

ATTEMPTED MASS SABOTAGE OF ARAB OWNED BUSES SHOCKS ISRAELIS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 29 (JTA) — Israelis were shocked today by the attempted mass sabotage of Arab-owned buses in East Jerusalem by what apparently is a well organized gang of Jewish extremists based in the occupied territories.

The attempt was foiled early Friday morning when police sappers safely dismantled time bombs planted in six buses only hours before they were to begin operating on a route from the center of East Jerusalem to the Arab village of Kalandiya on the northern outskirts of the city.

As of noon today, at least 30 suspects had been rounded up and remanded in custody for 15 days by district court judges all over the country. Under the law, none could be immediately identified. But information filtering to the media indicated that most were residents of the West Bank and Golan Heights and the rest of Israel proper.

The Voice of Israel Radio said today that one of the suspects is a Gush Emunim leader arrested this morning in the West Bank settlement of Ofra.

Cabinet Condemns Sabotage Attempt

The Cabinet, at its weekly meeting today, roundly condemned the sabotage attempt and had high praise for the security authorities. Premier Yitzhak Shamir denounced the perpetrators. He said the security forces had prevented a "disaster" that might have resulted in the murder of dozens of people and done immense damage to Israel.

Deputy Premier David Levy told reporters after the Cabinet session that "every expression of violence must be strongly condemned."

Yediot Achronot reported today that the suspects included residents of about 10 settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as Jerusalem and settlements inside Israel. One of them is a resident of Kiryat Arba, the Gush Emunim stronghold overlooking Hebron.

According to the newspaper he is the father of five children and is expecting a sixth child. Another suspect, Yediot Achronot said, is a veteran settler of Kibbutz Ramat Magshimim on the Golan Heights, and a third is a career army officer.

The newspaper Davar reported today that several of the suspects are veteran members of Gush Emunim, religious activists who pursue mass Jewish settlement of the West Bank on grounds that the territory is part of Israel's Biblical heritage. A number of the suspects were prominent in the resistance against Israel's evacuation of Sinai in 1982, Davar said.

According to Davar, the suspects also include relatives of Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the Gush Emunim leader in Kiryat Arba and Hebron. Levinger himself condemned the sabotage attempt.

Jewish settlers on the West Bank generally seemed to have been taken by surprise when news of the sabotage attempt broke late Friday afternoon. Most were already observing the Sabbath and received the reports by word-of-mouth after it was broadcast on Jordanian television and news media abroad.

The initial reaction in the territories was shock. Yoel Bin-Nun, a settlers' leader, was quoted as saying, "Those who planted bombs in Arab buses also planted bombs underneath the entire Jewish settlement (movement) of Judaea and Samaria."

But by the end of the Sabbath, the early expressions of shock turned to disbelief and later to charges of scapegoating. Kiryat Arba residents demanded today that the authorities lift the news blackout on the investigation. The community expressed anger over the "mass arrests" and claimed the authorities were "smearing" the settlement movement. Members of several West Bank settlements began arranging for legal counsel for the suspects.

The Labor Party issued a statement today demanding that the authorities undertake a major effort to root out Jewish vigilantism. The party commended the security services for their prompt action but warned that they have not yet exposed "all the dimensions of this dangerous organization."

Trained Underground Movement Indicated

The Israeli media was unanimous today in the belief that the large number of suspects from the territories indicated that the attempted sabotage was the work of a well trained underground movement centered in the settlements.

The security authorities were reported to be investigating a link between this group and the Jewish extremists, still not apprehended, who were responsible for the bombings that maimed two Arab mayors four years ago, the attack on students at the Islamic College in Hebron last year and other similar acts of violence against Arabs.

There was also virtually unanimous agreement that had the sabotage gone undetected, scores, maybe hundreds of people would have been killed or injured.

Details released by the authorities indicated that the security agencies may have acted on inside information, possibly from an informant within the underground gang. Haaretz reported that the security forces were alerted by an agent who was involved in the sabotage operation but there was no confirmation of this. Police said the arrests were the result of two years of intensive investigation.

