

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## COMBINED ISRAELI FORCES POUND PALESTINIAN TARGETS IN WEST BEIRUT; NINE SOLDIERS WOUNDED

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Israeli air, land and naval forces struck Palestinian targets in west Beirut today in one of the most violent battles in the area since the start of "Operation Peace for Galilee" on June 6. While the Air Force bombarded Palestine Liberation Organization headquarters inside west Beirut, ground forces went into operation around the Beirut airport area and naval forces fired at terrorist targets along Beirut's seashore.

Terrorists fired missiles into the Christian areas to the east and the north of the city, causing considerable damage and many casualties. An Israeli army spokesman said that nine soldiers had been wounded in the fighting during the day. This evening, a new cease-fire, the ninth since June 6, went into effect.

According to reports from inside west Beirut, broadcast by Radio Free Lebanon, Israeli tanks advanced to the airport terminal area, about two kilometers ahead of their previous position, bringing the entire airport runway under complete Israeli control. The runway had previously been within the Israeli army's artillery and the tank fire range.

Today's action by Israeli forces was in response to the break in the cease-fire last Friday by Palestinian forces which shelled Israeli and Lebanese Christian positions. Israeli forces did not immediately respond Friday but held their fire for a number of hours. But Israel then decided that a cease-fire could not be one-sided, and struck back. Political sources in Jerusalem said today that Israel had made clear from the outset that when it agreed to a cease-fire, it had to be mutual and total.

### No Decision To Enter The City

In spite of today's pounding of terrorist positions, the Cabinet termed the action in west Beirut "a local action" in response to the terrorists breaking the cease-fire. No decision was taken by the Cabinet at its meeting today to enter west Beirut. But Premier Menachem Begin reiterated that Israel would adhere to a renewed cease-fire only if it was total and mutual and asked Ambassador Moshe Arens in Washington to inform the U.S. government that Israel was willing to accept a cease-fire in Lebanon subject to that condition.

Political sources in Jerusalem said today that despite the renewed fighting, the diplomatic effort of special U.S. envoy Philip Habib was continuing. Last Thursday, following the conference of the Arab League in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, the PLO gave the impression that they were willing to evacuate west Beirut "in principle."

A six-point plan adopted at the Jiddah meeting called for the PLO to move its armed forces from Beirut; for removal of the Israeli siege of Beirut through a pullback of its forces; for the Lebanese government to guarantee the safety of all residents of Beirut, including the Palestinians; for a multinational peace force to participate in assuring the security of Beirut; and for the Arab states to help

Lebanon take the necessary actions to implement United Nations Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509. The PLO was understood to have acceded to intense pressure by the United States via Moslem intermediaries in Beirut and by the Saudis.

### Plan Seen As Foot-Dragging

However, political sources in Jerusalem noted that the six-point plan, as phrased by the Secretary General of the Arab League, left much room for the PLO to drag its feet. It did not specifically state when the PLO forces were to leave west Beirut and linked the evacuation to guarantees to be worked out between the PLO and the Lebanese government. PLO chief Yasir Arafat reportedly told the Lebanese Friday that his organization would need a month to evacuate west Beirut. It is doubtful whether Israel is willing to wait that long.

But Israel's maneuverability in this situation appears to be limited. Despite Israeli denials, it seems that the U.S. has specifically warned Israel against invading west Beirut.

Before leaving for the U.S., Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is to visit Washington tomorrow and Tuesday, said there was a basic agreement with the U.S. over the fundamental goals of the war in Lebanon, but there were differences regarding the intensity of the bombing, and the suspension of water and electricity supply to Beirut. Shamir said Israel had no interest in intensifying the war, and it was only responding to violations of the cease-fires by the terrorists.

### Cabinet Discusses Problem of Refugees

The Cabinet, at its meeting today, discussed, apparently for the first time, the problem of the tens of thousands of refugees in Lebanon, mostly Palestinian. Following the meeting, the Cabinet issued a statement, saying that "the government is of the view that measures should begin through the Lebanese government to provide accommodation for refugees in Lebanon, in preparation for the winter months."

