

YOUNG ISRAELI SOLDIER HELD ON SUSPICION OF FIRING ANTI-TANK MISSILE AT AN ARAB BUS IN WHICH ONE ARAB WAS KILLED AND 10 WOUNDED
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- A young infantry soldier was remanded in custody by a Jerusalem magistrate today on suspicion that he fired an anti-tank missile at an Arab bus on the outskirts of Jerusalem last Sunday, killing one passenger and wounding 10 others.

The suspect, identified as David Ben-Shimol, 18, of Jerusalem, was said to have freely confessed to the crime. Three other soldiers were detained for questioning as possible accomplices before the fact. According to the Army Radio, one of them has since been released and another, a young woman soldier, will be released later today. Their identities were withheld by order of the court.

Avraham Turgeman, Southern District Police Commander, told reporters last night that the suspect cooperated with the police in reconstructing his assault on the bus and another crime of which he is accused -- throwing a grenade into an Arab coffee shop in the Old City of Jerusalem -- which occurred six weeks ago. The reconstructions were recorded on video tape.

Ben-Shimol has a police record and was tracked down, police said, by fingerprints on the hand-held missile-launcher which was found near the scene of the bus assault. The police determined that the missile and launcher were stolen from the crack Golani infantry brigade, the unit in which Ben-Shimol served until he deserted two weeks ago.

Background To The Suspect

The suspect was described as one of 10 children of a religious family of Moroccan Jews who live in Jerusalem's Katamon quarter. His father is an unemployed ritual slaughterer. According to press accounts, the youth abandoned religious practice and became estranged from his family. But his father told reporters today that the family decided to stand by him and hire an attorney. According to the elder Ben-Shimol, his son's girlfriend was killed in an Arab terrorist attack on a Jerusalem bus earlier this year.

Police said Ben-Shimol acted out of "nationalist" motives. They said he told questioners that he was enraged by the murder of two Israeli hikers by an Arab on the West Bank two weeks ago. The alleged killer, 22 year-old Issa Nimr Jibrin, arrested last week, confessed to the double murder.

Not The Work Of Zealots

Ben-Shimol left a note near the abandoned missile launcher which he signed "the avenger." Police said the note, written in flawed Hebrew, was attributed to Jewish extremists, possibly operating as a terrorist cell. Observers therefore expressed surprise that the attack on the Arab bus was not the work of rightwing zealots but apparently the act of an impressionable Sephardic youth from a poor family.

It was such youngsters who voted in large numbers for the extremist Kach Party in the July 23 elections, giving its leader, Rabbi Meir Kahane,

a Knesset mandate. Yediot Achronot reported today that Ben-Shimol recently sought to join Kach. While the attack on the Arab bus shocked most Israelis, Kahane publicly praised it as the act of a "proud Jew." Last week Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir instructed the police to investigate Kahane's remarks to see if they constituted a criminal act of incitement. There are moves underway in the Knesset to strip Kahane of his parliamentary immunity.

ISRAEL-LEBANON TALKS POSTPONED

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Israel agreed today to a postponement of the military talks with Lebanon because of the Beirut government's problems in putting together its delegation. David Kimche, the Foreign Ministry's director-general, told United Nations diplomat Jean-Claude Aimee that Israel "understood" the Lebanese difficulties.

Aimee, who has been instrumental in setting up the talks, scheduled to have begun tomorrow at the UN Interim Force in Lebanon headquarters at Naqura, formally presented Kimche with Lebanon's request for "a few days" postponement.

Meanwhile, the Israel Defense Force announced that Israel's chief delegate to the talks will be Brigadier Amos Gilboa of the IDF planning branch.

MONDALE WARNS OF 'ORGY OF INTOLERANCE' LED BY FUNDAMENTALIST PREACHERS

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Democratic Presidential candidate Walter Mondale, in his final campaign appearance before a Jewish group, warned of an "orgue of intolerance" in America led by fundamentalist "preachers against pluralism and those who would cast doubt on the loyalties of Jewish Americans."

