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**U.N. RESOLUTION ON DEPORTATIONS
SIMILAR TO ONE PASSED IN JANUARY**

By Larry Yudelson

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- A Security Council resolution adopted Friday that "strongly condemns" Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians from the administered territories is not noticeably stronger than one adopted by the 15-member body last January.

That resolution condemned an Israeli decision to deport 12 Palestinians from the territories, a decision that was never fully implemented because of Israeli court rulings and a policy shift made soon after Israel's Labor government came to power last summer.

But the issue could soon return to the world body's agenda, said an Israeli official, because unlike previous cases, this time the deported Palestinians are being barred by Lebanese authorities from entering the territory beyond the Israeli-controlled border security zone.

Instead, the 415 deportees are huddled in the no-man's land between Israeli and Lebanese army checkpoints, where they have begun organizing their own refugee community.

The Palestinians deported last Thursday were among 1,600 rounded up by Israeli security forces last week in the wake of attacks by the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement that have killed five Israeli security officers this month.

On Sunday, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East took responsibility for helping the deportees, who had previously received supplies, including portable heaters and tents, from both U.N. peace-keeping troops and the Red Cross.

According to the Palestinians, more than a third are already suffering from the winter conditions.

This was Israel's largest deportation of Palestinians in peacetime. But Israeli officials have emphasized that these expulsions, unlike those ordered by the previous Likud government, are only temporary. Deportees will be allowed to return to the territories in as early as nine months or two years at the latest.

Reference To Geneva Convention

The linchpin of Friday's Security Council resolution is the charge that Israel has violated the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, which prohibits civilians from being deported from occupied territories.

The resolution "specifically reaffirms the applicability" of the convention to "all Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem."

Israel disputes this interpretation of the convention, arguing that the territories have no clear legal status since the cessation of the British Mandate.

The major differences between Friday's resolution and the one adopted in January are the explicit statement included this time that the deportations violate the convention and a request for the U.N. secretary-general to consider sending an envoy to Israel to follow up on the resolution.

Israeli diplomats succeeded in toning down the language of the draft resolution, which in

spots had been "much worse," according to one Israeli official. Among other things, the draft would have required a much stronger role by the secretary-general.

Still, because the Lebanese government is preventing the entry of the deportees into its territory, the issue may not fade away and the secretary-general may become involved.

In October 1990, following the killings of at least 17 Palestinians by Israeli security forces on Jerusalem's Temple Mount, the secretary-general sent an envoy to Israel, who was received by Israeli officials.

According to some reports, Lebanon is resisting the entry of the deportees for fears they will join up with the Islamic fundamentalist Hezbollah. Lebanese officials, however, have denied that this is their motivation.

The "strongly condemns" language contained in Friday's resolution was first used against Israel in the resolution last January. It reflected the willingness of the United States, which holds veto power in the Security Council, to ratchet up the tone of the condemnation.

That was seen as reflecting both American annoyance at Israeli policies and also an American desire not to derail the Middle East peace talks. Earlier condemnations had occurred while the United States was trying to create and preserve its coalition against Iraq.

No Mention Of Recent Killings

Since the outbreak of the Palestinian uprising in December 1987, the United States has supported three other resolutions condemning deportations, and abstained from voting on two more.

Israel's U.N. representative, Ambassador Gad Yaacobi, defended the "temporary removal" of the Palestinians as "consistent with the instructions of international law and Israeli law."

He devoted the bulk of his presentation, however, not as "a defendant in the dock," but "as an accuser of the forces of terrorism."

The resolution made no mention of the recent killings of four Israeli soldiers or the murder last week of a 29-year-old border policeman, Sgt. Maj. Nissim Toledano.

Yaacobi described the Hamas movement as an enemy of peace, citing a plot to assassinate Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini.

He quoted the leader of the Islamic Jihad organization, Sheik Assad Tamimi, as telling the German magazine Stern that "No Jew is innocent! All Jews must be killed."

