

**PLO SET TO MOVE ITS HEADQUARTERS  
THOUGH ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL UNCERTAIN**  
By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat has ordered the closing of PLO offices in Tunis in preparation for moving the group's headquarters to the autonomous Jericho district in the West Bank.

Arafat ordered the PLO offices closed as of June 15.

The 650 staff and security personnel employed at the Tunis headquarters were informed of the move a week ago. It remains unclear how many of them will move to Jericho when the offices are transferred there.

The only PLO office that will remain open in Tunis is the organization's political department, headed by Farouk Kaddoumi, which will act as a liaison between the Palestinian governing authority and the international community. The office will also serve some 3 million diaspora Palestinians.

According to Arafat, the date of his arrival in Jericho depends upon his success in raising funds for running the day-to-day operations of the Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

On Tuesday in Tunis, Arafat reportedly told American and Russian officials that he would not move to Jericho before the funds start coming in.

A group of donor countries last October pledged more than \$2 billion over five years to support the Palestinian autonomy, but little of that has so far materialized.

Some countries have reportedly been troubled by Arafat's history of disbursing funds without keeping adequate records.

**ISRAEL RELEASES PALESTINIAN PRISONERS  
AMID DISPUTE ABOUT TERMS OF AGREEMENT**  
By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- Israel released an additional 160 Palestinian prisoners to the Gaza Strip on Thursday, but a dispute between Israeli and Palestinian officials is holding up the release of many more.

Under the terms of the May 4 Cairo agreement for implementing Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho district in the West Bank, some 5,000 Palestinian prisoners were to have been freed by Israel by Wednesday.

But only about half that number have been released so far.

The release of the remaining prisoners has been held up by an Israeli demand that the prisoners not be allowed to return to their homes, but instead be confined to either Gaza or Jericho until their prison terms expire.

Officials with the Palestine Liberation Organization say the demand runs counter to the Cairo agreement. But the Israelis are stating that Clause 20 of the agreement provides for just such a condition.

While Gazans were celebrating the latest

releases, an Israeli student was stabbed Thursday afternoon at the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Ido Dekel was moderately injured and was operated on at the Hadassah Hospital, where the knife used in the attack was removed from his shoulder.

His attacker, a young Arab from a village near Jerusalem, was later identified and arrested. He told police he wanted to put a stop to the peace process.

**MOLEDET AND TECHIYA MERGE,  
CREATING NEW RIGHT-WING PARTY**  
By Dvorah Getzler

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- The country's two far-right parties, Moledet and what is left of Techiya, have decided to merge.

Moledet leaders ratified the decision during a rally held this week in Netzarim, the Gaza settlement whose continued existence has recently been called into question for security reasons by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Techiya ratified the merger some weeks ago.

The official name of the new party is Moledet, the Movement of the Faithful of Eretz Yisrael and Former Techiya Members. It is expected to be referred to most often as Moledet.

Speaking at the rally, Moledet's founder, former Gen. Rehavam Ze'evi, said that he had long ago contemplated establishing a new party that would have joined with Techiya, but that Techiya had been opposed to the idea.

"Had they not opposed it, Moledet would never have come into existence," said Ze'evi.

**Nationalists 'Must Demonstrate Solidarity'**

Deploping the tensions and rivalries on the right of the political spectrum, Ze'evi urged that "now more than ever the nationalist camp must demonstrate solidarity."

Moledet has three seats in the present Knesset. Techiya received no seats in the last election.

Techiya, which means "revival" in Hebrew, was founded in October 1979 by Geula Cohen, who broke with the Likud after then-Prime Minister Menachem Begin signed the Camp David agreement of 1978.

Among other early Techiya leaders were Gush Emunim pioneer Hanan Porat, who came from and subsequently rejoined the National Religious Party, and Rafael Eitan, who was chief of staff during the Lebanon War of 1982.

Eitan later left Techiya to form the Tsomet Party, whose success in the 1992 elections broke the influence of Techiya, which failed to get enough votes to qualify for a Knesset seat.

Moledet was established in 1988, at a time when the late Rabbi Meir Kahane's ultranationalist Kach party was barred by the High Court from participating in that year's elections.

It was then generally assumed that the two seats Moledet won in that election were picked up from voters who would otherwise have backed Kach.

## ISRAELI GROUP FORMED TO MONITOR PLO AND ISRAELI COMPLIANCE WITH ACCORD

By Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- Now that the Palestinian autonomy accord has been signed and implemented, Peace Watch, a new group dedicated to monitoring the agreement, wants to make sure that its promises are delivered.

Established last October, just weeks after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat signed the declaration of principles Sept. 13, the group is comprised of nine prominent Israelis from every part of the political spectrum.

