

**ISRAELIS, PALESTINIANS AGREE  
ON DEPLOYMENT OF POLICE FORCE**  
By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, April 12 (JTA) -- Israeli and Palestinian negotiators reached agreement in Cairo this week on terms for the deployment of Palestinian police in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

In separate news conferences Tuesday, the Israel Defense Force deputy chief of staff, Gen. Amnon Shahak, who is heading the Israeli delegation, and Nabil Sha'ath, the chief Palestine Liberation Organization negotiator, said they had agreed on all the details for the deployment of a 9,000-member Palestinian police force.

They said that 6,000 Palestinian police would start work immediately after the Cairo negotiations ended and Israel completed its troop withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

Another 1,000 police would assume duties soon afterward, and an additional 2,000 police would be recruited at a later date from the population of Gaza and Jericho.

The two parties also agreed on the terms of release for some 5,000 Palestinians currently held in Israeli jails.

But they disagreed whether members of the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement, which is staunchly opposed to the Israeli-PLO negotiations, would be among those released.

Shahak told reporters Tuesday, just before the two teams recessed the talks until next week, that no members of Hamas would be released.

"Only last week, we witnessed a Hamas attack in (the northern Israeli town of) Afula, which killed Israeli children. And the day after, the Hamas spokesman in Amman said they are going to continue," said Shahak.

"We are not going to set onto the streets those who declare they are going to kill us," he said.

**PLO Seeking Release Of Hamas Prisoners**

Sha'ath, in turn, has been pressing the Israelis to release members of Hamas in order to show that the negotiations are for all the Palestinian people, not just those supporting the PLO.

According to Sha'ath, 2,500 prisoners will be released as soon as an agreement is signed in Cairo. An additional 2,500 will be set free three weeks after the signing, when the Palestinian authority takes over in Gaza and Jericho.

But the question still remains as to when the Cairo negotiations will be concluded.

Earlier in the week, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the target date for concluding the negotiations would be the end of April -- a timetable Sha'ath grudgingly agreed to.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview with the Jerusalem Post that appeared Tuesday, said the talks would be concluded a couple of weeks later.

"We cannot put a date when the agreement will be reached," he told the newspaper. "But if everything will go well, I believe by somewhere in the first half of May there is hope."

Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat spoke by telephone on Tuesday, and the two discussed the status of the ongoing negotiations.

During the call, which Arafat initiated, Rabin stressed the need for making more rapid progress in the talks.

**NEWS ANALYSIS:****ISRAEL PLAN FOR PEACE WITH SYRIA  
CALLS FOR FULL PULLOUT FROM GOLAN**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 12 (JTA) -- Israel is drafting a detailed blueprint for peace with Syria that would be based on a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in return for full normalization of relations between the two countries.

This revelation, disclosed Tuesday in the highly respected Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz, dovetails into strong signals from Washington that the Clinton administration will soon push for progress on the Israeli-Syrian negotiating track.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has indicated that he would like to undertake a diplomatic swing between Jerusalem and Damascus immediately after the signing of the Israeli-Palestinian accord on self-rule in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

The bilateral peace talks in Washington, suspended since the massacre of Palestinians in Hebron in late February, are slated to resume at the end of April.

The Israeli-Syrian blueprint, which is reportedly the work of the Israeli Foreign Ministry's political planning unit, was reportedly discussed, in a preliminary way, at a meeting between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and the ministry's department heads last week.

The lengthy document, said to run to dozens of pages, is predicated, according to Ha'aretz, on the perceived need to negotiate a full peace treaty with Syria in one step.

Ministry officials say that the current experience with the Palestinians shows that working out a declaration of principles and later filling it with content makes for wasted effort and much duplication.

Unnamed officials cited by the newspaper claimed that a settlement with Syria would be relatively simple and quick to reach -- given the basic premises of full withdrawal for full peace.

But other recent Israeli reports, purportedly reflecting earlier rounds of negotiations between Israel and Syria in Washington, indicate that even an Israeli commitment to full withdrawal from the Golan would not guarantee speedy negotiations.

That is because of disparities between the international border of Mandatory Palestine and the de facto border that followed the 1949 cease-fire lines.

The latter line favored Syria in several spots, because of incursions and land grabs by Syrian forces in the period immediately following the 1948 war.

Thus, for instance, the famous hot springs at Hamat Gader, on the southern tip of the Golan, overlooking the Yarmuk River, were within

pre-1948 Palestine but were held by Syria until the Six-Day War of 1967.