Yaacobi stressed Israel's desire to continue the peace negotiations, which Hamas opposes.

Despite the anger from the Arab states over the deportations, the new mood inaugurated at the October 1991 peace conference in Madrid continued in the Security Council chambers Friday.

Both Israel and the PLO were invited to the Security Council table to make their presentations. While in the past the Arab countries might have walked out on Israel, and the Israeli delegate might have removed himself to the back of the hall, this time both stayed put.

In addition, with only one empty seat for the other ambassadors to make their case, representatives of Syria, Lebanon and Jordan took turns sitting next to Yaacobi.

NEWS ANALYSIS:**ISRAEL'S ATTEMPT TO WEAKEN HAMAS MAY HAVE STRENGTHENED LINK TO PLO****By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- The Israeli expulsion of 415 Moslem militants, and the U.N. Security Council's insistence on their return, leaves moderate Palestinians little choice but to back their Islamic fundamentalist rivals and boycott the peace talks with Israel.

A resolution by the world body that simply condemned Israel might have left Palestinian negotiators some room to maneuver on the question of returning to the peace talks in Washington.

But the Security Council's explicit demand that Israel reverse the decision ties the hands of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which calls the shots for the Palestinian negotiators.

Now any compromise with Israel might be seen as a betrayal of their "Palestinian brethren."

The PLO, which has been losing ground to the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement, may therefore find itself compelled to order its proxies to stay away from negotiations, which were due to resume after the Clinton administration takes office Jan. 20.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin radiated confidence over the weekend that, in the long run, the Palestinians would negotiate. He believes they view any alternative to the peace talks as ultimately harmful to the PLO's status.

And he believes that, in their hearts, leaders of the secular PLO rejoice at the blow struck at the religious extremists who are their enemies.

Nevertheless, at this stage, the PLO appears to hold no other option but to support Hamas. In fact, leaders of both organizations are now planning to meet in Tunis to jointly consider a response to the mass expulsions.

No Longer Sole Representative

Israel may think it is doing the PLO a service by weakening Hamas. But moderate Palestinians do not see it that way.

An adviser to the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks cautioned Israel to "stop meddling in our internal affairs."

"We will settle our differences between us without Israel's interference," said Ziyad Abu-Ziyad.

In fact, though, secular Palestinian groups have been worried for several months by the growing power of Moslem fundamentalists.

Hamas and the Islamic Jihad have successfully undermined a message of long standing that the PLO is "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." Legitimate, perhaps, they say, but no longer exclusively so.

The Palestinians have not escaped the Islamic fundamentalist epidemic that has spread throughout the Arab world, from Algeria in the west to Iran in the east.

Hamas is particularly strong in the Gaza Strip, where it is nourished by poverty, political frustration and strong ties with ultrareligious centers in Egypt -- which themselves threaten the stability of the regime in Cairo.

Waxing stronger, Hamas also raises the banners of social and religious purification, supported by a swelling flow of funds from Saudi Arabia, Iran and the Gulf states.

From Iran, Hamas enjoys an annual commit-

ment of \$30 million made by Teheran after its establishment of a military arm, called the Iz al-Din al-Kassem group, which claimed responsibility for many of the recent terror attacks. The money keeps flowing in, and the authorities are unable to stop it.

The arrest last week of 1,600 Moslem fundamentalist activists and the expulsion of more than 400 of them may upset the logistics of these organizations and put them, at least temporarily, on the defensive.

But the problem goes beyond the immediate strength of Hamas. It resides in grass-roots support for the Moslem fundamentalists throughout the Palestinian community. And support for the religious extremists means lack of support for the PLO -- Israel's indirect partner in the peace negotiations.

The PLO can reverse this trend only by pointing to progress in the peace talks -- and presently there is precious little.

An argument made for last week's expulsions was the need to "strengthen the Palestinian peace camp."

