

# **FORMER KIRYAT ARBA OFFICIAL CONFESSES TO DESTROYING EVIDENCE LINKED TO ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THREE WEST BANK ARAB MAYORS**

By Gil Sedan

**JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA) --** Zeev Friedman, former deputy mayor of Kiryat Arba, confessed in court Friday to the destruction of evidence linked to the attempted assassinations of three Arab mayors on the West Bank on June 2, 1980.

He admitted that he deliberately destroyed explosives discovered in Kiryat Arba in the spring of 1982 but insisted he did so only to protect the good name of the Orthodox township adjacent to Hebron which he thought would be besmirched by the media had the evidence been introduced in court.

Friedman and Moshe Rosenthal, the Kiryat Arba security officer at the time, went on trial 10 months ago charged with illegal possession of fire arms and wilful destruction of the evidence.

They are the only two suspects charged to date in connection with the series of bombings three years ago which permanently crippled Mayor Bassam Shaka of Nablus and Mayor Karin Khalaf of Ramallah. A Druze police sapper, Suleiman Herbawi, was blinded while trying to dismantle a bomb intended for Mayor Ibrahim Tawil of El Bireh.

The attempted assassinations are widely believed to have been the work of Jewish militants seeking revenge for the ambush slaying of six yeshiva students by Palestinian terrorists in Hebron on May 2, 1980, exactly a month earlier. The trial, held behind closed doors, was opened to the press last Friday for the first time, despite vigorous protests by defense counsel.

## Account On The Charge Sheet

The explosives were discovered 18 months ago by an electrician working in the Kiryat Arba town hall. They were concealed behind a switch box wrapped in a plastic bag and newspapers bearing the date of the attacks on the mayors. The explosives were of Israeli army type, set in a wooden frame with magnets.

According to the charge sheet, the electrician summoned Friedman and Rosenthal who took charge of the explosives. The prosecution maintains they were immediately aware that the device would be linked to the assassination attempts but instead of handing it over to security authorities, the two Kiryat Arba leaders defused the charges and destroyed the explosives near the town.

Friedman told the court Friday that he did not do this to conceal evidence but because he wanted to "prevent the smearing of the name of Kiryat Arba in the mass media." He claimed the media would have used the evidence to attack the town which is a Gush Emunim stronghold. Friedman said his act was at worst "not a very good show of citizenship" but in his view, not "a terrible offense."

Presiding Judge Shalom Brenner chided the defense for objecting to an open trial. "It is a strange situation that counsel for the defense, not the State, asks for a trial behind closed doors," he said. It was agreed that most of the sessions from now on will be open.

# **REAGAN HAILS CEASE-FIRE IN LEBANON**

**NEW YORK, Sept. 25 (JTA) --** A cease-fire between warring factions in Lebanon was welcomed by President Reagan here today. The President, in New York to address the United Nations General Assembly tomorrow, told reporters he had telephoned Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to congratulate him.

Reagan also thanked Saudi Arabia which he said had a "very definite hand" in the success of the cease-fire negotiations which have been going on for several weeks. Syria, too, he said "is evidently cooperating." Only last week, Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz angrily accused Syria of obstructing efforts to end the fighting in Lebanon.

There is still a long way to go to achieve a political settlement in Lebanon and in the Middle East generally, the President said after a meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, but, he added, "We're all very happy for this step that has come about." He called the cease-fire a "first step" toward a settlement in Lebanon.

## Syrians Encircle PLO Fighters

Meanwhile, reports from Beirut today said that Syrian forces surrounded about 1,000 Palestine Liberation Organization fighters loyal to PLO chief Yasir Arafat and ordered them to surrender their arms. They were ordered two days ago to move out of their positions in the Syrian-held Bekaa valley in eastern Lebanon, the report said.

The order apparently applied only to members of the PLO El Fatah group loyal to Arafat who the Syrians expelled last June. Syria continues to back PLO elements rebelling against Arafat's leadership and arms and supports the Palestine Liberation Army which reportedly has been fighting alongside the Shouf mountain Druze against the Lebanese army and the Christian Phalangists. Today's cease-fire reportedly applies to those antagonists.