Addressing some 1,000 senior citizens and others at the Shore Front YMHA in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn last Thursday afternoon, Mondale assailed "fundamentalist Christian preachers with television ministries" who, he said, "are (President) Reagan's allies."

Continuing, Mondale said, "Anti-Semitism is not dead but continues to be a vicious disease. I'm here today to tell you that no President in American history will do more to sweep anti-Semitism out of this country than I will."

The former Vice President's campaign stop in the predominantly Jewish area of Brighton Beach followed his appearance, along with running mate Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, before a huge throng of supporters -- estimated at 100,000 people -- in New York's garment district.

At both the garment district rally and the appearance in Brighton Beach, Mondale also sought to rebut Reagan's contention that the Democratic leadership had failed to condemn anti-Semitism. Reagan, in an appearance last month in a synagogue in Long Island, New York, said the Democratic Party lacked the "moral courage" to adopt a resolution at the Democratic national convention denouncing anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry.

"Mr. President, the charge says something about you," Mondale told the rally in the garment district. "That is false and contemptible and the American people do not like that kind of politics anywhere in this country."

"I have denounced (Black Muslim leader Louis) Farrakhan many times over and I've ... stood up to

those radical preachers who are so close to this President, who've taken over the Republican Party," he declared.

At the Brighton Beach appearance, Mondale continued on the same theme. "Let me tell it to you straight," he said of Reagan's charge. "It angered me. I resent it. I think it's despicable and I think it's inexcusable."

Mondale conceded that the Democratic Party platform should have included a strong resolution on anti-Semitism. But he noted that a separate resolution repudiating "bigotry, racism and anti-Semitism" had been approved by the executive committee of the Democratic national committee three weeks after the convention.

Mondale also recalled the Congressional debate during the Reagan Administration's successful effort to sell AWACS aircraft and other sophisticated military hardware to Saudi Arabia. "They used the phrase 'Reagan or Begin,'" he said.

"Wittingly or unwittingly people in and around this Administration converted the question of whether this country should give that advanced technology to the Saudi Arabians into the question of whether Jewish Americans were divided in their loyalty to this country," Mondale declared.

CABINET APPROVES WAGE-PRICE FREEZE PACKAGE AIMED TO BRING DOWN INFLATION

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) — The Cabinet today approved a three-month wage-price freeze agreed to by the government, labor and management last Friday, though with some modifications of the original plan to meet objections by Histadrut and a reduction of the cost of credit to ease the burden on manufacturers.

The package deal, which the government has been trying to negotiate for weeks, is targeted on bringing down inflation, currently running at an annual rate of nearly 1,000 percent. But economists and industrialists warned over the weekend that this was only a first step to create "breathing space" for the government to work out and apply for more stringent measures necessary to restore the country's economic health.

The most urgent need, according to experts, is an additional \$1 billion slash in government spending. That will mean a major slowdown in overall economic activity with a high probability of rising unemployment.

Under the package deal, initiated by representatives of labor and management Friday after lengthy talks at the Prime Minister's Office, workers will forego one-third of their cost-of-living allowances in the first two months of the 90-day freeze period but no more than five percent of the increment payable at the end of the third month.

Histadrut stressed that the pact does not cancel existing wage agreements and that it would demand that employers honor them.

Scope Of The Deal

The scope of the price freeze threatened a breakdown of the deal even before the Cabinet could act. The Treasury's original intention had been to exempt government subsidized items, particularly fuel, from the freeze and to allow the prices of many subsidized staples to rise moderately over the 90-day period.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisrael Kessar promptly accused the government of reneging on the deal since the agreement initiated by the parties applied the freeze to "all" items. "The

word 'all' is not there by chance. If they had wanted to exclude certain prices or services they would have talked about them," he said.

Government circles indicated the intention was to freeze the level of subsidies which vary according to Dollar rates but not the prices charged to consumers. Nevertheless, the Cabinet resolved today that the freeze would indeed apply to the prices of all government subsidized staples, unless labor and management agreed otherwise.

It was not immediately clear whether the freeze will include airline tickets or other transactions in which money is paid to parties abroad or interest on loans, including home mortgages.

