

**FIFTH VICTIM OF BUS BOMBING DIES**

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Esther Pollack, 16, one of the 46 people injured in last Tuesday's bus bomb blast, died of her injuries over the week-end, thus bringing the death toll to five. Her sister, Nurit Pollack, 14, was one of the four killed when the bus exploded. The other three killed were Eti Adi, 11, Yehuda Kaplan, 77, and Lasslo B. Danisky, 50. All were from Jerusalem.

**U.S. URGES ISRAEL NOT TO IMPEDE ARAFAT'S DEPARTURE FROM TRIPOLI**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- The United States has urged Israel not to do anything to impede the departure of Yasir Arafat and some 4,000 of his Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists from Tripoli.

State Department sources said today that Israel has been officially notified that the U.S. supports the arrangement to allow the PLO to leave Tripoli in ships carrying the United Nations flag.

Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg did not mention Israel by name in his statement today stressing U.S. support for Arafat's departure. But when asked if the U.S. had conveyed its views to Israel, he replied, "Our views are quite clear and quite well known to the Israelis. They are aware that we are in favor of the departure from Lebanon of Arafat."

Secretary of State George Shultz, after ending two days of talks in Tunisia and Morocco in which the U.S. was strongly criticized for its new strategic alliance with Israel, said last night in Rabat that the U.S. "expects" Arafat's evacuation to be peaceful.

Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir has strongly objected to the use of UN flags to protect Arafat, particularly in the wake of last Tuesday's bus bombing in Jerusalem which killed five Israelis and for which the PLO first took credit and then denied it. However, the Israelis have not actually said that they will fire on the ships carrying the PLO to North Africa.

**Seeks To Spare Tripoli Residents Further Tragedy**

Romberg, in statements last Friday and today, made clear the U.S. supports the evacuation of the PLO in order to spare the residents of Tripoli further death, injury and destruction which has been an almost daily occurrence in that northern Lebanon port city as a result of the fighting between Arafat's forces and a Syrian-backed PLO group seeking to gain control of the terrorist organization.

In a terse statement Friday, Romberg said: "We hope that plans to evacuate the PLO to Tripoli will proceed unimpeded in order to resolve expeditiously a situation that has already led to many civilian casualties."

Today's statement was longer. "We support sparing the city of Tripoli from further bloodshed caused by fighting by PLO factions," Romberg said. He noted that "the Arabs have worked out an arrangement whereby Arafat would depart from Tripoli by ship. Arafat has asked that the ships fly the UN flag."

Romberg said the U.S. "joined the United Nations Security Council consensus endorsing the use of the UN flag" for "humanitarian concern." He said the U.S. also supported the decision because it viewed "the departure of a large number of PLO fighters as a step consistent with our objective of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon."

**Bomb Explosion At U.S. Embassy In Kuwait**

Meanwhile, Romberg said that the bomb which exploded today at the American Embassy in Kuwait, "will not deter us from pursuing a steady policy in the Middle East." Four non-American personnel of the Embassy were killed and 37 others injured after a truck crashed through the main gate of the Embassy compound, went 50 yards, to the Embassy annex where a large bomb was detonated.

The explosion collapsed part of the annex, the largest building in the compound and caused extensive damage to the chancery and to other buildings in the compound. Romberg said that some of the 65 Americans employed at the Embassy were injured but none of them had to be hospitalized.

"We don't know who is responsible" for the attacks which included several other locations in Kuwait, including the French Embassy, Romberg said. He said an organization calling itself "Islamic Jihad" claimed responsibility. He said this was the same name used by the group claiming responsibility for the bombings at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and the marine headquarters there last month. "We have no idea whether they are related," Romberg said.

Meanwhile, Romberg said that Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, is in Abu Dhabi. He denied a report that Rumsfeld was to have been in Kuwait today.

**ITALY AND ISRAEL SIGN ACCORD ON FUTURE ECONOMIC, AGRICULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS**  
By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Italy and Israel have signed a broad agreement defining their future economic, agricultural, scientific, technological and cultural relationships and ways to deal with problems arising from Israel's agricultural exports from the impending admission of Spain and Portugal into the European Economic Community (EEC).