Despite the announcement of the cease-fire, however, U.S. marines came under heavy mortar and shell fire at Beirut Airport more than an hour after the cease-fire was announced. Earlier in the day, two marines were wounded by sniper fire and flying shrapnel at the airport.

## **LABOR PARTY SECRETARIAT DECIDES TO ACCEPT SHAMIR'S INVITATION TO HOLD TALKS ON POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP A NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT**

By David Landau

**JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA) --** The Labor Party secretariat decided today after a stormy five-hour debate in Tel Aviv to accept Premier-designate Yitzhak Shamir's invitation to Shimon Peres to hold talks on the possibility of setting up a national unity government.

The vote in the secretariat, in support of a motion proposed by Peres, Yitzhak Rabin and other party leaders, was 37-24. Peres and Rabin made it clear that what they were proposing was merely to meet and to talk to the Likud. This will still be a far cry from actually forming a government.

In fact, Peres was quoted in reports out of the closed-door meeting as saying the chances of such a gov-

ernment arising were still slender. He vowed that Labor would stick firmly to its main political and ideological positions and demand major changes in the present government's policy guidelines as a basis for its participation in a unity government.

Peres and Rabin cited Lebanon, the West Bank and the economy as three key areas in which radical policy-changes would have to be agreed upon before Labor could contemplate joining a unity government under Shamir.

Labor wants a quick withdrawal from all of Lebanon, a cessation of settlement activity in areas not included in its Allon Plan for eventual West Bank territorial compromise, and it wants sweeping changes in economic policy.

### Unity Government Seen As Unlikely

Despite the Labor Secretariat's decision, most political observers continued to predict that a unity government would not in the end arise. They regarded Likud's invitation and Labor's response as steps in a delicate quadrille danced by the two main parties with the purpose of portraying the other in the eyes of the public as the one responsible for the failure of efforts to set up a unity government.

Nevertheless, Labor's decision immediately caused strains within the Labor-Mapam Alignment. Mapam's Secretary General Victor Shemtov said it was wrong for Labor to play this game -- even if it was only a tactical game.

He warned somberly that if by any chance the talks with Likud did succeed, "that would be tantamount to a capitulation by Labor, and it would spell the end of the Alignment." Shemtov said Labor's decision today "does not bind Mapam" and thus Mapam would take no part in the projected talks with Shamir and the Likud.

A similar position was expected to be adopted by Labor's two smaller partners in the Alignment, Shulamit Aloni's Citizens Rights Party and the Independent Liberals. (This latter party does not presently have any Knesset representation.)

### Advocates And Opponents Of Unity Government

Among those within the Labor leadership who have openly supported the need to respond positively to Shamir's invitation has been former Justice Minister Haim Zadok. Considered a dove on political issues, Zadok nevertheless argued that the Likud offer cannot be "dismissed" but must be examined with care.

Opponents of any talks with Likud included hawkish Tel Aviv party leader Eliahu Speiser MK and doveish former Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur MK, as well as representatives of the United Kibbutz Movement embracing former Mapai's Ihud Hakibbutzim and former Ahdut Haavoda's Hakibbutz Hameuchad.

On the Likud side, Knesset members ardently favoring a unity government are keeping up an intensive lobbying campaign. Early this morning, Likud-Liberal Yitzhak Berman, together with the two coalition independents Mordechai Ben-Porat and Yigael Hurwitz were seen meeting with Rabin at a Tel Aviv hotel, seeking to persuade him that a joint political platform between the two parties was possible.

Hurwitz said the group would be meeting with other key Laborites, including members of the kibbutz movement which strongly opposes the unity government idea.

Other MKs on the Likud side who favor a unity government have been seeking to draft policy papers on focal issues -- for instance, settlement -- which would comprise language acceptable to both the major parties.

### Disturbed By Herzog's 'Interference'

While the pundits and the politicians, by and large, still predict that the unity effort will fail, one unexpected factor that could disturb their predictions is the "activism" of President Chaim Herzog in the matter.

Herzog today professed himself entirely unrepentant despite widespread media criticism from unnamed politicians -- for speaking out in favor of a unity government.

