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Arab Terrorists Attack El Al Passengers; Pilot Disregards Own Safety To Save Others

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (JTA)--An Israeli airline captain leaped on a grenade-throwing Arab terrorist at Munich Airport today as two other Arabs opened fire on a busload of El Al passengers killing one and injuring seven passengers and two crew members. The action of Capt. Uri Cohen, chief pilot of El Al flight No. LY-435, was credited with saving many more lives. The dead passenger was identified as a Mr. Katzstein, 30, of Haifa. Four of the passengers were seriously injured by the gun-fire, among them Hannah Meron, a prominent Israeli stage and screen star. Another passenger on the bus was Assaf Dayan, actor son of Israel's Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. He was not injured.

Capt. Cohen was slightly wounded and hospitalized. The Arab terrorist had his hand blown off when the grenade exploded. The two other Arabs were wounded in a running gun-battle with Munich police and taken to a hospital. The eye-witness account was related here by Mordechai Ben Ari, president of El Al, Israel's national airline. Mr. Ben Ari said he received his information by telephone from El Al officials in Munich. Other reports from Munich said 11 persons were wounded in the attack. Mr. Ben Ari identified the other injured passengers as a Miss Harvey, secretary of the World Film Service, a Mr. Ben Zion, a Mr. Doherty, a Mr. Grabash and a Mr. Katzstein, 57, father of the dead man. He identified one of the two injured crewmen as Mr. Okrand, the flight engineer.

Capt. Uri Cohen Jumps On Arab Terrorist Who Is About To Toss Grenade

According to Mr. Ben Ari the attack occurred at about 5 p.m. Munich time in front of Gate Five at the Munich air terminal. He said the bus, with 15 passengers aboard, was heading for the El Al plane which had arrived from Tel Aviv about 45 minutes earlier and was about to take off for London. He said Capt. Cohen threw himself on top of the Arab as he raised his arm to toss a grenade into the bus. The two other Arab terrorists opened fire on the bus with submachine guns. Other reports from Munich said two bombs exploded inside the air terminal lounge where passengers were waiting to board other flights. Count Wolf Dieter Castelle, director of Munich Airport said the terrorists probably disembarked from a Syrian airliner bound from Damascus to London which landed at Munich earlier and departed shortly before the attack on the El Al passengers. He said there was no evidence to support rumors that the attack was in retaliation for the alleged sabotage of an Egyptian airliner that crash-landed at Munich earlier in the day.

Mr. Ben Ari said that arrangements were made for the other passengers on the El Al flight to continue to London aboard planes of other airlines. They were transferred because Capt. Cohen was unable to continue the flight. The El Al Boeing 707 jet returned to Tel Aviv. Mr. Ben Ari said the incident would not disrupt El Al service. He observed that "These criminal and barbaric acts which are absolutely meaningless will not hinder the loyalty of passengers to an airlines and a country."

Israel's Casualties From Egyptian Attacks Heaviest Since Six-Day War

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets attacked Egyptian positions in the southern section of the Suez Canal zone for an hour today and returned safely to their bases. No Egyptian air activity was reported but Israel's casualties mounted to six dead from yesterday's Egyptian air raid and Egyptian shelling in the canal zone. Pvt. David Cohen, 19, of Kiryat Shemona, was killed in artillery exchanges between Israeli and Egyptian forces in the central section of the waterway yesterday. Lucien Lalozs, 21, a civilian worker from Beersheba employed by the military, died of injuries he suffered in yesterday's air raid.

Israeli authorities conceded today that the dead and wounded suffered in the Suez Canal zone yesterday and the loss of a jet constituted the heaviest casualties sustained by Israel in a single day since the June, 1967 war. However, they said they would not jump to the conclusion that Egypt's relative success in the air and on the ground reflected better training and improved fighting qualities. Egypt lost one MIG-21 in yesterday's dogfight which reportedly involved 40 planes on both sides.