The far-reaching accord was finalized during the two-day meeting here last week of a joint commission of the two nations headed by Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister, Yehuda Ben-Meir and Bruno Corti, the Italian Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs. The commission, established by a 1954 agreement, had not met for the past 20 years. From now on, however, it will convene annually. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Jerusalem in 1984.

The agreement contains provisions aimed against Arab "blacklists" which are an element of the Arab League boycott of Israel. It emphasizes the importance of "free, non-discriminatory trade between countries" and pledges both nations "to deepen their efforts to eliminate any cause or obstacle which might interfere with or hamper economic relations" between them.

Another essential provision commits the two countries to sign an agreement to encourage and protect the investments of each in the other's territory. As a first step, Italy has undertaken to send a delegation of key industrialists and businessmen, headed by an official person, to the Isratech Fair in Jerusalem next May. The fair will feature Israel's technological advances of the past decade.

Italy will also participate in the Jerusalem international economic conference which is expected to be attended by industrialists from all parts of the world.

Existing agreements for scientific research and cooperation will be expanded. An Italian delegation will visit Israel next year to discuss the creation of a permanent bilateral "instrument to encourage and facilitate" scientific cooperation.

The two countries will also study the creation of a joint fund for agricultural research and development. The calendar limitations on Israeli agricultural exports to Italy will be reviewed with the aim of extending the dates.

#### Discussions To Find Acceptable Solutions

Italy has also formally notified Israel of its willingness to convene a Council of Cooperation between Israel and the EEC countries during the first quarter of 1984. Such a council exists and was last convened in 1980 but suspended because of the Lebanese war.

Italy has promised that prior to approving the admission of Spain and Portugal to the Common Market it will make sure that intensive discussions are held among the Mediterranean countries to find acceptable solutions to problems that face Israeli agricultural exports. The Israelis are particularly concerned over Spanish competition as an exporter of agricultural products to the EEC countries, particularly citrus.

#### Commission On Tourism To Meet

Both countries agreed to convene their joint commission on tourism within the next six months. The commission was established in 1973 but has never met. The purpose will be to examine ways to increase the flow of tourists between Israel and Italy. Last year, 170,000 Israelis visited Italy, mainly Sicily and 40,000 Italian tourists visited Israel.

Under the new agreement, Italy and Israel will seek to generate joint tourism from third countries, particularly from the Americas and Far East. To do this, the national airlines of Italy and Israel — Alitalia and El Al — will cooperate. Alitalia presently brings large numbers of tourists to the Mediterranean region from Japan and El Al has its most important markets in North and South America.

Finally, Italy and Israel agreed to the joint production of films. During his stay here, Ben-Meir released current figures on trade. In 1982, Italy's exports to Israel amounted to \$442 million against Israeli exports to Italy of \$202 million. This represented a 12.2 percent increase in trade over 1981 and a doubling of total trade between the countries since 1975. Under the new agreement, efforts will be made to narrow the trade gap.

#### BONN, TEL AVIV TO SIGN ACCORD

BONN, Dec. 12 (JTA) — The cities of Bonn and Tel Aviv will on December 20 sign a "friendship accord" providing for wide-ranging programs and contacts in the fields of culture, education, science and tourism. Both cities have committed themselves to deepening their contacts in these fields and others

to the extent of their respective financial resources. The accord will be signed in a ceremony in Tel Aviv by Mayor Shlomo Lahat and Bonn Mayor Hans Daniels. The Bonn delegation will be in Israel December 18-22. While there the group will visit Jerusalem.

#### FRANCE STILL FAVORS THE PEACEFUL EVACUATION OF ARAFAT AND HIS PLO FORCES FROM TRIPOLI

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 12 (JTA) — France still favors the unimpeded evacuation of PLO chief Yasir Arafat and some 4,000 of his men from Tripoli where they are besieged by dissident forces on land and Israeli ships at sea. Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said today that France and America are "in full agreement" on the need to evacuate the Palestinians from the northern Lebanese port.