Explosions Intended To Coincide With Rush Hour

The targeted buses are owned by the Jouani family of East Jerusalem. They were parked outside the homes of their drivers. Early Friday morning the drivers were awakened by police sappers who came to inspect the buses.

In six of the vehicles they found bombs, each weighing about four kilos, timed to explode Friday afternoon. The explosions were apparently timed to coincide with the rush hour when Arabs would be returning home to celebrate Isra Wal Meera, a Moslem holiday marking the ascent to heaven of the Prophet Mohammed.

Police noted that the buses carrying the bombs would have been passing through densely populated neighborhoods of Arab East Jerusalem and the explosions might have killed not only passengers but hundreds of people in the streets.

PANEL APPOINTED TO PROBE DEATHS OF FOUR TERRORISTS; HIGH COURT REJECTS APPEAL BY PAPER AGAINST ITS SUSPENSION FOR VIOLATING CENSORSHIP
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 29 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Arens has appointed a commission to investigate the circumstances surrounding the deaths of four terrorists when Israeli troops stormed a hijacked inter-city bus early Friday, April 13, to rescue its passengers being held hostage.

At the same time, the authorities ordered the newspaper Hadoshot suspended for four days for breach of censorship. The tabloid reported the establishment of the inquiry commission before it was officially announced. The Supreme Court today rejected an appeal by the paper against the suspension.

Arens announced that the commission would be headed by Maj. Gen. (Res) Meir Zorea, a former Defense Ministry Comptroller, and that its report would be published. According to the Defense Ministry, Arens instructed Zorea to complete his investigation as quickly as possible.

The investigation was prompted by widespread media reports at home and abroad that at least one of the terrorists was taken into custody unharmed, implying that he was subsequently murdered. All four residents of the Gaza Strip, were buried on April 15 under army supervision.

David Shieler, The New York Times correspondent in Jerusalem, was summoned to the government press office last week and was reprimanded by its head, Morton Dolinsky, for dispatching his report of the incident to New York without submitting it to the censor. He was taken to task for a "serious breach" of censorship regulations.

Contentions And Counter-Contentions

Reporters present when troops surrounded and then assaulted the Tel Aviv-to-Ashkelon Egged bus were quoted by Israel Radio as saying that two of the terrorists were killed on the spot. Arens was later quoted as saying that he had no reason to disbelieve the army account that the other two died of their wounds shortly afterwards, one of them on the way to a hospital.

But a photograph, taken by a Hadoshot reporter, showed one man, apparently unharmed, being led away from the scene handcuffed by two plainclothes Israeli security men. Friends and relatives later identified the man as 18 year-old Majdi Abu Jama, of Beni Shuheila village in the Gaza Strip, one of the bus hijackers.

Arens originally said the incident was being "routinely" investigated by the army. He announced the special inquiry after demands by opposition politicians and local editors for a thorough investigation of what happened after the hijacked bus was freed.

The authorities cracked down on Hadoshot, a new tabloid owned by the Schoken family, publishers of the independent daily Haaretz. While the Supreme Court upheld the four-day suspension order, Hadoshot won a 30-day injunction against an order by the Defense Minister barring sale of the newspaper in army camps.

The Press Council and the Editors Committee have refused to back up Hadoshot because it "broke the censorship law." But observers suggested that the Council and the Committee decided the issue was not a matter of "freedom of the press" because of their ongoing dispute with the publishers of Hado-

shot. They do not belong to either group, do not employ members of the Journalists Association and do not pay their reporters union wages.

5,000 MARK 41st ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING; SPEAKERS AND AUDIENCE VOW NEVER TO FORGET
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA) -- More than 5,000 people, mostly Holocaust survivors, their children and grandchildren, participated today in the 41st annual commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising at Temple Emanu-El here. They packed the sanctuary and crowded the streets outside, listening in hushed silence to the speeches, the songs, prayers, hymns and spoken recollections of the Holocaust, and the vows never to forget.

The event drew non-Jews as well as Jews to the hour-and-a-half ceremonies in the stately Reform synagogue facing Manhattan's Central Park. It was attended by New York political and civic leaders. But the emphasis was on the second and third generations, the offspring of the Holocaust survivors who were enjoined by speaker after speaker to bear witness into the future so that the past will not be repeated.

