

**RABIN WARNS OF NEW TERRORIST
ATTACKS DURING AND AFTER THE
IDF WITHDRAWS FROM SOUTH LEBANON**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned yesterday that Israel may have to endure a new wave of terrorist attacks by Iran-inspired Islamic fundamentalists during the withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force from south Lebanon and even after the withdrawal is completed. He said the IDF would respond to such attacks even if it meant re-entering Lebanon temporarily.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said last night that Israel would take all necessary measures, even the most severe, to protect its soldiers. Both men were addressing an international conference of Conservative Jews in Jerusalem.

This morning, the IDF conducted extensive searches in Shiite Moslem villages where two Israeli senior officers and one non-commissioned officer were killed in the first 48 hours after the IDF completed the first stage of its withdrawal from south Lebanon Saturday.

Col. Avraham Hido, 41, of Kibbutz Shefayim, was mortally wounded when his convoy was ambushed in Salim village north of Nabatiya on Monday. Maj. Shaul Zehavi, 27, of Petach Tikva, died on the same day when a roadside bomb detonated as his jeep patrol entered Al-Bazouriyeh village east of Tyre. Sgt. Shlomo Oleg Avrumov, 23, was killed on the same spot Sunday, also by a roadside explosive.

Attacks Attributed To Shiites

In the past two weeks, seven IDF officers and men have been killed and scores wounded in south Lebanon in ambushes and roadside bombings attributed to Shiite Moslems. Two soldiers were wounded in the incidents that took the lives of Hido and Zehavi.

Three attacks on the IDF last night and this morning caused no casualties. One was carried out with rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) near Ansar and another with RPGs and automatic weapons near Deir Khanun. The target of this morning's attack was the IDF liaison office in Nabatiya which has been hit several times in the past week.

Amid growing demands in Israel for tougher measures against terrorists and guerrillas in Lebanon, heavily armed IDF units combed at least four Shiite villages today, carrying out house-to-house searches. All male residents were rounded up and questioned in village squares.

During the search of Al-Bazouriyeh, two terrorists were killed and a third was captured while trying to flee from Israeli forces. An army spokesman said quantities of arms and sabotage material was found in their homes and on their persons. A gasoline station at the entrance to the village, near where Maj. Zehavi was killed, was destroyed by the IDF.

Shamir, who is Acting Prime Minister in the absence of Shimon Peres, currently on a visit to Italy and Rumania, said, "The recent increase in

the number of attacks against our forces is in large measure due to the competition between the various terrorist organizations to prove which is more active against the Israeli forces and which will control the areas we evacuate."

Shamir stressed in his speech to the Conservative Jews and later in remarks to reporters, that the attacks are absolutely pointless and unjustified. "It is terrorism without any reason, without any justification, because the terrorists know exactly that we are going to leave Lebanon.... There is no reason for it but we have to do all possible to stop it," he said.

Asked if he thought the IDF pullout from south Lebanon should be speeded up, Shamir replied, "We will have to consider our plans in the near future (for the second stage of the withdrawal) and we have to take into account the security of the Galilee."

Rabin, who spoke earlier, predicted "more painful days before us in Lebanon" and a long road ahead before tranquility is restored to Israel's northern border. He said it was far from certain that terrorism would end when the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon.

Possibility Of A New Terrorist Alliance

The extremist wing of the Shiite Moslems, under the influence of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran, might cooperate with the Palestine Liberation Organization and, with the blessings of Syria, persist in their terrorist acts, he said.

Rabin observed that the Shiite Moslems in south Lebanon were responsible for 90 percent of the recent attacks on the IDF. Some embarked on suicide missions, blowing themselves up in body-trapped cars.

"I hope they will not carry out terrorist attacks in Israel," Rabin said, "but there will be extreme elements, organized, financed, and inspired by the Iranian regime of Khomeini and the Islamic fundamentalists like the Revolutionary Guards who, during the war in Lebanon, sent 1,500 of their soldiers into Lebanon to continue the fight. They may cooperate with the PLO, and no doubt Syria may even increase its support and encourage them."

If terrorism continues after the withdrawal is completed, the IDF would not hesitate to re-enter southern Lebanon, Rabin said. If terrorists return to the border to shell Israeli towns, "we will prevent this from happening, even if it requires going back into Lebanon temporarily, bombing the area, shelling it."

Speakers at a Tel Aviv University symposium on Lebanon Monday stressed that there are two trends among Shiite Moslems -- moderates who are interested in hastening the IDF's departure but whose main objective is political power in Lebanon; and extremists who seek bloodshed for its own sake.

According to the speakers, the mainline Shiite Amal movement may eventually cooperate with Israel to prevent Palestinian terrorists from returning to south Lebanon and resist the extremist trend which represents the hard-line Khomeini-inspired fundamentalists.

The Lebanon army is trying to restore order in Sidon where Shiite extremists rampaged Sunday and Monday after the IDF left the town. Today, the Lebanon army turned back a convoy of buses and trucks carrying Shiites from Beirut to Sidon.

BALANCING ACT NEEDED FOR CONGRESS TO APPROVE MORE ECONOMIC AID FOR ISRAEL

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20 (JTA) — Conflicting pressures between ties to a "valuable ally" and budgetary constraints will have to be bridged in order to secure Congressional passage of the increased U.S. aid Israel needs for its economic recovery, Rep. David Obey (D. Wisc.), the newly-named chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, told the annual plenary session of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

The Wisconsin Democrat emphasized that there is "a bipartisan consensus" on viewing Israel as a friend and an ally with a "special relationship with the United States. America is bound to Israel by shared culture, values and national interest", he said as he spoke on U.S.-Israeli Relations and the Israeli economy.

