

**7 PEOPLE WOUNDED IN TERRORIST AMBUSH**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Seven persons were wounded in a terrorist highway ambush south of Beersheba yesterday evening. Five of the victims, all Israelis, were passengers and the driver of an Egged bus bound for Kiryat Arba, near Hebron. Two were Arabs in a car behind the bus. The driver suffered head wounds.

The attack occurred at 8:10 p.m. local time. According to a bus passenger, the vehicle was sprayed with automatic fire from a roadside olive grove. Bullets punctured the metal sides of the bus and left the windshield a mass of holes and cracked glass. There was blood on the steering column where the driver slumped when struck in the head. He may lose an eye.

Security forces and medical help was on the scene within minutes and the casualties were evacuated promptly. Roadblocks were set up causing miles' long traffic backups. Israeli troops, in full battle gear, scoured the area for the perpetrators.

A curfew was clamped on the nearby Al-Khader and Dehaisha refugee camps. Security forces turned back a group of militant Jewish settlers who marched on the Dehaisha camp from Kiryat Arba, headed by Gush Emunim leader Rabbi Moshe Levinger.

The ambush ended a day of relative quiet on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. There were several incidents of rock-throwing and a few Molotov cocktails were heaved at vehicles as demonstrators in the territories marked the second anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps massacre.

**FRANCE MAY PROVIDE ARMS TO JORDAN**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Jordan may receive sophisticated weaponry from France, including a counterpart of the "Stinger" anti-aircraft missile which the U.S. Congress recently denied Amman.

Defense Minister Charles Hernu, who ended a three-day visit to Jordan yesterday, said before his departure that France will help Jordan equip its armed forces with advanced weapons. A joint Franco-Jordan military committee has been set up to study Jordan's arms needs and decide on the priority of their supply, Hernu disclosed.

"It is impossible for France not to respond to Jordan's legitimate requests for arms," the French defense chief said. He met in Amman with Jordan's Defense Minister, Ahmad Obeidat and Chief of Staff Gen. Sharef Zeid Bin Shaker.

France has already sold Jordan 36 Mirage F-1 combat planes and aircraft manufacturers here hope Jordan will be able to acquire another one or two squadrons, plus combat and transport helicopters.

Since its failure to acquire the American "Stinger," Jordan has expressed interest in a French-produced missile with similar specifications. But it might decide instead to buy a cheaper Soviet model. King Hussein is expected to visit Moscow before the end of the year.

While in Jordan, Hernu visited air bases and watched Jordanian pilots and ground maintenance crews display their skills. France is believed to have agreed to train Jordanian air crews and engineering personnel at bases in France. Hernu will report on his mission to President Francois Mitterrand.

**1,100 PEOPLE ATTEND CONFERENCE ON RESCUERS OF JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Secretary of State George Shultz and Elie Wiesel, chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, made the same point during a ceremony last night opening a conference called "Faith in Humankind: Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust."

"What a terrible indictment that hardly any rescuers are to be found among the statesmen and leaders of the period," Shultz told more than 1,100 persons at the Kennedy Center. Wiesel noted that among those who had the "courage to care" there were few superior officers, few renowned writers, few influential politicians.

Shultz, who pointed out that Nazi Germany ended the belief that high education and culture will prevent a country from falling into racism and barbarity, said: "It may be that our real bulwark against tyranny and evil is not high culture but the good sense and humane instincts of average citizens who know the difference between right and wrong."

**'A Small Light In A Vast Darkness'**

The ceremony last night, which included musical performances by violinist Erick Friedman and pianist Emanuel Ax, and readings by Carol Kane and Werner Klemperer, honored the rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust. Dr. John Silber, president of Boston University, called them a "small light in a vast darkness."

A two-day conference sponsored by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council opened today at the State Department in which rescuers, survivors and scholars will remember the events of World War II and discuss why a few people acted to save Jews and most people did not.

Dr. Yitzhak Arad, chairman of the Directorate of the Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, said the Yad Vashem has discovered more than 5,000 rescuers and trees have been planted in their honor at the Holocaust Memorial as "the righteous among the nations."