According to some informed Israeli sources, Israel has made it clear already that it would be interested in ceding Hamat Gader and other such disputed spots in return for land on the slopes of the Golan Heights, rising up from the northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Israel's sovereignty even under the Mandatory line extended just 10 yards from the shoreline on the northeastern perimeter of the lake -- meaning that the entire Golan in that area, right down to the water's edge, was in Syria's hands.

There have been no signs that Syria would countenance any such swap of territory.

The border disparities may also help toward an eventual accord being based on phased withdrawal over a period of years, after recognition of Syria's sovereignty in principle is clearly and formally agreed.

According to one report, Syria is insisting that a phased withdrawal take no more than the three years allotted to the withdrawal from the Sinai, under the 1979 peace treaty with Egypt.

Israel, for its part, reportedly wants the withdrawal spread out over six years or more.

Inside the Jerusalem political community, opinion is divided over the likelihood of a major push toward peace with Syria this year.

#### **Window Of Opportunity May Be Closing**

On the one hand, there is increasingly acute awareness that the global window of opportunity may be closing, as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin himself pointedly noted in a speech at the White House last month.

This was an oblique reference to Russia's new assertiveness in world affairs, including Middle Eastern affairs.

While Russia is still a long way from resuming the role of the old Soviet Union in backing the Arabs militarily and politically, its revived interest in the region could render President Hafez Assad's Syria less eager to court the West and less resigned to the need for peace with Israel as a prerequisite in that courtship.

There is also a hard-headed political awareness that the Rabin government will stand or fall on its ability to bring peace.

After the withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, it seems unlikely that there will be further progress with the Palestinians in the short term. When the Palestinian track slows down, dovish Cabinet ministers in Israel can be expected to press for movement on Syria.

On the other hand, some political observers question whether the Rabin government, a year and three quarters into its term, is strong enough domestically to launch into another traumatic peace adventure.

Ultimately the domestic strength of the Rabin government in its peace efforts, on both the Syrian and Palestinian tracks, depends to an important degree on the way the other side plays its hand.

Thus, for instance, Yasser Arafat's stolid refusal to condemn unequivocally last week's gruesome car-bomb disaster in the northern Israeli town of Afula has rankled Israeli public opinion very deeply.

Similarly, Hafez Assad's notorious insen-

sitivity to Israeli sensibilities, his repeated refusal to address the Israeli public on television or through the written media provides constant and important succor to the forces in Israeli public life opposing a pullback from the Golan on any terms.

#### **SETTLER KILLS PREGNANT PALESTINIAN**

**By Dvora Getzler**

JERUSALEM, April 12 (JTA) -- A settler from the West Bank town of Shiloh has been detained by police for the shooting death of a pregnant Palestinian woman.

The shooting occurred Tuesday after Palestinian youths from the village of El-Jib, located near the West Bank town of Ramallah, threw stones at the settler's truck.

According to witnesses and Israeli military sources, the settler got out of his truck, pulled out his pistol and shot at one of the village homes.

A bullet went through the window of the home and fatally wounded 18-year-old Fatma Khaleifa, who was three months pregnant and the mother of an eight-month-old baby girl. The child was unharmed.

The settler fled the scene, but was later caught by the police near Jerusalem. Police had been given a description of the man and his vehicle by village witnesses.

The settler, who was not identified, was described as a man in his 30s, married and the father of several children. He works as a refrigeration technician for Coca-Cola.

#### **ISRAEL POPULATION IS 5.3 MILLION, UP 2.2 PERCENT OVER THE YEAR BEFORE**

**By Dvora Getzler**

JERUSALEM, April 12 (JTA) -- On the eve of its 46th birthday, Israel has roughly 5,350,000 inhabitants, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The total represents an increase of 115,000, or 2.2 percent over the year before.

The population statistics, which are released annually when Israel celebrates Independence Day, indicate that two-thirds of this year's increase was due to births rather than immigration.

This year's Independence Day celebration fell on Thursday, a day after the country marked its Memorial Day commemorations for those who died in Israeli wars.

Israelis are dispersed over some 1,170 towns, villages and small settlements, according to the Bureau of Statistics, and 17 Israeli cities now have populations in excess of 100,000, as compared with only 11 a year ago.

During the past year, the bureau reported, some 71,000 immigrants came to Israel, the vast majority coming from the former Soviet Union.

Immigration was down by 3,500 from the previous year.

The drop was explained as being due to a greater stability than in the past in centers of Jewish population around the world.

As the sirens sounded throughout Israel on Tuesday evening for the start of Memorial Day, the Defense Ministry said that 17,955 men and women had died while on active service since 1948.

## ZHIRINOVSKY CREATES UPROAR DURING VISIT TO STRASBOURG

By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, April 12 (JTA) -- Russian ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who manages to raise hackles wherever he travels, did the same this week when he addressed the Council of Europe in the eastern French city of Strasbourg.

