

**WITH REFERENCE TO JERUSALEM'S STATUS,
U.N. RESOLUTION PROVOKES CONDEMNATION**

By Mitchell Danow

NEW YORK, March 20 (JTA) -- The mayor of Jerusalem, members of Congress and nearly every major American Jewish organization have weighed in with immediate criticism of U.N. Security Council Resolution 280.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert sent a letter to President Clinton expressing "shock and disappointment" that the U.S. government did not veto the U.N. resolution.

The letter, which was released on Sunday, stated, "This resolution, which is intended to entice the PLO back to the negotiation table, will in fact create serious obstacles in the peace process" by raising "false and unrealistic expectations on the part of the Palestinians regarding the future of Jerusalem.

"The people of Israel will refuse to support any move that raises doubts as to the status of Jerusalem as the united capital of the State of Israel.

"As mayor of Jerusalem, and on behalf of all Jerusalemites, I have to express to you my deep disappointment that you did not instruct (U.N.) Ambassador (Madeleine) Albright to prevent the adoption of this resolution," the letter said.

The resolution, which was passed Friday -- three weeks after the mass murder of at least 29 Palestinians at a Hebron mosque -- criticized the killings, called for measures to guarantee that Palestinians be protected in the future and for the speedy implementation of the self-rule accord signed last September in Washington.

But the resolution's preamble contained language regarding Jerusalem that Jewish leaders found impossible to swallow.

Within hours of the resolution's passage, condemnation of the resolution's language was issued by leading Jewish organizations, including the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, B'nai B'rith, the Zionist Organization of America and the American Zionist Movement.

Finding A Compromise Formula

Referring to "territories occupied by Israel in June 1967, including Jerusalem," the preamble's avowal that Jerusalem was occupied territory flew in the face of a prime dictum of the Israeli and American Jewish leadership -- that Jerusalem is the eternal and undivided capital of Israel.

In a compromise formula worked out before the resolution came to a vote, the United States was able to abstain on this and another paragraph of the preamble while being able to approve the resolution as a whole.

In addition to abstaining on the paragraph about the status of Jerusalem, the United States abstained on a second paragraph that said the Hebron attack "underlines the need to provide protection and security for the Palestinian people."

That language could be construed as lending support to the Palestine Liberation Organization's demand that an international force be sent to the territories to protect Palestinians.

A paragraph in the main body of the resolution, which the United States supported, called for an international presence in the territories, "which was provided for in the declaration of principles" that formed the basis of the Palestinian self-rule accord.

Israeli officials have supported the idea of an unarmed international presence in the territories, stressing that this was a point already negotiated in the declaration of principles, which was signed in Washington in September.

While the United States twice abstained during the voting, the 14 other members of the Security Council voted for every paragraph in the resolution.

During their negotiations leading up to the Security Council vote, American officials had operated on the belief that passage of the resolution was key to restarting the Israeli-PLO negotiations, which were halted by the PLO after the Hebron murders.

Do Ends Justify The Means?

And indeed, the U.S. approach did bear fruit. Following the resolution's passage, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced at a hastily called news conference that Syria, Jordan and Lebanon had agreed to return to Washington next month to resume negotiations with Israel.

U.S. officials also believed that the PLO would now resume negotiations.

The three Arab states, like the PLO, had broken off the talks following the Feb. 25 Hebron incident.

But in its strategy at the United Nations, the United States had adopted an ends-justifies-the-means approach toward the resolution -- a tactic sharply attacked not only by the American Jewish leadership but also by members of Congress.

A day before the vote on the resolution, Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) and Connie Mack (R-Fla.) circulated a letter criticizing the Clinton administration's handling of the resolution.

The letter, which was signed by 83 of the 100 members of the Senate, said in part, "Sacrificing core principles for short-term objectives will ultimately retard, not advance the peace process."

And shortly after the passage of Resolution 280, Jewish groups provided their verdict on the day's Security Council proceedings.

The Conference of Presidents said in a statement that the "preamble's reference to Jerusalem as occupied territory is couched in objectionable, offensive and inappropriate language and a cause for deep regret and disappointment.

"No U.N. resolution can diminish 3,000 years of Jewish history, with Jerusalem as the capital of Israel," the statement read.

A similar response was issued by AIPAC. "We regret that the administration abstained on

the section of the resolution pertaining to Jerusalem because the pro-Israel community, an overwhelming bipartisan majority of Congress and the president himself have consistently maintained that Jerusalem is, and always should be, the eternal, undivided capital of Israel," AIPAC said in its statement.

Lynn Lyss, chair of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, issued a statement saying that the organization was "extremely disappointed" that the preamble referred to Jerusalem as occupied territory, but went on to support the "overall thrust" of the resolution's condemnation of the Hebron killings and its call for a speedy resumption of the Israeli-PLO dialogue.

