

**LIFE RETURNS TO NORMAL IN NORTH,  
AS TROOPS REMAIN READY AT BORDER**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- As life returned to normal in Kiryat Shmona, following a rocket attack in the Galilee town Tuesday that killed a teen-age boy, Israeli ground forces continued to mass along the border with Lebanon.

But the show of force was seen as more of a warning to the Islamic fundamentalist Hezbollah than a mobilization for an incursion into southern Lebanon.

With Washington urging restraint, Israeli officials tried to strike a delicate balance between showing stiff resolve in the face of Hezbollah violence and taking provocative actions that could escalate the confrontation with the Iranian-backed organization.

Israeli officials were mindful of the fact that Tuesday's rocket attack occurred only after Israeli forces began bombing and shelling Lebanese positions, in retaliation for the ambush attack on an Israeli army convoy Sunday that left five soldiers dead.

The military establishment appears to agree with a number of senior reserve officers, who have suggested that Israel, for the moment, allow the Hezbollah the dubious honor of firing the last shot, rather than engage in escalation.

In Kiryat Shmona, meanwhile, children returned to school and adults returned to work Wednesday after a night spent in shelters and reinforced rooms. They appeared to be demonstrating a determination to see the situation through, in contrast to flights from the town that were prompted by Katyusha attacks in the past.

Delegates to the Jewish Agency Assembly in Jerusalem and tourists from the Netherlands were among those who traveled to the border town Wednesday as a demonstration of solidarity with its inhabitants.

**Arms And Training From Iran**

Tuesday's blast left 14-year-old Vadim Shuchman dead and wounded his father, sister and infant nephew. The family had arrived here two years ago from Ukraine, which, ironically, has sold Iran most of the weapons used by Hezbollah, analysts said.

A 19-year-old neighbor of the Shuchmans, himself a recent immigrant, said missiles were respected in the former Soviet Union as a sign of the might of the Red Army.

"Now that I've been on the receiving end, I don't find the Katyusha much source for pride," he told Israel Radio. But he added: "That's not a reason for Soviet Jews not to immigrate to Israel."

For the past three months, Hezbollah operations have been supplied by a massive shipment of arms from Iran that were purchased mostly in the Ukraine, the newspaper Ha'aretz reported.

They include Sager missiles, rocket-launchers, Katyusha rockets, Howitzer guns and hundreds of mines.

Together with the equipment, Iran sent military experts to train Hezbollah fighters in the use of the weapons in southern Lebanon and in the Bekaa Valley.

An Israeli air bombardment in mid-May on operational headquarters of the Hezbollah in the Shi'ite village of Jibhit killed an Iranian intelligence agent masquerading as a newsman, the report said.

The agent was helping to plan attacks on the Israeli buffer zone, in the interest of capturing a large number of Israeli soldiers, who could be traded in a prisoner exchange for a Moslem cleric held by Israel, Sheik Abdel Karim Obeid, and two others being held by the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army.

Five Iranian military experts also met their deaths in the Israeli bombardment.

Iranian intelligence agents are found in the military, cultural and welfare institutions of the Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, the Ha'aretz report said.

But Likud Knesset member Benjamin Netanyahu put the blame for the recent Hezbollah attacks squarely on Syria.

"Not that they control every action, but they have the power to veto all actions," he told members of B'nai B'rith's delegation to the Jewish Agency Assembly in Jerusalem on Wednesday.

Netanyahu said the proof was that during the recent parliamentary elections in Lebanon, the border region was totally quiet, because it was in Syrian interest to maintain quiet.

"Had I been the premier now," he said, "I would have ordered our delegation back from the Washington peace talks."

*(Contributing to this report was JTA correspondent Gil Sedan in Jerusalem.)*

**MIDEAST TALKS ON ENVIRONMENT  
END WITHOUT A FINAL STATEMENT**  
By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- A round of multilateral Middle East peace talks on environmental issues ended in The Hague this week without a final communique, when Israeli and Palestinian delegates failed to agree on terminology.

