

DOCTORS FIGHTING TO SAVE LIVES OF JERUSALEM BUS BOMB BLAST VICTIMS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Doctors are fighting to save the lives of victims of yesterday's bomb blast which destroyed a crowded Jerusalem bus killing four persons and injuring 46.

The dead, identified today, are Nurit Pollack, 14; Eti Adi, 11, Yehuda Kaplan, 77; and Lasslo B. Danisky, 50, all of Jerusalem.

Among the injured, 28 are still undergoing treatment at the Shaare Zedek Hospital and Hadassah Hospital's Ein Kerem facility, the hospitals nearest the scene of the explosion. Ten are reported to be badly hurt and one is listed in critical condition.

According to hospital sources, the most serious problems are burns, multiple cuts, eye injuries and respiratory damage. Nearly all of the victims suffered hearing problems and many have punctured eardrums due to the intensity of the blast. The bus was reduced to a charred skeleton.

Police, investigating the outrage, rounded up suspects for questioning yesterday. All but four have been released. The Palestine Liberation Organization has claimed credit for the carnage. The claims have come from both the faction supporting PLO chief Yasir Arafat and PLO dissidents who have been battling the Arafat loyalists in northern Lebanon.

'Our Hand Will Reach The Murderers'

Premier Yitzhak Shamir lashed out at the PLO today and vowed that the deaths and injuries would be avenged. Winding up a political debate in the Knesset, Shamir declared: "Our hand will reach the murderers and we shall strike them until this wickedness disappears from the face of the earth." He said it was regrettable that some still call Arafat a "moderate," adding that Israel was under no illusions and knows well that its enemies are filled with hatred and lust for murder.

The bus bombing shocked the country because of the large number of victims and the sight of mangled bodies and also because Jerusalem has been relatively free of terrorist acts in recent years. Yesterday's was the worst since 1979 in terms of deaths and injuries.

Mayor Teddy Kollek warned today that this latest incident must not lead to a deterioration in relations between Jews and Arabs in the city. He recalled, on a Voice of Israel Radio interview, that there have been many outrages of this kind over the years and there was no way to prevent them. But he ruled out any restrictions on the freedom of movement of Arabs.

"The moment you limit the movement of Arabs on buses it will become more dangerous," Kollek said. "Would you ask everybody who boards a bus whether he is an Arab or not? Can you check it? It's an impossibility." The Mayor also warned against acts of reprisal on local Arabs, especially because many such terrorist attacks in the past were the work of outsiders.

The local media noted that there was complacency among the populace which is not as alert as it once was to suspicious-looking objects on buses and in the streets. The feeling has been that the PLO has not recovered from the blows it sustained in the Lebanon war and is too preoccupied with internal strife to engage in terrorist activities inside Israel.

Davar observed today that the bus bombing signalled that the terrorist organizations have recuperated somewhat since the destruction of their military infrastructure in Lebanon last year. Maariv said it was proof that the "moderate" wing of the PLO is as blood-thirsty as ever.

The Jerusalem Post suggested that Arafat may have reverted to a harder line to pay the political debt he owes to such extremist leaders as George Habash and Nayef Hawatmeh who have backed him in his present struggle though they still criticize his stress on diplomacy.

Meanwhile, a new curfew was clamped on downtown Nablus today after a grenade was thrown at an Israeli border patrol. The grenade did not explode. A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a military vehicle at the Askar refugee camp near Nablus last night. There were no casualties or damage.

SHAMIR: SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NEW U.S.-ISRAEL ACCORDS AND PREVIOUS MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today that there was a significant difference between the U.S.-Israel agreements reached during his talks with President Reagan in Washington last week and the memorandum of understanding for strategic cooperation the U.S. and Israel initiated in 1981 which never became operative.

The discussions in Washington last week revolved around means to deter Syria, not the Soviet Union, and in that respect differed from the memorandum of two years ago, Shamir explained. He assured the committee that the government was not concealing any details of his talks in Washington.

He said last Sunday's American air strike against Syrian positions in Lebanon resulted from the crisis in that country, not any secret U.S.-Israeli agreement for joint military action.