But the move does not appear to represent the way the PLO itself wishes to weaken its fundamentalist rival.

The secular leadership of the Palestinians is too attentive to domestic opinion of its own to turn openly against its rivals.

Israel will need a considerable measure of political wisdom to transform the deportations into a political breakthrough with the "Palestinian peace camp." A lot of wisdom -- and a significant measure of luck.

EXPULSIONS SPARK NEW VIOLENCE, LEADING TO PALESTINIAN DEATHS**By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Israel's expulsion of 415 Moslem fundamentalists late last week has touched off a new wave of violence in the administered territories and Jerusalem.

Six Palestinians, including a 9-year-old girl, were killed Saturday when Israeli forces opened fire to disperse rock-throwing demonstrators in the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis.

Thirty more were injured in what some Israeli officers described as the worst riot since the outbreak of the intifada five years ago. Three Israeli soldiers sustained light wounds.

Another Palestinian was killed in a clash at Al-Aroub refugee camp near the West Bank town of Hebron.

In Khan Yunis, violence erupted when the army lifted a curfew for 75 minutes to allow women residents only to buy food. Demonstrators took to the street, hurling stones and other hard objects at the soldiers.

In Jerusalem, police used rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse demonstrators Saturday at the Shuafat refugee camp on the northern edge of the city. No casualties were reported.

Arab arsonists in Jerusalem set on fire five cars owned by Jews, sources said.

In an effort to ease the situation, security forces lifted a weeklong ban on movement into Israel for large parts of the West Bank. The ban continued for residents of three of the larger cities: Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron.

The renewed violence will probably require the presence of large army contingents in the territories to prevent further escalation, military sources said.

MERETZ VOWS TO BOLT COALITION IF TSOMET AND NRP JOIN CABINET

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is facing a choice of tilting his Labor-led government to the right or holding on to his left-wing coalition partner, the Meretz bloc, in the wake of the expulsion last week of 415 Moslem fundamentalists.

So far, Rabin has given no indication of whether he will take up the offer of the right-wing Tsomet party and the National Religious Party to join the government in the face of a threat by Meretz to leave if he does so.

But his scheduled meeting Monday with Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan comes against a background of months of unsuccessful efforts to bring that party into the coalition and thereby broaden his narrow majority of 62 in the 120-member Knesset.

Meretz holds 12 Knesset seats, while Tsomet and the NRP command eight and six, respectively.

Eitan, a former army chief of staff who served in the previous Likud administration, told reporters Sunday he heartily approves of the expulsion decision and is now ready to join the Cabinet.

But the three Meretz ministers and the chairman of its parliamentary caucus, Yossi Sarid, informed Rabin on Sunday morning that if the two right-wing parties join the coalition, Meretz will immediately secede.

Sources said Eitan will seek assurances of continued government assistance to West Bank Jewish settlements situated within the parameters of the Allon Plan. Under that plan, which was laid out after the 1967 Six-Day War by the late Yigal Allon, Israel would continue to control areas along the Jordan River and strategic heights in Judea and Samaria.

Most of these are what the Rabin government has called "security settlements," as opposed to those set up primarily for political reasons.

'Immediate Secession' Threatened

A National Religious Party politician also linked the settlement issue with membership in the government.

Yigal Bibi, chairman of the NRP parliamentary caucus, said a decision by Rabin to include Jewish settlements of Gush Etzion, a region near Bethlehem, in the "Priority A" category for government support was "a favorable signal" to the NRP.

Both Tsomet and the NRP deferred motions of no confidence each had introduced in the Knesset for debate this week.

But the main opposition party, Likud, has retained its own no-confidence motion. The party's parliamentary caucus chairman, Moshe Katsav, said Likud supports the deportation decision, but feels the overall thrust of government policy and performance merits a no-confidence vote.

