



# Daily News Bulletin

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86th Year

## TOP NEWS IN BRIEF

### Pressure builds on Ford

The Ford Foundation came under new scrutiny in Washington for funding anti-Israel groups.

Following a JTA investigative series, Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) told a foundation official Monday that the group should stop giving grants to Palestinian and other non-governmental organizations that engage in anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activity.

The foundation, which insists it opposes such activity, gave millions of dollars to Palestinian and other groups that oppose the Jewish state.

Meanwhile, a State Department official said the agency is reviewing Ford's support for these groups for possible Justice Department action.

The American Jewish Congress also is contemplating legal steps. [Page 3]

### Israel offers first U.N. bill

Israel proposed its first resolution at the United Nations.

In what it calls a "revolutionary" move, Israel has proposed a resolution "expressing concern over the fact that Israeli children are subject to Palestinian terrorism," said Ariel Milo, an official at Israel's mission to the United Nations.

The resolution was circulated Monday at the United Nations in the wake of an Egyptian-sponsored resolution expressing concern over Palestinian children suffering under Israeli occupation.

"Basically, we changed the rules of the game" by moving from a defensive to offensive position, Milo said, explaining the impetus for the resolution. "The blood of Palestinian children is not thicker or redder than that of Israeli children."

### Defense aid to Israel upped

Congress will be asked to give Israel an increased amount of military aid for 2005.

Incremental increases in military aid were agreed upon in the 1990s to offset reduced U.S. economic grants to Israel.

The \$2.22 billion in military aid in 2005 is \$60 million more than the previous year.

The Bush administration will continue to help in "maintaining Israel's qualitative edge over any combination of adversaries," the State Department said Monday, adding that it seeks more joint defense projects with the Jewish state.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

### Ya'alon's criticism, U.S. pressure show Sharon's position has eroded

By Leslie Susser

JERUSALEM (JTA) — It's not every day that an Israeli army chief of staff calls in top journalists to express deep misgivings about government policy.

So when Lt. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon initiated a late October briefing to warn that the government's handling of Palestinian terrorism could provoke more intense Palestinian violence, the country sat up and took notice.

At bottom, Ya'alon's critique reflected a deep divide between two schools of thought: the hard-liners, like Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz, who believe relentless military pressure can force the Palestinians to abandon terrorism for peace negotiations; and relative moderates, like Ya'alon and many of the Israel Defense Force's top generals, who maintain that Palestinian violence will only abate when serious political incentives are put on the table.

Ya'alon's concern about the lack of a political horizon mirrors growing public criticism of government policy and decreasing confidence in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's capacity to deliver the peace and security he promised when first elected nearly three years ago.

The domestic criticism of Sharon has not gone unnoticed in Washington, where some powerful voices are urging pressure on Israel to move the Palestinian track forward and help deflect Arab anger at the American role in Iraq.

By going public, Ya'alon highlighted Israel's profound security dilemma and deep differences in the security establishment over how to deal with it.

All the top brass agree that tight closures, blockades and roadblocks in and around Palestinian population centers make it harder for suicide bombers and other terrorists to get through.

At the same time, though, Ya'alon and others argue that the longer Palestinians are cooped up without many public services, the easier it is for terrorist groups to tap into feelings of humiliation and hopelessness to recruit future bombers.

In other words, they say, it may make good sense in the short term to clamp down to stop the next bomber, but in the long run the tight closures could produce dozens more terrorists.

These differences came to a head in late October, when Sharon convened a high-level meeting to discuss the unprecedentedly tight noose Israel had imposed on the Palestinians in the wake of an Oct. 4 suicide bombing that killed 21 people in a Haifa restaurant.

Ya'alon warned of a pressure cooker in the Palestinian territories that was likely to explode and urged that restrictions on the movement of people and goods among West Bank towns and villages be eased.

