

CEASE-FIRE SHOULD EASE U.S. - ISRAEL RELATIONS

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The announcement of a cease - fire on the Israeli - Lebanese border by special U.S. envoy Philip Habib on one hand has now spurred hope of an easing of relations between Jerusalem and Washington but on the other hand has brought criticism from the home front over the handling of the fighting and of the diplomatic efforts that led to the cease - fire.

Israeli optimism was encouraged by the tone and context of a message received by Premier Menachem Begin from Secretary of State Alexander Haig congratulating him on the cease - fire. "The President," Haig wrote, "has asked me to convey his deep personal gratification and congratulations on your efforts to help bring stability to the region and a de-facto cease - fire.

difficulty of the decisions your government has to make to take risks in the interests of promoting peace and stability in the region. The de-facto cease - fire is fragile and must be strengthened. We are confident that with your essential help we can move together to stabilize conditions further and bring a greater measure of security to the citizens of Israel and Lebanon that they have known for years." Haig sent a similar message to President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon and to Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

On the home front, however, the government is facing criticism on three separate counts in connection with the fighting and the cease-fire. One is that the policy of massive bombing -- especially the raid on the PLO offices in

residential Beirut-- was militarily ineffective and politically damaging to Israel. "The PLO scored points . . . Israel lost in the court of Western opinion," opposition Labor Party leader Shimon Peres said.

Other criticism suggested that the cease - fire could have come earlier and thus avoided casualties and damage of the last few days of fighting and that Israel in effect struck a deal -- albeit indirectly -- with the PLO and thereby gave the PLO a significant political victory.

However, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in a television interview sought to squelch each of these charges. The agreement he said was made with Habib whom Israel had empowered to negotiate with Lebanon's President. "The government obligated Philip Habib not to enter into any contact with the PLO," Shamir said. He added that the PLO itself declared that it had refrained from any contact with the U.S. envoy and had dealt with the United Nations.

Nevertheless, diplomatic sources in Israel said this was pleasing since it was clear that the PLO as the other com-

barant, was involved throughout in the diplomatic efforts to reach a cease-fire. Habib, they noted, spent much of his time in Saudi Arabia and both Israel and PLO sources agreed that the Saudis played a key role as middleman. Moreover, Habib's efforts were conducted in close coordination with parallel efforts by the U.N., both in New York and in the region. U.N. officers met here with PLO chief Yasir Arafat in Beirut and with Israel's Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zipori in Tel Aviv.

On the time element, Shamir denied that there had been any procrastination by the government. He said "We received this (Habib's) proposal several days ago. We had to deliberate, to consult... We made our suggestions to Habib. He went to Beirut and Riyadh. He returned and the moment he had a proposal we gave our answer." Shamir stressed on the Beirut bombing and its political aftermath that "We did not bomb Beirut. We bombed PLO headquarters in a certain neighborhood in Beirut." Shamir maintained the Israeli position that terrorists can no longer seek sanctuary amidst civilian populations and said that every war caused casualties.

Summing up the entire episode, Shamir asserted that it represented "a noteworthy achievement for Israel." He said the PLO had been prevented for more than a year from infiltrating its men into Israel and had been forced to shell and launch rockets from deep inside Lebanon as the sole means of attacking Israel. He said, "If the (cease - fire) agreement ends this too, then it is a very noteworthy achievement for the State of Israel."

HOLLANDER TO HEAD UJA NATIONAL "CHAVER" PROGRAM



Sanford Hollander

NEW YORK -- Sanford L. Hollander, of Newton, New Jersey, has been re-appointed a National Vice Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and will head UJA's "Chaver" leadership program. Herschel W. Blumberg, UJA National Chairman, announced today.

The "Chaver" -- "friend" -- program was established during the 1981 campaign to strengthen ties between UJA national and regional leadership and leaders of community campaigns. Under the program, lay leaders are assigned to specific communities to assist them in campaign planning, solicitation, leadership development, allocations of campaign funds and cash collection.

In making the announcement, Blumberg cited Hollander's many years

of distinguished service on the local, regional and national levels, and said, "I am delighted that Sandy has agreed to head this vital program. His richly deserved reputation as a dedicated leader and fundraiser with extreme sensitivity and advanced Jewish consciousness are just those qualities needed to strengthen personal links with communities around the country."

Hollander served as Chairman of UJA's \$1,000 - \$10,000 Committee during the 1981 campaign. Previously, he was Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Campaign Cabinet. He is a graduate of the UJA National Young Leadership Cabinet and was both President and Campaign Chairman of the United Jewish Federation of Morris-Sussex, New Jersey.

FRANCE SHOWS HER COLORS

PARIS (WNS) -- An increasingly harder line by the new

Socialist government of President Francois Mitterrand was exemplified by interviews conducted with Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson. "There is now an Israeli government which feels it can do whatever it wants.. It bombs Tamuz just after President Mitterrand comes to power.

On the same day the American decide to resume deliveries of F-16s, it makes an air strike on Beirut.

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