

JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036-2574

Vol. XLI - 66th Year

Monday, January 31, 1983

No. 21

ISRAELI SOLDIER KILLED, THREE WOUNDED IN AMBUSH NEAR BEIRUT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA)—An Israeli soldier was killed and three others were wounded today when their patrol car was ambushed near the Beirut city limits. A military spokesman said their car was hit by two rocket-propelled grenades. Soldiers in a second patrol car returned fire, but the attackers fled to west Beirut.

The army identified the dead soldier as David Barda. He was to have returned home today to attend the funeral of his grandfather who died yesterday. Barda's father suffered a heart attack when he was informed of his son's death. The father was rushed to the hospital.

The ambush occurred in the vicinity of the Galerie Semaan, near the abandoned railroad line which separates the area patrolled by Israeli forces from the zone patrolled by U.S. marines and by the Lebanese army further west. The incident was the 30th attack by Palestine Liberation Organization units on Israeli troops since the beginning of the year and the first inside the Beirut city limits.

The proliferation of these incidents which have caused Israeli casualties in recent weeks has led to reported confrontations between the Israeli army and the marines. The latter have barred Israeli troops from entering their zone in pursuit of PLO assailants.

Israeli officers have complained that the marines, part of the 4,000-man U.S.-French-Italian multinational force in Beirut, have been lax in allowing PLO terrorists to infiltrate their zone and escape after attacking Israeli vehicles on a highway east of the railroad tracks. The U.S. has vehemently denied those allegations.

Measures to Avoid More Confrontations

Maj. Gen. Amir Drori, commander of the northern region met last Friday with U.S. special envoy Morris Draper and the marine commanding officer to reaffirm the railroad line as the boundary between the Israelis and the marines and to take measures to avoid future confrontations. The Israeli and American officers agreed to set up telephone and radio connections between their forward posts for that purpose.

It was also agreed that the Americans would continue to man a post in an abandoned building on the Beirut University campus at Reihan which is in the area patrolled by Israeli troops.

Fighting in West Beirut

Meanwhile, the Christian quarters in east Beirut reportedly came under rocket and artillery attack from Moslem-occupied west Beirut today raising fears of a new escalation of violence in Lebanon.

The attack was apparently in retaliation for the car bomb explosion last Friday which destroyed a building in Syrian-occupied east Lebanon that served as regional headquarters for the PLO, the Syrians and Lebanese leftist militias. Reports reaching here today put the death toll at 45, with many others wounded.

The blast occurred in Shitourah village on the Beirut

Damascus highway where it passes through the Syrian controlled Bekka valley.

SHAMIR HINTS AT POSSIBLE SOFTENING OF ISRAELI DEMAND FOR WARNING STATIONS IN LEBANON

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)—Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has hinted at a possible softening of the Israeli demand for IDF-manned warning stations in Lebanon. In a weekend radio interview Shamir said such stations would be designed to prevent a reinfiltration of PLO terrorists into south Lebanon.

"They are one of the means of achieving this. If there are other means we shall study them. So far, no one has offered us any other means", he said. Shamir did not explain what he might be thinking of by "other means".

This was the second time the Foreign Minister had referred to a possible -- but unspecified -- alternative to the IDF-manned stations, which have become the key issue of dispute between Israel and Lebanon, and between Israel and the U.S. Shamir made a similar remark in an interview on Israeli-Arabic television earlier last week.

In his weekend radio interview Shamir said no one in the Cabinet wanted a confrontation with the U.S. There had been differences between Jerusalem and Washington virtually ever since Israel was established. But Israeli governments had succeeded in maintaining close ties despite such differences -- and this was the purpose of the present government, too.

The Foreign Minister was plainly seeking to lower the intensity of current tension between the two governments over the Lebanon negotiations.

Shamir's Tone Differs From Sharon's

His tenor and tone were markedly different from public and private statements by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon. In press interviews Friday, Sharon said Israel needed the warning stations even if this meant that Syria would have similar facilities in the east of Lebanon.

