

# JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by: Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. <sup>XLV</sup> ~~XIV~~ - 61st Year

Tuesday, August 22, 1978

No. 163

## ISRAELI PLANES HIT TERRORIST BASES IN LEBANON; REPRISAL FOR LONDON ATTACK

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21 (JTA)--Israeli air force planes in a pre-dawn attack this morning hit Arab terrorist bases near Beirut in retaliation for the attack on El Al personnel in London yesterday. The planes hit the terrorist base of Damour, south of Beirut, which has become headquarters for the terrorists in the Beirut area, and a training center located near the refugee camp of Bourj el Brajnel. The attack, which started at 4 a.m., lasted several minutes. All Israeli planes returned to their base safely.

The air raid was in line with the government's announced policy to hit terrorists any time they strike at Israel. Premier Menachem Begin said yesterday, shortly after learning of the atrocity in London, that the terrorist attack is "a barbaric act and there are no humane words with which to express the relationship to those who commit such murderous acts on men and women." The Premier kept in constant touch by telephone with Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Transport Minister Meir Amit.

Damour was formerly a Christian town which was captured by Moslems and Palestinians during the Lebanese civil war. It was turned into a central base for the terrorists. Bourj el Brajnel is a major depot for arms and ammunition as well as a training center for members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the group which claimed responsibility for the London attack. Because of the early hour, the raid came as a surprise. But terrorist-operated radios yesterday were advising women and children to leave the camp after the London attack was reported.

(In Washington, State Department spokesman Tom Reston today condemned both yesterday's attack in London and today's reprisal raid into Lebanon. He said "we deplore this cycle of violence." Referring to the attack in London, Reston said, "This is a deplorable and savage act of terrorism that brought death and injury to innocent persons. We condemn the act and its perpetrators."

## ISRAEL TO HOLD TALKS WITH BRITAIN ABOUT VULNERABILITY OF EL AL CREWS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 21 (JTA)--Israel will hold urgent talks with Britain about the vulnerability of El Al personnel, following yesterday's terrorist attack in the center of London. Yoav Biran, Chargé d'Affaires at the Israeli Embassy, will go to the Foreign Office tomorrow and is expected to complain about the refusal to allow El Al guards to bring their weapons into Britain when they leave the airports. However, Britain is unlikely to change its policy.

Because of the ban, and the absence of British guards, there was no chance of armed resistance when terrorists opened up with hand grenades and submachine guns on the 21 El Al crew members as they arrived for an overnight stay at the Europa Hotel on Grosvenor Square.

They killed a 29-year-old flight attendant, Irit Gidron, from Kfar Galim, an agricultural settlement near Haifa.

A second flight attendant, Yehudit Arnon, 23, was injured critically with head and neck wounds. A third flight attendant, Michal Unger, 22, from Jerusalem, was injured less seriously. Six Britons who were admitted to the Middlesex Hospital are said to be out of danger.

Biran, who is in charge at the Israeli Embassy while Ambassador Avraham Kidron is on vacation in Israel, will also renew Israel's longstanding complaint about the presence of an office of the Palestine Liberation Organization in London which embraces groups like that which claimed responsibility for yesterday's outrage.

But Israel demands that the office be closed down are unlikely to be granted, with British officials stressing that the office has no diplomatic status and that it cannot be banned so long as it is not directly involved in criminal activities. Last night, 50 Herut supporters demonstrated outside the PLO office, demanding it be closed. The Foreign Office today expressed repugnance at the outrage but added that retaliation was not the answer to such acts.

## Lack Of Protection Cited

The attack is now said by police to have been the work of only two men. One is in custody and the other was killed by his own grenade. Earlier police said they were looking for two accomplices. Press and radio bulletins have prominently reported Israeli claims that Britain did not give the El Al team sufficient protection while at the same time refusing to allow armed Israeli guards on her soil. Today Mordechai Ben-Ari, El Al president, who is in London on business, said he was "convinced" that Britain would heed Israeli suggestions regarding tighter security.

Public anxiety over the wave of Arab killings have been voiced by Conservative MP Rhodes Boyson. He has called on the government to remove the immunity from diplomatic mailbags because of suspicions that Arab embassies have used them to smuggle arms and explosives into Britain. He also called for the introduction of capital punishment for acts of terrorism.