Eitan of Tsomet said reactions to the expulsions from abroad and in the administered territories intensified a sense of "national emergency" and created a basis for his party's entry into the coalition.

But Sarid of Meretz told reporters that "any negotiation with Tsomet and/or the NRP with a view to changing the shape of the coalition would mean our immediate secession."

The coalition agreement gives Meretz a veto

over any such change in the coalition makeup, he pointed out.

Sarid disclosed that Rabin had agreed to hold a policy discussion in the Cabinet shortly on the status of the Palestine Liberation Organization. At that time, Meretz will be entitled to convey its view that Israel should open official negotiations with the PLO.

The prime minister noted, however, that his own party opposes such negotiations.

Rebellion From Meretz Rank And File

Sources within Meretz point out that while Labor is indeed formally committed to oppose negotiations with the PLO, many important figures in that party, including Cabinet ministers, are now openly in favor of such talks.

The latest Labor voice to urge negotiations with the PLO is that of Tourism Minister Uzi Baram. Baram was also quoted Sunday to the effect that he would "do everything I can" to prevent the addition of Tsomet and the NRP to the coalition.

The Meretz leadership's opposition to an expanded Cabinet is being seen by analysts as a reflection of opposition within the party to the deportation decision, which all three Meretz ministers supported.

The central committee of the Citizens Rights Movement, the largest faction within Meretz, voted overwhelmingly late last Thursday night to deplore the expulsions as "collective punishment and a gross violation of human rights and international justice."

Shulamit Aloni, who heads both the CRM and Meretz overall, said later that the committee members did not know the full facts. She stressed that the expulsions were for limited duration, as opposed to the open-ended exiles of the past.

But clearly she and her colleagues in the Cabinet were rattled by the extent and vociferousness of opposition among their own rank and file.

RABIN NAMES NEW MILITARY SECRETARY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Danny Yatom has been appointed military secretary to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who also holds the defense portfolio.

The post is currently held by Brig. Gen. Azriel Nevo, who is to be named military attache at one of Israel's European embassies.

The reason given for appointing a major general to replace a brigadier general is the merging of the secretariat to serve two senior ministries, the Prime Minister's Office and Defense.

Yatom has been serving as chief of the Israel Defense Force's Central Command, which includes the West Bank. His replacement in that post will be Maj. Gen. Nehemiah Tamari.

Israeli newspapers said Yatom is being posted away from his area command at his own request.

They reported that Yatom, who was previously military secretary to then Defense Minister Moshe Arens, feels he stands little chance of promotion within the General Headquarters command if he remains in his present post.

He therefore wants to serve a term of appointment in close contact with the prime minister and defense minister, who are the same person.

**NEO-NAZI VIOLENCE HAVING IMPACT
ON GERMANY'S IMAGE IN JEWISH EYES**
By David Kantor

BERLIN, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- German officials are said to be deeply concerned about the devastating impact the wave of neo-Nazi violence here is having on the country's image in the eyes of Jews around the world.

Government officials are reported to be alarmed at a series of protests against the violence that were staged by Jews in recent weeks outside German consulates or embassies in several countries, including Australia, Brazil, Britain and Israel.

The protests come after years of attempts by the government to convince Jews around the world to soften their attitudes toward Germany. But many of those advances have been dashed by the spate of attacks against foreigners and Jewish memorials to the Holocaust.

In one of the latest violent incidents, neo-Nazis in western Germany severely beat a Greek girl on Saturday and carved a swastika into her forehead.

The incident followed two earlier attacks by vandals on the Greek school in Wuppertal, north-east of Dusseldorf, where neo-Nazis threatened students and told them to stop "exploiting" Germany.

The Greek community in Wuppertal demanded immediate action by the authorities to curb the right-wing violence.

Opposition to racism was reflected in demonstrations Sunday joined by almost half a million Germans, news reports said. Vigils to protest neo-Nazi violence took place in Stuttgart, Hanover, Bremen, Saabruken, Dusseldorf and Tubingen.