Greece, which is due to supply the ships for the evacuation, has asked France, the United States, Italy and Britain for naval protection. In its turn, France has asked Israel for assurances that it will not open fire at the evacuation vessels. The French say Israel has not yet replied, though Israeli officials were quoted as having said yesterday that "Arafat will have to keep on guessing till the last moment."

French sources said here today the Greek evacuation ships have not left Athens and are still waiting for multinational escort vessels.

The French government continues to believe that no lasting solution to the Middle East conflict can be found without active PLO participation and that Arafat has both a unifying and moderating influence. French policy aims at enabling Arafat to leave Tripoli with his political prestige unscathed.

#### Jewish Groups Protest French Attitude

Jewish organizations in France have vehemently protested against this attitude. The Representative Council of Major French Jewish Organizations (CRIF) said yesterday this policy "can no longer be defended following last week's terrorist bus attack in Jerusalem."

CRIF president Theo Klein called on President Francois Mitterrand to adopt a more balanced policy "now that Arafat and the PLO have shown that they are definitely opposed to any peaceful solution."

#### CIVIL SERVANTS ON STRIKE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 12 (JTA) — Government and national institution employees throughout the country continued their partial strike for a second day today to protest what they termed plans to reduce their real wages. The employees reported for work but refused to deal directly with the public.

The union representing the civil servants said the government had promised in writing, exactly a year ago, to refrain from taking measures which would reduce real incomes. But plans to reduce overtime and cut back on travel allowances would cause a severe reduction, the union said, because car and travel allowances are normally regarded as an integral part of income.

Yesterday, the strike also affected the government press office, which issued official bulletins but did not provide foreign correspondents with translations of press articles and editorials as usual. The Foreign Ministry's regular press briefing was also cancelled.

The week-long strike of stevedores at the nation's ports continued today, but in reduced form. They began loading fruits and vegetables for shipment to European markets in time for Christmas, but at the port of Ashdod oranges and lemons were not loaded because the citrus marketing board personnel declared a strike today.

The strike of the stevedores resulted in the loss of millions of dollars to farmers. Tons of fruits and vegetables had to be destroyed after a week's exposure on the docks. Hundreds of tons of produce were salvaged by being air-freighted to Europe, but this added to shipping costs and reduced farmers' income. Today's strike by the citrus marketing board personnel followed the announcement that a score of temporary workers were being dismissed.

#### Universities Face Closedown

Meanwhile, Israeli universities are facing a closedown tomorrow morning if sufficient government funds are not made available by midnight tonight. University representatives met today with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad. Tel Aviv University president Yoram Dinstein, chairman of the Council of University Presidents, said Shamir had expressed understanding of the financial plight of the universities "but no *tachlis* (practical results) emerged."

Dinstein said the universities need immediately some \$50 million to enable them to continue research and teaching. "There's time till midnight for him (Cohen-Orgad) to come up with some plans," Dinstein said. The university presidents continued to remain in telephone contact with the Finance Minister during the day.

#### ARENS: U.S. - ISRAELI RELATIONS ARE 'BETTER THAN EVER' By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens said last night that present American-Israeli relations are "better than ever." He predicted that this relationship will last for a long time.

Addressing more than 1,600 people at Yeshiva University's 59th annual Chanukah dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Arens noted that the improved relations between the two countries "stem" from the war in Lebanon. He noted that at the outset the war in Lebanon brought "friction" between Israel and the U.S. "But finally it brought understanding that the United States and Israel share common strategic interests," the Defense Minister said.

Arens said that recent events in Lebanon had brought better American understanding of what and who we are up against. "He said that the agreement of cooperation reached recently between the U.S. and Israel was needed in order "to coordinate our moves, so Lebanon will become again a free country. We are presently pledged to work together to attain this goal."

Arens said that Israeli troops will withdraw from south Lebanon "only when we are assured that terrorist gangs will not return to the area after we depart. Syria, he continued, "threatens war against Israel. We are prepared and strong and able to defend ourselves."