Melvin Salberg and Abraham Foxman, the national chairman and national director, respectively, of the ADL, said they were "disappointed that the United States failed to veto on principle" the resolution because of its language on Jerusalem.

But "we are reassured by the (Clinton) administration's strong disavowal of that language," the ADL leaders said in their statement. "We urge the administration to publicly reaffirm its longstanding support for Jerusalem as the united and undivided capital of Israel."

Reps. Charles Schumer and Nita Lowey, both of whom are New York Democrats, also criticized the resolution.

'A Double Standard'

Schumer questioned why a similar resolution was not introduced before the Security Council regarding the killings of Israelis by Arab terrorists. Resolution 280 "proves once again the United Nations' bias against Israel and its lack of credibility in dealing with the Middle East evenhandedly."

"There's a double standard when the U.N. can't wait to condemn Israel, but remains silent when Jewish blood is shed at the hands of Arab terrorists, as has been the case during the many months of the current peace effort," Schumer said in a statement.

Lowey said that "this administration has made a major mistake by caving in to (PLO Chairman Yasser) Arafat. The United States should have vetoed this one-sided resolution."

The Clinton administration, expecting harsh fallout from critics of the resolution, has been hard at work on damage control.

In a conference call with leaders of the 50 member organizations of the Conference of Presidents, before the Security Council vote Friday, Vice President Al Gore reaffirmed the administration's position recognizing a united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Asserting that a U.S. veto might have prevented the peace talks from resuming, Gore explained that the United States would have exercised its veto if the reference to Jerusalem had been in an operative paragraph of the resolution rather than in its preamble.

Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, expressed a similar view before the Security Council on Friday.

"The United States supports the operative paragraphs of the resolution that the council has just adopted," she said. "But let me make it clear -- we would have exercised our veto" had the

language on Jerusalem been in the resolution's operative paragraphs.

"We simply do not support the description of the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 war as occupied Palestinian territory," Albright said. "In the view of my government, this language could be taken to indicate sovereignty -- a matter which both Israel and the PLO have agreed must be decided in negotiations on the final status of the territories."

(Contributing to this report was JTA correspondent Michele Chabin in Jerusalem.)

ISRAEL READY TO ESTABLISH A PALESTINIAN POLICE FORCE By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, March 20 (JTA) -- The Israeli team meeting over the weekend in Tunis with Yasser Arafat received instructions to tell the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization that Israel is ready to set up a municipal Palestinian police force in Hebron, according to reports here.

Israel is also reportedly ready to weigh the establishment of a Palestinian police presence in other West Bank cities and to accept the temporary presence of unarmed international observers there.

Efforts will be made to recruit the police force from among Palestinians who served in such West Bank units before their mass resignations at the start of the intifada, or Palestinian uprising, in December 1987.

The units, if established, will be under the control of the Israeli authorities.

The team's mission is part of an ongoing effort to restart negotiations with the PLO, which suspended the talks after the Feb. 25 killings of at least 29 Palestinians worshippers at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron.

The Israeli team, which met with Arafat on Sunday night, discussed the PLO's demands for measures to guarantee the safety of Palestinians in the territories.

The team will reportedly tell PLO officials that Israel is ready to consider new arrangements for prayers by Jews and Arabs at the Tomb of Patriarchs in an effort to minimize friction between the two groups.

KACH LEADER SETS CONDITIONS FOR HIS SURRENDER TO POLICE By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, March 20 (JTA) -- Baruch Marzel, the leader of the outlawed Kach movement, is ready to surrender to police under certain conditions, his wife was reported to have said on Sunday.

Marzel wants Rabbi Avraham Ravitz, a member of the Knesset from the United Torah Judaism bloc, to supervise the move, said Sarah Marzel.

Baruch Marzel has been a fugitive since Kach was outlawed as a terrorist organization by the Israeli government in the wake of the murders at the Hebron mosque on Feb. 25.

The gunman, Baruch Goldstein, was a member of the extreme right-wing nationalist movement that was set up by the fiercely anti-Arab teachings of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane.

ROCHELLE MANNING DEAD OF HEART ATTACK WHILE AWAITING EXTRADITION TO AMERICA

By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, March 20 (JTA) -- Just over a week before she was supposed to have been extradited to the United States to stand trial in connection with a murder, imprisoned immigrant Rochelle Manning died suddenly last Friday from what is believed to have been a heart attack.

Manning, who was 54, had been unsuccessfully fighting extradition to the United States, where her husband, Robert, was convicted in connection with the same 1980 murder of a California secretary by a booby-trapped parcel addressed to her employer.