The Cabinet decided to establish a ministerial committee, headed by Mordechai Ben-Porat, to elaborate principles, ways and means, for the solution of the refugee problem "through their re-settlement."

### SHARON: PLO TRYING TO GET 'DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY' BY MOVING ARMS NEAR EMBASSIES IN WEST BEIRUT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon charged today that the Palestine Liberation Organization was trying to gain "diplomatic immunity" in west Beirut by moving their tanks and artillery near embassies.

Appearing on ABC-TV's "This Week with David Brinkley" program, Sharon displayed a photograph which showed PLO tanks close to embassies, including one 30 meters from the U.S. Embassy. He showed an earlier photo which depicted tanks and artillery placed in the middle of residential areas.

Sharon said that Israel hoped the cease-fire that went into effect today holds as long as possible. He said that Israel always wanted to maintain the cease-fire but the PLO had broken it each time.

The Defense Minister said that Beirut International Airport, which had been a no-man's land, was taken over by the Israeli forces today because the PLO had been using this airport to fire on Israeli troops causing casualties. He denied that the takeover of the airport was the beginning of a "salami" tactic to seize all of west Beirut.

Sharon said that Israel hopes the efforts by President Reagan's special envoy Philip Habib to negotiate a removal of the PLO terrorists from west Beirut will succeed. But he said it "cannot be unlimited time" and Israel will not accept a "war of attrition."

In addition, Sharon said that "everyone who believes in peace" in the Middle East must make an effort to "be very firm and not let the terrorists get away, not let them gain time." He said the Lebanese situation has created the opportunity for a "new era" which he said would be a "triangle of peace -- Jerusalem, Cairo and Lebanon."

Sharon denied Israel had made a mistake by not going into west Beirut from the beginning since the PLO has gained political advantage during the past few weeks. He said that Israel from the start of the "Peace for Galilee" operation has tried to prevent civilian casualties by avoiding possible attacks on built-up areas.

The Defense Minister said he agreed with criticism by American Jews that the media has "unfairly reported" the Israeli operation in Lebanon. He said there has been no reporting of the occupation by Syria of two-thirds of Lebanon since 1976, an occupation that continues; nor was there, he said, reporting of the fighting between PLO and Christians over the last seven years which he said caused more than 100,000 deaths and 300,000 wounded.

#### BLUM SAYS ISRAEL FULLY SUPPORTS HUMANITARIAN CONCERN ABOUT LEBANON

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Ambassador Yehuda Blum of Israel declared here that Israel "fully supports any genuine humanitarian concern" about Lebanon but that it "rejects and will resist any attempt to abuse humanitarian concerns for the purpose of obtaining political objectives."

His comment came after the Security Council voted 14-0, with the United States abstaining, in support of a resolution demanding that Israel immediately lift its blockade of west Beirut to permit food and other supplies to reach that area.

Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the United States delegate, complained that the sudden introduction of the motion and the quick vote left her no time to consult with her government. The resolution was introduced unexpectedly by Spain during debate Thursday on a French-Egyptian proposal to strengthen the Palestine Liberation Organization and its goal of a Palestinian national state.

The Spanish-sponsored resolution demanded that Israel allow entry into west Beirut aid provided by the International Red Cross and the United Nations agencies.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick said the Spanish resolution was "lacking in balance," in that the PLO was imposing itself on Beirut but the Spanish resolution called only on Israel for action. She said "a one-sided appeal in a two-sided conflict

suggests purposes that are political as well as humanitarian."

The 15 Council members spent most of the day discussing the French-Egyptian proposal, which would seek to pull back Israeli and PLO forces from Beirut and to provide the framework for a permanent settlement of the Palestinian issue. It would also affirm the right of all Middle East nations to a secure life, language from Council Resolution 242 which is regarded as assuring Israel's right to exist.

