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**DEMJANJUK'S DEPORTATION IS DELAYED  
AS COURT REVIEWS SURVIVORS' PETITION**

By Cynthia Mann

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- In a surprise move, Israel's Supreme Court has delayed the deportation of John Demjanjuk for 10 days until it is determined whether an investigation should be reopened into his activities as an SS guard at the Sobibor concentration camp.

The move was made Sunday in response to a petition filed by a coalition of right-wing groups and Holocaust survivors calling for Demjanjuk to be prosecuted further.

Demjanjuk, whose war crimes conviction and death sentence were overturned by the court last Thursday, had been scheduled to leave Israel at 2:30 p.m. Sunday for his native Ukraine, which granted him a temporary visa over the weekend.

The Supreme Court found there was reasonable doubt that Demjanjuk was the savage guard, known as "Ivan the Terrible," who operated the gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp in Poland during World War II.

But the court said there was ample evidence to suggest that he had trained as an SS guard at the Trawniki training facility in Poland and that he had served as a guard at Sobibor and other concentration camps.

Nevertheless, the court decided not to convict him on these charges, saying he had not been given the opportunity to defend himself against them. It ordered the former Cleveland autoworker freed from prison, and Israeli officials immediately sought to deport him.

**Holocaust Survivors Traumatized**

Sunday's 11th-hour ruling to postpone the deportation was made in response to a petition filed by both the right-wing extremist Kach movement and a group of Holocaust survivors.

The petition calls for the prosecution of Demjanjuk for his alleged role as a Nazi guard at Sobibor, where some 250,000 Jews perished.

While the court is considering the request, Demjanjuk, who is 73, will remain in prison.

Meanwhile, officials in Ukraine said Demjanjuk could be subject to arrest if his name appears on a list of Ukrainian war criminals. They noted there is no statute of limitations for war crimes.

According to reports from the former Soviet republic, a small but growing group of Ukrainian supporters of Demjanjuk's innocence have been demonstrating in his favor. Demjanjuk was issued a Ukrainian visa because of an anonymous invitation extended him from Ukraine.

His acquittal has profoundly hurt Holocaust survivors, particularly the five who testified unequivocally at his trial that he was the gruesome Treblinka guard they recalled.

AMCHA, the National Israeli Center for Psychosocial Support of Survivors of the Holocaust and the Second Generation, reported that in the hours immediately following Demjanjuk's acquittal, hundreds of Holocaust survivors in Israel called special telephone lines set up by the organization to help them express their anguish.

"Demjanjuk's acquittal adds anger to the list of emotions they are experiencing," said AMCHA Director John Lemberger.

**U.S.-BROKERED CEASE-FIRE BRINGS  
CALM TO ISRAELI-LEBANESE BORDER**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- Civilians in both northern Israel and southern Lebanon began returning to their homes Sunday as a U.S.-brokered cease-fire took hold along the border between the two countries.

The cease-fire, which went into effect Saturday evening, was arranged by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who spent hours in telephone conversations from Washington negotiating with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and leaders in Lebanon and Syria.

The Syrians and Lebanese, in turn, acted as go-betweens to put pressure on Hezbollah guerrillas operating in southern Lebanon.

Additional talks were held over the weekend between the U.S. coordinator for the Middle East peace talks, Dennis Ross, and Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to Washington.

The talks have resulted in a verbal understanding that Hezbollah will refrain from firing Katyusha rockets into Israel, and Israel will cease its artillery bombardment of guerrilla strongholds and villages in southern Lebanon.

But if such an understanding was reached, Hezbollah was not admitting it Sunday.

The Iranian-supported guerrilla organization stressed it would not cease its military activities against the Israel Defense Force or South Lebanon Army, in the hope of trying to force Israel to withdraw from Lebanon completely.

The Shi'ite fundamentalist group insisted that it had never agreed to stop rocket attacks against Israel and that "all options remain open" in dealing with the Jewish state.

