

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## BOMB EXPLOSION IN PARIS DAMAGES BUILDING HOUSING FIRMS LINKED WITH ISRAEL AND JEWISH-OWNED BANK

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- A powerful bomb explosion early this morning damaged a building housing commercial firms linked with Israel and a Jewish-owned bank. A passerby, a woman walking her dog, was seriously injured.

Police believe the attack was carried out by the extreme leftwing Direct Action organization which assumed responsibility for four explosions and several machinegun attacks against Jewish or Israeli installations in France during recent days.

This morning's blast, 48 hours after six people were killed and 22 wounded in a terrorist attack in the heart of Paris' traditional Jewish quarter, further increased the atmosphere of shock and dismay. French officials said the government had taken all necessary measures to try and prevent further violence but warned that in a democratic country such as France, these measures might not always be sufficient.

### Police Find Anti-Israel Inscription

The bomb exploded shortly after 1 am outside an elegant office building only a few hundred yards from the city's main avenue, the Champs Elysee.

Police investigators said they found inscriptions on an adjacent building calling for "the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli fascists from Lebanon" and warning that "if the Palestinians are forced to leave Beirut, we shall kill the Zionists financiers and propagandists working for its (Israel's) cause." The inscriptions were signed "A.D.", the initials of the Direct Action (Action Directe) organization.

Eight of its members were yesterday detained for questioning but were later released after police found nothing linking them to Monday's attack.

France, and especially the Jewish community, still reels from Monday's terrorist attack and messages of sympathy and solidarity continue to arrive at local Jewish institutions and the Israel Embassy.

### Special Service Held For The Six Victims

A special religious service for the six victims — all of them non-Jews — was held tonight at Paris' main synagogue. Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, the archbishop of Paris Jean-Marie Lustiger and half a dozen government and opposition leaders are to attend the service which will be followed by a six-hour vigil in front of the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr.

Last evening, several hundred demonstrators massed in front of the Israel Embassy at the call of the French section of the Israeli Herut Party. The demonstrators, who waved Israeli flags, shouted slogans charging President Francois Mitterrand with responsibility in Monday's attack.

The demonstrators also accused the French media of having "poisoned the climate" and creating an anti-Semitic atmosphere "which enabled the terrorists to strike." The press and television are charged with having presented partial and strongly distorted reports from Lebanon, according to the demonstrators.

Young Jews last night also personally assaulted reporters and television crews covering the demonstration. The press photographers union decided not to submit any pictures for publication to protest being manhandled by the demonstrators.

### Bomb Blast Damages Iraqi Embassy

This evening, the Iraqi Embassy in Paris was seriously damaged by a powerful explosion which, according to initial reports, wounded two people and set afire several adjacent buildings. Police said a powerful bomb was hidden in a parked car outside the building in one of the city's luxurious residential areas. The bomb went off at 6 pm just as thousands started gathering inside and in front of the city's main synagogue for a special service in memory of Monday's victims.

### U.S. DEPLORES LATEST BOMBINGS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- The State Department today deplored the terrorist bombing this morning of a building in Paris which housed offices dealing with Israel and a Jewish-owned bank.

Noting that this was the sixth incident in recent days, Department spokesmen Alan Romberg said that "We deplore this series of barbaric acts against innocent individuals which have already cost many lives. We are confident that the French government is taking all possible actions to apprehend those responsible and to prevent any further or future incidents."

Asked about the bomb that went off in front of the Iraqi Embassy today in Paris, Romberg said he had not heard of this incident but the same statement would apply to that, too.

### BEGIN SAYS ALL PARTIES SEEM SATISFIED WITH HABIB'S PLAN FOR THE PLO'S WITHDRAWAL

By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin said today that all parties appeared satisfied with the PLO withdrawal plan presented by U.S. special envoy Philip Habib. In an interview in Yediot Achronot, Begin said that if all went according to plan, the PLO withdrawal from west Beirut should begin as early as next week. Begin and Habib met twice in an attempt to work out the last Israeli reservations about the envoy's plan.

