TERRORISTS WHO KILLED CIRCASSIAN MAN WERE TRAINED FOR MURDER IN LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA)—The two terrorists who murdered a Circassian man and wounded his wife in Rihaniya village Saturday night, were trained for their murder mission in Lebanon, Israeli authorities said today. The pair, residents of the administered territories, crossed the border into Lebanon illegally only three months ago for intensive instruction in the use of weapons and explosives, Israeli sources said.

Police, who reconstructed the crime based on the testimony of eyewitnesses said that the victim, 35-year-old Subhi Moussa was shot when he tried to grab the weapon of one of the terrorists. His wife was wounded in the same burst of fire which also hit the terrorist's companion. Mrs. Moussa is recovering in Safad Hospital. Israeli authorities said she would receive monthly payments to support herself and her children in addition to the compensation provided to victims of terrorist assaults.

The Moussa family was attacked in the mistaken belief that they were Jewish and that Rihaniya was a 'Swiss' Defense Minister Shimon Peres said last night that the terrorists did not know where they were. "Their orientation in topography was very limited," he said.

TEKOAH SAYS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ENCOURAGE TERROR ACTS

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Israel charged today that "the recent General Assembly resolutions which yielded to the demands of the PLO, have encouraged the campaign of terrorist attacks against innocent Israeli civilians." The charge was made in a letter from Israeli UN Ambassador Yosef Tekoah to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in which he referred to Saturday's terrorist attack on Rihaniya village in Upper Galilee in which a civilian was killed and his wife wounded.

The letter also cited the interception by an Israeli patrol of five terrorists trying to cross the border from Lebanon during the night of Nov. 28 on a murder mission. The terrorists were killed.

"The above-mentioned attacks illustrate again the fact that the government of Lebanon permits the existence on its territory of a murder regime which is carrying on its bloody atrocities against the civilian population of Israel. In these circumstances it was compelled to proceed with the appropriate measures it takes to protect its citizens," Tekoah wrote.

He noted that the terrorists who attacked Rihaniya were members of Yasir Arafat's El Fatah, "had been instructed in Beirut and in the PLO base at the Rashidiye refugee camp," and were under orders "to kill indiscriminately" and "to take hostages." Tekoah requested that his letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and Security Council.

SHARON: FURTHER PULLBACK IN SINAI WILL LIMIT ISRAEL'S OPTIONS TO DEAL WITH MASSING EGYPTIAN FORCES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Gen. Ariel Sharon, the retired Yom Kippur War hero who heads Likud, said today that any further pullback of Israeli forces in Sinai would limit Israel's military options so that its only response to the massing of Egyptian forces east of the Suez Canal would have to be a pre-emptive attack.

Addressing a luncheon of the Israel Academics Committee for the Middle East, Sharon maintained that Israel could not give up any territory on the West Bank without endangering its existence and that it could afford only very limited further pullbacks on the Golan Heights, and then only in return for a full-fledged peace agreement with Syria.

According to Sharon, Egypt now has the capability of moving 1500-2000 tanks across the Suez Canal in one night. If Cairo did this under the strategic conditions that prevail today, Israel would have the option of mobilizing its forces and waiting for the next Egyptian move, he said.

Basis For Possible Pullback

However, if Israel withdraws its forces any deeper into Sinai, that option would be denied and Israel would have to strike first at any sign of Egyptian massing east of the canal, Sharon added. He explained that the present alignment of forces is along a 100-mile front. If Israel withdraws beyond the Mitte and Gidi passes, given the configuration of the Sinai peninsula, the front would broaden to 200 miles, thinnnning out Israel's forces and creating serious logistics problems.

The Likud leader emphasized that he was not opposed in principle to further Israeli pullbacks in Sinai within the framework of a peace treaty with Egypt. He said his own view of a final settlement with Egypt envisioned the return of most of Sinai to Egyptian administration provided that the peninsula was demilitarized and that Israel retained control of Sharm el-Sheikh and the Abu Rodeis oil fields. With regard to the oil fields, he suggested that Israel would pay royalties to Egypt.

Sharon was pessimistic over the chances of a peace settlement with Syria. On the West Bank, he said, the issue was not who Israel negotiated with—whether the PLO or any other faction—but the subject of negotiations. In his view, control of the West Bank is not open to negotiations with anyone but the political future of its inhabitants could be a subject of discussion.