Seventy-five of the rescuers were present last night and they stood to loud applause while the chorus sang "Ani Maamin."

Lillian Gaffney of Belgium, whose parents rescued 30 Jews, said they had believed it was "not only the right thing but the only thing to do." Her mother, Germaine Belinne, is participating in the conference.

Bayard Rustin, the civil rights leader and a member of the Holocaust Council, noted that to rescue Jews required a "small act." Wiesel added that nations also could have taken small steps, saying the State Department could have given more visas to Jews.

Wiesel stressed that "Jews also tried to save Jews" and that the State of Israel demonstrates to the world how a country can "save communities from persecution and death."

**Universal Implications Of The Holocaust**

Wiesel said that while the Holocaust was a "unique Jewish tragedy, it has universal implications." The same point was made by Shultz. He said the principles of the rescuers are being upheld today by Andrei Sakharov who gave up a high position in the Soviet Union to protest human rights violations; Soviet citizens who are administering the Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn Fund for families of dissidents even though it means jail; the

mothers in Argentina who protested the disappearance of their sons and helped bring down the Argentine dictatorship; and South Africans of all races who risk positions and life to "protest and expose the cruelties of apartheid."

While the Nazi genocide was "unique in the annals of human depravity," Shultz said, "in every generation the capacity for evil in the human spirit can be confronted and eventually defeated by justice and by sacrifice."

Whether it is "state-sponsored terrorism, genocide in Cambodia or anti-Semitism masquerading as anti-Zionism in the United Nations, the legacy of the rescuers admonishes us all to stand up and fight back," Shultz declared.

#### RELATIVES OF DEFENDANTS IN THE UNDERGROUND TRIAL DEMAND THAT THEIR RELATIVES GET LEAVE TO SPEND HOLIDAYS WITH THEIR FAMILIES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Relatives of defendants in the Jewish underground trial sent a letter today to Police Minister Haim Barlev demanding that their relatives get leave to spend the High Holy Days with their families. The relatives also began a campaign to get rabbis to sign a petition with the same demand. The two Chief Rabbis signed.

In their letter to Barlev, the relatives demanded "at least the same treatment given to Arab detainees who were released during the recent Moslem holiday of Id Al Adha from the Ansar camp." Ansar is a detention camp in south Lebanon. The relatives warned that if the defendants are not released for the holidays, they would conduct a protest prayer outside the Tel Mond prison, where they are held.

Meanwhile, the third day of the trial in Jerusalem was brief, less than a half hour. Michale Galy, a sapper officer at the police general headquarters laboratories, testified for the prosecution regarding explosives and other devices which were found in the homes of the defendants. The court was shown a video film which showed the devices, among them 113 old Syrian mines, 60 explosive charges and a large number of rifles.

In previous sessions of the trial, the defense persistently tried to weaken the case for the prosecution, mainly by suggesting that explosive material used to prepare bombs, which were discovered under five Arab-owned buses in Jerusalem last April 27, were spoiled and might not have been capable of causing damage or injuries.

But under questioning by the prosecution, Yonatan Licht, head of the police explosives laboratory, in Jerusalem, said that the explosives were placed under the buses in such a way that if detonated, they could have killed passengers.

#### WORKERS STRIKE JEWISH FEDERATION

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Negotiations between the United Jewish Federation of Metrowest in East Orange, New Jersey, and the union representing workers of the Federation and its federated agencies, broke down and 150 workers walked out yesterday the union chapter chairperson told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The issue was wages.

Dona Fliegel, chairperson of Local 215, District Council 1707 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), said the union members walked out under a master contract for the affected agencies — the Federation, the Jewish Counseling and Service Agency, the Y and the Jewish Vocational Service.

Fliegel said in the telephone report to the JTA, that she understands all of the struck offices were open and operating with managerial personnel. This was confirmed by Howard Charish, executive vice president of the Federation.

Fliegel said negotiations began the first week in June and settlement was reached on all other issues. She said the bottom line of management was a proposal for a wage increase of five percent a year for any two-year period. The local demanded a 15 percent increase for the two years — 7 1/2 percent for each year.