Israeli Authorities Seek Information About Pilot Whose Jet Was Shot Down

Israeli authorities asked the Red Cross today for information about Lt. Avinoam Klidess, a fighter pilot whose jet was shot down in an air battle with Egyptian jets over the west bank of the Suez Canal yesterday. His fellow pilots reported that he bailed out safely and was taken prisoner by Egyptian soldiers when he reached the ground. Two Arab saboteurs were killed yesterday in an encounter with an Israeli patrol north of Jericho. They were carrying two Soviet-made Kalachnikov rifles, home-made bazookas, mines and other sabotage equipment. There were no Israeli casualties.

An Israeli military spokesman said Egyptian air attacks have increased steadily in recent days despite President Gamal Abdel Nasser's admission that his air force lacked sufficient pilots. He said there were 143 air strikes by Egyptian planes during the first nine days of February. He said Egyptian shelling across the canal has also increased in recent days but is no where near the intensity it reached at the end of 1968 and in March, 1969 when the Egyptians fired thousands of shells a day at Israeli positions on the canal's east bank. The posting of Israeli snipers on its side of the canal has substantially reduced Israeli casualties from Egyptian sniper fire.

All Party Members Must Vote On Law Of Return Amendment Or Face Disciplinary Action

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10 (JTA)--By an 18-nine vote last night the Labor Party's parliamentary faction decided that all Party members must vote in favor of a controversial amendment to the Law of Return or face action for breach of Party discipline. The vote was taken after members of the Achdut Avodah wing and other factions making up the Labor Party asked for freedom to vote as they saw fit on the Government-sponsored amendment which would establish religious criteria as the sole determinant of who is entitled to Jewish nationality.

The Cabinet agreed today to grant Knesset members of the Independent Liberal Party the right of abstention on the measure but warned that if any of them voted against it coalition discipline would be invoked. According to Cabinet rules no ministers or members of a faction represented in the Government may oppose a Government-sponsored bill without prior permission. Debate on the measure began in the Knesset yesterday and continued today. Premier Golda Meir insisted that the bill must be adopted by a large majority. But observers of the parliamentary scene expect many Labor Party members to absent themselves from the Knesset when the issue comes up for a vote.

Seek To Push Measure Through Quickly To Avert Mounting Public Opposition

Opponents of the amendment view it as appeasement of the rabbinate and the Orthodox political parties. But Mrs. Meir and a majority of her coalition apparently consider it vital to preserve national unity. More than 2000 Israelis demonstrated against the bill in front of the Knesset yesterday. The Labor Party leadership is said to be determined to push the measure through the Knesset as quickly as possible to head off mounting public opposition. Under the Israeli system, members of the Knesset vote in accordance with the decisions of their party leaders. They have no specific constituencies.

Another issue that has sharply divided religious and secular elements in Israel--Sabbath television--comes up for another hearing before the Supreme Court on Sunday. The justices will consider two applications for orders Nisi, one aimed at continuing the Friday eve telecasts and the other aimed at banning them. The issue came to a head last fall when Premier Meir gave in to Orthodox pressure and tried to over-rule a decision by the independent Israel Broadcasting Authority to establish television broadcasts on a seven-day basis. Mrs. Meir was restrained by an 11th hour Supreme Court injunction obtained by a private citizen.

Anti-American Demonstrations In Tunis Force Rogers To Cancel Visit To University

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Anti-American demonstrations forced Secretary of State William P. Rogers to cancel a visit today to Tunis University. More than 100 students tried to march on the United States Embassy in Tunis to protest American Mideast policies. About 2000 others gathered in the center of the capital shouting "Nixon assassin" and "Palestine for the Arabs."

The demonstration was the first encountered by Mr. Rogers on his ten-nation African tour which began in Rabat, Morocco on Sunday. The U.S. Secretary of State met in Tunis today with Prime Minister Bahlul Ladgham and Foreign Minister Habib Bourguiba Jr., son of the President of Tunisia who is ailing. The world situation with emphasis on the Middle East, was on the agenda of their talks. Mr. Rogers will fly to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia tomorrow and will subsequently visit Kenya, Zambia, The Congo, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana and Liberia. In the Ethiopian capital he is expected to meet with President Tito of Yugoslavia who is also on an African tour.

