

ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAY SYRIA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEIRUT MASSACRE
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- Israeli officials asserted today that the Syrians were responsible for yesterday's massacre in Beirut in which at least 183 U.S. marines and sailors were killed and 75 were wounded.

In addition, at least 27 French paratroopers were killed, 13 wounded and 53 missing.

The figures of the dead, wounded and missing kept changing upwards during the day according to different assessments of the tragedy by Lebanese, American and French authorities. The number of Americans killed was the highest in a single attack since the Vietnam War.

According to Deputy Premier David Levy, the magnitude of yesterday's attack pointed to Syria's role in the tragedy. He said a small, hitherto unknown organization could not have carried out such an attack on the U.S. and French military headquarters unless it was aided by a large country. Levy was referring to a group calling itself the Free Islamic Revolutionary Movement which claimed responsibility for the suicide mission attacks. (Related stories, P. 3.)

Arens: Israel Did Not Invite Marines To Lebanon

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Moshe Arens told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee that the marines stationed in Lebanon as part of the multinational peacekeeping force are not there at the behest of Israel. "We did not invite them," he said. "The Americans entered Lebanon after the massacres in Sabra and Shatila (refugee camps), at the invitation of Lebanon." Therefore, Arens suggested, Israel cannot be identified with the U.S. in this context.

Arens was reacting to comments by Labor Alignment MK Yitzhak Rabin who said there were too many statements issued in Israel "which could be interpreted as an Israeli invitation to the U.S. to stay in Lebanon." The former Premier said that the Lebanon crisis might end up in an American as well as Israeli failure. Both countries, Rabin said, have been living with illusions that the war in Lebanon last year succeeded in destroying the Palestine Liberation Organization and terrorism in that war-torn country. Today there is more terror in Beirut than there had been prior to the war, he asserted.

Arens also told the Knesset committee that the redeployment of the Israel Defense Force from the Shouf mountains to the Awali River in the south of Lebanon was not the end of the redeployment process. The Awali River line is not sacred, he said. If Israel finds another, better line to redeploy its forces further south it would do so.

THE TRAGIC ODYSSEY OF TWO IRANIAN JEWISH BROTHERS

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- Two Iranian Jewish brothers were back in the custody of U.S. authorities today after a federal judge issued a temporary order late yesterday restraining the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) from continuing its attempts to deport the twins to a country which

refuses to admit them. Judge Leo Glasser of the U.S. Federal Court for the Eastern District, acted after the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of New York, working in coordination with the U.S. Catholic Conference, intervened to end the "tragic odyssey" of Faramaz and Behrooz Sedgh, 23, who escaped from Iran in October, 1982.

The young men were flown from New York to Spain and back four times since last Thursday when INS officials first placed them aboard a TWA flight in execution of a deportation order issued earlier this month. Spain was their last country of departure before they reached the U.S. on January 22, 1983. But the Spanish authorities had informed the INS beforehand that the brothers would not be admitted to Spain.

Basis For The Restraining Order

According to David Pollock, assistant director of the JCRC, Judge Glasser's order was based on charges of mental and physical abuse of the deportees caused by the INS action. The restraint order expires at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow.

Pollock told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a writ of habeas corpus is expected to be issued today to force the INS to set bond and release the brothers in custody of relatives who live in New York. Peggy Tishman, president of the JCRC, announced yesterday that an appeal on behalf of the Sedgh brothers has been sent to President Reagan.

Shuttled Back And Forth

The brothers were arrested when they first arrived in the U.S. 10 months ago for entering the country with false passports, their only means of escape from Iran. Various appeals for political asylum failed. Pollock told the JTA that the INS put them on a TWA flight to Spain at Kennedy International Airport last Thursday evening. They were back at JFK at 1 p.m. Saturday, the Spanish authorities having placed them on the first TWA flight to New York.

The INS persisted and at 8 p.m. Saturday, the Sedgh brothers were again airborne enroute to Spain. Again they were denied admission and landed at JFK at 2 p.m. yesterday for the second time in 24 hours.