Palestinian insistence on a "national Palestinian" label for joint research with Israel met with objections from Israel.

The two days of talks, which began Monday, ended without a joint statement despite efforts by the Japanese chairman to bridge the gap after some progress had been made on such issues as oil pollution of the sea.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department reported that the talks were substantive and productive. Among the items discussed were environmental profiles of the Gaza Strip and the eastern Mediterranean.

Thirty-seven countries and organizations attended the meeting, though Syria and Lebanon boycotted it. An earlier round of talks was held in Tokyo last May, and the next session is scheduled for February.

Four other sets of multilateral talks on regional issues are in progress. They include meetings on arms control, which opened last month in Moscow; water resources, held last month in Washington; economic development, due to open Thursday in Paris; and refugee affairs, set to open Nov. 11 in Ottawa.

### **KNESSET PANEL STRIKES BLOW AT ISRAEL'S ANTI-TERROR LAW** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- In a blow to Israel's law barring contacts with officials of terrorist organizations, a Knesset committee has voted down a proposal to lift the parliamentary immunity of four Knesset members who met recently with officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

By a vote of 8-3, the House Committee voted to keep intact the immunity enjoyed by three Arab Knesset members and a representative of the left-wing Meretz bloc, one of the parties that makes up Israel's coalition government.

The move prevents them from being prosecuted under the anti-terror law.

Members of the opposition Likud bloc charged the committee had trampled on a state law by using a "technical majority" in favor of Abd el-Wahab Darawshe and Taleb al-Sanaa of the Arab Democratic Party, Hashem Mahmud of the Hadash Communists and Naomi Chazan of Meretz.

Committee Chairman Haggai Merom of Labor conceded that the vote in effect nullified the 1986 law forbidding contact with terrorist groups.

But he said he hoped it would accelerate the announced government intention of amending the law to decriminalize such contacts, which have, in fact, increasingly taken place between Knesset members and PLO officials.

### **BUDGET ASSAILED ON FAILURES TO DEAL WITH JOBS, ARAB NEEDS** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- Finance Minister Avraham Shohat presented the Knesset on Wednesday with a new state budget that has been criticized even within the government for failing to address adequately the record unemployment rate of 11.2 percent.

At least a dozen Knesset members in the minister's own Labor Party threaten to vote against the \$40 billion budget unless it allocates funds to create jobs immediately for half the country's 200,000 jobless.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who himself has exerted heavy pressure on the Treasury to accelerate job creation, reminded Labor members of Knesset that voting against the budget amounted to a vote of no confidence in the coalition.

"You will find many partners to such a move" to bring down the government, Rabin said. "So draw the consequences."

The budget, which is 6 percent under last year's, is based on "changing (national) priorities, promoting growth and a slight drop in unemployment," Shohat said.

He said a drastic cut in the number of jobless is not possible in the short term, but a growing economy would show positive results "possibly by the end of next year."

At the Treasury, budget department head David Brodet predicted that unemployment would drop to 9 percent, "and possibly less," by 1995.

Spokesmen for the opposition Likud said the budget failed to address the real problems of the economy. Likud Knesset member Dan Tichon suggested parliamentary adoption of a one-month budget, pending an overhaul of the full proposal by the finance committee.

The new budget is facing yet another obsta-

cle from representatives of the Arab sector. The eight Arab Knesset members threaten to vote against the budget unless it allocates a minimum of \$39 million for school buildings, roads and sewage systems in Arab towns and villages.

### **JEWISH AGENCY ASSEMBLY OPENS WITH HOMAGE TO FALLEN SOLDIERS** By Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The 20th Assembly of the Jewish Agency began on a bitter-sweet note Monday night, as hundreds of delegates attended a moving opening-night ceremony at the Jerusalem Theater.

Upon entering the lobby, the assembly members were treated to a variety of performances by talented new immigrants.

At one end of the foyer, participants swayed to the beat of a swing band composed of olim from the former Soviet Union, while at the other end, onlookers clapped their hands as a troupe of energetic Ethiopian teen-agers performed traditional African folk dances.