Penalty For Price Gouging

The Ministry of Trade and Industry is planning to publish a price list covering several hundred commonly purchased household goods which are said to represent about three quarters of an average family's outlay. Thousands of other less commonly purchased items are also frozen.

The penalty for price gouging was set at up to three years' imprisonment and up to 2.5 million Shekels in fines. There will be some policing, especially on the most commonly purchased items. But consumers have been urged to see to it themselves that the freeze is observed and that gougers are identified so they can be brought to justice.

Manufacturers and employers will be helped to absorb cost-of-living increments without raising prices as in the past because the cost of credit has been reduced significantly. If bank loans cost 25 percent in October, they will cost about 15 percent in November, a reduction in line with the pared C.O.L. increments.

Measure To Save Hard Currency

In another measure aimed at saving hard currency, the government today declared it illegal to quote prices in Dollars as has been the practice up to now. The prices will remain at the levels they were on Friday, November 2, but will be quoted in Shekels at the rate of 527-S/.

The government stressed that the exchange rate will not be frozen but will be closely supervised by the Treasury to ensure that it rises only as much as the rate of inflation.

Another modification of the blanket freeze agreed to by the Cabinet today — at the insistence of Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy — was to abandon a total suspension of public building. About two-thirds of the current projects will be carried out. Levy had warned that a total freeze on building would create wholesale unemployment. The Cabinet, however, decided to extend the present ban on new government contracts for another three months.

The Treasury has promised, meanwhile, to work out meaningful budget cuts with all ministries during the three month wage-price freeze and apply those cuts to the next budget.

KATYUSHA ROCKET FIRED NEAR KIBBUTZ IN BEIT SHEAN VALLEY

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) — The remains of a 107 mm. Katyusha rocket found near Kibbutz Beth Yosef in the Beit Shean valley south of Lake Tiberias today indicated the source of two explosions heard in the region last night. There were no casualties or damage.

Israeli soldiers searched today for more rocket debris and Jordanian soldiers were seen engaged in a similar search on their side of the Jordan River. Israel military sources said terrorists apparently infiltrated Arab Legion lines and crossed the river last night into Israel, fired two rockets and fled.

The sources said the Jordanians appear to be continuing their efforts to prevent terrorist attacks on Israel from Jordanian soil.

DECLARATION PLEDGES WORLD JEWRY'S PARTICIPATION IN ISRAEL'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Forty United Jewish Appeal and Israel Bond leaders have pledged, together with Premier Shimon Peres, to work towards "World Jewry's active participation in Israel's efforts to achieve economic growth." The 40 signed a declaration with Peres Thursday night, after a day of deliberations, intended as a first preparatory step towards a gathering of leading Jewish businessmen and financiers from all over the world.

The declaration said: "World Jewry will actively participate in Israel's effort to achieve economic independence by participation in all aspects of Israel's economic growth."

"To further these goals, world Jewish leadership will meet at once to examine ways and means to mobilize financial resources for Israel."

"This greater participation will take the form of business involvement, increased philanthropy and purchases of Israel Bonds."

"At the earliest possible date, the Prime Minister will convene Jewish leaders in Israel to advance these objectives."

"A task force will be established to plan and implement programs aimed at business development."

LEADER OF POLITICAL CULT LOSES LIBEL SUIT AGAINST ADL AND NBC-TV

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Lyndon LaRouche, head of a political cult group and an independent candidate for President of the United States, lost the libel suit he brought against the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and NBC-TV.

A six-person jury in the Federal Court of the Eastern District of Virginia said last Thursday that the ADL had not defamed LaRouche when it described him as an "anti-Semite" and a "small-time Hitler." The statements were made by Irwin Suall, director of ADL's Fact Finding Department, on an NBC-TV program, "First Camera," aired on March 4, 1984.

During the trial, Judge James Cacheris dismissed the LaRouche charge that ADL and NBC had engaged in a conspiracy to defame him. The judge had previously dismissed charges against ADL's Midwest director, A. Abbot Rosen, who had described LaRouche as an "extremist in a three-piece suit" on an NBC Nightly News program aired January 30, 1984, which was also the subject of the law suit.