The first time he did so was last Wednesday, at the brief ceremony when he conferred upon Shamir the task of forming a government. He noted then that the majority of the Knesset factions with whom he had consulted seemed to want a unity government and this was the desire of many ordinary Israelis, too.

In a television interview on Friday night, Herzog reinforced this message, saying that he himself favored the unity government option. "This would certainly be desirable on condition that it were possible for all the factors involved to agree upon common policy guidelines," he stated. He said it was pointless to expect Labor to join a Likud government on the basis of the present policy guidelines. Herzog cited the economic problems facing the country, as well as other difficulties, as reason to "aspire to" a national unity government.

Several newspapers reported today that politicians of all hues had been "aghast" at the President's "interference" in politics -- especially at such a delicate stage in the interparty negotiations.

But Herzog, attending the President's traditional Succot "open house" at his residence in Jerusalem today said there were times when "it is important for people in leadership to feel what the people feel." He said he was "no novice" in matters of interviews and media communications -- but had never experienced such an outpouring of positive response as he had received in the wake of his television interview supporting the unity government option.

### NORWEGIAN UNIFIL OFFICIAL DENIES MAKING ANTI-ISRAELI STATEMENTS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- The commander of the Norwegian contingent to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has denied anti-Israeli statements attributed to him in an Oslo newspaper.

Col. Erling Heim was quoted as saying that Israeli officers had behaved towards the Norwegian soldiers just as the Nazis had done to the Norwegians during World War II.

He was also quoted as saying that if the UNIFIL had had the proper armaments they could have halted the Israeli advance into Lebanon last year.

Questioned by Israel Radio, UNIFIL spokesmen and Norwegian officers said it was "inconceivable" that Heim could have made such statements. "He is the sort of man who won't give you a yes or no answer if he thinks there may be political overtones to his reply," they said.

Heim himself denied the report. He said he had told a Norwegian correspondent only what he had been instructed to say in the official UNIFIL guidelines -- that the UNIFIL was not a war-like but a peace-keeping force. He said that relations with IDF officers had been strained at one time but were now good.

# ABU HATZEIRA TO SERVE HIS JAIL TERM AS DAY WORKER FOR THE POLICE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Aharon Abu Hatzeira, leader of the Tami party, will serve his three-month prison sentence as a day worker for the police. He will spend his nights at home. This was confirmed by a police spokesman today who said Tel Aviv police chief, Superintendent Avraham Turjeman, agreed to the request by Hatzeira's lawyer, Ram Caspi.

The former Cabinet minister was convicted of embezzling funds from a charitable organization during the 1970's. He was originally given a suspended sentence but the Supreme Court ruled on appeal earlier this year that he must serve a prison term. Abu Hatzeira said he was willing to go to jail but recently had second thoughts, according to newspaper reports.

Under the law, short-term prisoners may work off their time outside prison, at the discretion of the senior police officer. Turjeman assigned him to work at a Tel Aviv police station.

Abu Hatzeira, who resigned after his conviction as Minister of Labor, Social Affairs and Immigrant Absorption in Premier Menachem Begin's coalition Cabinet, will not give up his Knesset seat. The law requires that only felons sentenced to one year or more in prison must quit the Knesset.

He is also expected to resume his Cabinet post in the next government when his sentence is completed. His portfolio is presently held by a Tami colleague, Aharon Uzan, who has promised to bow out as soon as Abu Hatzeira is released.

## RABIN: AMERICAN MARINES IN LEBANON ARE PROTECTING U.S. INTERESTS, NOT ISRAELI INTERESTS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin said here that should anything serious happen to the United States marine forces now in Lebanon, the United States would blame Israel. He said Israel should explain to the American public that the marines are in Lebanon serving American, and not Israeli interests.

"We are not doing enough to explain to the American people that the marines are in Beirut to protect American interests, not Israeli interests," Rabin said in a weekend interview on Israel Radio. "They are not there at our request. We had no choice but to agree to their presence after Sabra and Shatila."