The lighthearted mood did not last long, however. Once they had entered the auditorium, President Chaim Herzog reminded the delegates that a half-dozen Israeli soldiers had been killed the previous day.

"Today is a sad day in Israel. Today we buried six soldiers. They fell because our enemies are determined to sabotage the peace process and because of the activities of Islamic fundamentalists who are threatening the existence of all regimes in the Middle East and elsewhere," said Herzog.

Yet while the president expressed his concern over the recent increase in terror attacks, he stressed that assimilation, and not violence, is the real threat to the existence of the Jewish people.

He called on the assembled Jewish leaders to devote more attention and funds to Jewish education, and in so doing, curb the tide of assimilation and intermarriage in the Diaspora.

After adding his condolences to the families of the fallen soldiers, Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz spoke about the agency's ongoing efforts to encourage and facilitate aliyah, especially from strife-torn areas.

"The Jewish Agency is privileged to have been the instrument that brought these people home, and continues to be the one element that will complete the task of bringing one million olim by 1997," he said.

To illustrate this point, a giant video screen at center stage presented vivid images of Jews trying to flee war-torn regions such as Yugoslavia, Moldova and Avhazia, in northwest Georgia. In Yugoslavia, a woman examines the rubble that was once her home. A moment later, she is shown arriving at Ben-Gurion Airport, embracing a loved one.

Another highlight was a live telephone interview with emissary Eli Yitzhaki, who spoke from war-ravaged Dushanbe. "It's been a bit like Yom Kippur for the past two days," he said. "We haven't had any food or water, but things seem to be quieting down," he assured the audience.

Stirred by these words, and by the video clips of new immigrants learning Hebrew and undergoing job retraining, the world Jewry's "movers and shakers" kicked off their shoes and joined a group of Ness Ziona schoolchildren for an hour of joyful folk-dancing.

**JEWS JOIN BRAZILIAN COALITION AGAINST RACISM, ANTI-SEMITISM**  
By Rochelle G. Saidel

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- Jewish groups have joined a newly formed Brazilian coalition to combat anti-Semitism and racism.

More than 300 persons this week attended the founding meeting of the Democratic Movement against Nazism and All Forms of Discrimination.

They represented 100 human rights and other groups, including representatives of the black and Jewish communities and Brazilian migrants from the northeast.

In a statement, the coalition said racial questions involved not only the groups involved but Brazil as a whole. "The hour has arrived for fighting the myth that there is racial democracy in Brazil.

"The triumph of Nazism is the overthrow of the democratic political system," the statement said.

The initiative in establishing the forum came from the Jewish Federation of Sao Paulo and the Order of Attorneys of Brazil, following a series of anti-Semitic and racist incidents.

In Santo Andre, a city in greater Sao Paulo, members of a group called Skinheads-White Power last month beat up two young Jews wearing scullicaps.

The attack occurred near a school connected with the Chabad movement of Lubavitcher Hasidim.

Other Jewish groups in Brazil received threatening letters from the Skinheads, and Jewish cemeteries were desecrated in Rio de Janeiro and in the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

**Unprecedented Coalition**

Neo-Nazis connected with the Skinheads-White Power group also attacked a radio station in Sao Paulo with a listenership among Brazilian migrants from the northeast of the country.

More than 100 organizations were represented at the headquarters of the Order of Attorneys for the formal creation of the new umbrella body, a coalition unprecedented in Brazil.

Jewish leaders said joint action was needed to combat neo-Nazism.

Jews are fighting "all discrimination, not only racism," said Laszlo Krausz, chairman of the Political Council of the Jewish Federation.

Federation President Jayme Bobrow said, "We cannot wait until we get hurt" to join together with others.

Similarly, Rabbi Henry Sobel, president of the rabbinate at Congregacao Israelita Paulista, said a parochial battle against anti-Semitism or racism is a lost battle.

"We in the Jewish community must ally ourselves with other groups to combat every manifestation of ethnic and racial prejudice," said Sobel.