#### Rejects Changing Resolution 242

Blum said Israel rejected any attempt to change Resolution 242 which "can only undermine the delicate framework on which Middle East peace is based." He reiterated that "any attempt or initiative aimed at enabling the continuation of the terrorist presence on Lebanese soil must therefore be resisted as being both short-sided and running counter to the true interests of international peace and security in Lebanon itself and in the Middle East as a whole."

Blum said "the terrorist PLO, this leading component of international terrorism, cannot, should not and will not be a partner to any negotiations, let alone to any international arrangements, concerning the Arab-Israel conflict or any of its aspects." The French-Egyptian draft proposes "association" of the PLO in such negotiations, he said.

The envoy said "it would have been easier to believe in the genuine humanitarian concern" about the conditions of Lebanese civilians "of many of the speakers here had they not ignored, studiously and with callous indifference, the agony of the Lebanese people over the years."

Blum said that the PLO had caused "the death of 100,000 Lebanese, the wounding of 250,000 of them and the displacement of more than one million Lebanese." He added that "when the representatives of the USSR, Poland, etc. became humanitarians, one must pause to think and ponder the real motives of these and similar humanitarians."

#### 7 INJURED IN BOMB BLAST IN MUNICH

BONN, Aug. 1 (JTA)--A bomb hidden in a suitcase exploded yesterday in a hallway leading to the departure section next to the El Al terminal at Riem Airport in Munich. Seven persons were injured by the blast and the hallway was demolished. Five of the injured were released today from the hospital. A German policeman and an El Al security guard are still hospitalized. Four of the injured are Israelis and the other three are Germans.

An El Al spokesman in Tel Aviv denied the bomb was aimed at the El Al plane, one of two planes waiting for take off to Israel. The other was a Lufthansa. The El Al spokesman said the suitcase holding the bomb had arrived from Dusseldorf and had been checked through to Tel Aviv on a flight by Lufthansa.

Nearly 400 persons were in the departure section, waiting to board the two flights to Israel, when the bomb went off. Both planes were searched for explosives after the blast but nothing was found.

LONDON (JTA)--Marks and Spencer, the retail chain headed by the Sieffs, Britain's leading Zionist family, has donated 20,000 Pounds Sterling to a Lebanese relief fund. Lord Marcus Sieff, chairman of Marks and Spencer, reportedly asked a senior Red Cross representative to assure him that the money would reach those in need.

## BEGIN'S VISIT TO ZAIRE POSTPONED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA)--The official visit of Premier Menachem Begin to Zaire was postponed because President Mobutu Sese Seko feared a political attempt on his life, and not for his given reason of poor health, Maariv's correspondent in Paris, Tamar Golan, reported today.

Begin was scheduled to leave tomorrow for a state visit to Zaire, the first state visit to an African country by an Israeli Premier since most African states broke diplomatic relations with Israel under Arab pressure after the Yom Kippur War. Zaire was the first African country to resume such ties and its Ambassador presented his credentials to President Yitzhak Navon last week.

At the end of last week, Begin received a cable from Mobutu, asking Begin to postpone his visit because of Mobutu's poor health. Mobutu reportedly was getting medical treatment in Switzerland. But Maariv, quoting "a senior African source" in Switzerland, reported that Mobutu was suffering "a diplomatic illness," reportedly fearing domestic foes would try to assassinate him, with Libyan help.

Golan quoted African sources and Mobutu associates as criticizing the time of Begin's visit, purportedly saying it could not have come at a worse time for Mobutu. Begin would have received a regular gun salute in Kinshasha, on the day of the annual conference of the Organization of African Unity in Tripoli in Libya.

The sources said the welcome to Begin would have been, on that date, an outright provocation to Mobutu's enemies, foreign and domestic.

Mobutu was reported to be in Geneva, "engaged in regular political activities and undergoing routine medical tests, as he does every year," Golan reported. Political sources in Israel said that unless Begin rescheduled his visit for later in the week, it would probably have to be postponed to a much later date.