The director of the Shin Bet security service, Avi Dichter — who sees his organization as primarily responsible for stopping the bombings — objected. Lifting closures or roadblocks could enable suicide bombers to get through to their targets, he argued. Mofaz backed Dichter, but agreed to some minor easing of restrictions.

Convinced that the government was about to make a major blunder with potentially far-reaching military ramifications, Ya'alon decided to go public. He incurred sharp criticism from the government, primarily for making political comments while still in uniform.

Ya'alon's supporters said distinctions between the military and political domains

## MIDEAST FOCUS

### Charges in Rabin vandalism

Three Israelis were arrested for vandalizing a Tel Aviv memorial to Yitzhak Rabin. An indictment was filed on Tuesday against Iris Cohen, 38, of Jerusalem, who is accused of vandalizing posters near the memorial to the slain Israeli prime minister. Rabin was assassinated eight years ago this week.

Indictments also were filed against Yeshayahu Cohen, 23, and Avi Salah, 18, for spitting on the memorial. Some Israelis criticize Rabin for signing the 1993 Oslo accords, which they believe led to the establishment of a terrorist quasi-state under the Palestinian Authority.

### Post editor David Bar-Illan dies

David Bar-Illan, a former editor of the Jerusalem Post and aide to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, died Tuesday.

Bar-Illan, who died in Jerusalem, was 73 and had been in failing health following a heart attack three years ago.

He served as editor in chief of the Post from 1992 to 1996 and then was director of communications in the Prime Minister's Office under Netanyahu from 1996 to 1999. He also was a renowned concert pianist who recorded several albums.

### P.A. power struggle drags on

Yasser Arafat and his prime minister, Ahmed Qurei, continue to battle over the appointment of a security minister.

As a result, the mandate of the Palestinian Authority's 30-day emergency Cabinet, which was to have expired on Tuesday night, was extended as an open-ended "caretaker government."

Arafat, the P.A. president, opposes Qurei's choice of Nasser Yousef as interior minister, responsible for reforming P.A. security forces as required by the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan.



## Daily News Bulletin

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are not so clear-cut — and that, as Israel's No. 1 soldier, Ya'alon was duty-bound to warn the public about what he sees as a potential deterioration in the military situation.

Ya'alon did not leave it there, however.

He implied that because of its hard line, the government had missed a great opportunity to take the peace process forward during Mahmoud Abbas' brief tenure as Palestinian Authority prime minister, and was likely to do so again with Abbas' successor, Ahmed Qurei.

Moreover, Ya'alon complained, every time there might be a chance to move forward, the government seemed to order another targeted assassination of a terrorist kingpin.

Government spokesmen vehemently deny the charges. Mofaz claims he is doing all he can to ease conditions for Palestinian civilians but says ongoing terrorism makes it impossible for him to go as far as he would like.

Moreover, he says, he did all he could to help Abbas — including an agreement to transfer four more cities to Palestinian control — a plan that was torpedoed by an eruption of Palestinian terrorism.

As for Qurei, Mofaz says he is willing to work with him, but progress will depend on just how far Qurei is prepared to go in cracking down on terrorism, as the Palestinians agreed to do under the "road map" peace plan.

For his part, Sharon expects to hold a key working session with Qurei soon. But his own political position is not as strong as it was when Abbas was prime minister.

Sharon's position has not been helped by the police investigation into corruption allegations concerning him and his two sons. On Oct. 30, Sharon was interrogated for six hours on the so-called "Greek Island Affair," in which he is suspected of taking bribes to help Likud activist and millionaire contractor David Appel secure a Greek island for tourist development.

Police afterward were divided on whether they had enough evidence to press charges.

But even if Sharon is not indicted, his political star seems to be in decline.

Sharon's weakness may be one reason for emerging signs of a U.S. rethinking of the Israeli-Palestinian equation. In an Oct. 30 address at Georgetown University, the influential U.S. deputy defense secretary, Paul Wolfowitz, drew a clear link between hostility to the United States in the Arab world and failure to make progress on the Israeli-Palestinian track.