AJC ONGRESS, ADL CRITICIZE VATICAN FOR PRESENTING AWARD TO UNESCO

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, last night expressed "regret" that the Vatican had presented its Pope John XXIII international prize to UNESCO in Rome Saturday. Rabbi Hertzberg made his remarks to the 800 persons attending the AJCongress' annual Stephen Wise Award Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel at which Charles Bronfman, of Montreal, and Ezra Korman of New York were honored for their leadership in civic and Jewish affairs. (See separate story.)

"We are gratified that in presenting the award Pope Paul disassociated the Vatican from recent actions of UNESCO virtuallyousting Israel from membership," Rabbi Hertzberg declared. But, he added, "it is a matter of regret that the Vatican decided to go ahead with the award, despite worldwide protests, to a specialized agency of the UN that has gone out of its way to abandon its extraneous acts of political coercion and duress,"
Earlier, Rabbi Hertzberg had called upon the Vatican to withhold the award, noting that it would “be incompatible with the memory of Pope John XXIII” to present UNESCO with the award after its anti-Israel measures. In a separate action, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith had also cabled the Pope protesting the award in light of the “grievous injustice” done to Israel by UNESCO.

In his address last night, Rabbi Hertzberg hailed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for recommending last week the withholding of U.S. funds for UNESCO. He said the Committee vote “is the only credible reply to the dangerous trend in the United Nations of victimizing those nations that lie outside the currently prevailing power blocs and of distorting established UN procedures to satisfy the demands of Arab states.”

French Chief Rabbi issues Protest

In Paris, France’s Chief Rabbi, Jacob Kaplan, in a message to Pope Paul VI, protested the Vatican decision to grant the Pope John XXIII Peace Prize for Peace Concept. Rabbi Kaplan declared prior to the award presentation that such a ceremony was “shocking under the present circumstances” and urged the Vatican to postpone the awarding of the prize.

“The French Jewish community, which does not deny the beneficent actions of UNESCO, deplores that this prize is being given just at the moment when UNESCO has taken discriminatory decisions against Israel,” he said. The French rabbi declared that he was expressing not only his own sentiment but “all the emotion of the French Jewish community.”

Meanwhile, close to 2500 writers and French journalists have signed a manifesto condemning UNESCO for its recent votes against Israel. Also, more than 200 French psychoanalysts have refused to participate in conferences organized by UNESCO.

ORTHODOX RABBI URGES CREATION
OF A UNITED ORTHODOX COUNCIL

BOCA RATON, Fla., Dec. 2 (JTA)—The creation of a united Orthodox council embracing the major Orthodox groups in America, was urged at the 76th biennial convention of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America today. The 500 delegates attending the gathering also decided earlier to postpone until March a decision on whether to withdraw from the Synagogue Council of America. The group unanimously adopted a resolution calling on boards of Jewish education in the U.S. to make the study of the Holocaust a major part of their curriculum.

Rabbi Shmuel Goldin, who was re-elected president of the UOJC, called in his inaugural address for the creation of a “united Torah community on this continent” leading to the eventual merger of the UOJC with the National Council of Young Israel. “Let the great yeshivos and the great synagogues on this continent and let the Torah-minded organizations that flourish on these shores speak with one voice on the challenges which affect us all, and upon which we can all agree,” Jacobs said.

Debate On Remaining In Synagogue Council

After a stormy debate Friday, the delegates agreed to the appointment of a commission to report on March 1 on whether the UOJC will remain in the Synagogue Council. The Orthodox group suspended its participation in the Synagogue Council, an umbrella organization encompassing the lay and rabbinical arms of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Judaism in America, as a consequence of the bitter Who is a Jew controversy in Israel. The debate here revolved around the question of whether membership in the Council implied UOJC acknowledgment of the legitimacy of Reform and Conservative Judaism.

The Orthodox in the U.S. and Israel refuse to recognize the other two branches. But more moderate elements, whose views were expressed at the convention by Rabbi Norman Lamont, professor of Jewish philosophy at Yeshiva University and City University, New York, contended that the UOJC should remain in the Council because “it is no great tribute to our institutional maturity that at every sign of crisis or controversy we threaten to pick up our marbles and go home.”