They were about to be placed on an 8 p.m. flight back to Spain when Judge Glasser issued his restraining order. The brothers are presently in custody in the INS detention center at the old Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Pollock said it was hoped that the court's action will prevent further deportation attempts at least until such time as the INS finds a country willing to admit the brothers. He said they have expressed no preference, their desire being to remain in the U.S.

Reagan Asked To Intervene

JCRC President Tishman said in a statement yesterday: "The merry-go-round treatment of the Sedgh brothers is incomprehensible. We urge the INS to take steps immediately to put an end to this tragic odyssey in keeping with the humanitarian principles and compassion which the U.S. has long espoused, the JCRC has contacted President Reagan to ask his personal intervention in this matter."

Until their trans-Atlantic shuttles began this weekend, the Sedgh brothers were held at an INS detention center where they were allegedly subjected to anti-Semitic assaults by other Iranian detainees. Jewish or-

ganizations and the U.S. Catholic Conference tried repeatedly in vain to have them paroled on bond to relatives living in Queens.

Two weeks ago the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith entered such a plea, supported by Rep. Gary Ackeman (D. NY) who has taken a personal interest in the case. Ackeman was joined by 31 other Congressmen in urging that the brothers be "immediately" released to family members pending final decision on their request for political asylum.

Until this week, the names of the brothers were withheld to protect family members still living in Iran. Pollock said that it was decided, with the brothers' concurrence, that their names could be released now without possible harm to their family in Iran.

TEL AVIV STOCK EXCHANGE REOPENS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- The drop in the price of commercial bank shares was more moderate than expected when the Tel Aviv stock exchange reopened for trading this morning after an 18-day suspension. Panic selling, feared by some, failed to materialize, much to the satisfaction of the Treasury and the Bank of Israel.

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad commended the public for demonstrating "reasonable behavior and maturity." Although bank share prices were down 17 percent in Shekel value and 40 percent in Dollar value compared to the levels before the exchange closed, economic analysts agreed today that the public has taken a "wait and see" attitude. Other shares traded on the exchange dropped by 10-15 percent.

The bank share prices were announced at 9 a.m. today after computers processed the buy and sell orders investors gave their brokers in recent days. All trading orders had to be in by Saturday night to avoid an escalation of selling in the course of today's trading.

Plans For The Economy Announced

Meanwhile, Cohen-Orgad who replaced Finance Minister Yoram Aridor a week ago, announced his immediate plans for the economy to a gathering in Tel Aviv today. He said he has already launched an effort to cut Israel's balance of payments deficit by half within the next two years. He said the government will promote exports and take measures to reduce imports.

This, he said, will necessitate a lower standard of living among the financially better off segments of society. "But the weaker groups will not be hampered, he promised. "I can say that we have overcome the problems of the first stage and we can now go on in our plan, step-by-step, and balanced growth," he said.

IDF PREPARING FOR THE WINTER

TEL AVIV, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force is now completing arrangements to provide all its personnel serving in Lebanon adequate housing and clothing to ensure them as comfortable a winter as possible. Temperatures in the mountain areas of Lebanon, even those south of the Awali River, frequently drop below zero, with heavy snowfalls in some hill areas.

Permanent structures built north of the Awali River were dismantled and have now been re-erected in the new positions. Special winter clothing distrib-

uted to the soldiers is reported to have cost the army 50,000 Shekels (a little more than \$600) for each man.

ANTI-NUCLEAR PROTESTORS MASS OUTSIDE ISRAEL EMBASSY IN BONN

By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- Hundred of anti-nuclear demonstrators massed outside the heavily guarded Israeli Embassy here yesterday shouting anti-Israel slogans. They were part of a "human chain" that filled the streets around the embassies of all alleged nuclear powers. These included the U.S., and the Soviet Union, China, South Africa, Britain, France, India and Israel.

All of those countries, except South Africa and Israel, have tested nuclear devices and acknowledge their possession. Israel has denied that it has nuclear weapons but is widely believed to have them or to have the capability to manufacture them.