Wolfowitz also expressed support for a joint grass-roots peace initiative authored by former Shin Bet chief Ami Ayalon and Sari Nusseibeh, president of Al-Quds University, implying that sometimes leaders need to be goaded along by public sentiment.

In yet another sign of changing American attitudes, the U.S. Bureau of Intelligence and Research is recommending that the Bush administration apply pressure on Israel to stop construction in settlements in order to make headway with the Palestinians — and, the thinking goes, thereby help calm the situation in Iraq.

The recommendation comes in a paper written by Carl Ford, assistant secretary of state for intelligence and research, which was submitted last week to the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence. Ford's position is said to reflect that of CIA Director George Tenet.

Coupled with the changes of nuance in Washington, Ya'alon's critique could herald the beginnings of new domestic and international pressure on Sharon to move on the Palestinian track.

As usual, though, the key lies with Washington — and it's hard to say what the president might do in an election year. □

(Leslie Susser is the diplomatic correspondent for the Jerusalem Report.)

### Scotland gets female rabbi

LONDON (JTA) — A rabbi who recently took up a post in Scotland is believed to be that country's first female rabbi.

Nancy Morris, 41, the spiritual leader at the Glasgow New Synagogue, is a native of Montreal who received her ordination from London's Leo Baeck College. □

## JEWISH WORLD

### Kissinger remembers Rabin

Henry Kissinger joined Washington officials to remember Yitzhak Rabin. The Israeli Embassy in Washington hosted a memorial Tuesday for the late Israeli prime minister, who was assassinated on Nov. 4, 1995.

"He was, to me, a symbol of the complexities and the commitments involved in the fate of Israel," said Kissinger, a former U.S. secretary of state who worked closely with Rabin when he was Israel's ambassador to the United States and prime minister in the 1970s.

### Jewish webmaster guilty

The founder of an extremist Jewish Web site was found guilty of racial incitement by a court in Paris on Tuesday. Alexandre Attali, 29, the founder of amisraelhai.com, was sentenced to four months in prison and ordered to pay approximately \$15,000 in damages.

Attali published racist material on the site, attacking French Muslims and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan. He also published a list of people whom he accused of supporting a boycott of Israeli products, placing yellow stars next to the names of those he believed to be Jews with the advice that they be "hit on the jaw with a baseball bat."

### West Bank twinning defeated

British Jewish activists helped defeat a plan to twin the city of Preston with the West Bank city of Nablus. The Manchester Zionist Central Council and the Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester wrote to town counselors, asking if they "really wanted to play host to people who teach their children to hate Jews and Israelis, and whose religious leaders actively promote and encourage suicide bombers?"

### German general backs comments

A German army officer was fired after he praised a lawmaker for making comments seen as anti-Semitic. Reinhard Guenzel was dismissed Tuesday after he wrote a letter of support to Martin Hohmann, who compared the role of Jews in the Russian Revolution to the Nazis' actions in World War II.

### Newspaper discusses 'Protocols'

A Russian newspaper in Los Angeles recently published a positive article about "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion." Lyubov Parenago, wife of the editor of Kontakt, wrote the article, which discussed the lessons Kontakt's readers could learn from studying the infamous 19th-century forgery that claims Jews want to rule the world, according to the Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles.

The Russian paper, which has a heavily Jewish audience, received many complaints from readers.

## Pressure builds on Ford Foundation to stop supporting anti-Israel groups

By Joe Berkofsky

NEW YORK (JTA) — From the halls of Congress to the State Department, pressure is building on the Ford Foundation to stop supporting groups that engage in anti-Israel agitation and anti-Semitic activities.

The pressure comes in the wake of a recent JTA investigative series, "Funding Hate," which revealed that one of the country's most prestigious foundations has spent millions of dollars on Palestinian and other non-governmental organizations, or NGOs, that agitate against Israel.