More militant delegates, represented by Rabbi Yitzhok Kerner of Toronto, demanded that “we refuse to belong to an organization which by its very definition implied recognition of three unequal branches in Judaism.”

There was no controversy over the resolution to teach the younger generation about Nazi crimes against the Jews. A resolution noted: “There is a whole generation which has arisen in the last three decades since the holocaust and they must be made to know what happened, not only as a monument to the dead but, more so, as a dedication to the living.”

CANADIAN LEADER RAPS TERRORISM,
SAYS UN IS AN INDISPENSABLE FORUM

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Mitchell Sharp, president of the Priy Council of Canada and Canada’s former Minister of External Affairs, said last night that despite “signs of weakness” and “defects and shortcomings” of the United Nations “it must be admitted that some forum for the nation states is indispensable.”

Addressing some 800 persons attending the American Jewish Congress’ annual Stephen S. Wise Awards Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Sharp stated that Canada’s policy in the Middle East during his six years as Foreign Minister and under his successor, Alon L.issac, “is based on the view that only if there is respect for sovereignty of the states in the area is there any hope for peace in the Middle East.”

Sharp, who is also a leader in the Trudeau government, denounced terrorism and declared that “the killing of innocents to draw attention to the virtue of a cause inspired revulsion and loathing rather than sympathy, and had led inevitably to retaliation. What is heroic about the murder of children at school or of people in a pub?” The former was an apparent reference to the massacre by Arab terrorists at Maalot. The latter reference was taken to be aimed at the IRA.

Sharp noted that MacEachen, in a speech to the General Assembly Nov. 20, said Canada was opposed “to any attempt to challenge the right of Israel...to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats and acts of force.”

Canadian Government Criticized

His remarks last night came in the wake of criticism by the Canada-Israel Committee, an umbrella organization of the Canadian Jewish Congress, B’nai B’rith and the Canadian Zionists Federation, of Canada’s abstention during the vote in the General Assembly on the pro-Palestinian resolutions 10 days ago.

In a telegram to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, the group praised MacEachen’s statement but noted that “we are gravely disturbed and
indeed shocked by our government’s abstention on the vote on the substantive resolution on Palestine” which was “completely contradictory to Canada’s position stated on Nov. 20.” The substantive resolution was the one which recognized the rights of the Palestinians to return to their homes and property and right to self-determination.

The Stephen S. Wise Award was presented to Charles R. Bronfman of Montreal, president of the House of Segrarm Corp., and Edgar M. Bronfman of New York, president of Dillon Securities Corporation Seagram’s Ltd. for their leadership in civic and Jewish affairs. The dinner marked the centennial of the birth of Dr. Wise.

The Bronfmanes were praised by Sir Marcus, Steiff of London, chairman of Marks and Spencer Ltd. and a leader of British Jewry, and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, WJC president. Both of whom also said that the Bronfmanes were following in the tradition of their father, the late Samuel Bronfman. Dr. Goldmann said that the greatest problem for world Jewry today is to ensure that “our generation” will be able to continue a tradition of Jewishness among Jewish youth.

Sir Marcus praised the United States for supporting Israel no matter what Administration was in office. He said that in today’s world of “apprehension,” “it was no small matter for a nation to defend its own interests let alone that of another country. He declared that if Israel had lost the Yom Kippur War, the Middle East would have faced the Soviet rule, and if Western Europe would have had to pay the higher oil payments but also “neutralization” if not “communication” of Western Europe.

EBAN PROPOSES WORLDWIDE "CONGRESS OF SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL"

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) — Israel’s former Foreign Minister Abba Eban proposed today that the Israeli government and major Jewish organizations around the world organize a “Congress of Solidarity With Israel” during the early part of 1975, among other things, “could also develop increased American openness to strengthening Israel in face of the forces which threaten its security and honor.”

The Israeli statesman and member of the Knesset who is completing a term as professor of international affairs at Columbia University, made his proposals at a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. He observed that “since the signing of the Syrian-Israeli disengagement agreement in June, 1974, the peace effort has lost momentum and no new development has been recorded.”