Commenting on the successful outcome of the trial, Nathan Perlmutter, ADL's national director, called it "a common sense affirmation that bigotry has to be called by its right name. It is also a rejection by a conscientious jury of the un-American vitriolic fulminations of Lyndon LaRouche and his gang."

SAMUEL HABER DEAD AT 81

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Samuel Haber, honorary executive vice president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which he served for 37 years, died in Akron, Ohio, yesterday at the age of 81, the JDC announced here today. Funeral arrangements will be announced tomorrow.

Haber joined the JDC staff in 1947 as director for Germany where he developed programs for more than 200,000 displaced persons. They were instrumental in the rescue, rehabilitation and eventual emigration of tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors.

In 1954, Haber was sent to Morocco to organize aid for the 240,000-member Jewish community. In 1957, when after a lapse of seven years the JDC was permitted to resume its activities in Poland, he was asked to develop a welfare program for the impoverished remnant of that country's Jewish community while continuing his tasks in Morocco.

Haber was assigned in 1958 to the European headquarters of the JDC in Geneva as assistant director general. He was transferred to the JDC's New York headquarters in 1964 and in 1967 was elected executive vice chairman. He served in that capacity until 1976.

In recent years he served as national chairman of the Hebrew University Associates Program and as a Trustee of the Interfaith Hunger Appeal which he helped establish in 1978.

ARAB CHARGED WITH MURDERS OF AN ISRAELI MAN AND WOMAN

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- A 22-year-old Arab from the Dahaihsa refugee camp was formally charged in a Ramallah military court today with the murders of an Israeli man and woman near Bethlehem on October 22.

Details of the crime were read to the accused, Issa Nimr Jibrin, by the military prosecutor for the West Bank, Maj. Yair Rabinowitz. According to the charge sheet, he fatally shot Revital Sari and Ron Levy with an Israeli army rifle he had stolen earlier from the Torah Technological Institute in Jerusalem.

According to the charge sheet, the accused spotted the couple hiking at the foot of the Cremisan monastery near Bethlehem. He emerged from a wadi (dry river bed) in which he had been hiding and, at gunpoint, ordered the woman, Sari to tie up her companion, Levy. The accused then tied up the woman, removed jewelry she was wearing and, according to the charge sheet, used pieces of a blanket to gag and blindfold the pair. He shot the man first at point blank range and then the woman.

Jibrin reportedly admitted the crime after his arrest a week ago. The charge sheet stated that he claimed his motive was revenge for the death of a cousin allegedly killed by Israeli border police during a demonstration on the West Bank. No trial date has been set.

A POSSIBLY UNIQUE MEDICAL OPERATION

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Doctors at Rothschild Hospital implanted a pacemaker in a new-born boy only minutes after the infant was delivered by Caesarian section with a congenital heart defect. The operation is believed to be unique to medical practice.

The heart defect, detected before birth, made a Caesarian necessary to prevent a still birth. Immediately upon delivery, a cathode with a tiny electrode was inserted in the child's chest. Doctors said they hoped the congenital defect, which occurs once in every 27,000 live births, would clear up within a few months after which the temporary pacemaker would be removed.

Pacemakers, an electronic device that regulates heartbeat, are widely used among adults, especially the elderly suffering from certain forms of heart disease.

TARGET DATE FOR THE OPENING OF NEW YORK MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL TO THE HOLOCAUST IS SPRING OF 1987

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) — Spring of 1987 is the target date for the opening of the museum and memorial to the Holocaust to be housed in the unused 77-year-old United States Customs Building in lower Manhattan, according to David Blumenfeld, the executive director of the New York City Holocaust Commission.

Blumenfeld cautioned, however, that the projected date remains tentative because the federal government will be renovating the exterior of the structure, constructed in 1907. The museum and memorial center will use the lower two floors and the basement, while the top five floors will be leased by the General Services Administration (GSA), which owns the building.

The GSA regional administrator, William Diamond, announced last month that the government decided in favor of leasing the building to the Holocaust Commission which was vying for the Beaux-Arts landmark with a consortium of arts organizations that wanted to use the building as a cultural center.