He also reiterated that the term, "early warning stations," which he himself had used, was really a misnomer. The intention was not to set up electronic stations, such as had been established in the Sinai desert, but Israeli bases, manned by Israeli soldiers, to provide advance warning of any PLO infiltration or buildup of a new infrastructure for attacks on Israel.

Sharon appealed in his press interviews to the Soviet Union to open talks with Israel. "Let us meet together and talk. We have a lot to talk about", Sharon said. This was seen by many as a move to counter current American pressure on Israel.

The Defense Minister, in his interview, accused the U.S. of seeking to impose its will on Israel as a way of impressing King Hussein and drawing him into peace negotiations over the West Bank. He added that were it not for U.S. lack of enthusiasm, there could already be an accord between Israel and Lebanon.

(In Washington, the State Department rejected any role for the Soviet Union in the efforts to

resolve the situation in Lebanon. "We do not think any purpose will be served by that on the basis of the Soviet record, or lack of a record, in achieving any constructive breakthrough in the Mideast," Department spokesman John Hughes said in response to Sharon's call to the USSR to open talks with Israel.)

Not All Cabinet Members Share Sharon's View

Sharon, last week, maintained that there is no confrontation between Israel and the U.S., only disagreements. He said Israel requires a broader intelligence gathering system than electronic surveillance alone can provide in order to make sure that terrorists do not again infiltrate south Lebanon. Only those who know the terrain can do so, he said.

Sharon's views -- and his insistence on the warning stations -- are clearly not shared by other Cabinet ministers. Chief among his critics is Deputy Premier David Levy (Likud-Herut). Shamir, with his veiled and diplomatic formulations, is apparently seeking to take a middle course between the two schools within the Cabinet.

The U.S. view, it is reliably understood, is that Israeli insistence on warning stations would mean that the Syrians will refuse to withdraw from Lebanon. The U.S. angrily denies that its diplomats have persuaded Lebanon to adopt a negative position in the talks with Israel.

The Lebanese take their stand because they, too, feel IDF-manned stations would mean a refusal by Syria to withdraw. Similarly, the U.S. and Lebanon assess that the Syrians would regard a role of Maj. Saad Haddad's militia in post-withdrawal policing of southern Lebanon as in effect an extended IDF presence in the area -- and hence the strong U.S. and Lebanese opposition to this Israeli proposal. Haddad's militia is supported by Israel.

Begin Seems to Be Supporting Sharon

Premier Menachem Begin, whose position is crucial in any Cabinet division, seemed to back Sharon's line in a public speech to an Israel Bond Organization group in Jerusalem last night.

Begin recalled the long years of bombardment and harassment across the northern border to explain Israel's "just cause" in the negotiations now proceeding. He urged "patience" and expressed confidence over the eventual success of the talks.

At the Cabinet meeting last Sunday, Begin appeared to back Sharon's position, telling the Ministers there would be "no change" in Israel's stand in the talks with the U.S. and with Lebanon.

There have been well-founded reports here this weekend of a feeling in Washington that Israel -- and especially Sharon -- was guilty of double-talk in regard to the warning stations, because what had been labelled "early warning stations" were not in fact electronic intelligence-gathering facilities, as the label implies, but garrison bases each manned by a sizable unit of troops.

Several Cabinet ministers have let it be known that they, too, were taken aback last Sunday to learn from Sharon that this was what he had in mind.

Begin Suggests Broad Perspective

Begin said after the weekly cabinet session today that Israel should talk of the security problem in south Lebanon "as a whole" rather than follow

America' lead in singling out the controversial issue of the warning stations as the key issue.

Begin made this remark at the end of a session at which, once again, differences surfaced over the need to press Israel's demand for IDF-manned stations. Sharon defended the demand, while Levy and Yitzhak Modai were among those who suggested a more moderate approach.

