

**ISRAELI HOSPITAL OFFERS FACILITIES
TO TREAT PERSONS INJURED IN THE
BOMBING OF U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIRUT**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- The Rambam Hospital in Haifa has offered its full facilities to treat the injured in this morning's car bombing at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and is standing by to receive casualties.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin telephoned U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis to express his regrets at the incident and offer Israel's medical assistance as required.

The number and nationality of the casualties was not immediately known. U.S. sources said two Americans were killed. Other reports from Beirut said 15 persons were killed and 18 wounded when a pickup truck loaded with explosives blew up just outside the Embassy grounds in east Beirut. The American Ambassador, Reginald Bartholomew, reportedly injured by the blast, was treated in a local hospital. (Related Story, P. 3.)

Israel Defense Forces sources said today that transportation difficulties may prevent the transfer of casualties to Israeli hospitals. There are no U.S. helicopters in the area and Israeli and Lebanese army helicopters were said to be unlikely to be used. No explanation was given. Road transportation by ambulance also seems to be ruled out by various problems.

South Lebanon In State Of Tension

Meanwhile, south Lebanon was in a state of high tension today after a unit of the Israel-supported South Lebanon Army (SLA) apparently ran amok in Sohmar village in the eastern sector, killing eight villagers and wounding more than 20, according to reports from the region.

IDF units and army ambulances were rushed to the scene to evacuate the wounded to local hospitals. The IDF is reported to have surrounded the village.

The SLA shooting was reportedly in retaliation for the ambush slaying of four SLA soldiers and the wounding of four others in the village last night. It could have adverse effects on Israeli plans to withdraw the IDF from south Lebanon. Israel has made clear that withdrawal would take place only when Israel's northern border was secure.

The SLA, commanded by Gen. Antoine Lahad, was being groomed as the instrument to ensure security and has gradually been given wider responsibilities in several areas, including the heavily populated coastal cities of Sidon and Tyre. But today's incident at Sohmar village is expected to generate criticism that the SLA lacks discipline and cannot be trusted to maintain law and order.

According to reports from Beirut, an anonymous telephone caller told the media that the attack on the U.S. Embassy was the work of the Islamic Jihad, the same terrorist group which claimed responsibility for the April, 1983, car bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy in west Beirut that killed 63. The Embassy was subsequently moved from Moslem west Beirut to the Christian-populated eastern suburbs.

(Reports from Washington today said President Reagan blamed a worldwide terrorist movement for the bombing but was not specific. "We know that the worldwide terrorist movement has targeted a great many people, not only your own but of other countries worldwide. This is part of that," he told reporters prior to leaving the White House on a campaign trip to the Middle West.

(Reagan rejected suggestions that the latest outrage was a result of his failed Middle East policy. The terrorists "are against everything we stand for," he said in reply to the question.)

In October, 1983, a suicide car-bomb attack on the U.S. marine compound in west Beirut killed 241 American servicemen. Reagan pulled the marines out several months later and the entire multinational peacekeeping force of which they had been a part was removed.

Ill feelings were generated in Israel when American servicemen wounded in the October, 1983 incident were evacuated to military hospitals in Europe instead of to Israel which had offered its much closer facilities. Now, however, American military personnel injured in the region will be sent to Israeli hospitals under terms of the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation agreement signed this year.

**RABIN REJECTS DEMANDS HE EXPEL
FROM THE WEST BANK ARABS INVOLVED
IN HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST SETTLERS**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has flatly rejected demands by West Bank settlers that he expel from the territory any Arab involved in hostile acts against Jewish settlers.

Rabin met with a delegation of settlers yesterday. They demanded tough action against Arabs in the aftermath of Tuesday's ambush of an Egged bus south of Beer-sheva in which four Jewish settlers and the driver were wounded by automatic fire. Two Arabs in a car behind the bus were also wounded. The bus was bound for Kiryat Arba, near Hebron.

Violence continued yesterday when rocks thrown by Arab youths smashed the windshield of an Egged bus on the Ramallah-Nablus road, near the Jalazon refugee camp. Stones also cracked the windshield of an Israeli car near Dahariye village. There were no casualties in either incident.