Moroccans Exhibit Displeasure With American Mideast Policies

Mr. Rogers' brief visit to Morocco did not spark any demonstrations but his official welcome was decidedly cool. He was greeted by Foreign Minister Abdelhadi Boutaleb in the absence of King Hassan II who extended his visit to France by a day and met with Mr. Rogers only on Monday. The attitude of the Moroccans was viewed as a "subtle display of displeasure" with American Mideast policies. But Mr. Rogers and his Moroccan hosts apparently shared concern over the growing influence of Egypt in Libya, the easternmost of the phalanx of former North African colonies.

Foreign Minister Boutaleb reportedly spoke to Mr. Rogers about "an influx from outside" of military and political advisers into Libya. The reference was apparently to Egyptian advisers and technicians in Libya who, according to other sources, now number in the thousands. Morocco, along with Algeria and Tunisia are the most Western oriented of the Arab nations and are known to be alarmed at the pro-Egyptian, pro-Soviet leaning of the new Libyan military junta.

Five Arab States Threaten To Cut Off Oil To Western Nations Aiding Israel

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--An apparent threat to cut off Arab oil to Western nations aiding Israel was contained in the communique issued in Cairo yesterday by the five "front line" Arab states following their three-day council of war. The full text of the communique stated that "The Arab nation refuses to see its resources and wealth being exploited and converted into assistance of Israel and weapons for Israel." The communique, which denounced the United States in even harsher terms than Israel, went on to say that "the continuation of such exploitation should be considered an act of imperialism that must be liquidated by the Arab countries." El Fatah, the Palestinian guerrilla organization, was reported from Beirut today to have warned the Western powers against pressing for a restoration of the cease-fire between Israel and the Arab states. "Voice of Asifa," the El Fatah radio station in Cairo, said that the cease-fire meant "acceptance of the continued occupation by Israel of Arab territory" and "contributes to the conspiracy aimed at checking commando activity."

Hadassah Convention Adopts Resolutions Praising Nixon And Criticizing Pompidou

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (JTA)--A Resolution praising President Nixon's assurance that the United States "is prepared to supply military equipment necessary to support the efforts of friendly governments like Israel to defend the safety of their people," was adopted today by two hundred Jewish women leaders from all parts of the United States attending the four-day Mid-Winter Conference of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, at Hadassah House. The Resolution called upon the United States Government to "provide Israel with the military and economic means to deter the Arab states, heavily armed by the U.S.S.R. and France, from initiating another war," and "to exert its influence to bring the Arab states and Israel together in direct negotiations." It endorsed the resolution adopted by the Emergency Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations held in Washington on January 25, which called for the withdrawal of Secretary of State Rogers' proposals for the Middle East so that "the Arab-Israeli negotiations which President Nixon has called for will be undertaken without pre-conditions."

Another major Resolution protested the action of the French Government "in arming Israel's enemies bent on its destruction while denying to Israel the fifty Mirage jets already bought and paid for." It expressed the hope that President Pompidou, during his visit to the United States, "will be persuaded to alter a policy that cynically disregards the French commitment to the principles of liberty, equality and brotherhood." A Resolution on Jews in Arab countries called upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to "use every possible measure to protect the human rights and dignity of Jews who still remain in Iraq, Egypt and Syria and to assure that those who choose to emigrate will be enabled to do so." A Resolution on Soviet Jewry censured the U.S.S.R.'s "continuing policy of discrimination against its three million Jewish nationals," and stated that "persistent anti-Israel propaganda in the Soviet press, TV and radio with its overtones of anti-Semitism adds to the mounting tension of daily life for Jews in the U.S.S.R."