After the session, Begin's summing-up remarks were variously interpreted: The hardliners insisted that there had been no softening of Israel's demand for the stations while the moderates claimed Begin had been influenced by the divergence of opinion at Cabinet and was hinting at a possible softening.

By speaking of the "broad perspective" Begin was implying, the moderates contended, that Israel might be able to scale down its demands regarding the warning stations if it obtained other aspects of the withdrawal-and-security package.

BEGIN INVITES HUSSEIN TO JOIN THE MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin invited King Hussein of Jordan last night to join in the Middle East peace process. He insisted, however, that the invitation was being extended within the framework of the 1978 Camp David accords from which there must be no deviations, no contradictions and no additions that would change its meaning.

Begin addressed the closing session of the Prime Minister's 1983 Israel Bond Organization conference here. He said there is no nation in the world which years for peace more than the people of Israel. But, he added, the Jewish people have an inalienable right to live in Israel "in all its parts."

President Yitzhak Navon, addressing the conference delegates earlier at a meeting in the Presidential residence, observed that PLO chief Yasir Arafat tells the Western press and diplomats he is willing to live in peace with Israel but says just the opposite in his messages to the Arab people. Navon said that in reading the Arabic press he found that the PLO leaders adhere faithfully to their charter which calls for the elimination of Israel.

On the subject of Israel's peace treaty with Egypt, Navon said that while President Hosni Mubarak supports the peace process, the Egyptian press is conducting an anti-Semitic campaign which includes cartoons that could have come from Julius Streicher's Nazi press.

Work To Begin Shortly on Canal Project

A Bonds conference highlight was the dedication of a marker and the burial of a time capsule containing the names of the founding contributors to the Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal, a major hydro-electric project. The capsule was buried at the site where the digging is to begin.

Energy Minister Yitzhak Modai told the delegates that work will begin shortly on designs for the \$1.4 billion hydro-electric power plant and the canal which is expected to open a new phase in the agricultural development of the Negev. The Israel Bond Organization is providing seed money for the canal.

MUBARAK TELLS JEWISH LEADERS THAT EGYPT IS TRYING TO SAVE ITS PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA)—President Hosni Mubarak told a group of more than 30 American Jewish leaders that Egypt has slowed its normalization of relations with Israel and recalled its ambassador in order to save the peace treaty, not to harm it.

Mubarak's remarks were made Friday during more than a half-hour meeting at the residence of Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal with the group led by Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Bronfman and Berman told reporters that the Jewish leaders voiced concern over the slow-down in normalization and the recall of Egypt's Ambassador. They particularly deplored the anti-Semitic articles that have been appearing in the Egyptian press. Berman said it was stressed that it was important to continue the normalization process not only for government-to-government relations but to "solidify relations" between the Egyptian and Israeli people.

"We are all reassured in terms of President Mubarak's commitment to the peace process," Berman said. "We are also reassured that in the long-run there will be good solid relations between Egypt and Israel." But Berman said that even when the normalization process is resumed, the anti-Semitic articles in the Egyptian press may have created a harmful effect among the Egyptian people.

Need to Assuage Egyptian Public Opinion

Bronfman said that Mubarak maintained that the normalization had to be slowed down to "assuage" Egyptian public opinion after Israel's invasion of Lebanon and that the ambassador had to be recalled after the massacres in Beirut last September. Mubarak denied that he acted to appease opinion in other Arab countries, saying he was only acting to meet the problems of Egyptian public opinion.

Berman said Mubarak stressed that the "peace process might have been jeopardized" if he had not acted. The Egyptian President told the Jewish group that he feels "with that gesture he has turned the corner the other way", Berman said. "He now feels more solidly than ever that the peace process in terms of the public opinion within Egypt, is so ingrained as never to be able to be called off."

Both Bronfman and Berman reported that Mubarak agreed with the concerns of the Jewish leaders about the anti-Semitic articles in the Egyptian press. The Egyptian President said he called in representatives of the Egyptian press and asked them not to attack Jews as Jews or Israeli officials but only Israeli policies, Berman said.