The Mannings' fingerprints were found on the parcel and instruction sheet.

Robert Manning, 43, was convicted in a California court in October and is serving a life sentence in prison.

Rochelle Manning collapsed on Friday morning an hour after roll call. Although suicide was discussed and ruled out, a post-mortem investigation was to be conducted.

Her daughter told journalists that her mother was a strong-willed woman who would not have committed suicide.

The Mannings, who had been followers of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane and early members of his Jewish Defense League, lived in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba after they made aliyah 10 years ago.

Rochelle Manning, who had been in the Neve Tirza jail for the past three years, had fought extradition, saying she believed she would not be permitted to wear modest garments and head coverings in an American prison in accord with her Orthodox Jewish religious beliefs.

Earlier this year, she lost her final appeal to Israel's high court, after the U.S. Justice Department had given assurances to Israeli authorities that her religious needs would be met. But in a special gesture, her extradition had been deferred until after Passover.

After the Friday morning roll call, Manning said her morning prayers and talked to her 20-year-old daughter on the telephone. Shortly thereafter, she collapsed and was rushed to the prison hospital, where doctors worked unsuccessfully for 40 minutes to revive her.

JUDGE CALLED BIASED IN CASE OF ANTI-SEMITIC CZECH EDITOR

By Josef Klansky

PRAGUE, March 20 (JTA) -- Formal sentencing of the editor of the Czech anti-Semitic weekly Politika has been postponed after the defendant's attorney alleged that the judge was biased against his client.

Josef Tomas began publishing the anti-Semitic Politika in 1991. That same year, several people, including members of Parliament, began lodging complaints against Tomas.

The police investigation of the case lasted nearly two years.

On Jan. 14, District Court Judge Helena Kralova, taking advantage of a newly introduced section of the Czech penal code, issued a written condemnation of Tomas without hearing the case in open court.

Kralova sentenced him to five years' probation after suspending a one-year prison sentence. The judge also imposed a three-year ban on the publication of Politika.

Last week, Tomas appealed the sentence, and when Kralova rejected the objection that she was biased, Tomas' attorney filed a complaint that will have to be ruled upon by the Superior Court of the city of Prague.

In December 1992, Tomas was obliged to interrupt publication of Politika after he was criticized for publishing a "partial list of Jews and Jewish half-breeds in contemporary Czech culture." The list was accompanied by an article written by Tomas railing against "Slavs from around the Jordan River" who live in what was then Czechoslovakia spreading the "smell of garlic" and "plundering the country."

The list included the names of 160 leading Czech writers, musicians, actors and filmmakers of Jewish as well as non-Jewish origin. Among those on Tomas' list were writer Vaclav Havel, now president of the Czech Republic, who is not Jewish; Czech-American film director Milos Forman; and Deputy Culture Minister Michal Prokop.

After two years of investigations, the public prosecutor charged Tomas in February 1993 with inciting ethnic and racial hatred, abusing citizens because of their nationality, race or convictions and for propagating ideas aimed at the suppression of civil rights and liberties.

Although Politika has been forced to suspend publication, another paper, the Czech monthly Dnesek (Today), has appeared to fill the vacuum.

Dnesek, which is edited in the Czech city of Brno by Frantisek Kasperek, carries articles by former contributors to Politika and by others on the right wing.

In a letter written in December to government, parliamentary and judicial officials, the Federation of Jewish Communities of the Czech Republic called for the speedy introduction of legislation that would impose stiff legal penalties on those inciting racial and religious hatred.

D-DAY CEREMONIES STIR TALK ON GERMANY

By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, March 20 (JTA) -- The celebration of the 50th anniversary of D-Day on June 6 in Normandy has stirred a Franco-German debate about whether Germany should be represented at the Omaha Beach ceremony.

From the onset, the French answer at the political level has been "no," but, according to some sources, the French military authorities already had begun contacts with their German counterparts.

The Germans, especially Chancellor Helmut Kohl, were said to be interested. In Paris, after some uncertainty, both President Francois Mitterrand and the Cabinet said it was out of the question for Kohl to be present at Omaha Beach.

Defense Minister Francois Leotard, on his way back from Israel last Sunday, also announced that a visit planned for him by his assistants to the cemetery in Normandy, together with his German counterpart, had been ruled out.

War veterans and former deportees had protested the idea of this joint visit to the cemetery because the burial grounds there are largely filled with graves of SS members.

DETROIT FEDERATION CUTS TO UJA SEEN AS SIGN OF NATIONAL TREND

By Larry Yudelson

NEW YORK (JTA) -- A federation considered one of this country's staunchest supporters of overseas causes plans to spend more of the funds it raises at home promoting Jewish education, sending less money to Israel and Jewish causes overseas.