**Longer-Term Solution Possible?**

There were also contradictory reports about a Syrian consent to halt the transfer of Iranian missiles through Damascus to Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon.

And initial reports that Washington had agreed to remove Syria from a U.S. list of states sponsoring terrorism, in exchange for Syrian cooperation, were later denied by U.S. officials in conversations with American Jewish organizations.

Israeli officials, for their part, praised the U.S. role in orchestrating at least a temporary halt to the exchange of fire across the border.

And hinting at a possible far-reaching deal, Rabin said at a news conference that if things quiet down, the various parties might well be able to find a solution "for the entire problem of south Lebanon."

Fleshing out this hint, Israeli leaders are saying that if Hezbollah were completely disarmed, Israel would be willing to reconsider its stationing of forces in the security zone it has set up along the border in southern Lebanon.

For now, the cease-fire enables Christopher to carry out his planned peacemaking trip to the Middle East this week in a calmer atmosphere and without having to devote time to persuading the parties to halt their fire before the talks can resume.

The secretary, who was originally supposed to arrive in the region over the weekend, now

plans to hold meetings in Cairo on Monday and in Israel the following day.

The cease-fire, at this point, is still a shaky one.

Although the guns and Katyusha rockets fell silent at 6 p.m. Saturday, residents of Israeli towns and villages along the border with Lebanon -- from Nahariya on the coast to Kiryat Shmona and Metulla in the Galilee panhandle -- were instructed to remain in their bomb shelters and structurally strengthened security rooms for a few hours more.

The delay, coming on top of an entire week underground, illustrated the fragility with which Israel regarded the halt to the shooting.

But during the following 24 hours all was quiet, except for one incident of mortar rounds fired from north of the security zone at an SLA post just beyond the zone. The mortar fire caused neither casualties nor damage.

The SLA men returned the fire, but it was not regarded as a serious breach of the cease-fire.

#### **Refugees Stream Back Home**

In Israel, Galilee residents finally left the shelter of their homes Sunday to breathe fresh air for a change.

And while children have resumed their outdoor games and adults have gone back to their normal chores, government officials are examining damage to property after days of Hezbollah rocket attacks.

The IDF has begun to withdraw the reinforcements it sent into the security zone, including the heavy mobile artillery which pounded targets well inside Lebanon for the past week, as well as the lighter ground equipment shifted in at the end of the week in preparation for a possible ground assault.

And inside Lebanon, scores of thousands from among the more than 250,000 residents forced to flee their homes to escape the IDF artillery and air force bombardments of Hezbollah bases were reported from Beirut to be streaming back by car, truck, horse-drawn carts, tractors and even bicycles to begin the reconstruction of their damaged homes.

The coastal road leading south from Beirut was reported Sunday to be one vast traffic jam.

Reports from Lebanon spoke of thousands of homes destroyed in the Israeli air and artillery bombardments of hundreds of villages, many of which were completely destroyed.

According to sources from the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, 130 Lebanese residents were killed and over 500 injured in the IDF and SLA activities.

UNIFIL estimates that over 250 Katyusha rockets were fired at Israel, half of them falling inside Galilee and the others in the security zone.

Two Israeli civilians and a soldier were killed by the missiles, and some dozens were reported wounded.

UNIFIL reported that IDF gunners had fired about 26,000 artillery shells last week, and some 1,000 bombs, rockets and air-to-ground missiles had been launched by Israeli air force aircraft and assault helicopters.

The figures were given to the Foreign Ministry at a meeting in Jerusalem on Sunday between senior UNIFIL commanders and Uri Savir, director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

The meeting was held to discuss with the UNIFIL command the wounding of six internation-

al soldiers, as well as damage caused to several UNIFIL positions by IDF artillery and aerial fire.

Savir expressed Israel's regrets at the casualties and damage, stressing that the IDF had done everything possible to avoid harming the international force.

