

2 TERRORISTS KILLED, 3 CAPTURED IN GUN BATTLE NEAR JORDANIAN BORDER

TEL AVIV, Aug. 4 (JTA)--Israeli forces killed two terrorists and captured three today in a brief gun battle in an olive grove near Kibbutz Ashdod Yaacov about three miles from the Jordanian border south of the Sea of Galilee. One of the captured terrorists was wounded. A military spokesman said the infiltrators, probably from Jordan, were pursued by an Israeli unit that picked up their trail leading from the Jordan River.

They are believed to have been on a terrorist mission intended to coincide with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's current trip to the Middle East to find a basis for resuming Arab-Israeli peace talks. The Israeli forces captured Russian-made Kalachnikov automatic rifles, hand grenades, food and medical supplies. Today's incident was the first in many months involving terrorist infiltrators from Jordan.

NEO-NAZI 'AUSCHWITZ CONGRESS' BANNED; ISSUE OF INCREASING NEO-NAZI ACTIVITY TO BE RAISED IN W. GERMAN PARLIAMENT

By Jon Fedler

BONN, Aug. 4 (JTA)--The Nuremberg City Council has banned an "Auschwitz Congress" planned by the neo-Nazi "Kampfband Deutscher Soldaten" in that city this weekend. About 800 participants were planning to attend the gathering, whose main object, security police spokesmen say, was to attempt to portray the deaths of millions of prisoners in Auschwitz as a "legend."

The issue of increasing neo-Nazi activity is to be raised in parliament later this month. Deputy Klaus Immer, representing Bonn's major government party, the Social Democrats, has submitted questions to the government. Immer asks whether the government is "able and willing" to take legal steps against the publisher of a pamphlet distributed at a recent South German reunion of members of a former SS division.

According to Immer, the pamphlet contained "slanderous" accusations against inmates of Nazi concentration camps as well as "dangerous" attempts to portray the tyranny of the SS in the Third Reich as "harmless." Immer also asks how the government views the increasing frequency of SS reunions at which the Third Reich is glorified while "democracy, parliamentarism and constitutional rights are portrayed as morbid and weak."

Three members of the Hamburg Senate representing different political parties have requested official information on the extent of anti-Semitic activity in Hamburg this year. Noting that "desecration of graves, painting of slogans on walls, and disruption of meetings" are causing "concern" among the population, the Senators asked for details of the motives and ringleaders behind such activities, and what can be done to counteract them.

ECOSOC VOTES 34-1 TO ASSIST PALESTINIANS, COOPERATE WITH PLO

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Aug. 4 (JTA)--Acting on the recommendation of its policy and program coordinating committee, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted a resolution today

calling for assistance to the Palestinians and cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization. The resolution was adopted by a roll-call vote of 34-1 with 11 abstentions. The United States cast the sole negative vote. Abstaining were: Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, West Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

The ECOSOC called once more upon the UN development program and the specialized agencies and other organizations within the UN system "to continue and intensify, as a matter of urgency and in coordination with the Economic Commission for Western Asia, their efforts in identifying the social and economic needs of the Palestinian people."

The ECOSOC urges these agencies and organizations "to consult and cooperate closely with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, with a view to establishing and fully implementing concrete projects to ensure the improvement of the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian people." The resolution was sponsored by Yugoslavia on behalf of the Council members which are members of "The Group of 77."

SOME SKEPTICISM EXPRESSED OVER REAL INTENT OF SADAT'S PROPOSAL By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 4 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin's professed satisfaction with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's proposal for a Mideast foreign ministers' meeting under U.S. auspices to precede the Geneva conference is not shared by some circles in Israel. Those circles in fact take the pessimistic view that Sadat's proposal is little more than an Arab ploy to gain time to prepare for a military showdown with Israel.

Begin described Sadat's idea yesterday as "very constructive" and especially welcomed the Egyptian leader's reported remark that he had no objections to face-to-face talks between the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers. The Premier, speaking at a ceremonial occasion at Kfar Habad today, reiterated his sanguine view. He told his audience that next month Israel's Foreign Minister will meet in Washington or New York with three or four foreign ministers from the neighboring countries.

But circles here seized upon a report in the semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram today as an indication that the Egyptians are back-tracking on the idea of face-to-face talks. Al Ahram, quoting an official Egyptian source, said the aim of the preliminary meeting was to ensure the continuation of consultations between the Arab foreign ministers and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on one hand and the Israeli foreign minister and Vance on the other. This was interpreted as meaning that the Arabs will not talk to the Israelis but that each side will talk separately to the Americans.

Cite Discouraging Results, So Far

The circles who view the Sadat proposal as a trap for Israel cite what they consider the discouraging results, so far, of Vance's current visit to Middle East capitals. They say that in each capital

Vance encounters a common Arab stand which makes it impossible to regard any Arab leader as moderate. They point out that even Egypt, which is supposed to sincerely desire a peace settlement, has not deviated from its demands for Israeli withdrawal to its 1967 lines and the establishment of a Palestinian entity on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

This leads certain Israeli circles to conclude that the Arabs' seeming readiness for a political solution is camouflage intended to gain time for military preparations. They say that if the Vance talks end in a deadlock, the Mideast would again be thrown into an atmosphere of tension similar to the tension that precedes the renewal of the UN peace-keeping forces mandates every six months.