Speaking before the council, whose members include 32 nations from Western, Central and Eastern Europe, Zhirinovsky said, "We don't want to be Zionized, Islamized or Americanized."

The statement, a reflection of his ultranationalist credo, was followed by sharp criticism of Russia's plans to join the council, which must first approve such a move.

"It is not Russia who should be assessed by the council, but the council who should be assessed by Russia," he said.

Most of the members of the council pretended not to hear what Zhirinovsky was saying.

In a separate incident, Zhirinovsky, the leader of Russia's extreme-right Liberal Democratic Party, lost his temper when about 100 Jewish students demonstrated against him in front of the Russian Consulate in Strasbourg.

Television cameras showed him grabbing small bushes from the consulate's garden and throwing them at the demonstrators. He reportedly also spat at the demonstrators and threatened to use a "nuclear gun" against them, though he did not make clear exactly what he had in mind.

Earlier, Zhirinovsky attacked France, saying it was not a democratic country.

CRIF, the umbrella organization representing French Jewry, refrained from making any comment on Zhirinovsky's statements.

But sources close to the leadership of CRIF told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "The less we talk about this ugly character, the better. France did as much as it could, given the circumstances. The Council of Europe enjoys a statute of extra-territoriality, so there was no way to bar Zhirinovsky from coming to Strasbourg."

Following his surprisingly strong showing in Russia's elections last December, Zhirinovsky held high-profile meetings with ultraright-wing leaders in Germany and Austria. During a visit to Bulgaria earlier this year, he called on the Bulgarian president to step down.

Zhirinovsky has been declared persona non grata by Germany, was ejected by Bulgaria and was not allowed to enter Australia, as he had wanted to.

This week, French authorities threatened to revoke the visa enabling Zhirinovsky to address the European Council after he called on Russia to bomb Western military bases to avenge the NATO air strikes on Bosnian Serb positions.

## NAZI DEPORTED FROM U.S. ARRIVES IN AUSTRALIA

By Jeremy Jones

SYDNEY, Australia, April 12 (JTA) -- Konrad Kalejs, an Australian citizen who was deported from the United States for failing to disclose his wartime activities in Nazi-occupied Latvia, received a low-key government reaction upon his arrival here this week.

In most respects, the 80-year-old Kalejs was

treated as an ordinary citizen re-entering Australia, despite calls by the Australian Jewish community for an urgent investigation of charges against him.

The Executive Council of Australian Jewry wrote to the government arguing that "there is a compelling case" to "consider all remedies available" if grounds are found to prosecute Kalejs in this country.

Australian Attorney General Michael Lavarch said the federal police would review the case, which first came before Australian investigators eight years ago.

And Brian Swift, the police media liaison, confirmed that the police were assessing whether there are grounds to reopen the case.

Robert Greenwood, the first head of Australia's Special Investigations Unit, who had conducted the earlier Australian inquiry, said the Kalejs case had not been fully examined in the past and would be "of great interest now."

Kalejs' case was litigated by the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations and carried out by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Eli Rosenbaum, acting director of the OSI, said, "We have shared all of our evidence with the Australian authorities."

Kalejs immigrated to Australia from Germany after World War II and became a naturalized Australian citizen in the 1950s. He immigrated to the United States in 1959 and omitted any reference to his wartime membership in the Arajs Kommando, a mobile killing unit in Nazi-occupied Latvia.

Kalejs was a company commander of the notorious squad, which killed Jews, Gypsies and others. Kommando founder Viktor Arajs died in a German prison in 1988 while serving a life sentence for the murder of at least 13,000 people. He had implicated Kalejs under questioning.

Efforts to deport Kalejs from the United States began in 1984.

Knowing that deportation proceedings were about to be brought against him, Kalejs left the United States with \$350,000 in cash and assumed a new identity.

## Arrested In Florida Following Manhunt

However, he returned and was found living in Florida, following a six-month manhunt. Arrested as a fugitive, he was released from jail after a friend connected to the Arajs Kommando posted bond of \$750,000 in cash.

His arrest in 1985 in Florida sparked concern here that should he be deported, Australia had no laws under which he could be tried.

In 1988, Australian war crimes legislation was amended to allow trials of individuals living in Australia against whom there was evidence of involvement in crimes against humanity during the Nazi occupation of Europe.

However, no individual who has been brought before the Australian court on such charges has been convicted, and this country's war crimes investigations unit has been closed.

Kalejs had lived in the Chicago suburb of Winnetka and St. Petersburg, Fla.

He was found deportable after a 1988 trial before a U.S. immigration judge.