The marines first arrived in Lebanon in August, 1982 under orders from President Reagan to oversee the evacuation of the PLO from Beirut. They departed on September 10 only to return 19 days later after the massacre of civilians at the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila at Lebanon's invitation to "restore Lebanese government sovereignty and authority over the Beirut area."

Rabin, a leader of the opposition Labor Party, also said he anticipates a "Vietnam-type solution" in Lebanon, resulting in an American withdrawal of its troops from the multinational force, with Lebanon becoming "a Soviet-Syrian achievement and... a failure for Israel and the United States with regard to the overall political situation in the Middle East."

# JUMBLATT APPEALS TO ISRAELI DRUZE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- A gathering yesterday near the Syrian-Golan Heights border planned as a memorial meeting for Golan Heights Druze leader Kamal Kanj, who died a week ago, turned into a political meeting when Lebanon Druze leader Walid Jumblatt mounted a platform on the Syrian side of the frontiers and addressed the crowd through powerful loud speakers.

Jumblatt addressed several thousand Druze from Israel, the Golan Heights and Syria who gathered on both sides of the barbed wire fence, beneath a United Nations observation post, saying that the fighting in Lebanon was not only for the Shouf mountain region but for all Lebanon.

"I warn you, the U.S., France, Italy, stop fighting us. You will be defeated like the French were beaten in Lebanon by the Druze at the beginning of this century," he said.

Khaled Al-Faum, the PLO representative in Syria, told the crowd: "We have a blood brotherhood with the Druze, until all occupied land is liberated. We shall free all of Palestine."

From among the thousands of Israeli Druze on the Israeli side of the border, from Golan, Galilee and the Camel range, there were shouts of support for Syrian President Hafez Assad and slogans attacking Israel such as "Palestine is Arab," and "the Golan is Syrian."

Meanwhile, Israeli Druze met in Galilee today to formulate plans to send food, clothing and medicine to their Druze brethren in Lebanon. Spokesmen said they intend to ask Israeli officials to allow the transfer of supplies collected. Israeli officials indicated permission would probably be granted if requested.

Mohammad Ramal, a spokesman for the Israeli Druze committee working to collect food, medicine and clothing, said the Druze in Israel were not asked for this help but decided on it at their own initiative. He said the assistance was intended for Lebanon's Druze refugees who had fled from Phalangist-held villages and were not seeking refuge in the Shouf mountains.

## TWO ISRAELI PILOTS KILLED WHEN THEIR CIVILIAN PLANE CRASHES

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Two young pilots were killed when their light civilian plane crashed shortly after takeoff north of Tel Aviv last Wednesday.

The ITM news agency reported that the two 19-year-old men, attending an army pilot training course, rented a two-seater plane privately from a flying club at Herzlia airfield and were said by eye-witnesses to be performing low-level aerobatics when their aircraft plunged to the ground near Kibbutz Yakum some five miles north of the airstrip.

Club officials said the craft had been checked out and found airworthy before the flight. The Transport Ministry has set up an inquiry commission into the incident.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Five people were slightly injured Sunday when a hand grenade was thrown into the Nablus municipal parking lot. The wounded were an Israel Defense Force soldier, an Israeli border patrol policeman and three were local Arabs.

## CLASH BETWEEN HASIDIM AND POLICE

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- The peace of the first day of Succot last Thursday, was marred in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, home of the Lubavitch movement, when a scuffle broke out reportedly caused by efforts of police to place a riot in a squad car for allegedly throwing a stone at a bus passing in front of the Lubavitch synagogue.

In the melee which erupted when Levi Weingarten, 27, of Crown Heights, the alleged stone thrower, refused to enter the squad car because Jewish law prohibits riding on the holiday, at least nine policemen were slightly injured and four Hasidim arrested.

Several hundred Hasidim marched on the precinct station house to protest the arrests. One woman police officer was removed on a stretcher with her neck in a brace after she was reportedly punched in the face.

After the rock was thrown, the woman bus driver stopped her bus and emerged to inspect the damage, reportedly a broken sideview mirror. She became involved in a shouting match with several Hasidim who had left the synagogue after Succot services. Two of the 25 police officers on duty approached the crowd and a bus passenger pointed to Weingarten as the stone thrower.