On Monday, U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.), met with the Ford Foundation's president, Susan Berresford, to deliver a letter that he and 19 other lawmakers signed urging Ford to stop funding anti-Israel extremists.

Also on Monday, the State Department said it is talking to the Justice Department, whose job it is to determine if any laws have been broken. The congressional letter said, "We are extremely concerned with the Ford Foundation's funding of organizations that have openly and purposefully instigated anti-Semitism, called for the destruction of the State of Israel, and/or engaged in the promotion of violence."

The letter also said it was "equally disturbing" that some of the grantees have refused to sign a U.S. government document, the Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing, that requires U.S.-funded organizations to pledge they do not support any group that advocates or engages in terrorist activities.

Nadler said after Monday's meeting that in addition to the letter's call for increased "transparency and de-funding grantees engaging in objectionable behavior," he also gave Berresford recommendations for Ford to prevent future support of anti-Israel groups.

Those steps, he said in a statement, might include training human-rights NGOs to "stop the burgeoning problem of unchecked anti-Semitism and delegitimization of the State of Israel in the human-rights arena."

Nadler's office would not comment further on the meeting.

The letter to Ford had cited the JTA series that found that Ford funded NGOs attending the 2001 U.N. World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa. The conference "was a virtual field day for anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activities," the letter said.

The letter also referred to other Ford-backed anti-Israel groups, such as the Jerusalem Media and Communication Centre, which publishes "The Palestine Report" and whose Web site linked to groups the State Department considers terrorist organizations, such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Ford has taken note of the charges.

In a letter to the Forward earlier this month responding to the JTA reports, Ford spokesman Bradford Smith said Ford was "shocked" and "dismayed" that "extremist rhetoric" had overshadowed the Durban conference. Ford also said it has held "frank" discussions with the Palestinian NGO Network, an umbrella group of some 90 Palestinian NGOs, about "inflammatory" images and messages, Smith said.

In July, the PANGO called the U.S. law limiting aid to groups forswearing terrorism "unacceptable" because, the PANGO said, "the root problem in the West Bank and Gaza remains the continued illegal Israeli military occupation of Palestinian lands, and not the work of Palestinian NGOs and their constituencies."

But this week, Nadler, in a statement, called his meeting with Ford's Berresford "useful." He said, "She committed to me that the Ford Foundation will not fund groups that espouse anti-Semitism, promote violence or deny the legitimacy of the State of Israel."

When pressed on what action Ford might take, another Ford spokesman, Joe Voeller, said the foundation would not elaborate on its initial statement.

Also this week, a State Department official said the agency is scrutinizing the reports of Ford Foundation support for anti-Israel groups that do not sign onto its Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing. □

(Edwin Black, an investigative reporter who wrote JTA's "Funding Hate" series, contributed to this report.)

## Editors of Brandeis paper resign over scandal involving the 'N' word

By Jill Suzanne Jacobs

WALTHAM, Mass. (JTA) — A racial slur that appeared in Brandeis University's student newspaper has led to the resignation of five of the paper's editors, including the editor in chief.

In a column in the Brandeis Justice, Dan Passner referred to Chicago Cubs manager Dusty Baker, who is black, by quoting another Brandeis student: "The only thing Baker has a Ph.D. in is something that starts with an N and rhymes with Tigger, the cheerful scamp who stole all of our hearts in the Winnie-the-Pooh series."

The student who allegedly was quoted denied making the statement.

The column and subsequent resignations have raised the issue of minority students at Brandeis, which was founded in 1948 by American Jews and is named after the first U.S. Supreme Court justice who was Jewish. About half of the students at the Boston-area school are Jewish, according to Dennis Nealon, Brandeis' director of media relations.

The offending issue of the Justice, which is independent of the school administration, first was printed online and then hit newsstands on Oct. 21, generating anger, shock, sadness and disbelief across the campus. The president's office and the student union issued condemnations.