Shamir made those points to the committee to dispel concern in some coalition and opposition circles that the agreements the Premier and Defense Minister Moshe Arens reached with the Reagan Administration may have drawn Israel into a commitment to undertake military actions in the furtherance of American rather than purely Israeli interests in the region.

Non-Confidence Motion Defeated

Charges of U.S.-Israeli collusion aimed against the Soviet Union were the substance of a non-confidence motion by the Hadash (Communist) party in the Knesset today. It was overwhelmingly defeated. Only the four Hadash MKs supported the measure. The Labor Alignment and Shinui abstained.

Hadash leader Meir Wilner accused the government of making itself a servant of American policy and anti-Communist ideology for which it was "ready to sacrifice tens of thousands of young Israelis and to endanger the State of Israel."

Arguments Pro And Con

Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, replying for the government, repudiated Wilner's contention that neither Syria nor the USSR posed a threat of aggression. He said it was clear that Syria is preparing for war and therefore cooperation with the U.S. should be welcome.

Nissim stressed that the agreement with the U.S. did not call for military commitments by Israel. On the other hand, Israel and the U.S. have joint interests in the region and it would be foolish and unacceptable not to take advantage of this identity of interests to strengthen Israel and deter the aggressors, he said.

Labor MK Haim Barlev, a former Chief of Staff, said the opposition had no confidence in either the government's or the Hadash formulas. Cooperation between Israel and the U.S. is very important in areas such as intelligence, technology, operational lessons and political coordination. "But joint maneuvers and exercises of the Israeli army and the American armed forces" are not "relevant" to any of the issues at hand, he said.

Labor MK Yaacov Tzur, a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, maintained that if war is the only way to get the Syrians out of Lebanon, the government should not hide this fact from the people. His Labor colleague, Amnon Lin, suggested that Syria might agree to withdraw along with Israel if its interests in Lebanon are preserved.

Voice of Israel Radio quoted a "senior source in the defense establishment" today as saying that Israeli air raids over Lebanon were an "efficient means of fighting the terrorists" and a warning to the Syrians that unless they acted to restrain the terrorists, Israel would act against terrorists in areas under Syrian control.

PERES: ISRAEL SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND INVITE HUSSEIN TO NEGOTIATE PEACE WITH ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabin

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's Labor party, said today that Israel should take the initiative and invite King Hussein of Jordan to negotiate peace with Israel and find a solution to the Palestinian problem.

He said that "the King needs peace as badly as we do," and developments in the region, such as the decline of the PLO and the fact that the Palestinian issue is now separated from the Lebanese question, "open an opportunity for Hussein to play a role" in determining the resolution of the Palestinian problem.

Addressing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Peres warned, however, that the present situation in Lebanon is "dangerous and tense" and "not completely controlled" and can, therefore, escalate into a war. "It is in the interest of all to de-escalate the present tension and avoid a war that can cost dearly to all of us," Peres declared.

Cites Three Separate Problems

He said the Lebanese situation is marked by three separate problems: The Syrian presence in the country, Lebanon's independence, and the Israeli involvement in that country.

The Syrian forces in Lebanon should be "contained" in their present positions until they withdraw completely from the country, Peres said. The United States' major task is to keep Syria from dominating Lebanon and to help President Amin Gemayel to form "a national union government" in an independent Lebanon, he stated.

As for Israel, Peres said that she should unilaterally implement her May 17 agreement with Lebanon and apply all the security arrangements in the treaty to protect Israel's northern border. "Once the agreement is implemented our army can come home," Peres said, noting that the withdrawal of Israeli troops can be done "without waiting" for Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. "I am for an immediate decision on this issue," Peres said.

He also said that Israel's future demands an end to the current government policy of establishing new settlements in densely Arab populated areas in the West Bank. He said this must be done in order "to keep Israel Jewish and create alternatives for peace."

He said, in response to a question, that the Labor Party's conditions for joining a national unity government are changes in the government's settlement policy; an end to the war in Lebanon, and a new government initiative to revive the peace process in the Mideast. Israel should seek to re-open the autonomy negotiations with Egypt, Peres said.