## SHAMIR TO MEET WITH REAGAN, SHULTZ, WEINBERGER AND LEGISLATORS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)-- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will meet tomorrow with President Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Shamir, who was due to arrive here this afternoon, has also scheduled meetings Tuesday with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Shamir's visit here comes on the heels of Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali's meetings with Reagan and Shultz last Friday. During his one-hour meeting at the White House, Ali gave Reagan a letter from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak which reportedly urged U.S. efforts to find a permanent homeland for the Palestinians and urged the U.S. to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

After his White House meeting, Ali told reporters that there have been two "new positive" steps taken by the PLO and urged the U.S. and Israel to meet them with "considerable conciliation."

## Egypt Sees Positive Developments

Ali listed one of the positive developments as the "acceptance of the PLO of all United

Nations resolutions concerning the Middle East and the Palestinian question which was confirmed yesterday (Thursday) in a Security Council discussion by the PLO representative."

The Egyptians have welcomed the statement that PLO chief Yasir Arafat made to a Congressional delegation last Sunday in west Beirut as a new initiative by the PLO. However, the Reagan Administration maintains that until it receives a "clear and unequivocal" statement by the PLO accepting Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and Israel's right to exist, it will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO.

Ali said the other positive development was the PLO acceptance of the Arab statement in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, on Thursday in which the PLO agreed to leave west Beirut. Ali stressed that since the current situation in Lebanon started, Egypt has tried to prevent "more escalation and to stop the bloodshed."

But he stressed that the PLO departure from Beirut "must be an Arab endeavor not taken under military pressure from Israel." He added that "it should be linked with hope given to the Palestinians and hope for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian question."

The Egyptian official said his meeting with Reagan left him "more convinced of the United States commitment to play a leading role in the solution of Middle East problems in a way that will insure the stability and rights of all nations and peoples of the area, including the Palestinian people."

Ali criticized Israel for causing "great casualties and suffering" on civilians by its "continuous daily bombardment of Beirut." When he was asked if the Lebanese situation would endanger Egyptian-Israeli relations, he replied: "No, not at all."

## UN COUNCIL ACTS ON BEIRUT FIGHTING

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 1, (JTA)--The Security Council adopted unanimously a resolution this afternoon demanding an immediate cease-fire and the end of all military activities around Beirut and throughout Lebanon. The resolution also authorized the Secretary General to immediately deploy, at the request of the Lebanese government, UN observers to monitor the situation.

The resolution, introduced by Lebanon which had called for the Council meeting following Israel's bombardment earlier in the day of Palestinian positions, did not attach blame for the latest flareup in the fighting. It said only that it was "taking note of the latest massive violations of the cease-fire in and around Beirut."

Ambassador Yehuda Blum of Israel said after the vote that Israeli troops did not intend to move into west Beirut. He said the Palestinians could expect Israel to return their fire if they violated the new cease-fire. In Washington, the State Department said the fighting endangered the efforts of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib to negotiate the withdrawal of the PLO forces from Beirut.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)-- The Supreme Court issued Sunday a show cause order against Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan, requiring him to give the court reasons within 15 days why he barred soldiers serving in Lebanon from bringing back home Lebanese products for personal use. IDF sources said several soldiers have been tried and some jailed for violating the ban.

## JEWISH SPOKESMEN SPLIT ON ISSUE OF PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Jewish spokesmen split with each other in testifying on a proposal for a constitutional amendment to permit prayer in public schools, as did Christian leaders and Senators who appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee when it opened hearings on the proposal last Thursday.

Nathan Dershowitz, speaking for the American Jewish Congress and 10 other Jewish organizations, criticized the proposal. Rabbi Seymour Siegel, president of the conservative American Jewish Forum, supported it.

Dershowitz said proponents were creating a "delusion of voluntariness" about the proposed amendment. "To a child in a classroom, no part of the school routine is voluntary. It cannot be made so by the cruel device of telling them that they are allowed to brand themselves as pariahs by leaving the classroom, or by staying there and remaining conspicuously silent."