Rabin told the settlers that he had once favored expulsion in such cases but has since changed his mind. He also rejected out of hand the settlers' contention that an expanded Jewish presence in the heart of the Arab town of Hebron would improve security there. Rabin said he had originally been in favor of building the Jewish suburb of Kiryat Arba just outside Hebron but always opposed Jewish settlement in the town.

**UN OFFICIAL MEETS WITH TOP ISRAELIS
TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN LEBANON**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- Brian Urquhart, the United Nations Undersecretary General, is winding up a Middle East tour here with meetings with top Israeli officials, dealing mainly with the situation in Lebanon.

The UN official conferred last night with Premier Shimon Peres and this morning with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. He meets with Defense

Minister Yitzhak Rabin later today. He will also meet Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy. Informed sources said Urquhart is anxious to discern whether there is any shift in Israel's attitude toward the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) since the Labor-Likud unity government replaced the Likud-led regime. The UN has long advocated an expanded role for UNIFIL in south Lebanon, enabling Israel to pull its forces out. The UNIFIL mandate comes up for renewal by the Security Council on October 19.

The Israelis have always been dubious of UNIFIL's ability to maintain security in south Lebanon and prevent the infiltration of terrorists bent on attacking Israel. Israeli sources said today that Jerusalem is still not prepared to rely exclusively on UNIFIL and wants the South Lebanon Army (SLA) to continue its security role in the border region.

Nevertheless, there are indications that Peres and Rabin are ready to consider an expanded role for UNIFIL. If it is allowed to deploy in a larger area than it presently patrols it may be able to act more effectively to prevent hostile elements from penetrating to the Israeli border.

Both Israeli and UN officials here were disturbed by an Agence France Presse report from Holland today which quoted President Chaim Herzog of Israel as saying that negotiations were already underway with Urquhart toward an Israeli pull-out from south Lebanon. The officials said Herzog's remark was at best premature. Urquhart visited Amman, Beirut and Damascus before coming to Israel.

REAGAN, SHULTZ URGED TO RAISE USSR'S 'NEW-FINAL SOLUTION' WITH GROMYKO

NEW YORK, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- Stating that "we are witnessing the contemporary form of a new 'final solution' of the Jewish people in the USSR, a non-political genocide," the Center for Russian Jewry and Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry have asked President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz to raise the KGB's campaign against unofficial Jewish teachers in their upcoming meetings with Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, as well as Soviet Jews' appeals for "repatriation" to Israel.

In letters hand-delivered to the White House and State Department, the two Soviet Jewry groups pointed out that "having terminated emigration, the Soviets are now further accelerating their attacks on the last lifeline of Jewish survival, the small Jewish self-study groups and their teachers."

In recent weeks four Jewish religious/cultural personalities in Moscow and Odessa have been arrested, the groups noted. The four are Yuli Edelstein, Yakov Gorodetsky, Alexander Kholmyansky and Yakov Levin. The two groups stated that the KGB had planted a gun in Kholmyansky's apartment and drugs in Edelstein's apartment. This "ominous development" follows "the savage 12-year sentence imposed last October on the distinguished Jewish culturalist Dr. Yosif Begun," the group's letter pointed out.

Urge 'Comprehensive Resolution' Of The Issue

The two Soviet Jewry groups urged direct Washington-Moscow negotiations for "a comprehensive resolution" of the Soviet Jewry issue, including emigration, the Prisoners of Conscience and a "clear articulation of the principle of non-harassment of the unofficial Jewish study groups."

Meanwhile, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported that 18 Jews in three Soviet cities sent an open letter to Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko pointedly declaring that "we, as

many other Jews, are very worried by the current worsening of persecutions aimed at frightening us and curbing the movement for repatriation to Israel."

The open letter which, according to the Student Struggle, came after the arrests of the unofficial Jewish teachers stated that this, the hardening of the prison conditions for POCs, and the anti-Jewish drumbeat in the Soviet media "prove to us that Jewish life in the USSR, a multi-national country, is no longer possible."

NINE-PART SERIES DOCUMENTS THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE THROUGH THREE MILLENIA OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- An extraordinary five years in the making public television series documenting the course of the Jewish experience through three millennia of Western civilization was previewed for several hundred persons at a gala celebration last night at Lincoln Center.