In one attempt to curb the growing wave of hate, a federal agency said it is considering a ban on 19 publications targeted at young people that propagate hatred against foreigners and Jews.

The Mainz-based agency said the increasing virulence of the material, often appearing in entertainment magazines, now made it possible the courts would accede to such a ban.

Actions such as this and the banning of various neo-Nazi groups show that the authorities are now taking the problem of neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism more seriously, after a slow start, according to one German Jewish leader.

Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, also raised strong objections to suggestions made by Jewish groups to boycott Germany because of the violence.

"Hitler isn't there. Germany is not burning," he said.

GERMANY LOANING ISRAEL \$90 MILLION

BERLIN, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- The German government is making some \$90 million worth of aid available to Israel this year.

A similar amount will be provided in 1993, Vice Foreign Minister Helmut Schaefer told the Bundestag last week.

Replying to a parliamentary question, Schaefer denied reports that Germany has undertaken to grant Israel credits for purchasing arms in this country.

He said the aid to Israel, a program of more than 20 years' duration, was in the form of long-term loans, which were being paid back.

He said the assistance was specifically earmarked, mostly for water projects.

**CHANUKAH CELEBRATED IN MOSCOW
WITH PUBLIC MENORAH LIGHTINGS**
By Alexander Lesser

MOSCOW, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Gone are the days of furtive Jewish religious activities here.

Chanukah was ushered in here Saturday night with the lighting of the first candle by Israel's ambassador to Russia at a concert in the great hall of the Central House of Artists.

And on Sunday night, rabbis of the Chabad movement of Lubavitcher Hasidim participated in a showy outdoor lighting of a giant Chanukah menorah outside the Bolshoi Theater.

That event and simultaneous menorah lightings near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, near the White House in Washington, at the Western Wall in Jerusalem and at Lubavitch headquarters in Brooklyn were televised via satellite hookup throughout the United States and around the world.

Other public menorah lightings took place in Los Angeles, Chicago and scores of other cities around the world.

The theme of this simultaneous celebration was "miracle."

And it pointed unabashedly to the so-called miracles of the nearly bloodless collapse of the Soviet Union, the short Persian Gulf War and the use of army troops to feed the starving in Somalia -- a veritable beating of swords into plowshares.

The program was sprinkled liberally with allusions to miracles and messianism, as world figures spoke of the attributes of the Lubavitcher rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson.

The theme of miracles was also sounded at the Chanukah concert here Saturday night.

Lighting the first candle, Israeli Ambassador Chaim Bar-Lev said, "The miracle of Chanukah is not only historical. In the past year, we witnessed the miracle of the breakup of the Soviet Union and the freeing of all of its peoples."

Audience Appreciates The Yiddish

The event was attended by well-known Jewish cultural figures, including Yuri Lubimov, the former director of Moscow's avant-garde Taganka Theater, who immigrated to Israel a number of years ago, and Zinoviy Gerd, an actor well known to Moscow audiences.

Gerd, who is past 70, joked, in a sentence that switched from Russian to Yiddish, "I always liked Chanukah as a child, because we got a few kopeks of Chanukah gelt."

The audience appreciated Gerd's Yiddish, a language still spoken by many older Jews here. They also appreciated a performance of Yiddish songs by a local singer.

Outside the hall, followers of the Lubavitcher rebbe urged homebound concertgoers to light a Chanukah candle, coaching them in the prayers, which few of Moscow's highly assimilated Jews know.

Sunday night's lighting took place in the heart of Moscow, on Theater Square. The high-profile setting was likely to excite negative comment from the city's far right.

But it might provoke less comment than last year, when the Lubavitchers put up a menorah outside the "White House," the seat of the Russian Parliament and staged a concert at the Palace of Congresses, inside the Kremlin itself.

(Contributing to this report was JTA staff writer Susan Birnbaum in New York.)