Their goal is to monitor Israeli and Palestinian compliance with the peace agreement, and to blow the whistle when either side fails to hold up its end of the bargain.

While no one expects the accord to run like clockwork so soon after its implementation last month, Peace Watch Director Dan Polisar maintains that a minimum level of compliance is necessary for its success.

"The agreement is very complicated, and there is tremendous potential for friction. It simply can't work without cooperation between Israel and the PLO, whether it be joint patrols or joint economic ventures," Polisar said.

Toward that end, Peace Watch has enlisted the assistance of several Israelis and Palestinians, many of whom live in the territories, to report alleged violations to the monitoring group.

### Hotlines To Be Created

"Obviously, we can't watch every interaction between Israelis and Palestinians, but having people on the ground is essential," Polisar said. "The people who have the information are the people who live there. Soon, we'll also have hotlines that anyone can call if they spot a problem."

With the help of its volunteers and a full-time staff of five, Peace Watch is keeping a close watch on how security forces on both sides are dealing with civilians and each other.

"We're looking at how Israeli soldiers interact with Palestinians and how the Palestinian police interact with Israelis," said Polisar. "Potentially, there could be thousands of contacts per day between the two sides, which could build or undermine the agreement."

The group is also checking whether Israel transfers responsibility for schools and other institutions to the Palestinians, and whether the Palestinians provide their citizens with necessary services. An even more important yardstick of the accord's success will be the degree to which Israel and the PLO prevent terror attacks, and the way they coordinate actions when such attacks occur, the group's organizers said.

Barely a month into the accord, there have already been a number of violent episodes involving Israelis and Palestinians.

Recently, two Jewish settlers from Gaza were murdered by Palestinian gunmen while driving on a road near Hebron. The same week, two IDF soldiers were gunned down at the Erez checkpoint, at the entrance to the Gaza Strip.

In both cases, the terrorists fled to the Palestinian autonomous region -- which, according to the agreement, is off-limits to the IDF. The

Palestinian police, who are responsible for tracking down alleged terrorists in the autonomous zone, have made no arrests to date.

Ziv Hellman, who heads Peace Watch's research department, said the group "is in contact with Palestinian sources, both within the PLO leadership and the Gaza police. They told us that the Palestinian police have opened a file but have taken no concrete steps toward capturing the terrorists."

A half-hour later, Hellman called to say that, according to a radio interview with the Palestinian police, steps were being taken to apprehend the murderers.

### Numerous Failures To Comply Cited

Though the Gaza-Jericho plan is still new, Polisar noted that the group has been monitoring activities in the territories and in Israel proper for more than eight months. "The knowledge we gained from this experience is helping us monitor the accord more effectively," he said.

Last month, Peace Watch published a report that stresses the need for greater compliance, now and in the future.

The report, which covers the period from Sept. 13, 1993 to May 4, 1994 -- the day the implementation accord for the autonomy plan was signed in Cairo -- cites numerous instances in which both Israel and the PLO failed to comply with the procedures set forth by the declaration of principles.

The majority of the study is devoted to security issues and underscores the fact that neither the Israeli government nor the PLO had significantly reduced terrorism during the 7 1/2-month period.

According to the study, "the PLO made insufficient efforts to halt terror by PLO groups, including Fatah; failed to call on groups such as Hamas and the Islamic Jihad to end violence; and tried to circumvent negotiations on issues such as the future of Jerusalem by creating facts on the ground."

The report's authors, including former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky, Rabbi Yoel Bin-Nun from the West Bank settlement of Ofra, and Elisha Shapira, a leader of the left-wing Hashomer Hatzair Movement, also criticized the Israeli government's "insufficient efforts to curb anti-Arab violence by Israeli citizens."

They noted that since Sept. 13, Israeli citizens were involved in four murderous attacks on Palestinians, claiming 33 lives, 29 of them in the Hebron massacre on Feb. 25.

The Israeli government, it said, did not sufficiently prepare for the possibility of "murderous attacks on Palestinians." In addition, government officials did not pay enough attention to radical Jewish elements that had previously been involved in acts of violence.

The report did include some positive remarks, including the fact that, thanks to preventative measures taken by the army and police, Israeli authorities substantially reduced Israeli-perpetrated acts of vandalism on Palestinian property.

According to Polisar, by monitoring compliance to the declaration of principles over several months, the group has been able to pinpoint past -- and potential -- trouble spots between Israelis and Palestinians.

## EX-NAZI FOUND LIVING IN COSTA RICA DESPITE PREVIOUS EXTRADITION REQUESTS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- Costa Rica's Jewish community has located a Nazi war criminal who has been living freely in that country since fleeing the United States 10 years ago.