The Cabinet yesterday approved in principle Habib's proposals for a PLO evacuation from west Beirut, but sought some amendments. The Cabinet demanded as a precondition to an agreement a full list of the countries willing to accept the terrorists and the number of terrorists each country would be willing to accept. That number should fully match the estimated total of 12,000 PLO forces and Syrian soldiers believed to be present in west Beirut by Israeli authorities.

Israel has also demanded that the terrorists free an Israeli pilot they captured about a week ago when his plane was shot down during one of the intense battles and permit the removal of Israeli soldiers killed. In addition, if the PLO evacuation is halted for any reason, the mandate of the multinational force should be terminated, at the request of Israel. But in any event, the mandate of the force -- to supervise the evacuation of the PLO fighters from west Beirut and to guarantee their safety in being

relocated -- should remain in effect for no more than 30 days. Israeli optimism about Habib's plan was enhanced overnight by the announcement that Syria had reversed its decision not to accept any PLO fighters. Other countries that have agreed to accept some of the terrorists are Tunisia, Jordan and Iraq. Egypt has said that its acceptance of PLO forces is conditional on solving the Palestinian problem.

#### Israelis Satisfied With Begin-Habib Talks

Israeli officials expressed satisfaction with today's meetings between Habib and Begin, saying that progress had been made on a number of points. Habib left this evening to return to Beirut and is scheduled to return to Jerusalem tomorrow. Replies to some of Israel's questions are expected when Habib returns here.

Two points on which agreement has still not been reached are said to be the exact timing of the entry of an international force, and Israel's objections to any United Nations observers in Beirut. Israel wants the international force, and not UN observers, to enter west Beirut only after most of the PLO terrorists have left. Habib wants some French troops there as the first contingent of terrorists depart, to ensure the safety of the others.

Israel says it is not worried about most of the PLO going to Syria, as Israel will hold the host country responsible for any future terrorist attacks by PLO members.

#### Begin Sees Peace For Many Years

Begin, in his interview today, said that once the problem of the PLO withdrawal is solved and the establishment of a stable government in Lebanon is assured, there was little chance of either Syria or Jordan launching a war against Israel and the Middle East should be able to enjoy peace for many years.

Begin also spoke emotionally about the Israeli casualties -- 320 soldiers killed and more than 1,500 wounded -- since the war in Lebanon began June 6. He said the thought of this gave him sleepless nights.

The Premier disclosed that he plans to retire from office in two years. "I agreed with my wife last year, that I should retire as Prime Minister in two years. Another minister will then be able to take over and lead the Likud to victory in the next elections," he said. He stated that he plans to write books after his retirement, on the "Holocaust generation" and his memoirs as Premier.

#### U.S. IS 'CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC' THAT ACCORD IS NEAR ON DEPARTURE OF THE PLO FORCES FROM LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration, declaring today that it was "cautiously optimistic" that an agreement was near on the departure of the PLO terrorists from Lebanon, appeared to expect approval of the plan from the Israeli government soon. Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy, left Jerusalem today after providing the Israeli government with the details of the departure plan and returned to Beirut.

"Negotiations are going well and we remain cautiously optimistic that an agreement on arrangement of the PLO departure from Beirut will soon be reached," State Department Deputy Spokesman Alan Romberg said. He said the plan

was "developing well" and that "the U.S. believes the PLO wants to leave."

Romberg refused to give details of the substance of the plan, including which countries have agreed to take in the Palestinian terrorists. But he said he had "no reason to question" the statements from various countries that have been reported in the press.

Syria, Iraq and Tunisia have announced their willingness to take in the terrorists. Jordan said it will take 1,000 PLO members who have Jordanian visas. Egypt has reportedly said it would take 3,000 terrorists if it would lead to a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue, and the Sudan has offered to take in 600 temporarily.

Meanwhile, while again stressing that the U.S. cannot judge which side has started the daily fighting in west Beirut, Romberg declared: "We believe it is essentially important given the significant progress that is being made in the negotiations that all sides exercise restraint. We continue to believe that further fighting can only obstruct the negotiating process and lead to unnecessary delaying the successful settlement of the problem."