The Justice's editorial staff held a forum to discuss race relations on campus. Representatives of the Brandeis Black Student Organization attended, but they walked out because they felt their demands were not being met.

The newspaper "betrayed us as Brandeis students," said Justine Moore, a senior majoring in economics and a representative of the black student group. "It really set us back and hurt us deeply. We knew we had to take a stand and get restitution, and the people responsible should pay."

Some minority students at Brandeis say they feel a double sense of alienation at the school because they are both non-white and non-Jewish.

In addition to challenges that many minority students might face on a predominantly white campus, minority students at Brandeis have to adjust to a Jewish atmosphere.

Classes are canceled on most Jewish holidays, and some minority students complained that one of the cafeterias closes early on Fridays, before the Jewish Sabbath.

But Emily Aranoff, a freshman majoring in Near Eastern and Jewish Studies, disagreed that there's a problem on campus.

"I do not think that minority students are at a double disadvantage," she said. "A lot of the Jewish population at Brandeis grew up feeling the tension of being a minority religion and are very conscious of how uncomfortable that can be, and are very conscious to foster a completely accepting environment."

Enrollment at the private, Jewish-sponsored nonsectarian university stands at approximately 4,000, including 1,000 graduate students.

Statistics on the student body's racial, ethnic and religious composition are not available, but Brandeis' media director said the campus is "culturally diverse," drawing students from across the United States and from more than 100 countries.

But students said racial tension needed to be addressed more fully on campus.

"There isn't enough open dialogue" about issues of intergroup relations, said Meredith Glansberg, the paper's newly appointed interim editor in chief. "Things get swept under the rug. When you look around campus you see people sitting with people who look like them, and I think that's an issue," she said.

Glansberg said the Justice hoped to set up forums, dialogues and speakers on issues of diversity and racism.

Senior Ari Goldstein said Brandeis missed an opportunity to address the larger issue of diversity and race relations on campus.

"Instead of quibbling about consequences, we lost an opportunity as a campus as a whole to address the issue of racism," he said.

Such issues have been on the administration's agenda for the past few years.

In 2001, the university's president, Jehuda Reinharz, appointed a committee "to study, report and take an active role in ensuring diversity and inclusion" at Brandeis.

One outgrowth of that new committee was the Brandeis Intercultural Center, which promotes diversity and intergroup relations. According to the school's Web site, one of the center's programs is a campus-wide show called "Culture X," which showcases "the many forms of diversity—racial, religious, gender—found in the Brandeis community."

A "diversity requirement" in which undergraduates would be required to take one class reflective of minority experiences, such as an African-American history class, is being considered.

On Oct. 27, the Justice announced its intention to print its next edition without a response from the black students group. In protest, about 50 students rallied outside the paper's office for six hours overnight.

"The Justice wrote the most offensive word in American history and were unwilling to comply with the people they hurt," Moore said.

Stephen Heyman, the outgoing editor in chief, said the black students failed to meet the newspaper's deadline, and that the students did not have the right to prevent the paper from being published.

While both sides described the protest as "peaceful," Heyman added that the experience was frightening for him and his staff.

"It was very intense. They were screaming and banging against the glass," Heyman said. "There was not a dry eye in the room."

In the early hours of the morning, Jean Eddy, Brandeis' senior vice president for students and enrollment, and Rick Sawyer, the dean of student life, were roused from their beds to come to the scene. The administrators brokered an agreement between representatives of the Justice and the black students.

Presses were halted, Heyman resigned and the paper was printed last Friday with the black students' response on the front page. The mood on campus that day was calm.

Posters displayed around campus read, "Diversity does not equal racism." The posters had been hung by the Brandeis Intercultural Center prior to the incident.

Students, including black students, expressed a desire to move on. "The editors didn't do their job," said Igor Barshteyn, a Brandeis senior majoring in psychology. "I don't think it's really reflective of racial tension on campus. But it shouldn't have been printed." □