REPORT HIGH-LEVEL GREEK CONTACTS WITH ISRAELI, JEWISH PERSONALITIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Contacts between Greek and Israeli Socialists were established for the first time early last month and a private meeting between Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman took place in the Greek Premier's private home last July, the WJC reported today.

The meeting between Greek and Israeli Socialists was held at the Greek Foreign Ministry in Athens and was disclosed by "EEC Monitor," a digest of European and European Economic Community affairs significant to the Jewish community which is published jointly by the Britain/Israel Public Affairs Committee and the WJC.

The meeting, which lasted one-and-a-half hours, brought together three officials of the international department of the ruling Pan Hellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) and Dr. Avram Rozinker, international secretary of Mapam. According to the "Monitor," the EEC has applied pressure on the Greek government to raise the level of diplomatic relations with Israel.

Rozinker, who had taken the initiative for the meeting, explained his party's views on the issues arising from the Middle East dispute. The two sides agreed to continue these exchanges.

Bronfman's meeting with Papandreu was held at the Greek leader's summer home in Corfu. The two were joined by the president of the Greek Jewish community, Joseph Lovinger, and WJC executive director Israel Singer.

Bronfman met with the Greek Premier during a stopover on his way to Israel to confer with the then Prime Minister Menachem Begin. WJC sources reported that Papandreu had indicated in his conversations with Bronfman a more open-minded attitude on relations with Israel than he had in the past.

SYRIA WARNED AGAINST FUTURE ATTACKS ON U.S. FORCES IN LEBANON

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. envoy to the United Nations, warned Syria that any future attacks against U.S. forces in Lebanon, including American reconnaissance flights over Syrian-occupied Lebanese territory, would be met by "an appropriate response of

self-defense" by the United States. Addressing the annual dinner of the Zionist Organization of America's New York metropolitan region, Mrs. Kirkpatrick compared the U.S. action Sunday with Israel's policy of responding to PLO terrorism by launching "Operation Peace for Galilee." She rejected as "spurious" a Syrian complaint at the United Nations that the American bombing raid against Syrian-held territory -- in which two U.S. planes were lost Sunday -- was a violation of the UN charter.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick explained that American reconnaissance flights over Syrian positions in Lebanon had been authorized by the Lebanese government and were for peaceful, defensive purposes. She said the U.S. had advised Syria about the flights, and said that Syria was "fully aware of the non-hostile nature of these flights."

Lehman Receives Zofi Award

Lewis Lehman, Republican candidate for Governor of New York in 1980 and now head of Citizens for America, received the ZOA's Louis D. Brandeis Award "for distinguished communal leadership and humanitarian service." The award was presented by Jacques Tarczyner, honorary president of ZOA. Lehman called Israel "a true ally" whose value to the U.S. as a "stronghold of freedom" was recognized by President Reagan, "a true friend."

Hails U.S.-Israel Alliance

In her address, Mrs. Kirkpatrick hailed what she termed "the new, reinvigorated strategic alliance and friendship between Israel and the U.S." and said it marked "an important dimension of the close and vital relationship between our two countries."

That relationship, she said, was based on "a mutual dedication to peace, a mutual respect and a mutual devotion to liberty and democracy." Mrs. Kirkpatrick also noted "with deep satisfaction" the role of Israel in voting with the United States at the UN "more than any other ally."

Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum, told the ZOA dinner: "The recent fighting in and around Tripoli, Lebanon, demonstrates that the Arab states care precious little for the fate of the Palestinians. Callous indifference to the Palestinians is their attitude. It demonstrates, too, that the PLO neither represents the Palestinian Arabs nor cares how much agony and suffering it causes them."

Alleck Resnick, president of the ZOA, said that "the new sense of partnership between Washington and Jerusalem must be understood as a reflection of the fundamental relationship that has tied America and Israel together since the rebirth of the Jewish state in 1948."

"But let there be no mistake," he added. "We live in precarious times, and while it is a comfort that these two democratic forces will work increasingly in tandem with one another, we must not walk around with a false sense of security. Our experience has taught us that the road ahead will not be smooth and that we must be prepared for all eventualities."