Today there was tightened security at possible Israeli and Arab targets throughout London. At Heathrow Airport, armed police were posted around the El Al passenger desks, crowded with vacationers. This morning, Biran, accompanied by Israeli Consul Matti Hacohen, visited the wounded at the Middlesex Hospital.

## Background Of Dead, Wounded

Yehudit Arnon, one of the two surviving El Al flight attendants, was tonight on a life-supporting system in the hospital after a five-hour operation to remove a bullet from her brain. Her parents arrived from Israel today to be at her bedside. Ms. Arnon, a second-year student at the Tel Aviv University School of Economics, has been with El Al only three months. The other wounded flight attendant, Michal Unger, came to Israel from Britain in 1962 and has worked for El Al just one month.

Irit Gidron, the flight attendant who was killed, was born in 1949 at Kibbutz Gezer. When she was 11 her parents moved to Kfar Galim. Ms. Gidron graduated from the Haifa Municipal Secondary School. She joined El Al in 1973 and only a short

time ago was promoted to senior flight attendant. Her parents, Aviva and Itzhak, migrated to Palestine from Czechoslovakia after World War II as illegal immigrants.

Meanwhile, in Tel Aviv, Transport Minister Meir Amit said he has cabled the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal asking it to condemn the attack on the El Al personnel and to adopt measures to prevent the recurrence of such attacks.

### Israel Says UN Shares Responsibility

(At the United Nations today, Israel charged that the UN shares responsibility for the attack in London. In a letter to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, Ambassador Shimon Peres, Chargé d'Affaires of the Israeli Mission to the UN, stated:

"The attack once again underlines the absurdity of the fact that the UN and its various organs lend themselves to the aims of Arab terror by cooperating with the PLO through the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which serves as a tool in the hands of the PLO, and through the special unit on Palestinian rights which is subordinate to that committee."

(Cahana also said "the terror organizations involved derive encouragement from the assistance rendered to them by the UN. Such assistance therefore carries with it grave responsibility." The letter noted that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which is part of the PLO, committed the atrocity in London.)

### BROWN SAYS U.S. ARMS SALE TO ISRAEL WILL BE DISCUSSED AT CAMP DAVID

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 (JTA)--Defense Secretary Harold Brown indicated yesterday that the results of the upcoming summit meeting at Camp David might have an effect on the Administration's decision to sell arms to Israel. Interviewed on ABC-TV's "Issues and Answers" program, Brown said: "The Israelis, in looking to their own future, are looking to security and arms acquisition as one way to do that. We have supported and will continue to support those ends but I think there is also another road, a road to security involving peace settlement, and I think the Israelis want to pursue that one as well."

He continued: "Naturally, there is a relation--the more they (the Israelis) are able to achieve security by peace, the less they will need to have increasing massive arms." Brown said that he and Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman will resume talks on the arms issue at Camp David. He added that the talks which began four months ago between him and Weizman have been continuing between officials of both countries' defense ministries.

### BAR MITZVAH IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA)--The son of a Jewish physician visiting the Soviet Union with his parents celebrated his Bar Mitzvah Saturday in the Central Synagogue in Moscow, marking the first public Bar Mitzvah in the USSR in 65 years. A New York rabbi participated and delivered the sermon. According to reports reaching the Al Tidom Association, Maimon Kuhr, son of Dr. and Mrs. Murray Kuhr of Suffern, New York, chanted the traditional Bar Mitzvah service in the Central Moscow Synagogue this past Saturday, Shabbat

Nachmu, the Sabbath of Consolation.

Dr. Kuhr, a prominent upstate New York pediatrician, was in the Soviet Union with a group of American physicians participating in a medical exchange and lecture program in several Soviet cities. Having relatives and friends in the USSR unable to participate in the boy's Bar Mitzvah in the United States, the Kuhrs decided to celebrate the event in the Soviet Union also.

The ceremony was embellished by the presence of Rabbi Yaacov Pollak, Rabbi of Congregation Shomrei Emunah of Borough Park, Brooklyn, who, while touring the USSR with his wife, had come to the synagogue for the Sabbath services. Rabbi Pollak charged the Bar Mitzvah boy in English and delivered a dynamic and moving sermon to the congregants in Yiddish.