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

## IN CONTRAST TO LAST TRIP TO ISRAEL, JACKSON IS EMBRACED BY PLO AND ISRAELIS

By Cynthia Mann

JERUSALEM, April 12 (JTA) -- The Rev. Jesse Jackson, on a six-day mission to Israel to "enhance" the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, was greeted warmly, albeit with some skepticism, by Israeli and American Jewish representatives here.

The visit, which ended this week, contrasted sharply with Jackson's previous one, 15 years ago, which was universally characterized as a disaster. It was on a swing through the region then that Jackson was rebuffed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin and embraced, in a now-famous hold, by Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat.

This time around, Jackson found the landscape starkly changed. Even his invitation, extended both by the Israeli government about a year ago and by Arafat and Hebron University, spoke volumes about the change, Jackson noted.

"Fifteen years later, to be here with a joint invitation from the Israelis and the PLO, is full circle. To be here with a 'let's talk' policy rather than a no-talk policy, is full circle," he said.

Jackson's trip had all of the trimmings of any official visit, including a visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, a tree-planting ceremony, a visit to Hadassah Medical Center and an absorption center.

He also was honored at dinners hosted by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin. And on Tuesday, his last day, he met for an hour-and-a-half with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Edward Djerejian.

During the visit, Jackson also traveled to Hebron, where he addressed a rally which erupted into clashes with Israeli security forces, who shot and wounded several Palestinian youths. Jackson had to take shelter in his bus. While in Hebron, he met with what he described as a cross-section of Palestinians though, contrary to some reports, he said he did not meet with anyone "who represented himself as Hamas."

### Daily Phone Calls To Arafat

He spoke with Arafat by telephone daily.

At a small breakfast meeting with reporters on the last day of his trip, Jackson lauded the "bold and daring" Israeli and Palestinian leadership for making a break with the past and "moving from co-annihilation to co-existence."

Jackson said he has respect for the "pain and fear on both sides" of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He said he therefore understands why negotiating the autonomy accord -- which grants Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho -- is so protracted.

But he warned that time is running out and said changes "on the ground" must be made immediately to keep support for the process intact.

"Each passing day allows the saboteurs of peace to engage in acts that derail" the accord, he said.

Jackson said he has urged Arafat to come to Jericho as soon as possible. The earlier he gets there, he said, "the more details will fall into place, (making) the peace process irreversible."

Some political observers here said there was no substantive role for Jackson to play in the peace process at this juncture and suggested he was merely seeking to shore up his image as a statesman.

At the same time, however, they pointed to Israel's awareness of the changing U.S. "political map." They said Israel recognizes the need to cultivate its own relationships with an increasingly powerful black U.S. political leadership, a sphere traditionally handled here by American Jewish organizations.

"If (Jackson) is not the most popular and powerful black, he is clearly the most recognizable," said one observer. "And any bridge Israel can forge with the black and Palestinian communities is desirable."

While here, the civil rights leader seemed reluctant to attach significance to the heightened tensions back home between Jews and African-Americans. He attributed many of the problems to hype by the "tabloid press" and said he preferred to focus on other priorities, such as health care and discrimination.

He said important black-Jewish coalitions are intact and he eschewed "public confrontation" when differences do surface. "We should accentuate the positive and stop generalizing and stereotyping. We should (focus on) what we are doing (together) and be strong enough not to react to every dust particle that blows."

### 'A Time To Speak And A Time Not To Speak'

"I don't want to become part of that dramatic theater of name-calling," he said. "There is a time to speak and a time not to speak."

During his visit, Jackson was also honored at a banquet in east Jerusalem held by Hebron University marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the PLO.

Jackson also made a trip to a hospital in Afula, where he visited some of the victims of last week's terrorist car bomb attack, which killed seven Israelis.

When asked about Arafat's failure to condemn the Afula attack quickly and personally, Jackson said he had pressed the chairman to be "more explicit." He said it was possible Arafat did not respond because he was in Tunis "and heard about it by way of the media."

While Jackson said "we should insist on people showing compassion and being more sensitive," and people "should be quick to condemn acts of terror," he also said they should not be judged by whether or not they give "eloquent eulogies."

Some heads of American Jewish organizations here expressed some discomfort with Jackson's focus on the Middle East peace process, when the fires of interethnic tension are burning at home.

"The long-term question of Arab-Israeli peace does not diminish in any way the immediate need to restore the tradition of cooperation between African Americans and American Jews," said Michael Oren, director of the American Jewish Committee's Israel office. "To this end, we would certainly welcome any bold initiative by Rev. Jackson."

Harry Wall, director of the Israel office of the Anti-Defamation League, said, "It would be refreshing to hear him repeat" how he feels about anti-Semitism "in front of black audiences."