Bohdan Koziy, a Ukrainian police official during World War II who was found to have shot and killed a 4-year-old Jewish girl at point-blank range, has been living in a suburb of San Jose, the capital, only minutes away from the city's Jewish community center.

Koziy, 72, escaped to Costa Rica from the United States in June 1984 after the U.S. Justice Department obtained a court order to deport him to the Soviet Union.

The former owner of a motel in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., he had been stripped of his American citizenship in 1982 after a trial in Florida in which eyewitness testimony described his murdering a Jewish family in Ukraine, including the 4-year-old girl.

Koziy was also charged with killing Jews in the Ukrainian town of Stanislau and with lying about his wartime past when he applied for a visa in 1949 and for U.S. citizenship in 1956.

Supporting the Costa Rican Jewish community, the World Jewish Congress here said it was launching a global campaign to expel Koziy from Costa Rica.

"Jewish communities in 80 countries around the world will call on the Costa Rican ambassadors in their capitals to demand an end to this intolerable situation," the WJC said in a statement.

"For a decade now, Costa Rican authorities have rebuffed all efforts to have this murderer expelled and brought to justice for his heinous crimes," the statement said.

The Soviets requested Koziy's extradition in 1986, but Costa Rica refused.

A year later, Koziy was ordered extradited to the Soviet Union by the Costa Rican Superior Penal Tribunal of Alajuela. Costa Rica's public prosecutor said that ruling could not be appealed, but the government overruled the tribunal.

Kalman Sultanik, a WJC vice president, said Costa Rica "must demonstrate to the world that it is not a sanctuary for mass murderers."

## ITALY AND ISRAEL DOWNPLAY REPORT OF RIFT IN RELATIONS

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, June 9 (JTA) -- Italian and Israeli officials are downplaying a reported rift in relations arising from the ascendancy of the neo-fascists in the Italian government.

Officials of the two countries stressed that the two states maintain warm links despite the inclusion of five members of the neo-fascist-led National Alliance in the Italian Cabinet.

"On the part of the Israeli government there is no coldness toward us, but friendship of which we are certain," Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi told reporters this week.

He emphasized Italy's "continuous relations with the Israeli ambassador in Rome, who is also an eminent personage close to the forces of the Israeli government."

The Israeli ambassador to Italy, Avi Pazner, met this week with Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Martino and explained to him the concerns raised in Israel by the inclusion of National Alliance ministers in the Italian government.

"The meeting was cordial, and both countries intend to continue to maintain very good relations," Pazner said after the meeting Tuesday.

On Sunday, Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin criticized Italy for including Cabinet ministers from the National Alliance, whose core party is the Italian Social Movement, which was founded after World War II by followers of fascist dictator Benito Mussolini.

In an interview Tuesday with the Turin daily La Stampa, Pazner said, "I do not believe that there are problems in the relations between our two countries. Rather, relations are very cordial."

He added, "That which exists and cannot be hidden is the fact that in Israel a public debate has opened on the participation of the ministers from the National Alliance in the Italian government."

Pazner added, "We also know well the feelings of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi toward Israel. And we know well the position of the foreign minister and of many other ministers."

"Because of this, I affirm that one cannot speak of problems in the relations between our countries. Relations are warm, as Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has said himself."

"We need to make sure they remain so," Pazner said.

Peres is scheduled to meet with Martino in Luxembourg next week during talks between Israel and the European Union.

In the face of the alarm raised in a number of countries over the inclusion of neo-fascists in the Italian Cabinet, Martino has launched a diplomatic offensive to reassure Italy's allies.

At a recent meeting with American Jews, he said the new government would be the most pro-Israel that Italy ever had.

## ITALY FILES TO EXTRADITE PRIEBKE

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, June 9 (JTA) -- Italy's justice minister, Alfredo Biondi, has signed the formal extradition request for former Nazi SS captain Erich Priebke, who was tracked down in Argentina last month.

A Justice Ministry statement said Biondi will send the request to the Argentine government.

The statement said copious documentation had already been sent to Argentina demonstrating, among other things, that Priebke's wartime deeds could be described as crimes against humanity.

Priebke was involved in the March 1944 massacre at the Ardeatine Caves, south of Rome.

Representatives of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, whose undercover agent located Priebke living openly in an Argentine resort in the Andes Mountains, met last week with Biondi and Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

They turned over to the Italians a thick file documenting Priebke's participation in war crimes, including the 1944 execution of 335 Romans at the Ardeatine Caves.

The Italians began extradition proceedings last month, and had 45 days in which to supply full documentation supporting their case.