A Holocaust Can Happen Again

Benjamin Meed, chairman of the United Commemoration Committee and president of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, said that today, in 1984, the world has realized that the tragedy of the Holocaust suffered by Jews "can happen again -- this time on a cosmic scale -- to all peoples.

"It took us a long time, almost a lifetime -- 41 years -- but today we are no longer alone," Meed said. "And it is all because the survivors kept faith with the final commandment imparted to us by the kedoshim (martyrs) -- 'Zichor' -- Remember."

"Let us remember the Holocaust as it was," Meed said. "It was painful. It was bitter. It was ugly. It was inhumane. But it was real. Let us not permit the Holocaust to be diluted or vulgarized. Let us not diminish its meaning in treating every event in human history -- every instance of human suffering and discrimination -- as a mini-Holocaust."

Need To Continue Parents' Work

Menachem Rosensaft, chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, also spoke directly to the younger generation, "We, the sons and daughters of the survivors of the Holocaust have committed ourselves to providing the necessary continuity for our parents' work -- your work -- of the past 30 years," he said.

"Together with you, we shall protect and perpetuate the sanctity and the inviolability of the memory of the Holocaust. We shall prevent it from being exploited, mythologized or desecrated by anyone for any purpose."

Rosensaft added: "But we have another, equally critical responsibility. Tragically, the basic character of man has not changed since 1945. We live in a world of ever-escalating anti-Semitism ... At the same time, atrocities in Central America and India, the brutal persecution of the Bahai in Iran, and the continuing international disgrace represented by South Africa's reprehensible policy of apartheid serve to remind us that Jews are never the only victims of the world's evil and venality.

"Thus, it is not enough for us only to commemorate the past. Rather, we must be sensitive to all forms of human suffering, and we must take our place at the

forefront of the struggle against racial hatred and oppression of any kind." Ambassador Meir Rosenne of Israel told the audience, "After the atrocities committed by the Nazis, we witness today a new type of atrocity: Jews being killed by Arab terrorists, whether in Munich at the Olympic games, in a kindergarten in Nahariya, in a school in Maalot and in a bus going to Ashkelon. All those who condone terrorism, whether the truck bombs in Beirut or the killing of Jews in the streets of Jerusalem, all those who claim Israel should negotiate with the terrorists of the PLO are in fact lending support to such acts."

Rosenne added that "The world should finally understand that terrorism knows no borders and that the only way to fight terrorism is to adopt sanctions against all countries that give assistance to terrorists." He pledged that Israel will ensure for ever the existence of the Jewish homeland "and will make sure that the generations that follow will know and cherish the memory of those who died so that we may live."

Koch Scores Farrakhan And Jackson

Mayor Edward Koch of New York City read a proclamation designating this date, April 29, as Warsaw Ghetto Commemoration Day in New York. Koch, in brief remarks, denounced Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan who said in a radio address recently that Hitler was a "great man"; and the Mayor castigated Democratic Presidential hopeful Rev. Jesse Jackson for not repudiating Farrakhan's support. "But we are here today to say as loudly and as clearly as we can that the memory and the meaning of the Holocaust will never be forgotten," Koch said.

'We Will Not Forget'

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R. NY) stated: "At a time when some are attempting to deny the history of the Holocaust, our presence here today is more important than ever. Be we Jew or gentile, we have a moral obligation to those who endured the Holocaust and to those generations who know nothing about it.

"The candles we light in the memory of the millions slain 40 years ago illuminate much more than the walls of this synagogue. They provide proof positive that we will not forget, that we will not let others forget, that we will continue to fight against barbarism," D'Amato said.

Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, who was to have addressed the memorial ceremonies was unable to appear. An aide, Carl Gershman, read a message from the envoy which also contained greetings and expressions of moral support from President Reagan.

Kirkpatrick's message noted the long list of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish resolutions and proclamations at the UN and observed that when some Western delegates tell her it is just rhetoric, she reminds them that the Holocaust had its roots in the rhetoric of Hitler and the Nazis.