Worshippers at the synagogue were brought to tears of joy when the Bar Mitzvah boy read beautifully from the Torah and chanted the Maftir, an event unparalleled in the Soviet Union since the Communist Revolution over six decades ago. They expressed astonishment to see that the yeshiva student son of an observant American physician visiting the USSR to lecture for Soviet medical personnel could perform the Bar Mitzvah so flawlessly and beautifully.

### NEW JEWISH PUBLICATION IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA)--A new publication has appeared in Moscow, "Jews in the Modern World," which is a compendium of current events relating to Jewish communities around the world. In the first edition, issued in June, 1978, and received by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, the editor, a Soviet Jew in Moscow, wrote: "We as Jews are a people of dispersion. Even now, after an almost 2000 years interruption, there has again revived a Jewish State, most of the Jews continue to live far away from their homeland."

The introduction continues, "A Jew, no matter where he is, whether in Argentina, or in India, in Sweden or in Australia--always feels himself a Jew, he wants to know how his brethren in other countries live, he rejoices at their successes and feels sorrow at their misfortunes."

The eight-page magazine includes articles on the Jewish pavilion at Auschwitz, as well as the new museum of the Jewish diaspora (Beth Hamfuzoth) in Tel Aviv. Comments on synagogues, cemeteries, museums, and theaters appear from Sweden, Bucharest, Holland and Prague. While various sources have listed the Soviet Jewish population upwards to three million, the publication lists the figure as two million. It is not yet known how often the publication will be coming out, though rumors in the USSR indicate that it could be as often as monthly.

### CANADA TO INTRODUCE COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-BOYCOTT REPORTING MECHANISM

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Aug. 21 (JTA)--The government of Canada has decided to introduce legislation which will establish a comprehensive reporting mechanism for all Canadian companies involved in trading with Arab countries. The decision to introduce legislation was greeted by the Canada-Israel Committee "as a most welcome development."

The committee, representing the Canadian Zionist Federation, Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith, considers that "the data provided by this legislation will enable both the government and the Canadian public to determine the scope of the

(Arab) boycott in Canada and whether further federal action is required."

The changes in the existing guidelines, the committee added, "should significantly strengthen the government's present policy. Taken together, the measures constitute an important improvement on the Canadian government's previous policy." The communique was signed by Norman May, national chairman of the Canada-Israel Committee.

Jack Horner, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, plans to introduce a bill in Parliament early this fall requiring companies to list whatever restrictions they have agreed to for foreign sales.

### STATE DEPARTMENT COUNTERS SOVIET CHARGE AGAINST U.S. DIPLOMAT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 (JTA)--The Soviet government's renewed allegation that a high State Department official was a Nazi accomplice in World War Two was countered today by the Department with a review of his record that includes a major award for frustrating an attempt by the Soviet KGB at recruiting him. Meanwhile, the office of Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D. Pa.), chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration that is intensively investigating the presence of alleged Nazis in the United States, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency it is looking into the matter.

Ten months ago--on Oct. 31, 1977--the State Department was asked for comment on a Soviet press report that Constantine Warvariv, an American career diplomat, had engaged in "pro-Nazi activities in the early 1940s." Quoting Warvariv as saying "there is not an iota of truth to the charges," the Department added that it had protested the allegation through the American Embassy in Moscow for "what was termed a blatant violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, unacceptable harassment of a U.S. diplomat and gross interference by the Soviet hosts with the proper activities of a U.S. delegate to a major international conference."

The reference was to Warvariv's membership in an official U.S. delegation to a UNESCO conference in Tbilisi in the Soviet Union Oct. 14-26, 1977. In a Soviet press review dated July 28 issued by the Soviet Mission to the United Nations, the Soviets revived the allegation. Under the headline, "A Nazi Accomplice in the State Department of the U.S.A.," the report stated that the Soviet Union "has handed over to the American government authorities investigation material exposing Konstantin Warvariv (sic), chief of the Department of International Relations of the U.S. State Department, as an accomplice of the Nazis during World War II."