The announcement by Diamond, however, caused some confusion as to the themes the museum will emphasize. Blumenfeld asserted that Diamond was misinformed when he asserted that the museum, in addition to focusing on the Holocaust, would include a history of Jews in the diaspora.

Will Focus On Three Themes

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Blumenfeld emphasized that the museum will seek to focus on three interrelated themes: Jewish civilization in Europe, the Holocaust and its aftermath, and Jewish immigration to New York. Furthermore, the museum will contain research facilities, an auditorium for performances, and a chapel and meditation room.

The announcement by the GSA ended a six-month competition between the two groups — the Holocaust Commission and the arts consortium — for the building. Diamond said the Commission was selected because "its proposal was the strongest and the best deal for the government based upon the amount of money offered."

Renovation and restoration efforts are expected to begin immediately on the seven-story structure. Possible tenants for the top five floors, about 160,000 square feet consisting of office space, include part of the National Archives or the Bankruptcy court. The museum will lease about 80,000 square feet.

The Commission will sign a 20-year renewable lease which has not yet been finalized. Monthly rent has not been determined. Some \$5 million is expected to cover the renovation costs for the interior of the building with an additional \$10 million projected to cover the costs of getting the museum ready for opening. Most of these funds will come from private sources and major gifts, Blumenfeld said. He said there will be regular fund-raising efforts in the future.

Special Delivery Systems

According to Blumenfeld, the museum will incorporate hands-on delivery systems such as video consoles, computer data banks and viewers to provide visitors with participatory learning experiences. The education center will house a comprehensive library for basic information and scholarly research.

A special archive will open for deposit of memorabilia, original and microfilm documents and personal collections, according to Blumenfeld, including written and oral testimony from Holocaust survivors in the New York area.

Special priorities will be planned for outreach efforts to encourage school visits to the museum, including classes from New York's public, private and religious schools. There is expected to be outreach to synagogues, churches, and community centers to help them create courses on Jewish cultural life, Holocaust studies and modes of commemoration.

Additional outreach activities of the museum and memorial center will include, among other things, promoting scholarly research and the publication of new findings, publishing a journal, establishing a lecture bureau, and alerting the public to the dangers of neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic literature.

A 'Happy Accomplishment'

George Klein, who serves as co-chairman of the Holocaust Commission, hailed the GSA decision, noting that "this happy accomplishment called for a great amount of faith, persistence and dedication on the part of many devoted people. We are grateful to all of them." Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau serves with Klein as co-chairman.

Critics of the GSA decision suggested that the Customs building was too "lavish" and would thus take away from the solemnity of a museum commemorating the Holocaust. The building's primary space is a large rotunda near the entrance. There is also one statue of Queen Isabella of Spain who banished the nation's Jews in 1492.

The statue of the Queen would fit right into the building, according to Blumenfeld, who said she was a person "who manifested anti-Semitic behavior." He added: "The building itself is majestic; it smacks of tradition."

SIX YOUTHS ARRESTED IN CEMETERY DESECRATION

BONN, Nov. 4 (JTA) — Police in the town of Fulda in the federal state of Hesse have arrested six youths who they say desecrated the Jewish cemetery in the nearby town of Weyhers a week ago. The youths, aged 8 to 13, were questioned by the police and returned to their homes.

Some 90 of the 200 tombstones in the cemetery were uprooted and at least 20 of the tombstones were completely or severely damaged. The six youths admitted responsibility for the incident, police said. At least two of the six participated in previous desecrations of the cemetery last year and again last summer.

According to the police, the youths were motivated by a "spirit of adventure" rather than by political motives and uprooted the tombstones in an apparent search for gold and jewels and other valuables.

There was no immediate reaction from the local Jewish community. But in similar cases in the past, Jewish spokesmen warned against minimizing such actions as "juvenile games" and pointed out that Christian cemeteries are not the targets of such atrocities.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Only 29 Jews were granted exit visas from the Soviet Union in October, the lowest monthly Jewish emigration in more than 20 years, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. The figure brings the total number of Soviet Jews permitted to emigrate during the first 10 months of 1984 to 750.