She said no new date had been set for more negotiations, Charish said yesterday that this was correct, pointing out that the strike had just begun. He said the Federation's commitment was to keep providing services and that "a fair and equitable offer was made to the union under current economic conditions." He said management had made no request for "givebacks."

Fliegel had told the JTA that the Federation did ask for "some givebacks" for new employes on medical-hospitalization outlays. Charish said this did not apply to any present employes.

Fliegel said the last previous walkout occurred in 1970 against the Jewish Community Federation of Metropolitan New Jersey, predecessor to the Metrowest Federation. She said that walkout lasted six weeks and that it was her "impression" that the union then had generally won its demands.

#### O'NEILL CITES GOALS, CHALLENGES OF THE NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT

BOSTON, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Rep. Thomas O'Neill (D. Mass.), Speaker of the House, said that the challenge to the new government of Israel will be "to accomplish austerity without weakening the country's defenses and without tattering the basic fabric of a decent and compassionate society."

"The goals of the new unity government are clear," he told the more than 500 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada attending the 1984 Israel Bond national leadership conference here. The goals, O'Neill said, are "sustainable economic improvement; realistic but improved living standards on all levels of Israeli society; and, most important, progress in securing peace and security not only for the State of Israel but for the entire region, so that cooperation and prosperity can displace the mistrust and hostility that continue to plague the Middle East."

The Congressman said that "cooperation with the United States promises to improve Israel's ability to pay for its defense by bringing efficiency into Israel's domestic defense industry and by altering the terms of United States aid to Israel. But the only way to dramatically reduce the cost of Israel's defense would be to bring a lasting peace to that region so that less defense will be needed."

"Israel cannot unilaterally launch a new era of peace," O'Neill said, "but progress will require a continuation of the sincere conciliatory efforts that culminated in the Camp David accord between Israel and Egypt."

He asserted that unless Israel goes through a painful period of restraint, even generous aid from the United States will not be able to prop up its reeling economy. "The new government of Israel," he said, "will have to make some painful choices."

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yehudah Halevy, president of Israel Bonds, expressed his confidence that the new government will overcome Israel's current financial problems and will lead the nation to new successes on the road to economic independence.

O'Neill received the Israel Bond Organization's Menorah Award in recognition of his 30 years of public service and support for Israel. The award was

presented to him by Leonard Florence of this city, a leader in the Bond campaign and a close personal friend of the House Speaker.

#### UN ASSEMBLY BEGINS 39th SESSION WITH MIDEAST CONFLICT AS DOMINANT THEME By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 18 (JTA) — The 39th session of the General Assembly opened this afternoon, seemingly in a conciliatory mood in view of the upcoming meeting between President Reagan and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on September 28 in Washington.

But diplomats here said today that the issue of the Middle East conflict will probably again dominate the meetings and discussions of the General Assembly this year as it has in past years.

#### Move To Deny Israel's Credentials

According to diplomats, Iran, Libya and Syria have been engaged in intensified efforts to deny Israel its credentials when the Credentials Committee presents its report for General Assembly approval. According to the diplomats, the three extremist countries have been lobbying in various capitals, especially among Moslem countries, to join in a vote to suspend Israel from the current session. If Israel's credentials are denied, it is, in effect, suspended from the General Assembly.

Two years ago, when Iran started to push the move to suspend Israel, it had only eight supporting votes. Last year the number of countries joining Iran's motion rose to 43. According to Ambassador Aryeh Levin, the Acting Ambassador of Israel to the UN, the number of countries supporting the Iranian move this year could increase to 48-50.

But, Levin explained today in a briefing for Israeli reporters, the Iranian move is expected to be thwarted as it was last year, by a motion to set aside the Iranian request until the end of the General Assembly. The Iranian plan thereby would be ignored by the Assembly. The set-aside motion last year was introduced by Norway and the similar motion this year is also expected to come from one of the Scandinavian countries.

#### Reagan, Shamir To Address The Assembly

Meanwhile, the general debate of the General Assembly will open next Monday with an address by President Reagan. Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Israel will be present during Reagan's address.