Eban said that Israel should “not hesitate to return to the Geneva conference” which held its brief opening session one year ago. Comparing the Geneva format to the United Nations, Eban said, “This is a more favorable arena for Israeli diplomacy than the wider parliamentary framework in which we are hopelessly outnumbered and in which decisions can be taken without our consent.”

Eban also suggested that “Israel should immediately have a roundtable discussion on the principles a nd conditions of a peace agreement with her neighbors.” The major issue, he said, “is not what Israel is going to do about withdrawal but what we are going to do about peace.” He said that “despite the tumult and vulgarity of Arafat’s appearance (before the UN General Assembly) it is still possible that the Palestinian Arabs will find a more rational and realistic way of expressing themselves. To insure this should be a primary aim of Israel’s national policy,” Eban declared.

Congress Should Include Diverse Individuals

The former Foreign Minister elaborated on his proposal for a Congress of Solidarity With Israel and spoke at length of what he described as the “somer sense of solitude and insecurity” that grips the Israeli nation and the entire Jewish community. Eban said that the Solidarity Congress should be comprised not only of Jewish representatives and personalities but also of parliamentary committees, friendship societies, intellectuals, scientists, trade unionists and last but not least, religious groups of all denominations and friends of Israel connected with the information media.

“An inaccurate view of Israel’s condition,” he warned, “has a negative effect on prospects for peace in the Middle East. It is therefore important to bring Israel’s place in world opinion to objective illustration. I do not believe in demonstrative occasions as a way of life, but in the deep psychological crises which has now come upon us, there is a need for a new and dramatic assertion of Israel’s resilience, of her national destiny and her universal vocation.” Eban concluded: “Our task as leaders is not to speculate fatalistically on the date of the next war, but to recapture the lost momentum towards dialogue and peace.”

KATZIR: ISRAEL HAS NUCLEAR POTENTIAL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2 (JTA) — President Ephraim Katzir today clarified a statement he made to visiting scientific writers yesterday about Israel’s nuclear potential. It has now been reasserted that Israel has general potential and technological and scientific know-how and experience to realize its nuclear potential should it so desire, Katzir said in an official announcement this evening. He reiterated previous Israeli statements that Israel would not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East.

Earlier today, the President’s office said that because Katzir was out of town it was unable to confirm a report that he had indicated to the scientific writers that Israel has a nuclear potential and would use it under certain circumstances. The President, a bio-physicist who was on the staff of the Weizmann Institute of Science before taking office, discussed nuclear potential at a reception he gave for the science writers, among them writers from Western Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

According to one source, he was asked under what circumstances Israel would apply its nuclear potential, to which the President replied with a smile, “Do you expect me to name the date and now?” When another writer asked whether Israel’s nuclear potential did not cause concern, Katzir allegedly replied, “Why should it be of concern to us? Let the world worry.”

SYRIANS IN UN BUFFER ZONE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) — Israel has taken a serious view of the presence of Syrian soldiers in the United Nations buffer zone separating Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights. Defense Minister Shimon Peres discussed the matter with the commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observers Force (UNDOF), Gen. Ennio Sillassvuo, at a meeting here last night. Syrian soldiers have penetrated the buffer zone, patrol the area and have even established positions to make their presence an accomplished fact. Peres advised Sillassvuo that Israel regards the Syrian activities as a gross violation of the disengagement accord and that Syria’s placement of heavy mortars in the limited forces zone is a violation of the pact.
PARIS, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Western Europe surprised world public opinion and opinion itself when its delegates either supported pro-Arab resolutions at the United Nations-General Assembly 10 days ago and the UNESCO conference in Paris or at the best, abstained. Only Holland, Denmark and Britain occasionally cast a negative vote on one of the Arab and Communist-backed resolutions, usually on paragraphs of minor importance.

Western Europe seems to be gradually loosening its traditional links with Israel. Originally, West European support for the Jewish State stemmed from a deep guilt feeling for the six million Jews who died in the Inferno of Nazi-occupied Europe, and the belief that Israel is the outpost of Western civilization and democracy on the shores of the Middle East.