The nine-part weekly series, "Heritage: Civilization and the Jews," is hosted and narrated by Abba Eban, the Israeli Labor Party MK and former Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations. The series will begin airing on public broadcasting stations throughout the country next month.

Produced by WNET in New York, the series is also to serve as a centerpiece for a national historical study -- in colleges, high schools, churches, synagogues and homes -- through a large-scale distribution of books, viewers' guides, instructional posters and other materials, including a trade book published earlier this month.

The preview, in Alice Tully Hall, amounted to a series of clips from the nine 60-minute programs. It preceded a \$250 a plate dinner at the Library and Museum for the Performing Arts. After the preview, Eban was presented with WNET's first Ethan Allen Hitchcock Award for distinction in electronic communication, named after the station's chairman emeritus of the Board.

Statements By Eban And Cuomo

In accepting the award, Eban noted the significant role played by television in the creation of the Jewish State in 1948. He also pointed out the ability of television to captivate and to educate, and in this regard, cited his reasons for supporting such a project tracing the civilization of the Jewish people and their culture.

Governor Mario Cuomo, in a brief but emotionally charged address, noted the persistent ability of the Jewish people throughout civilization to fight persecution and indifference. He issued a call for mutual tolerance and urged all people to fight bigotry and anti-Semitism.

Funding for the Heritage series originated with a \$1 million grant from the Charles Revson Foundation in 1979 and has since been financed by additional funds from that Foundation and other public and private organizations, and many individuals.

Scope And Efforts Of Production Team

As an indication of the scope and enormous efforts undertaken by the production team, it was pointed out that the Heritage film crew travelled to 19 countries on four continents to record key parts of the story. These locations included New York City's lower East Side and Ellis Island, as well as East and West Germany, and Morocco and Egypt.

Rare archival newsreel footage, unearthed historical photographs, ancient and modern artwork and sculpture, religious artifacts and vintage records and texts were all used to aid in the presentation of the series. The series begins in the ancient Near East in Mesopotamia.

nia and describes the culture from which the Jews emerged and recalls the prophets and judges whose vision transformed the Israelites from a loose confederation of tribes into a united nation.

The series, after spanning the many years in Jewish history and culture, concludes in modern Israel, examining the Jewish people today and their hopes and dreams of the future.

U.S. SAYS BEIRUT BOMBING MAY HAVE BEEN IN RETALIATION FOR U.S. VETO OF UN COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20 (JTA) — The terrorist attack which destroyed the U.S. Embassy annex in east Beirut today may have been in retaliation for a U.S. veto of a United Nations Security Council resolution demanding that Israel withdraw its forces from south Lebanon, a State Department official said.

"It is certainly possible," Department spokesman John Hughes said. He said that on September 8, two days after the UN vote, a group identifying itself as the "Islamic Jihad" (Holy War) telephoned a news agency in Beirut saying it would act shortly against American interests in the Middle East. "I think the threat was linked to the U.S. vote in the Security Council on the Lebanon debate," Hughes said.

After a van loaded with explosives blew up outside the Embassy annex early this morning, the Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack. The same group claimed responsibility for the explosion that destroyed the U.S. Embassy in West Beirut in April, 1983 and the car-bomb attack in October, 1983 that killed some 250 American servicemen of the multinational force then in Beirut.

Although the group has been linked to the regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in Iran, Hughes said today that the U.S. has not yet identified the terrorists. He had no comment on whether the U.S. would retaliate.

Hughes said it is believed that two Americans were killed and 20 injured in today's explosion. One of the injured was U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew. Also injured was the British Ambassador to Lebanon who was visiting the Embassy annex at the time.

Appreciation For Israel's Offer

Hughes expressed U.S. appreciation for the offers of help from Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and from Britain and Cyprus, including hospital facilities. He said Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has already telephoned the Israelis to express his appreciation.

Hughes said the decision on whether to use Israeli or other medical facilities to treat the wounded would be made by a State Department team which went to Beirut today from Cairo. Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East and South Asian Affairs, also left for Beirut today to lead a State Department group that will investigate the incident.