No attempt was made to enter the Israel Embassy grounds in the Bad Godesberg residential neighborhood or to do any damage. Cordons of police guarded the building. Later, several groups of demonstrators marched into Bonn's Hofgarten singing "Havenu Shalom Aleichem" in Hebrew.

The demonstrations in Bonn were held in the framework of a massive nationwide protest against the planned deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in West Germany at the end of this year. Earlier, the American school in Bonn was closed because of an anonymous bomb threat. The school is attended by the children of most Israeli diplomats here.

FCC URGED TO DENY A LICENSE TO A KANSAS HATE-MONGERING RADIO STATION

NEW YORK, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has asked the Federal Communications Commission to act without delay in denying a license to a Kansas radio station that broadcasts anti-Semitic slanders and incitement to violence against Jews.

Jeffrey Sinensky, director of ADL's legal affairs department, said that station KTLF-FM of Dodge City continues to air "blatant attacks against the Jewish people" despite strong objections from many quarters, including Kansas Senator Robert Dole, the Kansas Attorney General and the Jewish Community Relations Bureau of Kansas City.

The ADL, Sinensky noted, protested against KTLF-FM's programming in May, and urged the FCC to deny the station's license-renewal application.

In a letter to FCC Secretary William Tricarico, Sinensky said KTLF-FM had advocated the murder of Jews and blacks in programs aired up to February of this year. More recently, he added, KTLF-FM's racist and anti-Semitic broadcasts conclude with appeals to listeners to stockpile weapons and ammunition which are "incitements to lawlessness."

Sinensky cited a statement to the FCC by Kansas Attorney General Robert Stephan that "the potential for violence in Kansas is real and the station's programming is increasing the possibility such violence will occur."

Such programming Sinensky went on, "falls outside the commission's public interest standard for licensees," and therefore KTLF-FM is not entitled to renewal of its broadcast license.

U.S. EXPLAINS WHY IT REJECTED ISRAELI OFFER TO HELP WOUNDED MARINES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration maintained today that the U.S. rejected an Israeli offer of its hospital facilities for the marines wounded in yesterday's terrorist bomb attack in Beirut because the military was following its "normal" procedure for evacuating the wounded.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the wounded were "initially treated" at battalion field hospitals and aboard U.S. Navy ships off the Lebanese coast and then taken to U.S. naval hospital facilities in Naples or to the army hospital in West Germany.

"That's the standard procedure, the way the military operates in that part of the world," Speakes said. "There is no other reason." According to Speakes, 75 wounded marines and sailors had been evacuated from Lebanon so far. The death toll stood at 183 as of noon Eastern Daylight Time, he said.

According to reports from Beirut, most of the wounded were taken by helicopter to the Iwo Jima, an amphibious assault ship, the battleship New Jersey and the El Paso, an amphibious cargo ship. A marine spokesman was quoted as saying that an additional 21 men were flown by the British for treatment at a Royal Air Force base in Cyprus.

The reports also said that some dead and wounded were taken to a dozen different hospitals in Beirut, including the Shiite-run Al Zahra hospital which has burn treatment facilities.

REAGAN: CONTINUED U.S. PRESENCE IN LEBANON IS VITAL TO MIDEAST STABILITY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- President Reagan, seeking to maintain the support of Americans for keeping U.S. marines in Lebanon in the wake of yesterday's terrorist destruction of marine headquarters in Beirut, stressed today that the continued U.S. presence is vital to Middle East stability and world peace.

The President, in both his prepared statement and in response to questions at a White House luncheon for regional newspaper and broadcast executives, said that the establishment of a stable Lebanon is necessary both for the success of his Middle East peace initiative and to prevent Soviet domination of the Middle East.

While he did not refer to the Soviet Union by name, Reagan said it would be a "disaster if a force took over in the Middle East" and said such a force was ready to do so as witnessed in Yemen and Ethiopia and the "some several thousands of troops in Syria."