The move by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit worries advocates of overseas aid, who see an accelerating trend in which Israel receives a declining percentage of federation money.

Actually at stake is less than \$1 million, as the Detroit federation reduces over the next three years the share forwarded to the United Jewish Appeal to 50 percent of gross campaign revenues from its current 53 percent share. The Detroit campaign last year raised a total of \$26.3 million.

The move highlights a growing sense, both in America and Israel, that the needs of American Jews may have been neglected for too long. It comes at a time when Israeli officials, from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin down to consular officers in the United States, say that American Jewish continuity is at least as much a part of the Diaspora-Israel partnership as is supporting disadvantaged Israelis.

And it comes at a time when the generation whose links to Jews overseas was forged by the Holocaust and the founding of the State of Israel is being replaced by a generation less viscerally connected to Jews overseas.

Detroit's planned decrease in overseas allocations will leave Detroit with one of the highest ratios of federation funds going overseas. But it is precisely because of Detroit's longstanding commitment to the UJA that national fund-raising professionals in New York are worried.

"There is no way of knowing if Detroit is the end of the wave of reductions (of overseas allocations) or the beginning of the next wave," said one official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

'Tip Of The Iceberg'

"It's only the tip of the iceberg," said another professional. "If the line can't be held in Detroit, it can't be held anywhere."

This person noted that the Motor City is home to leading UJA engines like Max Fisher, the grand old man of the United Jewish Appeal and the founding chairman of the Jewish Agency, and Joel Tauber, UJA's national chairman.

During the 1980s, the tradition of federations' sending at least half their funds to Israel weakened across the country, as is evident from figures comparing federation allocations in 1982 to those in 1990.

Over that time, UJA's share shrank from 50 to 42 percent, and local agencies' shares rose from 29 to 34 percent. In terms of absolute dollars, UJA increased its revenue by 22 percent -- less than inflation -- while local agencies received 70 percent more dollars.

UJA is not opposing Detroit's move.

"I wish other communities would give 50 percent of gross," said UJA Executive Vice President Brian Lurie. "It keeps clearly to the concept of shared partnership," he said.

And in a sharp departure from the past, when Israeli officials would talk darkly of conducting a competing fund-raising drive if federations cut their allocations to Israel, the Detroit move is being greeted with equanimity by Israel.

"If it's to fund Jewish continuity, then I have nothing to say against it," said a consulate official here.

Indeed, the executive vice president of the Detroit federation describes his motivation in just that way. "We needed to have a shifting of funds to continuity, while remaining a pre-eminent funder of UJA," said Robert Aronson. He said the move was studied for a year and a half.

"This process was well under way before the whole Beilin-shmeilin thing," said Aronson, referring to Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's recent controversial remarks that Israel no longer needed Diaspora "charity."

Shortly before the decision was announced, the Detroit Jewish News editorialized in favor of such a shift of priorities.

"We just felt there were so many programs in Detroit that were being asked to stretch their budgets that it makes sense to keep our money here," said Phil Jacobs, the paper's editor.

The squeeze on local programs reflects the confluence of the U.S. recession, which has cut into fund raising in recent years, and the Israeli absorption of more than half a million immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

Allviah Needs Cut Into Local Giving

To help pay for the immigration, the UJA has run a campaign -- separate from the regular federation campaign -- which will have raised more than \$1 billion when it concludes this year.

With donors giving to that campaign, they were unable to increase their donations to the general campaign, which includes local agencies.

But for the Jewish Agency, the quasi-governmental social service agency that receives the bulk of the UJA money in Israel, the special campaign meant more money was received, despite the shortfalls in the regular campaigns.

While the Jewish Agency received \$1.1 billion from federations during the four-year period of 1986-89, it received \$1.6 billion in the subsequent four years, an increase of 40 percent.

But advocates of sending money to Israel worry that reductions in UJA allocations do not simply reflect the recent squeeze on local agencies, and the recent additional funding the Jewish Agency has received because of Operation Exodus.

They fear that Israel is decreasingly the motivation for giving, as the events of the 1940s become history and the younger generation rises to Jewish leadership and big-donor category.

A senior official at a federation that has so far not reduced its overseas allocation agreed that "the strength of the voices on the side of local needs has been growing in the past several years.

"Our campaign workers are telling us that our contributors are becoming more and more concerned about local needs. I don't think that (Israel as a priority) is as strongly felt today as five years ago," said the official.

Some federations try to balance the demands of key donors to maintain a 50-50 Israel-local split through bookkeeping changes. One leader said the goal is to continue overseas obligations but keep local needs of Jewish continuity in mind.