The Soviet report then "documents" the wartime activities of Warvariv, including involvement in the murder of 17,000 Jews in Rynov between November 7 and 9, 1941. The report claims that Warvariv (or Varvariv, as the report spells his name) "was identified as a Nazi accomplice" when he attended the UNESCO conference in the Soviet Union.

### Was Honored For Heroism

At the State Department, the JTA was informed that last March 3 Warvariv had been given the Department's superior honor award "for heroism" for blocking a KGB attempt to recruit him

as an agent. Previously, he had received a meritorious award for departmental service.

Warvariv, who joined the Department in 1962 and is now director of its Office of UNESCO Affairs (not the Department of International Relations, as the Soviet press review reported), was said at the Department to have been born Nov. 4, 1924, in Volhynia in the region of what was then Eastern Poland and became part of the Soviet Union in 1939. He attended high school in Volhynia, the Department said, and in 1944 he was taken to Germany and placed in labor camps "as a slave-laborer" in the Schweinfurt area until liberation in 1945. In the period 1946-48 he studied law at Heidelberg. In 1948 he emigrated to the U.S. under the Displaced Persons Act. He studied political science at Columbia University in 1952-55. Warvariv speaks Polish and Russian.

### JERUSALEM'S JEWISH POPULATION DECLINES

By Barbie Zelizer-Meyouhas

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA)--Last year's growth rate of Jerusalem's Jewish population was the lowest since the Six-Day War, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported today in its 1977 survey of urban growth.

The 2.4 percent growth cited in the capital's Jewish population is only .1 percent under that of 1976 (2.5). However, it is way under the 3.7 percent target set by Premier Golda Meir's government. Municipal officials claim the slowed growth is due principally to decreased immigration and the shortage of reasonably priced housing for young people.

Growth in Jerusalem's Arab population slowed down as well during 1977 (from 4.4 percent in 1976 to 3.4 percent last year) apparently due to the economic boom in Amman, Jordan, which is drawing workers away from Jerusalem.

The proportion of Jewish residents in the capital has also fallen steadily since the Six-Day War. While in 1967, Jews constituted 74.2 percent of Jerusalem's populace, in 1977 they numbered only 72.4 percent. However, on the whole, Jerusalem was the only large city which registered growth last year. In the 10 years since the Six-Day War, it has increased by 41 percent.

### SURVEY SHOWS ISRAELI WOMEN HAVE SHORTER LIFE EXPECTANCY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA)--The Israeli woman outlives her male counterpart by only three years, as compared with a five-year gap between the life expectancies of American and European men and women, according to a recent survey by the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem.

The survey also indicates that Israeli women are more likely to suffer from heart conditions, which is the major cause of death in Israel, than are other Western women. More Israeli women of North African origin are afflicted with heart ailments than are women of Western backgrounds.

Prof. Sidney Kook of Hadassah explained that the tensions involved in the transitions from one country and culture to another, and from village to urban life, are responsible for the greater incidence of heart conditions among Israeli women of North African origin.

The Hadassah research also sheds light on the physical condition of the Israeli population as a whole, which has been adversely affected by the continual stress under which Israeli citizens live. Those Israelis who migrated from Western countries suffer less stress because their adjustment has not been as difficult as that of Eastern Jews.

## BACKGROUND REPORT SANDERS, PRESIDENT'S NEW SENIOR ADVISOR, IS LEADER IN POLITICS, JEWISH AFFAIRS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 (JTA)--One sign of Edward Sanders' importance to President Carter on Jewish concerns is that he is the only Presidential aide to have three offices--on the prestigious second floor of the White House, adjacent to the Secretary of State's suite at the State Department, and in the President's Executive Office Building where a small staff is being assembled for his logistical support.

More importantly, Carter has instructed him that as "a senior advisor" he is to work closely with other senior officials of his Administration in the making of Middle East policy and to meet with the President himself and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. In focusing on Middle East policy, the President informed Sanders he is to meet with members of Congress and those organizations interested in that area, but he is also to advise the President on other matters as well.

### Broad Background Of Experiences

Sanders brings to his new job peculiarly fitting experiences that are hard to match. In Democratic Party politics, he has long carried broad responsibility in California and in the nation. Within the Jewish community, he has been a leader in various major organizations.