Should such a situation develop with respect to the broader issue of a peace conference, these circles believe that the Arab states, mainly Egypt and Syria, would take measures to implement their military option.

EBAN ENDORSES SADAT'S PROPOSAL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4 (JTA)--Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban today endorsed Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's proposal for an Arab-Israeli working group to discuss procedures for a Middle East settlement. He also supported Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's acceptance of the idea. "Israel is wise in being flexible and versatile," Eban said in a National Press Club appearance. "We should not be too rigid about the framework of negotiations" or where they take place.

Eban, who is in the United States on a two-week tour to explain the Begin government's views, was asked how he, a Labor Party leader, could now defend the present Israeli leader who had opposed Labor for three decades. "I'm not defending any government," he replied. "I'm defending the State of Israel's political position and national interest." The maintenance of basic U.S.-Israeli harmony, he added, "is of such a crucial national interest no one called upon to serve it has the right not to contribute."

Eban urged Americans to have "a certain degree of reticence where the final boundaries should be for Israel," pointing out that "in the final resort, where there has to be sacrifice it is Israel's life and blood. We claim, therefore, sovereignty over the minimal conditions for survival."

"Whose views should prevail?" he asked the overflow audience. "Those who would suffer most if it should go wrong."

Chides Media On Settlement Issue

Responding to questions on Israel's legalization of three settlements on the West Bank, Eban chided the media for "inflating" their significance. He said if he had to list the 100 most important things in the current Israeli situation, the settlements would not be among them. He said he felt President Carter, who said they were an obstacle to peace, does not think it will stop or even slow down the procedures for negotiations.

Eban met yesterday with Presidential advisors Zbigniew Brzezinski, Robert Lipshutz, and Stuart Eizenstat. He also spoke with some 20 Senators and many more House members, including the leaders of both parties and with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger last night. Eban is scheduled to address groups in other major American cities. Meanwhile, Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz left for Jerusalem today to prepare for Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's visit to Israel. Dinitz will be gone two weeks.

FEDERAL AGENTS STUDYING SIMILARITIES BETWEEN EXPLOSION IN SYNAGOGUE AND BOMBING OF AMITAY'S HOME

By Brian Lipsitz

NEW YORK, Aug. 4 (JTA)--Federal agents investigating last week's explosion which demolished a Chattanooga, Tenn. synagogue are studying similarities between that explosion and the previous bombing of the Maryland home of Morris Amitay, executive director of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, to determine if the two explosions are linked.

"We are not discounting the possibility, because of similarities, that there is a connection between the two bombings," Dick Garner, the resident agent in charge of the investigation by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Bureau of the Treasury Department, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a phone interview today.

Garner stated he "can't officially say" that the synagogue explosion was caused by a bomb until the laboratory tests being conducted in Washington confirm that suspicion. He affirmed, however, "We're following up a bunch of leads."

A key similarity between the two explosions is that 400 feet of electric cord was found leading from the Amitay house, and wires were found leading from the synagogue to a motel 100 yards away. "The wires were apparently used for the energy source for the detonations (of the bomb and, as yet, unconfirmed bomb)," Chattanooga Commissioner of Police Gene Roberts told the JTA in a phone interview today.

He added that the wire in the Maryland bombing led to a battery, while the wire in the synagogue explosion led to an outside electrical outlet at the motel. Both ways can be used to complete the electrical circuit used to detonate explosives, he said.

Pursuing Local Leads

In addition to the use of "similar ignition systems," Garner said another possible link between the two explosions is the fact that they were "both aimed towards Jewish targets within one week." Roberts said, "We must explore the probability that we are dealing with some strain of anti-Semitism."

While waiting for the lab results, Garner and his agents, the FBI, and local police are pursuing local leads. "We believe people at the motel observed someone," Garner said adding that there is "evidence of a vehicle" having been in the area for "several days."

Amitay, a leading Washington advocate for the Israeli point of view, and his family were uninjured in the blast that damaged their home while they were asleep. Congregants at the small Orthodox synagogue in Chattanooga had finished Friday evening Shabat services and had left the building less than an hour before the explosion, which virtually levelled it, occurred.

FEMINISTS PROTEST CAVALIER ATTITUDE TAKEN TOWARD THE CRIME OF RAPE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 4 (JTA)--A score of feminists protested here yesterday against what they charged was a cavalier attitude toward rape by the authorities and the society in general. The women marched with placards, distributed leaflets and staged a play on downtown King George St.

They demanded that social workers and psychologists be on duty at every police station to extend aid to rape victims and that only women police

officers interrogate them. The feminists said that the police do not seem to regard "rape as a serious crime" and charged that they often take the attitude that the complainant encouraged the suspect.