Shamir is scheduled to arrive here this Sunday and to remain in New York for 10 days to two weeks. He will address the General Assembly October 3. During his stay in New York, Shamir is expected to meet with about 30 Foreign Ministers from around the world. These include Secretary of State George Shultz and the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and other European nations as well as of countries of Africa and South America.

The new Israeli Ambassador to the UN, Binjamin Netanyahu, is expected to arrive in New York by the end of this week. He will present his credentials to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar next week. The Israeli delegation to the General Assembly will be strengthened by seven more members, due here from Israel.

The President of Argentina, Raul Alfonsin, who will address the General Assembly next Monday, will probably meet next week with Shamir.

According to Levin, the major Middle East issues will be dealt with during the Palestinian and Middle East debates when the Palestine Liberation Organization and Arab countries will press again for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The Middle East also will figure in the Security Council when, on October 19, the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) comes up for extension; and on November 30 when the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observers Force (UNDOF), which separates Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights, is also scheduled for extension. The mandates of both are expected to be extended.

Levin noted that the Arab Foreign Ministers are having a meeting in Tunis on September 23, before their arrival in New York for the General Assembly. The Arab Foreign Ministers could, if they so wish, revive the issue of Israeli settlements at the Security Council.

The major general issues at this year's General Assembly will be economic and disarmament questions and the threat of famine in Africa. "But the most noisy debate and shouting will take place about the Middle East and Israel," one diplomat remarked here today.

#### MUBARAK CONGRATULATES PERES ON BECOMING PRIME MINISTER

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18 (JTA) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt sent a message to Shimon Peres, congratulating him on becoming Premier of Israel and reportedly urging Israel to take "decisions that will remove obstacles on the path of the peace process."

The message was conveyed to Peres today by the Egyptian Charge d' Affairs, Mohammed Bassiouni. The latter, who is the ranking Egyptian diplomat in Israel since Cairo recalled its Ambassador two years ago, told reporters after his meeting with Peres that Egypt required three conditions for thawing its "cold peace" with Israel.

He said these were the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon; improvement in Israel's relations with the Palestinians living under its occupation; and resumption of negotiations over Taba, a disputed strip of land on the Israeli-Egyptian border near Eilat.

#### 5 SYNAGOGUES IN FRANCE DECLARED HISTORIC MONUMENTS

PARIS, Sept. 18 (JTA) — Five synagogues, some hundreds of years old, have been declared "monuments of national historic importance" by the French Ministry for Cultural Affairs. Under French law "historic monuments" cannot be altered but in exchange can obtain the aid of the state-paid architects for any renovation work.

The Cultural Affairs Ministry will also pay for part of the restoration of the synagogues. Some of the buildings are in urgent need to have part of their roofs and walls rebuilt. The synagogues are in Nancy, Mulhouse, Sautz, Colmar and Guebwiller.

A number of Jewish historians and research students have appealed to the Minister for Cultural Affairs, Jack Lang, urging him to set up a Jewish museum. Lang said last year that his department is planning such a museum but that negotiations are still under way for the acquisition of land from the city of Paris or another suitable municipality.

The petition issued by the Jewish historians calls on Lang and the government not to lose time and to start work on the project. Hundreds, some say thousands of artistic objects of Jewish interest are stored in various museums and national collections, sometimes never on view, and could become the core of a Jewish museum of international reputation.

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There will be no Bulletins dated September 27 and 28, Rosh Hashanah.

## NJCRC CITES THREAT OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN STRATEGY PLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR

NEW YORK, Sept. 18 (JTA) — "Efforts to bring religion into our public life are intensifying, as are the efforts by some to identify the United States as a Christian country", the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRC) charged in warning about the most serious attacks in 20 years on Bill of Rights' guarantees of separation of church and state. The warning was expressed in NJCRC's annual "Joint Program Plan for Jewish Community Relations" issued by the group here today.

The Joint Program Plan represents the collective strategy of NJCRC's 11 national and 113 local Jewish community relations member agencies, located throughout the United States, and is used by them as the basis for their planning for the succeeding 12 months. The Plan covers the entire range of community relations concerns.