But Siegel asserted "there has been a long tradition of including some form of public prayer in the public school." Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) declared that the amendment "does not impose prayer on anyone. It does not force any child to participate or even listen to prayer."

Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, (D. Ohio) declared the proposal would "do violence to the time-honored recognition of the separation between church and state. It is very easy to wave the flag and it is also very easy to be moralistic and emphasize religiosity. You don't create morality by having prayer in schools."

The Rev. Dean Kelley of the National Council of Churches said the amendment, proposed again by President Reagan in May, was "unjust, unwise and unnecessary." He said it would make "the rights of members of religious minorities dependent on the self-restraint of religious majorities."

### Amendment Would Override Court Decision

The amendment would override a 1962 Supreme Court decision which banned prayer in public schools as a violation of the First Amendment's ban on "establishment of religion."

Robert Dugan, Jr. of the National Association of Evangelicals testified that, on different days, "you would have a Jewish child praying to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, you would have a Roman Catholic student praying in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, you would have an evangelical student praying to Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Representatives of the Southern Baptist Council and the Lutheran Council also testified against the proposed amendment.

### NATALIE NOVICK DEAD AT 53

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Natalie Novick, a leader of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, who died suddenly in her home here last Thursday. She was 53 years old.

Mrs. Novick, who was the wife of Ivan Novick, president of the Zionist Organization of America, was active in the city's Jewish community. She was chairperson of the Women's Division of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh from 1977 to 1979 and served on its Board. She also served on the Board of the Rodef Shalom Sisterhood, and the Pittsburgh Boards of

ORT, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Ladies Hospital Aid Society of Montefiore Hospital, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish Home and Hospital for the aged of Pittsburgh, and the board of the Women's Division of Brandeis University of Pittsburgh. She was active in the ZOA Pittsburgh District and Hadassah of Pittsburgh.

Born in Pittsburgh, Mrs. Novick received a bachelor of arts degree from Chatham University. She began her work for causes for Israel when a college student. She visited the Jewish State many times and met frequently with Israeli leaders.

### GHANDI SAYS ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS DUE TO THE JEWISH STATE BEING CREATED IN THE MIDDLE EAST By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India said that Israel's difficulties were due to the Jewish State being created in the Middle East to solve the problem that had existed in Europe. Answering questions after a speech last Friday to a National Press Club luncheon, Mrs. Gandhi said the only way for Israel to assure its existence is to negotiate peace with its Arab neighbors.

She said she had been "sympathetic" to the suffering of Jews during World War II. She said that before the war she had frequently spoken out against the treatment of Jews by Nazi Germany, and said that she had frequently been a lonely voice in this cause because others saw Hitler as a means of stopping the spread of Communism.

Mrs. Gandhi claimed that before the establishment of Israel, Jews, Christians and Arabs had lived peacefully together. She said by trying to solve the problem of the Jews in Europe, a new problem had been created in the Middle East. She noted that India, at the time the United Nations was discussing establishment of a Jewish State, had suggested a federal system. The Prime Minister made no mention that at the same time the sub-continent of India was divided into two countries because Hindus and Moslems did not want to live with each other.

She deplored the large number of lives lost in Lebanon by what she claimed was due to Israel's military actions. She said she had written to Presidents Reagan, Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union and Francois Mitterrand of France because she believed these leaders had the influence to do something about the situation.

### ARMY COLONEL DISMISSED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA)--An army colonel who asked to be relieved of his command of an armored brigade at the front on grounds of conscience has been dismissed from the army.

Col. Eli Geva, who at age 32 was regarded as one of the army's most promising commanders, had talked at length with Premier Menachem Begin, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan to explain his fears that any frontal attack on west Beirut would cause many casualties to his own troops and to civilians in the town.

According to his brother, Yehonatan, another young army commander, Eli had not asked to be allowed to resign from the army but to continue fighting, possibly as a regular soldier tank fighter to show that it was not fear of battle which made him take his step but ideological differences with the political prosecution of the war, the early stages of which he had fully agreed with.