Catholic cooperation was pledged by Dr. Marco Antonio Rodrigues Barbosa, on behalf of the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sao Paulo.

Barbosa wrote a letter to Sobel, who is the Jewish coordinator of the National Commission on Catholic-Jewish Religious Dialogue of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops.

In it, he expressed the desire to "transmit to the Jewish community our solidarity, and our placing this commission at the disposition of your struggle."

**A LEADING RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CLERIC PUBLISHES AN ANTI-SEMITIC HISTORY**  
By Alexander Lesser

MOSCOW, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- The second-highest ranking figure in the Russian Orthodox Church recently published a bizarre and blatantly anti-Semitic version of Russian and world history, accusing the Jews of killing Jesus, worshipping Satan and seeking world domination.

In the rambling article, which appeared Oct. 10 in *Sovietskaya Rossiya*, an extreme right-wing Russian newspaper, Metropolitan Johann of St. Petersburg wrote that after the destruction of the kingdoms of Israel and Judea, the Jews "misinterpreted" their holy books by linking the restoration of Israel to the coming of the Messiah.

"The fact that Jesus Christ revealed the mistakes of their 'prophets' and destroyed the myth about their being the 'chosen people' caused them to hate him bitterly," wrote the Russian church leader.

Then moving to the 20th century, the cleric, who is the spiritual leader of Russia's second-largest city, saw a connection between communism, which he referred to as a "united international political structure," and the Jews' "centuries-old dream of world supremacy."

He wrote that chief among the tools of those working "to destroy Christian feeling and nation states" have been "heretic sects, philosophers' groups and Masonic lodges."

A spokesman for the Russian Orthodox Church told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency this week that "the article that appeared under the name of His Holiness Metropolitan Johann was a reflection of his personal opinion and cannot be viewed as reflecting the opinion of the Russian Orthodox Church or its leading organs."

A church source privately described the 65-year-old metropolitan as "not in good health."

The church's highest leader, Patriarch Aleksei II, has visited Israel twice and several times issued statements condemning anti-Semitism.

**FRENCH JEWS FREED FROM GERMAN JAIL AFTER ARRESTS FOR PROTESTING NAZIS**  
By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- The three French Jews who were arrested and jailed in the German city of Rostock last week following a violent demonstration were released Wednesday and returned to Paris.

The release of the three, who were not identified, followed interventions by the European Jewish Congress to the authorities in Rostock as well as to the German Embassy in Paris.

But Serge Cwajgenbaum, EJC secretary-general, said the three will probably have to be tried by a French court.

The president of the EJC, Jean Kahn, refused either to support or condemn the group's actions in Rostock.

But he said that the idea of having three young French Jews imprisoned in Germany was "unbearable."

The three were among a group of 46 French Jews, led by Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld and his wife, Beate, who clashed with police on Oct. 19 while protesting Germany's failure to stem right-wing violence against foreigners, and its intention to deport Romanian Gypsies.

The three arrested were indicted for brutal assault on police officers.

**ELECTION '92:**
**N.Y. SENATE RACE IS REFERENDUM ON JEWS AS SINGLE-ISSUE VOTERS [Part 3 Of A Series]**

By Larry Yudelson

NEW YORK, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- For New York Jewish voters, the U.S. senate race between two-term Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato and his Democratic challenger, state Attorney General Robert Abrams, has turned out to be a referendum on whether Jews are single-issue voters.

Would they support D'Amato, whose record combines staunch support for Israel and strongly conservative domestic positions, or would they vote for Abrams, whose liberal views are more closely aligned with those of most Jews and who is a practicing Jew long active in Jewish causes, to boot?

"It's a battle of a proven warrior on Israel and parochial issues related to the Jewish community, versus a fighter in another venue for the traditional pluralist, liberal causes Jews have identified with for decades," said one Jewish communal official here.

"I think the issue is Israel versus general" concerns, the official added.

The race has divided the New York Jewish community and placed some of its most prominent leaders at odds with one another.

In fact, each candidate boasts endorsements from two former chairmen of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

For one of them, Seymour Reich, it all comes down to the fact that D'Amato "has always been there when we needed him, and it's time to pay him back."