TV REPORTER FIRED FOR APPEARING ON TV NEWSCAST IN ABU DHABI

TORONTO, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- The Canadian Television Network (CTV) has dismissed its correspondent, Brian Nelson, for an unauthorized appearance on a television newscast in Abu Dhabi where he read a script that referred to Israeli Premier

Yitzhak Shamir as a "terrorist" and to Israel as "the Zionist entity." The privately-owned network said it was taking disciplinary action against Nelson's field producer, Barry Barnett. Nelson confirmed today that he was fired and said he would consult a lawyer. Marjory Anthony, vice president for network relations, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that by agreeing to appear on the newscast, Nelson acted irresponsibly and violated network rules by failing to obtain his employer's permission.

The incident occurred while Nelson was covering Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau's visit to the Persian Gulf states. According to Anthony, Nelson would have been dismissed even if there had been no derogatory remarks about Shamir and Israel in the newscast.

ORTHODOX JEWS URGED TO REACH OUT TO 'ILLITERATE AMERICAN JEWISH MASSES'

PORT CHESTER, N.Y., Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Leading Orthodox scholars urged Orthodox Jews, at the 51st annual convention of Agudath Israel of America here, "to reach out to the illiterate American Jewish masses using every available means."

The 3,000 delegates and guests from nine countries and 25 states also heard an appeal that technological advances be used not for mass destruction "but for the elevation of man through the study of Torah."

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, Agudath Israel president, urged Orthodox Jews "not to become smugly self-satisfied from the recent accelerated growth of Orthodox Jewry and its influence in this country." He added that "a large portion of America's Jews reek from the stench of spiritual death."

Sherer urged Agudah activists to accelerate outreach programs to "save for a Jewish future the one million Jewish boys and girls in this country who have still to utter" the basic Jewish affirmation, "Sh'ma Yisrael."

Rabbi Shmuel Halpert, a member of the Aguda Knesset faction and of the Knesset Committee on Intelligence and Foreign Affairs, said he was confident Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's new coalition government would implement the "religious commitments made to Aguda Israel." He listed these as amendment of Israel's Law of Return to bar immigrants converted under non-Orthodox auspices, and enactment of a law to ban archeological digging in ancient grave sites.

Rabbi Yehida Abramovitz, chairman of the agency's world organization, came directly to the convention here from Poland and reported the progress of negotiations of an Orthodox delegation with the Polish government to restore some of the more than 400 Jewish cemeteries.

He said that, as a first step, nearly 70 cemeteries had been listed for restoration with funds to be raised in the west. He said Polish officials had been "extremely cooperative" since a written agreement was signed last summer between the Orthodox delegation and the Polish government.

President Reagan, in a message, praised the Orthodox agency for its "important part in strengthening the dedication of the Jewish people to ancient and revered traditions which have been severely tested over the centuries."

The President said that despite the recent refusal of the Senate to approve a tuition tax credit bill for parents of children in private schools, which would affect yeshiva day schools, "we remain strongly committed to achieving this goal."

AN ETHIOPIAN JEW WARNS AGAINST 'OUTSIDE INTERVENTION' IN THE EFFORTS TO RESCUE THE FALASHAS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- An Ethiopian Jew who emigrated to Israel more than 25 years ago and is now intimately involved with helping new olim from Ethiopia adjust to their new environment in Israel warned against "outside intervention" in the efforts to rescue the Falashas. He did not elaborate further on what he meant by "outside intervention."

Matityahu Elias, employed by the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, said Israel's effort to rescue Ethiopian Jews has been successful and despite "intense difficulties," Falashas were leaving their country and reaching Israel.

The 38-year-old Elias is in the United States to begin an eight-city tour to meet with local Jewish leaders and other interested parties who have been involved in Ethiopian Jewry. The tour, sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America, will seek to dispel the mixed signals and misconceptions that have surrounded Israel's rescue efforts, according to Ivan Novick, chairman of the Board of the ZOA.