The Israeli minister devoted most of his speech to Israel's urgent need for *aliya*. He said that Israel receives "moral, political and economic" support from the American Jewish community on an unprecedented

scale. "But most of all, Israel needs people," he declared.

Arens contended that "The creation of Israel and its development have been paced by the rate of *aliya*. Had there been more *aliya* over the years, Israel would have been established earlier and would be stronger today. Had there been less, the State of Israel might not have come into being, it certainly would be weaker today."

He continued: "Aliya is still Israel's central challenge. What is referred to as our 'demographic problem' is just another way of saying that secure borders and *aliya* to Israel go together."

"This is the challenge that faces us -- all of us survivors of the Holocaust. It faces us in Israel and you in America. It cannot be ignored -- it has to be addressed. Means must be found -- I say can be found -- to meet this challenge. This is the test of our leadership and yours. It will no doubt be seen as such in future generations. It is a test we dare not fail."

Earlier in the evening, Arens and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick received honorary Doctor of Law degrees from the University.

In brief remarks after the ceremony, Kirkpatrick said that the new cooperation agreement between Israel and the U.S. is "a cause for celebration." She said that this is "affirmation of the close alliance between Israel and the U.S.," adding: "The U.S. and Israel had had, has and will have a very close relationship."

During last night's dinner, gifts and pledges totaling some \$10 million were announced on behalf of Yeshiva University. That \$10 million will be counted toward the goal set for the University's Century Campaign, a drive established to raise \$100 million before the University's Centennial in 1986.

#### SHAMIR: OLD UNDERGROUND FIGHTING SPIRIT CAN ASSURE ISRAELI BORDERS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir told a meeting of veterans of the pre-State Irgun Zvai Leumi that peace on Israel's borders would be assured by a renewal of the old underground fighting spirit. His statement was greeted with unabashed enthusiasm. Shamir had been a leader of the Stern group which broke away from the Irgun.

The meeting last night marked the 40th anniversary of the Irgun's declaration of "rebellion" against the British Mandatory authorities. The audience had hoped that former Premier Menachem Begin, who led the Irgun, would appear at their rally, but he failed to do so. He was in the process of settling into his new apartment in Jerusalem after having moved from the Prime Minister's official residence earlier in the day. Shamir took Begin's place at the meeting.

#### EVIDENCE ON GAS CHAMBERS PUBLISHED

LONDON, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- In light of continued attempts to deny the facts of the Holocaust, the World Jewish Congress reported today the publication in Germany of an important book entitled "National-Socialist Mass Killings by Way of Poison Gas: A Documentation." According to the WJC research arm here, the Institute of Jewish Affairs, the book is the first systematic collection of documents and reports by witnesses of that gruesome chapter of Nazi policy. It was a major undertaking, the collective work of 24 authors from Germany -- headed by State Attorney Dr. Axel Ruckerl -- Israel, France, Poland, Austria and The Netherlands.

## PROGRAM PLANNED TO TRAIN CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS TO IMPROVE THEIR TEACHING ABOUT JEWS AND JUDAISM

SARASOTA, Fla., Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Plans for a training program for teachers in church schools in the Sarasota area, to improve their teaching about Jews and Judaism, were approved at a two-day "Faith Without Prejudice" conference here, Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, reported today.

Rudin said the conference, which ended last Friday, attracted a "record attendance" of more than 600 participants, most of them Christians.

He said the projected teacher training program, for both Protestant and Catholic schools, will be organized at a meeting, probably in January, "hopefully" to begin next September. He said the AJCommittee will be one of the plan's sponsors and that another sponsor will be the Sarasota Ministerial Association.

### 'Lifeline Letters' Campaign Announced

Rudin reported also that those at the conference agreed to participate in "Lifeline Letters," a campaign to enlist commitments for writing letters, sending holiday cards and other indications of support to Soviet Jewish refuseniks. Lifeline Letters is a project of Operation Lifeline, which is sponsored by the National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry and the AJCommittee.

During the two-day conference, two major local dailies, the St. Petersburg Independent and the Tampa Tribune, reporting on the conference, published the names of 150 refuseniks, most of them Jews but including some Christians persecuted by Soviet officials.