## HEAD OF ISRAEL-DIASPORA COMMITTEE, DISGUSTED BY POLITICS, RESIGNS POST

By Cynthia Mann

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- The chairman of a fledgling Foreign Ministry-sponsored committee on Israel-Diaspora relations has resigned his post, saying Jewish organizational politics got in the way.

Uri Gordon, head of the immigration and absorption department of the Jewish Agency-World Zionist Organization, was appointed last year by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to head the new panel.

At the time, Peres said he was forming the committee in recognition of the "significant transformation" of Diaspora Jewry in recent decades and the weakening connection between the Diaspora and Israel.

Gordon had expressed enthusiasm for the new venture, proclaiming the committee marked a departure from business as usual and took "a completely fresh look at the problem."

But although Gordon says he tried to name members to the committee, the panel never met.

Last week Gordon said he still supported the aims of the committee, which he sees as evidence of a serious commitment by the Israeli government to the changing Israel-Diaspora relationship.

He also said he has received "many letters from key people in the Diaspora" who believed the committee was important. But he said he grew frustrated because there are people inside the Jewish Agency who did not support the effort.

He said he preferred to not waste his time fighting people "who prefer the status quo and are afraid of new ideas."

Instead, he said, he will concentrate his efforts on the absorption of new immigrants.

### Resentment At Sidestepping Jewish Agency

Although Gordon declined to be specific in his charges, sources say Jewish Agency Acting Chairman Yehiel Leket and Board of Governors Chairman Mendel Kaplan resented the effort to address Israel-Diaspora relations outside the Jewish Agency framework and sought to circumscribe the committee's agenda.

Leket, for one, denied any such initiative. He said he discussed the committee with Peres about a month ago, talking about ways to strengthen cooperation between the Foreign Ministry and the Jewish Agency.

Although he admitted initial skepticism that the committee could accomplish anything practical, he said he supported the idea after hearing Peres explain his reasons for establishing the committee.

Kaplan could not be reached for comment.

In his resignation letter to Peres, Gordon said he was torn between the conflicting impulses to continue the work "as an obligation to the Jewish people and to (Zionism)," and the inability to accomplish the task.

"The Jewish soil is burning and we are beginning to lose the next generation of people in the Diaspora," he wrote. Regrettably, "narrow-minded people" put "personal issues" ahead of the urgency of the situation, he added.

Meanwhile, the fate of the committee remains unclear in the wake of Gordon's resignation. "Nobody knows whether (it) will continue," said an informed source in the Foreign Ministry.

## EDITOR DAVID FRANK DEAD IN CRASH ON THE JERUSALEM-TEL AVIV HIGHWAY

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- David Frank, recently appointed editor of the Jerusalem Post international edition and a former leader in Jewish journalism in the United States, was fatally injured in a car accident near here on Wednesday. He died en route to the hospital.

Police said that Frank's car swerved into the path of an oncoming truck on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway. The truck driver was held for questioning and released. He was not injured.

Frank, 47, who last lived in Tsur Hadassah in central Israel, had a full and varied life as a journalist and editor, moving between continents and holding diverse, rewarding positions wherever he lived.

He had returned to Israel last summer after serving since 1988 as editor of the MetroWest Jewish News in New Jersey. He was responsible for revamping and modernizing the paper.

He came to MetroWest from the Miami Jewish Tribune, where he had been managing editor. Prior to that, he was marketing representative for North America for the Jerusalem Post Foreign Service.

"David Frank made a lasting contribution to the MetroWest community. He set an intellectual direction, a standard of journalistic integrity, and exhibited a profound interest in our community, as well as the Jewish community in Israel and throughout the world," said Jerry Harwood, president of Metrowest Jewish News.

### 'Cared Deeply About This Newspaper'

"Everything David did, he did with tremendous passion and feeling," said Debra Rubin, managing editor of MetroWest, who worked closely with him. "He cared deeply about this newspaper, our staff and the community."

During his tenure at MetroWest, the weekly paper won several awards from the American Jewish Press Association and the New Jersey Press Association. He was honored by both organizations for his editorials.

Frank was born in Durban, South Africa, but spent 12 years in Zimbabwe, then called Rhodesia, before making aliyah in 1961. He studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he received a bachelor's degree in psychology and English literature.

He subsequently received a master's degree in English literature at the University of York in Toronto and another master's degree in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y.

Frank was a journalist at the Israel Economist and the Jerusalem Post. He served as an editor and feature writer at the Post and was the paper's Beirut correspondent during the war in Lebanon.

For many years, Frank had his own communications company in Jerusalem, making audio-visual programs and brochures for export companies. He also produced material for the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

He also was director of public relations for Hadassah in Israel, and he edited Keshet ("rainbow"), a monthly magazine on Israeli culture.

Frank was scheduled to be buried Friday at the Nes Harim cemetery, near his home.