The Jewish leaders rejected Mubarak's charge that the Israeli settlements on the West Bank are a "barrier to peace", Berman said. "The problem is that the Arab confrontation nations are not coming to the (negotiating) table without pre-conditions."

The Jewish leaders also criticized Mubarak's urging U.S. pressure on Israel to move its forces out of Lebanon. Mubarak replied that he had urged pressure on all sides. He said he knows "you cannot pressure Israel" but believes that "you can convince them with appropriate

arguments."

Bronfman said that Mubarak did not go into details about his meeting with President Reagan Thursday. But he did say he told Reagan he had been urging the PLO and the Palestinians to join Jordan in a delegation to the autonomy talks.

Cites Disaster For U.S. Policy

In an interview yesterday with David Brinkley in New York, and telecast today on the ABC-TV "This Week" program, Mubarak said that unless the U.S. can "persuade" Israel to leave Lebanon and the West Bank, it will be a "disaster" for American policy in the Mideast. "The U.S. has so many friends in the Middle East, not only Israel," he said.

Mubarak said that unless the U.S. is able to persuade Israel, its "friends will lose confidence in the U.S. This will lead to much more complicated problems in the future." He reiterated his position that all foreign forces must leave Lebanon to give President Amin Gemayel a "full hand in his country." He said that if the PLO, Israel and Syria remain in Lebanon, it would be a "disaster". He also repeated his call to Israel to freeze settlement activity on the West Bank.

NAVON: PROPER RESPONSE TO HOLOCAUST IS TO INCREASE JEWISH POPULATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)—President Yitzhak Navon declared today that the Jewish people must multiply if it is to respond correctly to the Holocaust. Another response is to strengthen Israel, he said at a memorial service at the Yad Vashem marking the 50th anniversary of Hitler's taking power in Germany.

In an emotional speech to an audience which included high school students and visitors from the United States, Navon said: "We must double, triple and quadruple our numbers and we must preserve and strengthen our state which represents all that Hitler tried to destroy." His remarks were directed mainly to the youngsters and visitors from abroad. Cabinet ministers, Knesset members and diplomats did not attend the gathering.

Navon stood before a stone slab on which the names of concentration camps are engraved. After lighting a memorial torch, he said: "Our people, who have been dispersed among many countries found itself united in the concentration camps. Hitler did not distinguish between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, between Jews of different origin. And along with the six million, most Sephardi Jews were exterminated."

Navon added, "Fate unites us. It united us during the Holocaust and we must unite here in our homeland." He said the multiplication of the Jewish people and the strengthening of Israel must be undertaken jointly by world Jews and Israelis.

The President cautioned, "We should be careful before we call people (today) Nazis or talk about a (new) Holocaust. These are terms that should be applied only to that specific event."

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A hand grenade was thrown at the building housing the West German Embassy here Sunday evening, the 50th anniversary of Hitler's rise to power in Germany. The grenade damaged a car parked at the rear of the building but caused no casualties, police said.

INCREASED PUBLIC ACTION URGED TO HELP FALASHAS EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--A Knesset member who recently toured Falasha communities in Ethiopia has called for increased public action on behalf of Falasha emigration from Ethiopia to Israel.

Dror Zeigerman (Likud-Liberals), reporting on his visit to the World Zionist Organization Executive here last week, called on the WZO and the Jewish Agency to put the Falasha issue at the forefront of their public endeavors because, as he said, "The more we talk about them (the Falashas) the greater their chances of being able to leave for Israel."

Meanwhile, the signs of a thaw in relations between Israel and Ethiopia continue. An Israeli travel firm announced this weekend that it would soon be organizing tours for Israelis to Ethiopia.

Over recent years there has been a total cut-off of ties between the two countries. Recently, however, there have been reports of a return of Israeli military advisers to Ethiopia, and, simultaneously, a group of Israeli social workers visited the Falashas in the Gondar area and reported their conditions were no worse than that of the surrounding non-Jewish populace.

