that nearby villagers would suspect nothing. It's impossible to describe what these people did for us," wrote Weissman. "No family member would have done more than they did."

Julian Bilecki attended the ceremony; his cousin Roman now lives in the United States.

## **ELECTION '92: JEWISH PACs BACKING INCUMBENTS OVER MORE LIBERAL CHALLENGERS**

[Part 2 Of A Series]

By Cynthia Mann

States News Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- In this year's congressional races, pro-Israel political action committees are supporting several conservative incumbent senators being challenged by often-Jewish liberals who are either ahead at the polls or within winning distance.

In Wisconsin, for instance, Sen. Robert Kasten, a leader in the battle to win loan guarantees for Israel, finds himself running hard to keep up with Democratic challenger Russ Feingold, a Jewish progressive state senator who unseated veteran Rep. Jim Moody in the primary with a creative campaign as an outsider.

Pro-Israel PACs are backing Kasten, because he is the ranking Republican on the powerful Senate Appropriations subcommittee that deals with foreign aid.

But Feingold, a 39-year-old former Rhodes scholar, has solid pro-Israel credentials and favors abortion rights for women, as do most Jews. Kasten is pro-life.

Feingold had managed to win a commanding 20-point lead in the polls. But in recent weeks that lead has narrowed to a tiny margin after Kasten mounted a hard-hitting television ad blitz. It contrasted sharply with Feingold's trademark humor, which apparently has begun to wear thin.

In New York state, too, pro-Israel PACs are supporting a conservative incumbent, Republican Alfonse D'Amato, against his Jewish Democratic challenger, state Attorney General Robert Abrams.

### **D'Amato Being Rewarded For Record**

While Abrams enjoys popularity among liberal Jews and D'Amato has been investigated for alleged ethical misconduct, the senator is being rewarded by the PACs for a long and dedicated pro-Israel record in the Senate and for the seniority he wields.

The pro-Israel PACs have also poured money into the campaign of Oregon's conservative Republican Sen. Bob Packwood, an accomplished legislator and savvy politician. Packwood is running in a dead heat against a respected Democratic member of the House of Representatives, Les AuCoin, a member of the Appropriations Committee elected in 1974.

AuCoin's strong showing against the incumbent comes despite 83 overdrafts in the House bank and the fact that Packwood is spending more campaign money than any other candidate in Oregon's history, outpacing AuCoin by a ratio of 3-1. Both are vocal champions of Israel and leading supporters of abortion rights.

Also a PAC favorite is Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), a member of the Appropriations Committee who has been gaining steady ground in a tough campaign against his more liberal challenger, Democrat Lynn Yeakel. Specter, who is Jewish, has managed to close the gap and then gain a slight lead in recent weeks.

Yeakel got a lot of mileage early in the race out of the senator's conduct at last year's confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, during which he was seen to have badgered witness Anita Hill about her claims of sexual harassment.

For his part, Specter has attacked Yeakel

for her membership in a church that has embraced some anti-Israel positions, while Yeakel has responded with pro-Israel position papers. While she is not a foe of the pro-Israel community, Specter is favored by many because of his considerable clout in the Senate. When it comes to abortion rights, both are pro-choice.

Pro-Israel money is also being funneled to another member of the Appropriations Committee, staunchly conservative Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond (R-Mo.). He is running against Geri Rothman-Serot, a Jewish woman and member of the St. Louis City Council. She and Bond share pro-Israel positions but part ways on the abortion issue. He is an ardent pro-lifer.

There are several other Senate races capturing the interest of Jewish voters. In California, there will be a stark choice between Democratic Rep. Barbara Boxer and Republican Bruce Herschensohn, a television commentator and former Nixon aide.

### **Herschensohn Gaining Against Boxer**

Both are Jewish and pro-Israel, but Boxer is a strident, pro-choice liberal and her opponent is a pro-lifer who, as a self-described strict constitutionalist, would seek to strip the federal government of most of its authority and return it to the states.

Herschensohn, who was behind in the polls, has gained ground in recent weeks, in part because he has hammered home the fact that Boxer had 143 overdrafts at the House bank. She has hit back over his opposition to abortion and support for offshore oil drilling.

If Boxer wins, she could form an unusual duo in the Senate delegation with another Jewish woman, Dianne Feinstein, a moderate Democrat and former mayor of San Francisco.

Feinstein is running a tough race for a special two-year term against Sen. John Seymour, an appointee of Gov. Pete Wilson who does not enjoy much name recognition statewide.

Following are highlights of some of the noteworthy House races:

In Ohio, Democratic Rep. Mary Rose Oaker, historically disliked by the pro-Israel lobby for her pro-Palestinian leanings, is in trouble in her quest for re-election to a ninth term. Oaker has become engulfed in swirling questions over her conduct in the House bank and post office scandals and faces a strong challenge by political ingenué, lawyer Martin Hoke.

In Connecticut, Rep. Sam Gejdenson is in a tight race to hold onto his seat in an area hard-hit by defense cuts.

### **Stakes Are High In Geldenson Race**

The stakes are high. The pro-Israel Jewish Democrat could become the head of the Foreign Affairs Committee if Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), in direct line for the chairmanship, is tapped to serve in a Clinton administration.

In Alabama, Democratic Rep. Ben Erdreich had run and won since 1982 in a Birmingham-centered district, but that district got reconfigured to form a black-majority seat.

Erdreich, who is Jewish and a good friend of Israel, is now running in a new, mostly Republican suburban district with stiff opposition from former state Republican Chairman Spencer Bachus.

Meanwhile, the pro-Israel community strongly supports the re-election of Reps. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.) and Bill Green (R-N.Y.), both of whom face especially close contests.