Ambassador Tekoah Refutes Syrian Charges That Israel Mistreats Arab Prisoners

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Feb. 10 (JTA)--Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, Israel's permanent representative to the UN, challenged yesterday the Syrian representative to the UN, Mr. George Tomeh, to produce evidence of his charge on Feb. 5 that Israel was mistreating Arab prisoners. In a letter to UN Secretary General U Thant, Mr. Tekoah stated that Mr. Tomeh's latest charge, like his one on Jan. 23, "does not produce a single shred of evidence" to confirm his contention. Mr. Tekoah stated that these charges were a smokescreen to draw attention away from "the farcical situation created by membership on the Security Council by a government which persists in its policy of violating Charter provisions, the cease-fire and the Security Council's resolution calling for an agreement on a just and lasting peace with Israel."

Jews And Persons Of Jewish Origin Blacklisted By Czechoslovak Communist Party

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The central committee of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party has blacklisted 50 prominent Czech liberals including a number of Jews and persons of Jewish origin. The Prague newspaper Rude Pravo published the blacklist yesterday. Among the names were Frantisek Kriegel, Kamil Winter, Ota Sik and Eduard Goldstucker. They are accused of responsibility for the reform program introduced by the Dubcek regime in 1968.

Two Soviet Bloc Countries Call For Mideast Settlement Based On UN 1967 Resolution

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Hungary and East Germany have called for a political settlement of the Middle East conflict consistent with the United Nations Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution. Support of such a settlement was contained in a joint communique issued after a visit to East Germany by Janos Kadar, leader of the Hungarian Communist Party. The communique condemned Israel's "aggressive acts against the Arab countries" and expressed solidarity with the people of the Arab states and "the lawful rights of the Arab people in Palestine."

Arab League Has Links With Neo-Nazi And Fascist Groups In South America And Europe

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Arab links with neo-Nazi and fascist groups in South America and Europe were described in a pamphlet published today by the Labor Friends of Israel. The pamphlet quoted the Arab League representative in Argentina, Hussein Triqi, as having stated at a press conference that the League maintained close relations with several neo-Nazi movements, including the blatantly anti-Semitic Taquara. The Arab League representative in Bonn, Dr. Hassan Fakoussa, reportedly said that he supported the neo-Nazis with large funds at his disposal.

Libyan Government Appoints Public Custodian To Administer Property Of Departed Jews

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The Libyan Government has appointed a public custodian to administer the funds and property left behind by Jews who departed from Libya since the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli war, it was reported here today. The custodian's powers were set for an indefinite period by an act passed in Tripoli on Sunday. Most of Libya's Jewish community now resides abroad, mainly in Italy.

Pres. Pompidou Views Scheduled U.S. Visit As Chance To Explain 'Mediterranean Policy'

PARIS, Feb. 10 (JTA)--President Georges Pompidou views his forthcoming visit to the United States as an opportunity to explain France's new "Mediterranean policy" of which the Franco-Libyan arms deal is an integral part, sources close to Elysee Palace said today. They quoted M. Pompidou as saying, "I am not expecting miracles. I am not going to sign an alliance or a pact with the U.S.A." The sources noted M. Pompidou plans to visit Soviet Russia later this year. They said his visits to the U.S. and USSR would demonstrate France's diplomatic "independence" which is "born of realism."

Democratic Policy Council Calls For Direct Talks Between Israel And Arab States

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The Democratic Policy Council, chief policy-making body of the Democratic Party, called Tuesday for American efforts "to bring about face-to-face negotiations" between Israel and the Arab states. In a policy declaration made public by former Vice President Hubert Humphrey, the Council also urged measures to limit the flow of arms to the Middle East. It insisted, however, that "pending such an arrangement, the United States must remain prepared to correct or prevent an arms imbalance which might either threaten Israel's existence or contribute to resumption of major hostilities."