When he was asked to help Jimmy Carter's presidential election effort in 1976, he resigned as president of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee to serve as deputy national campaign director in the Carter-Mondale campaign. In December, 1977, after being honorary chairman of Mayor Tom Bradley's re-election campaign in Los Angeles, Carter appointed him as a consultant with no salary.

Needing him full-time now, in view of the strained relations between the Administration and the Jewish community, the President called him to be a senior advisor. On Aug. 1 Sanders left Los Angeles, where he was in a lucrative law practice as a corporate specialist, and came to Washington at much personal sacrifice--a staggering financial loss and a wrenching of family living patterns. His aged parents and two children live in Los Angeles.

Technically on the State Department's payroll, his government salary is \$50,000 per annum--a fraction of his law practice earnings--well up in six figures--as a top partner in the L.A. law firm of Irell and Mannelli with its stable of 80 lawyers.

### Views Position As A Challenge

"It's really a challenge to me to make a contribution," in the Administration's policy-making process regarding Arab-Israeli problems, Sanders said in his first media interview since becoming a federal employee. "I know I have a major responsibility and I'm going to do my level best to live up to that responsibility."

As a consultant and a California lawyer at the same time, he explained, his Presidential service was unstructured and unscheduled. "I wasn't able to be a continuing part of the process," he said. "It was not possible to be effective on a once-in-a-while basis from 3,000 miles away. Now I'm in the middle of things." This means he

works closely with Harold Saunders, the Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East; William Quandt, the National Security Council's Middle East expert; and Hamilton Jordan, the President's prime advisor on domestic politics with oversight on foreign affairs.

Thus, Sanders is in the State Department mornings "to do a lot of reading" and consulting with its Middle East specialists and in the White House afternoons and evenings for services there. "I work until nine p.m. because of the three hour time difference with the West Coast," he noted.

### Three Areas Of Responsibility

Sanders sees his three areas of responsibility as service within the Administration's policy-making procedure "advocating positions I believe in and before the policies are concluded"; work with the Congress and "listening" to the Jewish community and discussing issues with its leaders. How does it feel to be an ex-president of AIPAC and advisor to the President under strong criticism from many pro-Israeli Americans over his policy that is seen as tilted towards Arab perceptions?

"I start out on the premise and belief that a strong, secure and viable Israel is in the best interests of the United States," Sanders replied. "Israel is our strongest friend in the Middle East. Israel's security and strength that help offset Soviet penetration in the Middle East are essential elements in our foreign policy. There is no difference in my basic and constant belief that an unshakeable and enduring friendship between our country and Israel is essential to our country. This has been my viewpoint ever since I have become familiar with the various aspects of our country's relationship with the Middle East."

"I respect and admire the President and his deep and abiding commitment to all of the things that are important to me as an American and as a Jew," he emphasized.

### Wife Played A Key Role

Now 56 years old and a lawyer for 27 years, Sanders attributes his vast personal commitment to Judaism and Jewry to his wife Rose. On the paternal side of his family, his ancestors emigrated to New York in 1832 from Alsace-Lorraine. "I was pretty well assimilated" when he was stationed with the U.S. Army near Tyler, Texas, during World War II.

Then he met Rose Eisen, daughter of a grocer in Tyler who had emigrated with his wife from Lithuania early in this century. At that time some 400 Jews lived within Tyler's 27,000 population. They had a Reform temple and an Orthodox synagogue. The Eisen family belonged to the latter. They married in 1946 after Sanders returned from the war in Europe where he had risen to the rank of infantry captain.

"Without her, whatever role I'm going to play, I wouldn't be playing," Sanders said of his wife. "The Orthodox shul was a very important part of Rose's life. It was she who introduced me to the riches and fullness of Jewish life. I was not Bar Mitzvah. She is the one who guided me. Together we've been married 32 years. It's been a joint venture in Jewishness." His communal services include: president, Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles; vice-president, HIAS; chairman, United Jewish Welfare Fund-Israel Emergency Fund campaign 1970-71; vice-president, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and chairman of its campaign services committee; member, United Jewish Appeal's executive committee and Joint Distribution Committee's Executive.