**D'Amato Defended Israeli Strike On Iraq**

Reich cited D'Amato's defense on the Senate floor in 1981 of Israel's bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor; his fight against the sales of AWACS surveillance planes to Saudi Arabia; and his battle against agricultural credits to Iraq prior to its invasion of Kuwait.

"Unless we're prepared to reward our friends, we can't count on our friends in tough times. That's the nature of the American political system, and we have to play by those rules," said Reich.

But another former Conference of Presidents chairman disagrees. "I really think the judgment has to be made on other issues that are of concern," said Howard Squadron, noting that he believes Abrams will be as strong as D'Amato when it comes to Israel.

"It really boils down to what one regards as adequately representing Jewish interests," said Leonard Fein, a commentator and chairman of the Multi-Issue Political Action Committee.

The PAC has given money to the Abrams campaign. Its philosophy is that support for Israel is a necessary condition for endorsement, but not sufficient.

"If you set aside support for Israel, and deal with other issues -- women's issues, poverty issues, church-state -- D'Amato is among the most retrograde of the U.S. Senate," said Fein.

That philosophy, however, is not shared by most pro-Israel political action committees.

Both campaigns agree that D'Amato has received far more money from pro-Israel PACs than has Abrams, an amount that as early as last spring came to more than \$50,000.

But D'Amato's support for Israel has turned out not to be the only issue with which his campaign has racked up points in the Jewish community.

D'Amato successfully exploited Abrams' first headline-grabbing feat following the bruising Democratic primary, when the attorney general called his Republican opponent a "fascist."

It was far from the first time that a liberal Manhattanite used such language to refer to D'Amato or to the recent Republican administrations whose domestic policy he had strongly supported, but D'Amato quickly seized on the slur.

He touted it as an attack on his Italian heritage.

**'Fascist' Remark Draws Criticism**

And in the Jewish community, the remark drew criticism, including from the Manhattan chapter of the American Jewish Congress.

"I can tell you," said Jeff Wiesenfeld, executive assistant to the senator and his liaison to the Jewish community, "I got calls from members of the Warsaw Ghetto Remembrance Organization, calls from Holocaust survivors all over the city who know me.

"They recall it as a trivialization; to them, the memory is sacred."

The D'Amato campaign is also touting the senator's timely call for federal involvement to help quell the anti-Semitic riots in Brooklyn's Crown Heights section last year, in which Hasidic scholar Yankel Rosenbaum was killed.

A recent full-page ad in New York's Jewish newspapers featured a picture of a Jewish child crying over his injured father, with the caption declaring, "Al D'Amato was there!"

Among the endorsements on the page was that of Jacob Goldstein, chairman of Community Board 9 in Crown Heights, who wrote, "When Crown Heights was under attack, the leading law enforcement official in New York, Robert Abrams, did nothing and Senator D'Amato did" speak out.

Abrams disputes the charge of inaction, saying he was working behind the scenes during the crisis.

Despite the rhetoric, polls show D'Amato clearly has an uphill struggle to win New York's traditionally Democratic Jewish vote, especially in a year in which he cannot count on the president's coattails.

A recent poll gave 80 percent of the state's Jewish vote to Democratic presidential candidate Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton.

A New York Times/CBS News poll this week showed only 23 percent of Jewish voters favoring D'Amato, while 59 percent said they would vote for Abrams.

**Support For Abrams Among Liberal Jews**

While D'Amato has a preponderance of traditionally conservative and Republican voters in Brooklyn and in the Orthodox Jewish community, Abrams has plenty of Jewish supporters, especially among more liberal Jews.

"You have an estimated 40 percent (of the Jewish electorate) who are ultra-liberals, who are not only far to the left but have no Jewish affiliation," said Wiesenfeld, D'Amato's liaison to the Jewish community.

"What would you call Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug? They are Jews, are they not? Do they go to shul? I doubt it. Do they have any organizational affiliation? I doubt it. Those are Abrams' supporters."