Rejects Widening U.S. Role

At the same time, the President rejected any widening of the U.S. military role in Lebanon, saying that to do so would mean that "we would be fighting against Arab states" and this would hamper U.S. peace efforts in the Middle East. He added that if the U.S. was to enter combat in Lebanon, it would mean "risking the start of overall conflict and world war."

Reagan maintained that the U.S. must continue its diplomatic efforts in Lebanon which, he said, had "brought great progress" including the start of a

meeting toward national reconciliation scheduled to open in Geneva next Monday. He said that this progress "would not have been made if it were not for the multinational force" in Lebanon.

The President, however, said that he has not chosen anyone to replace Robert McFarlane, his new national security adviser, as his special Middle East envoy. Richard Fairbanks, who was McFarlane's deputy in the Middle East, was in Israel today. Reagan also linked the U.S. effort in Lebanon with its attempts to "produce more Egypts" and have Arab states agree to sign peace agreements with Israel. "Our country since 1948 has been pledged to the continued existence, the security of Israel," he said.

'Strong Circumstantial Evidence'

Calling yesterday's bombing which so far has claimed the lives of 183 marines and sailors and wounded at least 75, "a viciously, cowardly and ruthless" act, Reagan said there is "strong circumstantial evidence" that those responsible for the "atrocities" were also responsible for other incidents against the U.S., including the bombing of the Embassy in Beirut last April.

Reagan said they were not members of the main groups fighting in Lebanon but small individual bands of "criminals" who were taking advantage of the present situation in Lebanon. "Every effort will be made to find the criminals responsible for this act of terrorism so this despicable act will not go unpunished," Reagan said.

But neither the President nor White House spokesman Larry Speakes would say what the U.S. would do once hard evidence is found. There have been reports that yesterday's bombing was committed by a small group linked to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

U.S. Mission In Lebanon

The President rejected the charge by critics in Congress and elsewhere that the U.S. has no clear mission in Lebanon. "We have vital interests in Lebanon and our actions in Lebanon are in the cause of world peace," he said. He reiterated that the MNF is in Lebanon in order to allow that country to restore its sovereignty.

"By promoting peace in Lebanon, we strengthen the forces for peace throughout the Middle East," Reagan declared. "Peace in Lebanon is key to the region's stability now and in the future. To the extent that the prospects for future stability is heavily influenced by the presence of our forces, it is essential to our credibility on a global scale. We must not allow international criminals to undermine the peace in Lebanon."

He also stressed that "if Lebanon ends up under the tyranny of forces hostile to the West, not only will our strategic position in the Middle East be threatened but also the stability of the entire Middle East, including the vast resources of the Arabian peninsula."

LATE NEWS BULLETIN

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The Faculty Senate of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America voted 34-8 at a special meeting convened Monday by JTS chancellor Gerson Cohen to admit women to the Seminary's rabbinical school, effective with the start of the 1984-85 academic year. The vote, which reportedly was boycotted by three members of the Talmudic department, ended a vigorous debate of more than half a decade over ordaining women as Conservative rabbis.

ENCOURAGING CONSERVATION IN ISRAEL

By Rifka Rosenwein

BOSTON, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- The sharp devaluation of the Shekel and the concurrent reduction in government subsidies may give Israelis the needed incentive to conserve energy, according to Haim Elata, chief scientist for the Israeli Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

Elata made these remarks at a briefing on current Israeli energy policy sponsored by the Energy Committee of the Jewish Community Councils of Metropolitan Boston.

A Key Element In The Program

One of the key elements of the government program was encouraging conservation, he explained. "But you can't talk about conservation without (consumers) at least paying market price" for electricity, oil and other forms of energy, he said.

Elata said that "we at the Ministry of Energy have been fighting with the Ministry of Finance for years" to cut energy subsidies. He noted that since the 1973 oil embargo, many countries have reduced their energy consumption by as much as 20 percent, while Israel marked only a "six or seven percent" drop. Today, he added, consumption levels in Israel may even be a bit higher than they were ten years ago.

These levels are due partly to the fact that there "was not as much waste before" in Israel as there was in other countries, he said. They are also attributable to government support of industry and subsidies in the consumer market.