#### 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, 9 WOUNDED, BY TERRORIST ACTIONS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- Two Israeli soldiers were killed yesterday in the west Beirut area when the vehicle in which they were riding went over a land mine planted by PLO terrorists, an army spokesman said today. The spokesman also said that nine soldiers were wounded in heavy firing by PLO forces in west Beirut, who used a variety of weapons to shoot at Israeli positions and the Christian areas of east Beirut.

Meanwhile, Israel's Air Force continued its pressure on the PLO in west Beirut, again bombing terrorist positions today, especially those in the Bourj al-Barajne refugee camp to the south of the capital. The camp is entirely empty of civilian residents and is now occupied by PLO forces. Artillery and tank fire was also exchanged with terrorists who fired at Israeli forces during the early morning hours.

#### B'NAI B'RITH CONDEMNS PLO-INSPIRED MEASURES PASSED BY UNESCO

NEW YORK, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- The B'nai B'rith International condemned resolutions passed last week in Mexico City at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) conference on cultural policies which attempt to "rewrite the history" of Israel and foster to totalitarian control over culture.

Philip Lax, chairman of the International Council of B'nai B'rith, who headed the organization's delegation to the conference, said at a press conference here yesterday that the resolutions "encourage states to sanction a single culture, denying all others any right to exist, much less thrive."

He noted that two of the resolutions adopted were inspired by the Palestine Liberation Organization. One of the resolutions, Lax said, equates Zionism with racism and the other calls on UNESCO to assist the PLO, "an organization committed to the destruction of a member of the United Nations (Israel), in inventing a cultural history of the Palestinian people."

That history, Lax added, would transfer part of the heritage of the Jewish people to the Palestinian Arabs, thus ignoring the Bible and a 4,000 year historical record which indicates that the Arabs came to the area in the seventh century.

"It is quite clear that a Palestinian consciousness has emerged in recent years," Lax said. "But the PLO seeks to give that consciousness an exclusive pedigree by ignoring Jewish roots."

"It attempts to give Palestinians the cultural achievements of practically every other people who have inhabited the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, including prehistoric, Amorite, Canaanite, Phoenician, Egyptian, Philistine, Hebrew, Aramean, Greek, Roman and Christian." The B'nai B'rith leader said that "nowhere does the PLO mention that the only national culture in Palestine over the last 4,000 years has been Jewish."

#### Cites Cynical Disrespect

The B'nai B'rith delegation warned at the beginning of the conference that the PLO might attempt to deny or falsify Jewish history. It cited a statement by PLO chief Yasir Arafat in 1980, at the last UNESCO general conference, in which he transformed St. Paul from a Jew from Tarsus into a Palestinian Arab.

"In cynical disrespect of the intellectual integrity of the delegation assembled, the PLO is now seeking to expand this fraud to cover all of recorded history," Lax said. "This cultural scavengery is particularly distressing because it will become a reference in the future."

In equating Zionism with colonialism and racial discrimination, Lax said, a UNESCO conference has "for the first time sanctioned the promulgation of a lie." The PLO-inspired resolutions and other resolutions which called on UNESCO to "propagate" culture and for states to control "cultural activities" were opposed by the United States and other democratic countries. They were approved, however, by the majority of Soviet, Arab and Third World countries.

#### WJC Lauds One Resolution

But the UNESCO conference did produce a resolution which the World Jewish Congress, which was also represented at the parley, viewed as beneficial to Soviet Jewry and Jews in Arab lands. The resolution, submitted by the U.S., calls for "freedom of religion." The measure had its basis in a draft formulated by the WJC delegate, Dr. Leon Kronitz, and supported by numerous other delegates, including several Moslem states, the WJC reported.

According to the text, the resolution declares that restrictions on the free exercise of religious activity are "against the interest of the individual, the member states, and the international community." Kronitz, who is the executive vice president of the Canadian Zionist Federation and chairman of the WJC Cultural Commission explained that the aim of his draft was to reinforce existing measures in support of minority cultural rights which would include those of Jews in the USSR and other countries.

In negotiating the text with various delegations, agreement was reached that the U.S. representative would submit the resolution and that its co-sponsors be of a broad-based character. Among those co-sponsoring the resolution were Nigeria, Sudan, Britain, Egypt and Australia.