#### **AIR CHINA BEGINS ISRAEL SERVICE, FINALIZING LAST YEAR'S AGREEMENT** **By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- Air China, the national airline of the People's Republic of China, inaugurated its long-awaited regular air service to Israel last week.

The weekly Air China service, between Beijing and Tel Aviv, will run in tandem with the weekly flights operated to Beijing by El Al since last September.

Both El Al and Air China will leave Ben-Gurion Airport on Thursdays, the Chinese airline at 5:10 p.m. and El Al shortly before midnight.

The Chinese airline's inaugural flight July 28 finalizes an agreement on mutual air service that was signed last year after China and Israel established full diplomatic relations.

One of the passengers aboard the first Air China flight was Xu Beiling, president of the airline and also a deputy minister in the Chinese government.

Xu was greeted at Ben-Gurion Airport by Israeli Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar.

Also aboard the inaugural flight were two Chinese kite manufacturers, who plan to display their colorful silk kites, in the shape of traditional dragons and other mythical beasts, at the Jerusalem International Arts and Crafts Fair.

#### **CLINTON PLEDGES STRONG EFFORT TO END BOYCOTT OF FIRMS DEALING WITH ISRAEL** **By Deborah Kalb**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- In a letter to a New York congressman, President Clinton has pledged his administration's "unrelenting efforts" to try to end the Arab boycott of companies doing business with Israel.

Clinton wrote July 27 to Rep. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), the head of a congressional anti-boycott task force, in response to a June 7 letter from Schumer and almost 100 other members of Congress.

"I will continue to take every opportunity to ensure all countries understand that ending the boycott of firms doing business with Israel is a high priority of my administration," the president wrote.

Clinton has been supportive of anti-boycott efforts by Jewish groups and others.

At the recent meeting of the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations, the United States led a successful effort resulting in a joint statement urging an end to the boycott.

The statement was received with mixed reactions by Jewish groups, who were pleased that the statement was released but concerned that it lacked specificity.

In his letter, Clinton praised the government of Kuwait for announcing publicly that it will no longer enforce the so-called secondary and tertiary boycotts of companies doing business with Israel.

But some boycott-watchers have expressed concerns recently that Kuwait does not intend to abide by its public announcement.

**SENATE PANEL UNANIMOUSLY BACKS  
JUDGE GINSBURG FOR SUPREME COURT****By Deborah Kalb**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- To the surprise of almost no one, the Senate Judiciary Committee has unanimously approved the nomination of Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court.

The full Senate is expected to vote to confirm Ginsburg this week, before the August congressional recess.

She would be the first Jewish woman ever to serve on the high court, and the first Jew to serve since Abe Fortas resigned in 1969.

Ginsburg's confirmation hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee two weeks ago were seen as a great success by political observers here, including officials of Jewish organizations.

While some in the Jewish community wished Ginsburg had been more forthcoming about her views on a host of controversial issues, most Jewish organizational officials were pleased with statements she made on issues concerning discrimination and abortion rights.

Ginsburg, viewed as a moderate, currently sits on the U.S. Court of Appeals here. Her nomination was approved by the Judiciary Committee last Thursday.

**ADL BACKS FBI NOMINEE, BUT QUERIES  
AIR FORCE NOMINEE ON COUNTRY CLUB****By Deborah Kalb and Lisa Mann**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- Judge Louis Freeh, President Clinton's nominee to head the FBI, has won the backing of the Anti-Defamation League.

But the Jewish defense agency has expressed concern about the ties of another Clinton nominee to a country club that appears to restrict its membership.

Sally Greenberg, Eastern states civil rights counsel for ADL, wrote last week to Sheila Widnall, Clinton's nominee for secretary of the U.S. Air Force, about her husband's membership in the Eastern Yacht Club in the Boston area.

The ADL letter said the organization was not aware of any black members, and very few Jewish members, belonging to the club. Its reputation, the letter said, is that of "a place where Jews and other minorities are not welcome as members."