Hughes revealed that the Embassy annex is guarded by members of the Lebanese Armed Force, the Christian Phalangist private army which is under contract to and is trained by the U.S. It is not the official Lebanese army.

The six-story annex has been in use since last July 31 and most of the 30-35 Americans employed at the Embassy work out of there because it is believed more secure. Some Americans still work out of the Chancellery in west Beirut. A new Embassy is being built in west Beirut which will have the latest security devices, Hughes said.

MONDALE'S ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20 (JTA) — The following is former Vice President Walter Mondale's Rosh Hashanah message:

I am pleased to send New Year's greetings to the members of the American Jewish community as you prepare to celebrate the High Holy Days. I know that your prayers will be for peace for your fellow Americans, for the embattled people of Israel and for all the world.

We live on a planet where we must be strong enough to deter war, using our strength to keep the peace and ensure that nuclear weapons are never fired. Peace, the most important gift of all, will surely be in all your prayers as it is in mine.

During this time of remembrance, many will reflect on the blessing of liberty that our country enjoys. How precious are the basic freedoms of speech, press, of assembly and — most fundamental of all — freedom of religion. How rare in this world — and how vigilant must we be to protect these freedoms from those who would abridge them or tamper with them.

On the Day of Atonement you will read the injunction of the Prophet Isaiah to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Jews have ever hearkened to the cry of the poor, the weak, the old, the strangers at the gate. That, too, is part of the heritage you will honor in your homes and synagogues during the Days of Awe that are approaching. I join you in your prayers — for America, for the House of Israel and for all of us. Leshana Tova.

HERZOG'S ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20 (JTA) — President Chaim Herzog of Israel called on world Jewry to "examine with absolute honesty whether we have fully learnt the lessons" of the most "savage episode in history," the years of Nazi domination of Europe and the Holocaust.

In Rosh Hashanah greetings, Herzog observed that in the four decades since the defeat of Nazism "the innate vitality of the Jewish people has come to the fore ... the independent State of the Jewish people has risen, has overcome incredible obstacles, absorbed many hundreds of thousands, and has to its credit remarkable achievements in many fields of endeavor."

"Yet," Herzog added, "we must wonder sadly why so soon after the overwhelming historic experiences of Holocaust and national revival, assimilation claims so many; effective Jewish education reaches so few; the impulse to link one's own life with Israel, the center of the Jewish people's life, has not touched more than a brave and dedicated minority. Our generation has been granted the opportunity longed for, prayed for, during two millennia, and not now to be missed."

The President noted that "Forty years after the defeat of the Nazis, we are witness to rising anti-Semitism. We are called upon to combat it and we are called upon as well to respond to the urgent needs for aid and rescue of Jews in the Soviet Union, Syria, Ethiopia and other foci of intolerance and unrest."

Herzog acknowledged that "In Israel itself we must battle on many fronts — for peace and security, for political stability, economic recovery, adequate absorption of newcomers, mutual tolerance among all sections of the population." In connection with the latter, he added: "We must battle against any expression of extremism and intolerance which are a disgrace to the Jewish people, an aberration from Jewish history, and no less than a violation of the Torah."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW PERES SAYS HE WILL JUSTIFY THE CONFIDENCE OF THE NATION

By Simeon Baker

(Editor's note: Simeon Baker has just returned from a visit to Israel. He conducted this interview and one with Yitzhak Shamir just after the new unity government took office.)

TEL AVIV, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- Declaring that he is aware of the difficult tasks that confront his government, Shimon Peres, the new Prime Minister of Israel, told me in an interview that "I'll do my best to justify the confidence of the nation and to ensure that my Cabinet will respect the will of the voters."

Our interview took place in Peres' office in Tel Aviv. He was in a jovial mood despite the long and arduous days of the negotiations that led to the establishment of a government of national unity. He said that his broad coalition "will draw on the roots of the Jewish people and will work for all of Israel, bridging the cracks which have appeared within us."

In this connection, Peres pointed out that he believed in democratic government based on the decisions of the majority and on respect for the rights of the minority. "Mine will be a government of rapprochement and good will -- a government that will respect the religious public and its needs, refraining from coercion where we can. Instead, we must enlist understanding and tolerance."