A Tel Aviv woman recently sent IL 1000 to the Premier's office to help create a governmental unit that would follow up rape cases and try to reduce that crime. The woman said she was prompted by newspaper reports of a girl who was raped by three men after she was kidnapped at the Petach Tikva bus terminal. "It occurred to me that my daughter cannot walk safely in the bus station anymore," she said. While the demonstrations were under way, two more rape cases were reported in Jerusalem.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

THE IMAGE OF THE NINTH KNESSET

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 4 (JTA)--The Ninth Knesset recessed for the summer yesterday after little more than two months in office during which it hardly had time to establish a legislative record. But its image is markedly different from previous Knessets. Not only are there scores of new faces, many of them political unknowns a few months ago, but most important the Ninth Knesset is more sharply divided along ideological lines than any of its predecessors.

The boundaries are clearly marked between the rightist, religious-oriented Likud coalition which holds a precariously narrow parliamentary majority, and the center-liberal-leftist opposition. While the latter has not coalesced into a unified opposition bloc, it nevertheless can spell trouble for Premier Menachem Begin's legislative programs.

The final decision by the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) last night by a vote of 61-8, not to join the Likud-led coalition deprived Begin of its 15 Knesset votes. Although the DMC said it would be a "strong but constructive opposition" the fact that it is no longer a potential Likud partner means that it will exercise fewer restraints in opposing government policies.

The opposition is now the strongest ever in an Israeli parliament. The Labor Alignment's 33 votes, the DMC's 15 and the potential support of such left-wing factions as the Rakah Communists (5 seats) and Sheli (2 seats), plus the Independent Liberal Party (ILP) (1 seat) add up to 56 opposition mandates. The Likud coalition musters 63 votes and can usually count on the single vote of independent MK Samuel Flatto-Sharon.

Weakness Of The Opposition

The weakness of the opposition lies, for the time being at least, in the disunity within the Labor Alignment which, after 29 years in power cannot seem to adjust to the opposition role. The same factors that contributed to Labor's defeat in the May 17 elections--bitter rivalry among the party's leaders and lack of political conformity between its different factions--are still evident.

Alignment leader Shimon Peres avoids discussing the party's election failure on grounds that such discussion would degenerate into recriminations rather than be constructive. Nevertheless, internal political struggles continue and Peres is keeping a sharp eye on his erstwhile rival, former Premier Yitzhak Rabin who has indicated that he might be a candidate for the Premiership at some future time.

The Labor opposition came to life briefly during last week's debate on Begin's visit to the U.S. Peres delivered a brilliant speech to the Knesset, matching the Likud leader's polemic for polemic.

But that was only a single performance. Intra-party strains were plainly evident after the Labor Central Committee voted to oppose the repatriation of the Christian Arab villagers of Ikrit and Biram. Labor MK Yossi Sarid, often a spokesman for the party's "doves," assailed Labor for failing to learn any lessons from its election defeat.

Likud Enjoying New Image

On the Likud side, Begin seems to enjoy the parliamentary game now that he is in power even more than he did during his many years in opposition. An ardent debater, Begin was described as at "the peak of his traditional parliamentary form" during Tuesday's debate over the proposed Independence Day military parade. But Begin, who supports the parade, was forced to concede every MK the right to vote his conscience on the issue.

The new environment that prevails is reflected more clearly in the Knesset restaurant than in the legislative chamber. Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, a newcomer to parliament, walks with a swagger and an air of "master of the house," casting confident smiles to right and left. Key figures of yesterday, Peres and former Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz, maintain a low profile, sitting at side tables conversing quietly with acquaintances.

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan hasn't changed his style. During his political isolation before the elections, he usually occupied the last table on the left in the rear of the restaurant and often dined alone. He still sits at the rear and probably would prefer to sit alone but in his new, powerful office he cannot manage that.

Among the new faces frequently seen in the restaurant are Charlie Biton, six months ago a Black Panther outcast, now a respectable member of the DMC Knesset faction. Biton, once unacceptable in "proper" social circles, is now one of the members of the Knesset House Committee which is in charge of running the Parliament.

LEO LICHTENBERG DEAD AT 62

NEW YORK, Aug. 4 (JTA)--A burial service was held today in Farmingdale, Long Island for Rabbi Leo Lichtenberg who died in Cincinnati on Monday at the age of 62. He was Hillel Foundation director and adjunct assistant professor of religion at Adelphi University in Garden City, L.I. for 20 years until his retirement in 1974. Since retirement, he had been serving as a cataloguer at the Klau Library of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati, Ohio.

From 1954 to 1968, Lichtenberg was director of Hillel and an instructor in Hebrew at Hofstra University, L.I., concurrently with his service at Adelphi. Earlier in his career, he directed Hillel activities at the University of Virginia and at Ohio University. He also held pulpits at various periods at Wichita Falls, Texas, and at Charlottesville, Va.

Lichtenberg was a U.S. Air Force chaplain in World War II and in the Korean War, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He was a former president of the National Association of Hillel Directors and a former national chaplain of the American Legion.

Born in Rostock, Germany, Lichtenberg received his secondary education in Berlin before coming to this country in 1935. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1938 and was ordained a rabbi by HUC-JIR in 1940.

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