The letter added that while it is Widnall's husband who belongs to the club, she also sails there nearly every weekend.

Widnall's nomination to the Air Force post was approved by the Senate Armed Services committee last week, and the full Senate is to take up her nomination in the near future.

If confirmed, Widnall, currently associate provost at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, would be the first woman secretary of the Air Force.

ADL appears to have no such qualms about Freeh, who breezed through his confirmation hearings before the Judiciary Committee last week and is expected to be confirmed by the Senate.

In a statement, ADL National Director Abraham Foxman praised Freeh, who is currently a New York federal judge and formerly worked as an FBI agent.

"He's had civil rights experience and knows international law enforcement -- two vitally important aspects of prosecuting criminal activity

in the U.S., including terrorist bombings," Foxman said.

"We look forward to our continued positive and productive relationship with the FBI under the leadership of Judge Freeh," Foxman said.

The issue of FBI monitoring of hate crimes, a major concern of ADL and other Jewish groups, did not come up in Freeh's hearings.

But a spokesman for Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.) said the senator had discussed the issue of FBI collection of hate crimes statistics with Freeh before the hearings.

"We want a commitment from the FBI that they will continue to collect statistics" after the current legislation mandating such collection expires next year, the spokesman said.

**JEWISH GROUPS BACK CLINTON PLAN  
FOR NEW NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM****By Deborah Kalb**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA) -- Jewish groups are among those backing President Clinton's proposal for a new national service program for younger Americans.

The program, expected to receive congressional approval soon, is designed to give tuition assistance to college students in exchange for their participation in two years of community service.

Certain provisions in the legislation, relating to religious organizations' participation in the program, have drawn special attention from some in the Jewish community.

The American Jewish Committee has been among the groups pushing for amendments to the legislation that would ensure greater separation of church and state.

The legislation, which has already cleared the House of Representatives and is due for a vote soon in the Senate, already contains three provisions relating to church-state separation.

Participants in the program would not be allowed in the course of their work to conduct religious worship, engage in religious instruction or proselytize.

AJCommittee is backing two further amendments that would bar participants from constructing facilities used for religious worship or from participating in aspects of an overall religious education program.

Agudath Israel of America, a group representing fervently Orthodox Jews, has also been active in trying to shape the bill.

Abba Cohen, the group's Washington representative, said that earlier this year Agudath Israel had led a successful effort to include religious institutions among the community groups eligible to participate in the program.

Cohen said that while his group might not necessarily agree with the amendments backed by AJCommittee and others, the amendments were within the range of constitutional actions as interpreted by the Supreme Court.

"We would be happier without the language in the bill, but it's not a setback," he said.

Currently, the House bill does not include the two new amendments.

The Senate, following a lengthy filibuster that ended last Friday, is to vote on the bill shortly, and some here predict its version will include the additional amendments.

Other Jewish groups backing the national service bill include the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council and B'nai B'rith.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:  
CUBAN JEWS, FACING HARDSHIPS,  
ARE SUSTAINED WITH FOREIGN AID**  
By Victoria Verlichak

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) -- Cuba's small Jewish community of about 1,000 has no permanent rabbi, but does boast a Sunday school in Havana attended by 20 children who are picked up at their homes in a truck donated by a Venezuelan Jew.

These are among the tidbits of information reported by a group of three young Argentine teachers who worked in Havana and described their experiences in Buenos Aires' Jewish newspaper, Nueva Sion.

The teachers worked with Cuban Jews as part of a program supported by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

"The material difficulties that Cubans face are unbelievable," one of the emissaries said, explaining how gasoline is rationed in Cuba and buses are scarce.

At first, some in the Jewish community came to programs held by the teachers just for the refreshments, but eventually they became more interested in the material presented.

The vast majority of Jews intermarry, the teachers said, noting that only 250 or 300 Jews maintain some form of regular contact with Jewish institutions in a country whose population numbers 10.7 million.