Faced with growing economic pressures, oil shortages and the accumulated mass of Arab dollars, these links have weakened. Many Europeans feel, especially members of the younger generation that a thirty-year atonement for the crimes of their fathers is enough. Others, especially belonging to the technocratic class symbolized by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Hans Helmut Schmidt, which has assumed power in Western Europe, feel that conscience has to play second fiddle to stark realities.

Role Of EEC Nations

The continent, traditionally divided by nationalism and local interests, is now more than ever torn asunder by its own international complications. Three countries are backing practically to the hilt the Arab side: France, Italy and Ireland. Three others, West Germany, Holland and Britain feel, on the other hand, that Western Europe has not finished repaying its debt to Israel and the Jews. Noticeably, the three countries which back Israel are those in which public opinion shows interest in foreign affairs and expresses its sentiments.

The actual battle over the Middle East was fought between France and Germany. The leaders of both states, Helmut Schmidt and Giscard d'Estaing, have passed through a six-month period of strain which has eroded the sentiments of personal friendship which bound them together when both served as Foreign Ministers. Their stands on such basic issues as Europe's institutions or European-American ties are so far apart that nothing can bridge for the time being the gulf separating them. It was thus even more imperative for them to find a compromise over their differences on the Middle East.

Negotiations between Paris and Bonn went on throughout the latter part of October and early November. On Nov. 18, the Foreign Ministers of the nine Common Market countries met for one of their periodic meetings at the Hotel Majestic in Paris, where the German kommandatur once used to be. Within less than two hours, the nine reached a solution, kept secret at the time, but which became apparent during the UN votes: it would back two horses at the same time—the Palestinian demand for their national recognition, and Israeli right to exist within safe and recognized borders.

It was as a result of this decision that the nine did not back the Arab resolution at the General Assembly. The European states informed the resolution's sponsors that they would back it only if an additional paragraph was inserted recalling Israel's inherent rights. When the Arabs refused, the nine abstained.

Increasing Role In Mideast Affairs

At the UNESCO conference, the nine adopted a slightly different position as the vote was on paragraphs dealing with specific issues as not with general outline of political programs. The French, Italian and Irish voted for a number of resolutions dealing with Jerusalem and UNESCO education in the occupied territories, while Britain and Germany, together with Holland and Belgium, either voted against or abstained.

The role of Western Europe in the Middle East conflict is not yet finished with the United Nations vote. It seems obvious that Western Europe will continue to play an even increasing role in the affairs of the Middle East.

All nine countries, suffering from inflation, economic crises and mounting unemployment want to strengthen their links with the Arab world. All hope for a flow of Euro-Arab dollars into their economies and banks, and all are prepared to pay a political price. The difference between them, as in the story of what makes "an honest woman," is how high the price will be.

All have already informed the Pentagon that one price they are prepared to pay is barring their airports and air space to Israeli-bound supplies in case of renewed warfare in the Middle East. Another European country, not a member of the nine, Portugal, has also reportedly informed Washington that its air bases both on the continent and in the Azores Islands will be closed to Israeli-bound supplies in case of war.

It will be a long and arduous task, some say an uphill fight for Israel, to regain part of its former influence in Europe. To a considerable degree this will depend not on Israel's efforts alone but on the objective circumstances of the economic situation. Crisis time in Europe will automatically spell crisis time in Europe's relations with Israel.

ROCKEFELLER URGED TO PLACE HIS LATEST STATEMENT INTO THE RECORD

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA)—Vice-President designate Nelson A. Rockefeller was urged today by the Conference of Presidents of Major American-Jewish Organizations to place his latest statement supporting President Ford's Middle East policy into the record of the hearings on his nomination as Vice-President. But Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents, also urged Rockefeller to "clarify" his testimony on Nov. 21 before the House Judiciary Committee that "these people (the Palestinians) were on their land and they (the Israelis) took the land."

In a letter to the former New York governor, Rabbi Miller said he was "satisfied" that Rockefeller "fully endorses the Administration policy of supporting Israel's refusal to negotiate with the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization" and "respects the statement you issued on Saturday be included in the record of the hearings on your confirmation as Vice-President,"

Rabbi Miller wrote. "At the same time, I would hope that you clarify your statement on whose land Palestine was and is, lest there be any confusion about your stand." He continued: "Your position on this historical fact should be clarified before the House Committee."