A Far Cry From Previous Accounts

Zeigerman, who visited Ethiopia together with a number of World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS) activists, reported that the Falashas' economic plight was bad and that they did suffer from anti-Semitism. But his report, too, was a very far cry from the account of starvation and systematic persecution of Falashas that have been published in recent years.

Experts like Louis Rapoport, the noted writer and researcher on the Falashas, believe there has been a marked improvement in the Addis Ababa government's attitude to the Falashas over the past year or two and this explains the disparity between recent reports and the earlier horror accounts.

The four-member group of Israeli social workers, which returned from Ethiopia earlier this month, reported that the Ethiopian government does not discriminate against the Falashas. Rather, the Falasha villagers are treated in much the same way as the rest of Ethiopia's largely rural populace--including as regards land allocation under the agrarian reform.

David Makovsky of New York, a WUJS activist and a member of Zeigerman's group, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his impression was that many or most of the Falashas want to leave Ethiopia and go to Israel. The group was impressed and moved, he said, by the number of Falashas who spoke Hebrew fluently. Makovsky stressed that the Falashas he had seen lived in poverty-stricken areas, and hence their economic plight.

Ethiopia Seeking Israeli Tourists

The travel firm planning tourism from Israel to Ethiopia is Neot Hakikar, a company that specializes in treks to Sinai and latterly in safaris to Kenya. Two directors of the firm recently visited Ethiopia and have returned with the impression that the country seeks to open its borders to tourism from all over the world.

"The Ethiopians will be happy to see Israelis visiting their country again", the tour firm executives told Israeli reporters. They said they planned tours which would include visits to Falasha communities.

COST OF LEBANON WAR IS \$1.35 BILLION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA)--The direct cost of the Lebanon war, projected through to the end of March this year, will be 48.2 billion Shekels (equal at present rate to \$1.35 billion), the army announced.

The army spokesman said this figure does not include any indirect costs such as the impact of the call-up of reserves on the gross national product.

The largest single expense was 23.6 billion Shekels (\$663 million) on expended equipment and the replacement of stockpiles and the return to service of material.

Ammunition cost 12.3 billion Shekels (\$346 million), building and winter equipment 3.4 billion Shekels (\$96 million), land fuel (excluding aviation or naval fuel) 1.5 billion Shekels (\$42 million), food, 1.1 billion Shekels (\$30 million), and 6.3 billion Shekels (\$177 million for "General Expenses".

ITALY FOLLOWS SWITZERLAND IN REFUSING TO TAKE TRIFA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA)--A Justice Department official has admitted that a second country has turned down a U.S. request for permanent residence for Rumanian Orthodox Archbishop Valarian Trifa of Grass Lake, Mich.

Kathleen Coleman, the Justice Department attorney who presented the government's case during Trifa's deportation hearings in Detroit, said that Italy has joined Switzerland in turning down the U.S. request to take in Trifa. Coleman said the U.S. will continue its efforts to find a foreign home for him.

Trifa voluntarily agreed to deportation last October. The U.S. had charged that he hid his ties to the fascist Rumanian Iron Guard when he entered the U.S. and when he applied for U.S. citizenship in the 1950's. Trifa is accused of leading an Iron Guard pogrom in Bucharest in January, 1941.

ISRAELI WOMAN INJURED IN ROCK THROWING INCIDENT ON WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--A 22-year-old Israeli woman was reported in "very serious condition" after undergoing brain surgery at Hadassah Hospital for head injuries caused by a rock thrown through the windshield of a military vehicle she was riding in last night.

The victim, Esther Ohana of Beit Shean, was hit when the vehicle, driven by a senior army officer, was passing through Dahariya village on the Beer-sheba-Hebron highway at about 8 p.m. local time. The rock was thrown from behind the wall of a nearby school. The army clamped a curfew on the village and 10 suspects were arrested for questioning. Israeli vehicles were stoned yesterday on the same road but further north, near Dahaishe refugee camp. Similar attacks occurred in the area a month ago.