"The objective of U.S. policy in the Middle East is lasting peace between the Arab nations and Israel - a peace that will assure the independence and security of Israel and all other nations in the area," the Council declared. "Today," it asserted, "we are further away from that goal than we were fourteen months ago. 'As a matter of primary importance, the United States should undertake efforts to bring about face-to-face negotiations between the parties in the Arab-Israel conflict, including efforts under the auspices of the United Nations. We should also press for restoration of complete compliance with the cease fire.'"

The Democratic statement criticized administration tactics, asserting that "it is regrettable that the silent statesmanship of the past has given way at times to public declarations by administration spokesmen." It warned that "in the meantime, the Middle East arms race continues at an accelerated rate. It noted the "increased shipment of arms to the Arabs from the Soviet Union and the recent French sale of advanced aircraft to Libya." The Council urged that the United States "should make every effort to reduce the flow of arms to the area and press for Mideast arms limitation arrangements." But pending the achievement of such arrangements, the Council affirmed, "the United States must remain prepared to correct or prevent an arms imbalance which might either threaten Israel's existence or contribute to a resumption of major hostilities."

Hassidim Who Placed Newspaper Ad Attacking Zionism Forbidden To Enter Synagogue

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Twenty young followers of the Satmar Rebbe have been forbidden to enter the Satmar synagogue, Congregation Yetev Lev, in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, as punishment for placing an advertisement in the New York Times two weeks ago calling Zionism "the greatest enemy" of the Jewish people, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. The names of the young Hassidim were posted in the synagogue on Sunday following an investigation ordered by the Satmar Rebbe. The 20 young Jews were found to have been responsible for preparing and placing the advertisement and with raising funds to pay for it. One of the 20 came to services Saturday and the reader refused to proceed with services until the youth left. When he refused to leave, he was carried out bodily, the JTA was informed. The suspension will stand until the youths formally repent of their action to officials of the synagogue.

Rep. Robert Taft Jr. Supports Direct Talks Between Israel And Arab Nations

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Rep. Robert Taft, Jr., who is seeking the Republican Senatorial nomination from Ohio, declared today at a press conference here that "on the Middle East, I am on record as supporting direct talks between Israel and the Arab nations as the only realistic approach to lasting peace there." Rep. Taft said he had been in communication with President Nixon, seeking clarification on American policy. He praised Mr. Nixon's recent statements on the Middle East.

Leaders Of National Council Of Jewish Women Invited By Mrs. Nixon To Tea At White House

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Leaders of the National Council of Jewish Women attending the Council's Washington Institute here next week will be received by Mrs. Nixon at a tea at the White House on Feb. 18, Mrs. Leonard Weiner of Detroit, National President of the Council announced today. Robert Finch, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, will be one of the speakers at the three-day institute.

Mayor Lindsay Appoints Marvin Schick As Assistant To Mayor On Intergroup Relations

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Mayor John V. Lindsay announced today the appointment of Marvin Schick as an Assistant to the Mayor specializing in intergroup relations. Mr. Lindsay said that Mr. Schick has just returned from a teaching assignment in Israel to accept the position. "While I can appreciate his desire to finish the year that he planned to be in Israel, I am pleased that he has come home to join the Administration," Mr. Lindsay said.

Mr. Schick, 35, is a past president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs. He has also served on the executive committee of the National Community Relations Advisory Commission, as Chairman of the Communal Relations Commission of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and as the representative at the United Nations of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Congressional Candidate Repudiated By Illinois GOP For Conducting Anti-Semitic Campaign

CHICAGO, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The Republican Party in Chicago has repudiated the candidacy of J. Emil Virdine and condemned his "blatant campaign against Jews." Mr. Virdine, running for Congress in the southwest side's Fifth District, is an independent candidate seeking Republican nomination for Congress. Edmund J. Kucharski, chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Cook County, said that Mr. Virdine's "blatant campaign against Jews is reminiscent of the worst type of Nazi propaganda." A neighborhood newspaper in the district, the Southwest News-Herald, condemned Virdine's campaign tactics in an editorial.