Peres added that his government will maintain the status quo in religious affairs and will ensure equal rights for all citizens of Israel, regardless of religion, nationality or origin.

Pledges To Work For Economic Stability

Turning to the very difficult economic situation, Peres pledged to work for economic stability by building a modern economy commensurate with the new economic era in the world. At the same time he made it clear that he will act to strengthen Israel's defense forces, to implement the Camp David accords and to resume the peace momentum with Arab countries. "We'll have to ensure the security of the settlements in the Galilee and to enable the IDF to come home."

Peres also dwelt on the future relationship between his government and large Jewish organizations of the diaspora, expressing understanding for their importance and activities. He stressed the significance of the world Zionist organizations, and foresaw an epoch of fruitful cooperation with the World Jewish Congress, under the leadership of Edgar Bronfman, president, and Israel Singer, executive director. The Premier expressed the opinion that the WJC plays an important and positive part in Jewish life.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW SHAMIR SAYS LEBANESE PREMIER TAKES ORDERS FROM DAMASCUS

By Simeon Baker

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- "The Lebanese government is situated in Beirut but in fact it takes orders from Damascus. At the head of the government is a person on whose shoulders lies the responsibility for the Cairo agreement of 1959, which opened the gates of Lebanon to murderous terror and caused so many calamities and tragedies to the people of Lebanon."

This was stated by Deputy Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs Yitzhak Shamir, during an interview with this writer in his office in Jerusalem.

Referring to the "unbridled campaign" of slander against Israel on the subject of southern Lebanon, which was brought by Rashid Karamah's government before the UN Security Council, Shamir said that the forces of aggression and blind rejection of Israel, represented by Syria and its Lebanese proxies, nullified the agreements between Jerusalem and Beirut of last year. "Thus, the peace process was set back toward anarchy and terror in Lebanon."

As to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory, the Deputy Premier said that "Israel has no intention of partitioning Lebanon, or to hamper the connection between north and south Lebanon. However, as long as terrorist attacks continue, we will have to take the necessary measures to ensure the security of our forces, to maintain law and order."

Shamir, who was in a relaxed mood and good shape, made it crystal clear that "contrary to Syria, which is the only real occupying power in Lebanon, Israel has every intention of withdrawing its forces from Lebanon," he added. "But we will not sit by and permit anyone to incite, arm and direct terrorists to mount attacks on Israel and on its soldiers in Lebanon. We will continue to protect our interests to the best of our capacity."

Top List Of Priorities

Enumerating the top of the Israeli list of priorities, Shamir, the leader of the Likud, stressed the matter of achieving security and stability for the Jewish State and saving Soviet Jewry. "We call upon our Arab neighbors to make peace with us in good faith," he said.

Shamir categorically denied Moscow's claims that the halting of the emigration reflects a lack of desire on the part of the Jews to leave. "Nothing could be further from the truth. Close to 440,000 Jews in the Soviet Union have indicated their willingness to leave, among them thousands of refusenik families who have endured great hardship," he emphasized.

In this connection, he declared that "not only have thousands of Jews been denied exit permits on the flimsiest of pretexts, but tens of thousands of others have been denied even the possibility of applying for an exit visa."

In the course of our interview, Shamir called on world Jewry -- in the East and West -- to "return to Eretz Israel and participate in the rebuilding of the Third Commonwealth."

BEGIN UNDERGOES SURGERY

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20 (JTA) -- Former Premier Menachem Begin underwent surgery for a prostate condition at Shaare Zedek Hospital today and is recovering and feeling well, according to a hospital bulletin. His aide, Yehiel Kadishai told reporters that the operation was successful.

Begin, 71, was hospitalized over the weekend for tests which determined that he did not have a malignancy. His surgeon, Dr. Amihai Farkas, head of the urology department at Shaare Zedek, said his condition was not uncommon for a man of his age. Sources close to Begin expressed hope today that once he is fully recovered he would emerge from the self-imposed seclusion in which he has lived since he resigned as Prime Minister in August, 1983, and began writing his long planned book on "the generation of Holocaust and redemption."