## Accounts By Witnesses

According to witnesses Weingarten threw the stone because the bus allegedly brushed his pregnant wife as the two walked outside the synagogue. One witness said Weingarten offered to walk to the stationhouse for booking but police insisted he enter the squad car. At that point some 300 other Hasidic worshippers attacked the police officers.

Those arrested, in addition to Weingarten, were Eric Jacobs, 25, Moshe Rubashkin, 25, and Israel Shintov, 43. Weingarten was charged with malicious assault and the others with simple assault. A spokesman at the 71st Precinct said all four had been released to appear September 29 in Brooklyn criminal court to face the charges.

Some witnesses said that, while no civilians appeared to have been hurt in the melee, police swung their night sticks. It was reported that the incident is being reviewed by the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

## KISSINGER PAYS TRIBUTE TO MOSHE DAYAN AS A PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

NEW YORK, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger paid tribute to Moshe Dayan as "a principal architect" of the Camp David accords in a memorial observance held last week at the headquarters of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Speaking in connection with the second anniversary of Dayan's death, Kissinger said the Israeli soldier and statesman had conducted preliminary negotiations in Morocco which gave Egyptian President Anwar Sadat the courage to risk his journey to Jerusalem after which Dayan went on to become a "major framer of the Camp David accords."

But Kissinger lamented the fact that Dayan did not live to see the achievement of peace between Israelis and Arabs on the West Bank. "None of us will forget this graceful, brave and dedicated statesman," Kissinger told an audience of Jewish commun-

ity leaders, Israelis and other friends and admirers of the Israeli leader. "When peace comes at last, it will be inspired in equal parts by his courage and his magnanimity."

## Says Israel Desires Peace

Kissinger declared that Dayan was leader of a nation "unrecognized by its neighbors, assaulted in international forums and squeezed by economic boycotts." He stressed that Israel desires peace and security but that its "margin for survival is so narrow that it can risk no experiments."

Dayan, he went on, never forgot the importance of close cooperation with the United States "based on a real meeting of minds," adding: "It is a lesson we must not forget at this moment when our two countries are neither quarreling nor really understanding each other."

Attending the ceremony, which was presided over by ADL national chairman Kenneth Bialkin, was Rachel Dayan, widow of the Israeli leader who presented Kissinger with an album titled "Masada."

Nathan Perlmutter, ADL's national director, in his tribute described Dayan as a rare, authentic hero in an era when "the anti-hero seems to throw a longer shadow than do the heroes."

"Unlike the anti-hero," he said, "Dayan as a paradigm challenges us to grow, to live with the land, to live with books, even to live with our enemies."

Also paying tribute to Dayan was Naphtali Lavie, Israeli Consul General in New York and former aide to the general, who praised him as a "great son and hero of Israel," who "remains a symbol of the history of Israel's struggle for existence and creation."

The "Masada" album which was presented to Kissinger contains Dayan's final literary expression, "The Victory of the Vanquished," describing the heroic defense of the desert fortress Masada in the year 73 by heavily outnumbered Jewish defenders who took their own lives rather than be captured by the Romans.

The album is composed of 27 original lithographs, depicting the Masada epic by the noted French painter Raymond Moretti, which were on display at the ceremony. Georges Israel, editor and publisher of the album, and Israeli Gen. Uzi Narkiss, Dayan's comrade in arms during the Six-Day War, were among the participants.

## HERZOG TO VISIT THE U.S.

JERUSALEM -- President Chaim Herzog will visit the United States during the latter part of November and is expected to meet with President Reagan at the White House. Herzog is scheduled to be one of the principal speakers at the 52nd General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in Atlanta, Ga. Israel Television reported that Herzog, a former Ambassador to the United Nations, is weighing the possibility of addressing the UN General Assembly during his planned 10-day visit to the United States.

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## CORRECTION

In a story by Charles Allen, Jr. in the September 23 Bulletin there was an incorrect reference to Klaus Barbie's 1941 "legal" Bolivian visa. The correct date of that visa should have been given as 1951.