Thirty years ago -- in the days before the revolution -- the Jewish community comprised some 14,000 people.

Although some Cuban Jews said they were not particularly persecuted by the Communist government, religious activities of all kinds have diminished considerably since Fidel Castro came to power in 1959.

Cuban Jews have not had a rabbi in residence for the past 10 years, but there are two rabbis and a doctor who travel there frequently to provide different services, especially among the young, who are starting to build a relationship with the community or children of mixed marriages who are converting to Judaism.

**Jews Know Little About Israel**

When the Argentine teachers first went to Cuba there was only one institution holding a minyan -- "in the Cuban way," with only eight people -- twice daily.

The teachers found that with the exception of Adath Israel, a community in Old Havana, the rest of the congregations hold religious services only on Saturday morning. There is also a Sunday school.

Like most people in Cuba, Jews know little about Israel or Zionism.

The Cuban government has opposed the Israeli government in every world forum since 1967, when Havana unilaterally broke relations with the Jewish state.

Since then Cuba has voted enthusiastically with former Soviet bloc countries and Arab countries in support of resolutions condemning Israeli presence in the territories as well as the now-overturned U.N. General Assembly resolution branding Zionism as racism.

The emissaries said they were told by Cuban Jews that the Communist Party has relaxed its restrictions regarding religious matters. A recent party congress decided that any person observing any religion could join the party and obtain political or government jobs.

**SHOWING OF NAZI PROPAGANDA FILM SPLITS  
JEWS AND CENSORSHIP PARLEY ORGANIZERS**  
By Suzanne Belling

JOHANNESBURG (JTA) -- A public dispute has erupted between the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the organizers of a conference on censorship over the withdrawal of a Nazi propaganda film from the conference.

The conference was scheduled to present the viciously anti-Semitic film, "The Jew Suss," but canceled the showing after the German holder of rights to the film withdrew permission.

The conference organizers, the Anti-Censorship Action Group and a left-wing weekly newspaper, The Weekly Mail, included three Jews -- editor Anton Harber and journalists Pat Sidley and Stephen Laufer -- who met with the board on the issue.

Laufer was scheduled to present the film in its historical context at the conference, which was funded by the German Foreign Ministry and the German F.W. Murnau Foundation, holder of the rights to the film.

The foundation has laid down strict rules for showing the film, which is banned in Germany and screened in rare instances for purposes of scholarly study only.

Outside Germany, the foundation guidelines call for closed screening to preselected audiences. Tickets must not be sold directly to the public and the screening must be preceded by a lecture on the film and followed by comment and debate.

Ivan Levy, a member of the Board of Deputies and a campaigner against anti-Semitism in his position as deputy president of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the board would not have objected to the screening had the organizers complied with the stipulations of the foundation.

**Screening Terms Reported Breached**

Levy stated that the terms under which the organizers were entitled to screen the film had been breached since the showing had been widely advertised and tickets were being sold to the general public without restriction.

"One does not object to freedom of speech insofar as it propagates the truth -- our objection is to anything that disseminates lies," Levy said.

Immediately after being approached by the Board of Deputies, the Murnau Foundation withdrew its permission to screen the film, saying the organizers had not complied with the conditions for screening.

Seymour Kopelowitz, national director of the board, said: "It is absurd to suggest that the board was attempting to censor the debate itself. The board asked no more or no less than that all the screening conditions be observed."

Sidley, a conference organizer, said the film was chosen because it would encourage debate, "but we were shut up before it could take place. We believe passionately in no censorship."

The conference said it had followed the screening conditions laid down by the foundation.

The film itself is a distortion of an anti-fascist book by the Jewish author Leon Feuchtwanger. It was directed in 1940 by Veit Harlan, who later stood trial on charges of spreading Nazi propaganda but was acquitted. It has been referred to as "the most notorious film of the Third Reich," portraying the Jew as a rapist and extortionist and promoting genocide.