"Unless you tie energy to its real cost, any energy conservation program will fall on its face," Elata said. "You tell them they have to conserve on the one hand, but on the other hand, you effectively cut costs."

He said he was "hopeful that the increase in (energy) prices that will have to come" from the reduction in government subsidies "will help in conservation, help decrease usage."

Acute Need To Conserve Energy

Israel's need to conserve energy is particularly acute because of its dependence on foreign sources for oil and its difficulty in securing these sources, Elata explained. Israel currently imports largely from Egypt and Mexico.

Moreover, Elata said, until two years ago, oil was the only form of energy used in Israel. Around 12 percent of the country's gross national product went towards its purchase -- an "unusually high" rate even among non oil-producing Western nations, Elata noted. "Even with the current lower prices, (oil imports) are a burden on the Israeli economy," he said.

To secure supply, minimize costs, and decrease dependence on foreign sources, the Ministry of Energy has instituted a five-point plan that focuses on: diversification, conservation, exploration for oil, development of renewable sources -- most notably, solar energy -- and development of indigenous fossil fuel, Elata explained.

Israel has been particularly successful in introducing coal as an alternative energy form, especially in industry; and in its development of solar energy. Elata said that coal already accounts for 40 percent of energy usage in Israel. He emphasized that the coal market was "much more secure", its chief exporters being

South Africa, England and the United States. He noted that Israel was a pioneer in the development of solar flat plate collectors for domestic use. Their usage is widespread throughout the country, and new buildings now have to feature them, he added.

The Problem Facing The Canal Project

Elata emphasized that Israel's was "a far-looking Ministry of Energy" and that he had always met with support for projects that looked toward the future. Among these he included the proposed Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal, which would replenish the Dead Sea and use it as an energy source. The project has come under criticism because after large sums of money were raised for it through Israel Bonds, the project came to a standstill.

Elata explained that the main obstacle the project faces is its huge expense, but he noted that the board of directors of the Mediterranean-Dead Sea Canal Company voted last January to take all steps for design and bid preparation.

"I think this project will be built," he said. "It's very feasible. The beginning of construction will probably be delayed for a few years -- until the next energy crisis."

Elata announced that Israel will be hosting an International Energy Congress in May that will focus on "Energy for Small and Medium-sized Countries." Israel "has a name in solar research," he said, and it has decided that "the time has come to show to others what we have done" in that and other areas of energy policy and research.

5 OF THE 8 JEWISH SENATORS VOTE TO ESTABLISH MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24 (JTA) -- Five of the eight Jews in the Senate voted last week to establish a national holiday in January commemorating the birthday of the late Martin Luther King Jr. while the three others voted against it. The bill, which was adopted by the House previously, was passed by the Senate by a 78-22 vote.

Voting to honor the slain civil rights leader were Sens. Rudy Boschwitz (R. Minn.), Frank Lautenberg (D. N.J.), Carl Levin (D. Mich.), Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio), and Arlen Specter (R. Penn.). Voting against the bill were Sens. Chic Hecht (R. Nev.), Warren Rudman (R. N.H.) and Edward Zorinsky (D. Neb.).

Levin and Metzenbaum took part in the debate just prior to the vote last Wednesday. "I am proud to have known Dr. King personally," Metzenbaum said. "I was fortunate to have marched with him in Selma and I share the dream he so eloquently expressed."

Levin rejected the argument that King should not be honored because he broke laws, noting that King advocated combating unjust laws through nonviolent civil disobedience. He quoted King's April 16, 1963 letter from the Birmingham jail in which King said:

"We can never forget that everything Hitler did to Germany was 'legal' and everything the Hungarian freedom fighters did in Hungary was 'illegal'. It was 'illegal' to aid and comfort a Jew in Hitler's Germany. But I am sure that if I had lived in Germany during that time I would have aided and comforted my Jewish brothers though it was illegal. If I lived in a Communist country today where certain principles dear to the Christian faith are suppressed, I believe I would openly advocate disobeying these anti-religious laws."