Speakers at the conference included Rudin; Father John Pawlikowski, professor of social ethics at the Catholic Theological Union of the University of Chicago; and Dr. David Taylor of Orange Park, Fla., a long-time leader in the National and World Council of Churches.

### The Most Crucial Battleground

Rudin said that "perhaps the most crucial battleground in the war against religious prejudice is the classroom. Anti-Semitism, racism and bigotry have no place in our teaching materials and school curriculums." He described the work of the AJCommittee in persuading Christian educators to eliminate anti-Jewish materials from their textbooks and teaching programs.

Pawlikowski expressed satisfaction that "many of the traditional stereotypes of Jews and Christians have disappeared in recent decades" but he warned that "a potential remains for continued distortion."

Taylor told the conference that "our respective religious commitments have tended to lead us at times to social and political courses of action that set our faith communities at odds with one another," adding that "maintaining 'faith without prejudice' is crucial, both for our religious self-identity for our common life in society."

The conference was sponsored by the Sarasota Ministerial Association, the Sarasota Jewish Federation Community Relations Council and the AJCommittee.

### 3 HOUSES IN WEST BANK OCCUPIED BY TERRORISTS ARE DEMOLISHED BY ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- Three houses in

the West Bank occupied by Arabs who had confessed to terrorist activities against Jews which resulted in deaths were demolished last night by Israeli security forces. Another three houses belonging to Arabs who confessed to terrorist activities but which did not lead to loss of lives were sealed off. Among the houses destroyed were those of the alleged murderers of yeshiva student Aharon Gross in Hebron last July.

The terrorists, whose houses were destroyed -- two in Hebron and one in Ramallah -- were members of a Moslem religious organization whose members confessed to killing Gross, according to the security forces. Gross was stabbed to death near the Hebron marketplace. His Uzi rifle was stolen and was later found hidden in Hebron.

The sealed houses -- all in Hebron -- belonged to a three-member terrorist gang who were active in the Al Fatah wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Israeli authorities said. That gang had been exposed last October. According to the authorities, the leader of the gang received his military training in the Al Fatah, which included the use of rifles, the preparation of explosives, and the use of hand grenades.

The gang allegedly attacked Israeli targets in the Hebron area between June and September this year. Among the targets were Beit Hadassah and Beit Romano in Hebron occupied by settlers, and an attack against an Israeli vehicle and an Arab policeman in Hebron. Israeli authorities said members of both gangs would be brought to trial in a military court.

### ARAB-JEWISH COMMITTEE FORMED BY Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12 (JTA) -- An Arab-Jewish committee for mutual understanding in Israel was formed here today, pledging to combat the "increasing phenomena of racism" in Israel.

Committee organizers said the committee plans a Jewish-Arab rally in Nazareth this Saturday, which they said had been decided on mainly in response to recent clashes between Jews and Arabs in upper Nazareth, the Jewish section of Nazareth, after Jews there raised objections to plans of Arabs to settle in that section.

Speaking at a press conference here, the organizers put on Jews major blame for "racist phenomena against Arab citizens." One of the organizers said "the large number of such phenomena turns on many red lights, which necessitate appropriate reaction."

Dr. Bassam Touma of Nazareth noted a number of statements by Jews in support of the committee's complaint. He mentioned statements such as that of former IDF commanding officers comparing Arabs to "drugged cockroaches;" one by former Gen. Avigdor Ben Gal that the Arabs were "a cancerous growth in the heart of the nation;" and what Touma said was a reported plan by Res. Gen. Aharon Yariv for "thinning out of the Arab population in time of emergency."

Touma said the "climax" was the activity against Arab residents in upper Nazareth. He said that "as an Israeli, I am ashamed that, in a democratic state, I cannot live in Kamel or (upper) Nazareth."

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PARIS (JTA) -- Paris Mayor and opposition leader Jacques Chirac plans to visit Israel next summer. Chirac is a former French Gaullist Premier and the opposition's main contender for the next presidential elections. Chirac has never visited Israel but has drawn closer to Israel in recent years.