#### JEWISH LEADERS TELL FRENCH OFFICIAL THAT FRANCE MUST INCREASE ITS PROTECTION OF JEWS IN FRANCE

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- A 15-member delegation of Jewish leaders, representing the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC), met here today with the Deputy Consul General of France, Paul Guyomard, to express "grief and outrage" over the anti-Semitic

terrorist attack in Paris Monday in which six persons were killed and 22 were wounded. The meeting was held at the French Consulate and lasted 45 minutes.

Rabbi Israel Miller, vice president of the JCRC, which is an umbrella organization of 33 Jewish organizations in the metropolitan area, told reporters after the meeting that the delegation stressed to the French official the feeling "of grief and outrage that we and our hundreds of thousands of our constituents feel at the barbaric assaults on Monday." The delegation, Miller said, called on the French government to "spare no effort" to apprehend those responsible.

Miller also said that the delegation pointed out during the meeting that the French government's policy toward the PLO and the anti-Israeli comments by French officials, including President Francois Mitterrand's comparison of the war in Lebanon with the World War II massacre of 642 people by the Nazis in the French town of Oradour-sur-Glane, created an atmosphere which could have encourage terrorist acts against Jews in France.

"It is time that French officials recognized that anti-Israeli and anti-Zionist attitudes can no longer be separated from anti-Semitism," Miller declared. He added that the delegation demanded that the French government should increase its protection of its Jewish citizens to avoid future atrocities against them.

#### Says French Official Was 'Sympathetic'

According to Miller the Deputy Consul General was "sympathetic" and promised to convey the delegation's protest to the French government. He also said he would transmit the delegation's view that the climate and atmosphere in France, which has been increasingly anti-Israeli since the start of the war in Lebanon, must be changed and that anti-Semitic incidents "must stop" in France.

Another participant at the meeting, Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the JCRC, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the French Deputy Consul said he cannot draw a "linkage between the PLO and the incident" of Monday.

Hoenlein said that the Jewish leadership in New York will continue to put the issue of anti-Semitic incidents in France on the agenda and will not let it slip away as was done after the attack on Rue Copernic synagogue in 1980 and the murder of the Israeli diplomat, Yacov Bar-Simanov, a few months ago.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM IN GREECE

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- Pro-government newspapers in Greece are engaged in an unparalleled anti-Semitic campaign, such as a charge that Jews are behind vast forest fires that have plagued Greece, according to the Athens correspondent of NRC Handelsblad, the leading Dutch daily.

Correspondent Franz van Hasselt also reported that Israel's military campaign in Lebanon has brought an intensification of the anti-Semitic reports. The charge of Jewish "complicity" in the forest fires appeared in "Avriani," a popular daily, in a page one article.

The correspondent reported that "Eleftherotypia," another daily, was conducting an anti-Semitic campaign even before the Lebanese action. Van Hasselt reported that the daily complained last year that the director of the Greek Electricity Co. was of Jewish origin. Currently the newspaper is demanding that Jules Dassin, the Jewish husband of movie star and Culture Minister Melina Mercouri, should publicly protest Israel's military thrust into Lebanon.

The newspaper also suggested that "the Zionists" may have been behind three railway disasters that occurred in Greece in a five-day period, van Hasselt reported.

# **RUMANIA'S CHIEF RABBI URGES THAT THE U.S. SHOULD EXTEND MFN STATUS FOR HIS COUNTRY** By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- Rabbi Mosés Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, believes that even if there were no Jews left in Rumania American Jews should support the annual extension of the Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status for the East European country.

The reason is that even before the U.S. first granted Rumania MFN in 1975 some 350,000 of Rumania's 400,000 Jews were allowed to emigrate to Israel, Rosen told a Capitol Hill reception Monday night for Senators and their staff members. Since then another 22,000 Jews have emigrated to Israel, he said.

The reception, sponsored by B'nai B'rith International, was held on the eve of yesterday's hearings for extending MFN to Rumania, Hungary and the People's Republic of China before the Senate Finance Subcommittee on International Trade.

Rosen said Monday night that while the Rumanian government opposes emigration, it has made an exception for Jews because of the suffering they underwent in the Holocaust. He claimed that those who apply for visas to emigrate to Israel receive them within 12-14 months.