Countering threats to church-state separation, and the religious freedom and voluntarism that rest on that principle, was urged as a major priority for the coming year in this year's document. NJCRC asserts that "maintaining a firm line of separation between church and state is essential to the creative and distinctive survival of diverse religious groups such as our own".

The Plan was issued on the eve of the first of eight regional "consultations" NJCRC is convening in the next four weeks to mobilize the Jewish community to defend the church-state separation principle. Beginning in Hartford on September 13, consultations attended by NJCRC member agencies will be held in Houston, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Chicago, Columbus, (Ohio) and Miami.

### President's Role Of Particular Concern

The attack on the separation principle and religious pluralism has been promoted by the executive and legislative branches of the federal and state government and by recent decisions of the Supreme Court, the NJCRC planning document charges. Anticipating the current election-campaign debate on the role of religion in public life, the NJCRC strategy Plan asserts:

"Of particular concern is the role played by the President in advocating these causes ... The First Amendment should inhibit the President of the United States, in his capacity as the Chief Magistrate of the nation, in advocating his religious beliefs in a partisan televised sermon as he did to a convention of religious broadcasters and others...."

"Such public expressions, as distinguished from private expressions of religious piety, is an act of religious preference by the President of the United States. It fosters the perception of the United States as a Christian nation, a conception that runs counter to the Constitution. That perception was reinforced by a 5-4 decision of the Supreme Court that characterizes the distinctive and particularistic religious symbol of the creche as a secular national expression."

The NJCRC Plan cites three areas in which the attack on church-state separation has become most critical: government sanction of religious symbols, bringing religious practices into the public schools, and government aid to religiously-related schools.

Recent court decisions that allow government involvement in the display of religious symbols are cited by the NJCRC as representing "a significant weakening of the wall of separation between church and state, and the conception of an American society in which the state is neutral in regard to religious beliefs, and non-belief."

The NJCRC Plan specifically focuses on the Supreme Court's March, 1984, Lynch v. Donnelly decision, which allowed the city of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, to use tax funds to purchase and mount a nativity scene as part of an official Christmas display.

Noting the profound divisions in the Supreme Court on the issue, which split 5-4 on the Lynch case, the NJCRC Plan calls on the Jewish community relations field to "engage in a more extensive and systematic campaign to challenge religion on public property."

### Threat Of Religion In Public Schools

The threat of bringing religion into the public schools greatly increased during the past year, according to NJCRC, with a "renewed emphasis and increased activity by advocates of religion in the public schools with the President taking a leadership role in again advancing school prayer, as well as a general stance of injecting government into the religious sphere".

The NJCRC calls attention to the vigorous drive to pass a Constitutional Amendment allowing prayer in the schools, which failed to gain the two-thirds Senate vote needed in March. But such efforts continued, and a later House vote, in July, resulted in the passage of a measure to allow "silent prayer" in public schools.

NJCRC firmly opposes both "silent prayer" and "moment-of-silence" measures which are now allowed in some form by almost half of the states. NJCRC's opposition is "based on the recognition that the institutionalization of prayer, in any form, spoken or silent, fosters what in essence is a religious exercise that in a public school setting can have a coercive effect on a school child, and, at bottom, debases distinctive religious expression which is vital to maintaining particularistic religious beliefs". The Plan adds, "Paradoxically, what silent prayer does is foster religious indifference".

The NJCRC guide to action is equally opposed to "moment-of-silence" measures, which have been adopted by many states, terming them "no more than a legal subterfuge for the introduction of prayer into the schools, barred twenty years ago by the Supreme Court."

### Danger Of 'Equal Access'

The NJCRC Program Plan also warns of the "grave potential" of so-called "equal access" legislation as another route to bring religion into the public schools. Such a measure, which would allow private religious groups to use public school facilities during non-instructional hours, was passed by Congress this past July.

The "equal access" measure, NJCRC asserts, opens the schools to outside religious groups including proselytizers and clergy, in violation of a series of Supreme Court decisions prohibiting Bible reading, prayers, worship, and religious instruction on school premises. It "opens the door to cults", the group adds, since "determining the legitimacy of religious groups by school officials would be constitutionally prohibited."