Other Elements In The Ceremonies

The ceremonies at Temple Emanu-El, broadcast live on radio station WEVD, were highlighted by a collective recitation of Kaddish and the chanting of the El Mole Rahamim by Cantor Misha Raitzin. The hymn, "Ani Maamin" (I Believe) was sung by the Temple Emanu-El choir.

The choir of the Kinneret Day School, 100 children, entered the sanctuary carrying candles which later formed a large Star of David. The youngsters sang in Hebrew, Yiddish and English. A solemn candle-lighting ceremony was conducted by six survivors, representing the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

GREEK JEWRY COMMEMORATES 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLOCAUST

ATHENS, April 29 (JTA) -- With senior members of the Greek government in attendance, including Margaret Papandreou, the wife of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreaou, the Jewish community here commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Holocaust of Greek Jewry at a memorial service before an overflow crowd of 1,000 people at the old Jewish cemetery.

Greek Jewry lost 86 percent of its members during the years of Nazi barbarism. The murder of innocent men, women and children started in 1943 in Salonika, the "mother of Sephardic Judaism," where 96 percent of all Jews were slaughtered. The great majority were exterminated in concentration camps in Poland, particularly Auschwitz.

The commemorative services were organized by the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece, the representative body of Greek Jewry and the World Jewish Congress affiliate here. The services -- highlights of which were carried on Greek television -- began with a recital of Kaddish at the site of the Holocaust memorial in the central cemetery. Six memorial candles were lit and an introductory memorial address was delivered by Raphael Sabethai, the secretary-general of the Central Board.

Local And Foreign Dignitaries Participate

In a moving ceremony, wreaths were laid at the memorial marker by representatives of the destroyed Jewish communities of Greece as well as by local and foreign dignitaries.

Among those who placed wreaths were Athens Mayor Dimitri Beis; Joseph Lovinger, president of the Central Board; Kalman Sultanic, representing the WJCongress and the United States Holocaust Memorial Council; Yehuda Bar Ner, Israel's diplomatic representative in Athens; and special emissaries of Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany and opposition leader Willy Brandt.

Sultanic told the solemn assembly that "we dedicate ourselves to Auschwitz -- never again" and that the commemoration expresses "to the whole world over, both individually and communally, the oneness and the unity of the Jewish people, with the centrality of Israel."

Addressing Mrs. Papandreou, he recalled her recent visit to New York at the home of WJCongress president Edgar Bronfman as a manifestation of renewed efforts toward Greek-Jewish mutual understanding. In the context of these efforts, Sultanic said that world Jewry applauded the legislation recently adopted by the Greek Parliament outlawing anti-Semitic discrimination and was pleased to learn of the recent visit of the Director-General of the Greek Foreign Ministry to Israel.

"We hope that the friendship between Israel and Greece is a burgeoning one, and that it will continue to grow until the culmination of an official diplomatic relationship -- long overdue," Sultanic said.

KIMCHE: ISRAEL CAN'T LEAVE LEBANON UNTIL IT IS CERTAIN OF SECURITY OF ITS NORTHERN BORDER AND THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE IN SOUTH LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 29 (JTA) — David Kimche, Director-General of the Israel Foreign Ministry, maintained here that Israel cannot leave south Lebanon until it is certain not only of the security of its northern border but of the safety of the people living in south Lebanon.

Kimche, in a talk at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) last Friday, stressed that those who call for Israel to withdraw now do not take into account that such a withdrawal could endanger the 50,000-70,000 Christians in south Lebanon as well as the tens of thousands of Palestinians in the refugee camps near Sidon.

"If we were just to get out and leave without anybody taking over I believe there would be very, very great danger of acts of massacre on a very large scale against those two communities," he said.

He said that "we showed our willingness to withdraw when we signed the May 17 (1983) agreement. We had no intention of staying and we have no intention of staying."

Kimche stressed that Israel "wants to leave as soon as possible, but only when we can be fairly reasonably certain that there will be security measures which will prevent massacres on the one hand and which prevent the return of hostile elements and terrorist attacks on our settlements and villages on the other hand." He said the Lebanese army has not shown the capability or the willingness to do so as of yet.