Elias came to Israel in 1956 where he completed high school in Kfar Batya and later graduated from an ORT school. He fought in the 1967 Six-Day War as well as in the 1973 Yom Kippur War. While in the Israel Defense Force, he met his wife, a sabra, who both now live in Kibbutz Netzer Sereni with their three children.

Speaking to reporters at a news conference yesterday at the national headquarters of the ZOA, Elias praised the work of "responsible and professional" groups in the rescue of Ethiopian Jews. "We will never be satisfied until all of Ethiopia's 20,000 Jews have reached Israel," he said, although he warned that "any other intervention endangers the Falashas."

Majority Live in Abject Poverty

Since the fall of the government of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974 and the subsequent Marxist takeover, Elias said the government's land reform program has enabled a handful of Jews to own some farms, although a great majority remain tenant farmers, living in abject poverty. He said, however, that the land reform program has not helped many Jews whose land ownership is opposed strongly by Coptic Christians.

'A Great Hunger For Learning'

The absorption process in Israel is not easy for Falashas when they arrive, Elias said. He said the few thousand that are now in Israel in 15 absorption centers "have a great hunger for learning. They come with little or nothing but a burning desire to learn. They have never seen a telephone, never ridden in an elevator, never used a sink or flushed a toilet, never turned on an electric light. Truly, they have lived under primitive conditions," Elias said.

Elias serves as a translator, ombudsman and guide. He said the current government in Ethiopia is "not anti-Falasha but anti-religious." Ethiopian government policy permits religious instruction only at home and Jewish religious schools that formerly taught Hebrew and the traditions of Jewish people have been closed, he said.

TRANSCRIPT OF VERDICT AGAINST BEGUN SHOWS HE WAS ACCUSED OF AN 'ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS STATE CRIME'

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Recently convicted Moscow Hebrew teacher Isosif Begun was accused of "committing an especially dangerous state crime" while "following instructions of foreign Zionist centers ... directed at causing a disintegration of the Soviet regime," according to a transcript of the verdict obtained by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ).

Convicted of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" on October 14, Begun is currently trying to appeal his maximum sentence of seven years in a labor camp and five years internal exile.

The verdict attacked Begun for distributing so-called "anti-Soviet literature" in the form of open letters, appeals, statements, lectures and other materials "in order to cause harm to Soviet interests in the international arena and to discredit its internal and foreign policy."

In language reminiscent of the officially organized Public Anti-Zionist Committee's claim that it represents "the vast majority" of Soviet Jews, the document states that all this was done "under the guise of disseminating the Hebrew language and drawing Jews closer to national culture and the struggle for the rights of the Jewish people," the NCSJ reported.

Charges Against Begun

According to the NCSJ, the veneer under which Jewish rights are actually abused by Soviet authorities is exposed in the court's verdict. Begun was found guilty of crimes against the state because he "provoked nationalistic, emigration tendencies among Soviet citizens of Jewish nationality," and promoted "the thesis of the exclusiveness and isolation of the Jews."

The document specifies the confiscated materials used against the 51-year-old activist, implicating several other Moscow residents, particularly his fiancée, Inna Shlemova. The "slandorous nature" of these materials is ostensibly "proved" by derogatory references to Begun's character taken from a previous sentence for "parasitism".

The materials cited date back nine years, and include appeals to the UN Commission on Human Rights, the 1977 Review Conference of the Helsinki Final Act, held in Belgrade, Western foreign language students and other groups; open letters broadcast or published abroad; and items authored by others, found in Begun's apartment.

SOCIALIST LEADER TO VISIT ISRAEL

PARIS, Dec. 7 (JTA) -- Lionel Jospin, the secretary general of the French Socialist Party, will visit Israel next month at the invitation of Israel's Labor Party. Though Jospin has no government responsibilities, he plays a leading role in defining major policies. His predecessor as the party's leader was Francois Mitterrand who resigned when he was elected President in May 1981. Jospin yesterday met Israeli Ambassador Ovadia Sofer who protested against France's continued recognition of PLO chief Yasir Arafat as the leading representative of the Palestinian people and referring to him as "a moderate."