## **Rabbi Cites Emigration Figures**

The chief rabbi, who was introduced by Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, as a "miracle worker," said there are about 32,000 Jews left in Rumania, 60 percent of whom are over 60 and too old to emigrate. Rosen noted that visas to emigrate to Israel were issued to 667 Jews in 1960, 394 in 1981, and 1204 during the first seven months of this year.

As for the numbers who actually left for Israel, Rosen listed them as 667 in 1980, 394 in 1981, and 1204 in 1982. He noted he gets a complete list of all those who apply for aliyah and those who leave.

Jacob Birnbaum, national director of the Center for Russian and East European Jewry, challenged Rosen, saying there were many individual cases in which people had been denied visas for years. He also objected to Rosen, a Rumanian government official, appearing on Capitol Hill to press for MFN the evening before a Senate hearing.

At the hearing yesterday, Birnbaum said if it were not for the fear of consequences to themselves or their families the number of Jews seeking to emigrate could total 4,000, the figure in 1973 and even 5000.

## **Cites 'Unique' Role of Rumania**

Jack Spitzer, president of B'nai B'rith International, who has dealt with the issue on behalf of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told the gathering Monday night that Rumania has played a "unique" role in the Soviet bloc and is the only Communist country to have relations with Israel. He said this uniqueness should be "encouraged and strengthened" by the billion dollars of trade between the U.S. and Rumania each year.

At yesterday's hearing it was announced that Spitzer would begin meetings today with Rumanian officials to ease the bureaucratic restrictions

that have delayed emigration from Rumania. It was also announced that the U.S. government would begin similar talks with Rumania in September.

Sen. Henry Jackson (D: Washington), author of the Jackson-Vanik amendment which links trade to emigration, said he supported extension of MFN to Rumania but has made it clear to Rumanian officials the need "to streamline the Rumanian emigration process so that applications are handled expeditiously and adjudicated promptly, and all harassment of applicants avoided."

John Scanlan, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, in supporting the MFN extension, said that while the Reagan Administration is not "primarily concerned" that Rumania allow a specific number of Jews to go to Israel each year, "We believe that individuals accepted for immigration by the government of Israel should be granted permission to emigrate from Rumania without undue delay or difficulties."

# **DESPITE RELEASE ON BAIL, WAR CRIMINAL SUSPECT FEARS REPRISALS AND WILL NOT LEAVE** By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Aug. 11 (JTA) -- More than six weeks after being granted bail, a suspected Nazi war criminal is still in jail, not because he can't afford the \$150,000 bail but because he is afraid to leave, according to his attorney.

Helmuth Albert Rauca, 73, was arrested June 17 in Toronto at the request of the West German government. He has been charged by West Germany as having participated in the murder of 10,000 Jews in the Kovno ghetto during World War II. Four days after Rauca was arrested, he was granted bail and an extradition hearing was set for September 20.

Rauca's defense attorney, William Parker, said his client could have left jail and gone to stay with friends until the extradition hearing but has decided not to, for fear of endangering them as well as himself.

Parker said he will try to obtain an adjournment of the extradition hearing because he hasn't been given enough time to prepare his defense against evidence from the West German Government, which he says he still hasn't received. The Canadian government now has all the evidence against Rauca and will soon forward it to Parker, a Justice Department spokesman said.

At a bail appeal hearing last week the Canadian Jewish Congress filed with the court translations from Yiddish books and periodicals published in Munich in 1948, three years after the war's end, which dealt with the liquidation of the Jews in Kovno in October 1941. All the reports made copious and frequent reference to Rauca and his role in the extermination.

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WASHINGTON (JTA) -- A spokesman for Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) said the senator has received a letter from Premier Menachem Begin of Israel apologizing for rebuking him for allegedly urging President Reagan to bring Israel to its knees because of the situation in Lebanon. Begin's letter, according to the spokesman, said that the Premier accepts Percy's avowal that he never made such a statement.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- U.S. Admiral (retired) Hyman Rickover, known as the father of the American Navy's nuclear submarine fleet, has arrived in Israel as the guest of the Herut Party which is headed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Rickover, who is 82, left active duty only earlier this year.