Israel's Entry Into Lebanon Was Unavoidable

Kimche said he was "absolutely convinced that we had no choice" and that Israel's going into Lebanon in June, 1982 "was completely unavoidable." He said it was made unavoidable by the "tremendous buildup" of arms by the Palestine Liberation Organization, especially after the July 1981 cease-fire agreements. He noted that the PLO was talking to Libya about putting in ground-to-ground missiles.

"We could not possibly stand by passively watching our towns and villages in northern Galilee gradually being emptied of population under the threat of Katyusha bombings," Kimche declared. "If we had not entered Lebanon the entire Galilee would have eventually become an abnormal frontline zone and this we would not have afforded to happen. Our country is small enough as it is."

Kimche said that events in Lebanon have proven that the creation of a strong central government in Lebanon is "wishful thinking" although he credited President Amin Gemayel with having "tried valiantly." He implied that Gemayel's assassinated brother, Bashir, might have accomplished it.

He envisioned as the solution for Lebanon a series of ethnic cantons, noting that the Druze and the Christians already had such "de facto" cantons. Lebanon should be "neutralized" and taken out of the Arab-Israeli conflict as sort of a Mideast Switzerland or Austria, Kimche suggested.

But he stressed that while this may take years, it did not mean that the conditions for Israeli withdrawal could not come sooner.

On the wider issue of Mideast peace, Kimche said the next step should be "gradual but increasing realization in the Arab world that Israel exists and they can coexist with it." He saw encouraging signs in the trade that is now going on through Jordan and thousands of Arabs who come across the Allenby Bridge to visit Israel.

"I can only hope that the Jordanians will for once become more courageous and that King Hussein will at long last put his foot in the cold water of the swimming pool and dive in," he said. He pointed out that Israel has been "waiting for him since 1967" when then Defense Minister Moshe Dayan awaited a telephone call from the King.

Kimche rejected the argument that Israeli settlements were an obstacle to negotiations and said they should instead be an "incentive" for Hussein. He noted that there were only 30,000 Jewish settlers in Judeea, Samaria and Gaza against 1.2 million Arab inhabitants. "If King Hussein waits much longer, that 30,000 will probably be a great deal more," he warned.

Kimche noted that when Israeli Premier Menachem Begin met with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat at Camp David they "were poles apart, they couldn't have been further apart." He said if they were able to reach an agreement, then Israel and other Arab countries can do so, too.

"The important thing is to come and sit down and talk peace," he said. "I think that this is the very basic the most important factor in the Middle East today that so far none of our neighbors, with the exception of Egypt and Lebanon, have been willing to come and sit down."

Kimche said that since 1967 there has been a great deal of criticism and condemnation of Israel but "we haven't seen much pressure or much condemnation of those who refuse to come to the negotiating table." He said this has made the chances of them agreeing to negotiate "much less."

Peace With Egypt Is 'Very Firm'

As for Israel's peace with Egypt, Kimche said that while Israel would "like it to be a warmer peace," he believes it is "very very firm and in place." He said that Egypt wants to keep its relations with Israel in "low profile" in order to achieve a rapprochement with the Arab world. He added that while it is "legitimate" for Egypt to regain its place in the Arab world, Israel does not want to see it "at the expense" of Egypt's relations with Israel.

Kimche spoke at the AEI after two days of meetings with State Department officials. He said there is "a greater amount of understanding" between the U.S. and Israel than has existed for a long time and at present there are no basic differences.

At a meeting with reporters earlier Friday, Kimche denied that Israel is providing arms for the U.S.-backed Contras who are fighting the Sandinista government in Nicaragua. "We have not, we are not, and I presume, we will not be supplying arms or military equipment to the Contras," he said.

Kimche said Israel would sell arms only to "properly constituted" governments, but he said El Salvador is not receiving any Israeli arms. He said during his talks in Washington he discussed means of increasing Israel's technical assistance for peaceful purposes to the Third World, including Central America.