But Congress is under "conflicting pressures," Obey declared, as it will want to respond to both Israel's request for increased aid for its troubled economy, as well as to the American desire to cut spending and reduce federal budget deficits without raising taxes.

Israel Has To Attack Its Economic Problems

It is a "political fact of life," he said, that foreign aid will be "very difficult" to pass unless it is "very carefully explained. We need to underline that Israel is an important ally in a part of the world that is important to the United States."

But even before that, Obey said, "it is crucial for Israel to make a firm attack on its economic problems" through significant budget cuts, monetary reform, reducing subsidies and other measures. However, he added, "In light of the dignity of relations between two governments," the specific details and dimensions of these steps must be determined by Israel.

"If Israel meets the test and does what is needed to bring its economic house in order, it will receive the emergency aid it needs from the United States," the Wisconsin Congressman concluded. Furthermore, he noted, an economically strong Israel will be in a better position to pursue peace initiatives.

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE NEEDED TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 20 (JTA) — A Jewish dialogue with Christian religious leaders is needed to protect "the principles of religious pluralism and the rights of religious minorities in this country," according to Kenneth Bialkin, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

He called for "reaching out" to Christian leaders in order to better understand differences on the issue of church-state separation. That issue highlighted Bialkin's report to the ADL's national executive committee meeting here. He said Jews are concerned over three possible threats to religious freedom and diversity in America.

They are: "increasing efforts by some religious leaders to cross the line from religious guidance to political leadership;" advocacy of organized prayer in public schools; and actions that could be interpreted as advocating the "Christianizing" of American society.

Bialkin told some 200 American Jewish community leaders attending the meeting that there is

"nothing wrong" when religious leaders in a free society seek to influence the community on political questions. The real issue, he said, is "whether this type of political advocacy represents a threat to religious pluralism and minority rights."

Bialkin observed, "Some religious leaders who take political stands and seek votes on political issues advocate positions that are abhorrent and extremist. Others advance views harmonious with our concerns and attitudes."

He said "it would be a mistake," however, "to lump together all fundamentalists and evangelicals as advocating positions that threaten church-state separation. These groups are not monolithic and, in fact, advocate a variety of positions on a wide number of issues."

He added that "it is imperative that we reach out to some of these groups to engage in dialogue, to debate if necessary, to see the issues clearly and be sure we understand each other's concerns."

Bialkin noted that there is a "major doctrinal difference" with those who advocate organized prayer in public schools. "We have to be strong, clear, and unyielding in our opposition to be sure our point of view is understood," the ADL leader said.

He said that too many people do not realize that there is no law or doctrine which prevents students from individually saying prayers in school or exercising their right of personal devotion. "The issue is whether this nation can allow teacher-led or officially-sanctioned prayer, including moments of silence in the classroom."

EGYPTIAN PLANE WITH 102 PASSENGERS SPENDS A NIGHT AT BEN GURION AIRPORT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (JTA) — An Egyptian passenger plane of the Egypt Air airline spent a night last week with its 102 passengers at Ben Gurion Airport, on its flight from the Persian Gulf state of Abu Dhabi (one of the seven United Arab Emirates), to Cairo. The Airbus asked permission to land in Israel when a heavy sandstorm closed down Cairo Airport. The Egyptian pilot told reporters he had needed to refuel and preferred the arrangements at Ben Gurion Airport over those at the Cypriot airport at Larnaca, which was crowded at the time and was also experiencing unfavorable weather. Ben Gurion Airport was wet with high winds, but perfectly usable.

Most of the passengers, including Americans, Egyptians and other Arab nationals whose countries have no relations with Israel, spent the night in the airport lounge, but some 40 of them preferred to remain aboard, apparently not wanting to tread on Israeli soil. Those who entered the terminal building spent the time in the restaurants and duty-free shops, making purchases. The crew and passengers expressed appreciation at their treatment while in Israel.

It was the first time that a plane of Egypt Air, which operates Egyptian international flights, had landed in Israel. The regular service between Ben Gurion and Cairo airports is operated by a separate company, Air Sinai, which otherwise operates Egypt's internal air services.

The Egyptian government made these arrangements to avoid problems with its Egypt Air aircraft calling at Arab airports after landing in Israel.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW **JCCs MAP NEW CHALLENGES** **AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES** By Murray Zuckoff

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 20 (JTA) — The role of the Jewish Community Centers (JCCs) as transmission belts of Jewish values and culture is borne out by the vast and multifaceted network of programs available at Centers for the young and old, poor and affluent, single-parent families and intact families; ranging from celebrating Jewish holidays to exploring the works and contributions of Jewish writers, artists, and philosophers; and dealing across the board with religious, secular and Zionist ideologies.

* In Cleveland, the JCC Family Place serves as an extended family, an alternative to the neighborhood playground, a chance to break away from the isolation of the suburbs, a first entry into the Jewish community. It is also a crisis intervention center for young families, offering consultation and education and continuing support to strengthen the family and prevent dysfunction.

* In Long Beach, Calif., the JCC has a program which unites volunteers with the isolated Jewish elderly who reside in convalescent and "board and care" homes throughout the greater Long Beach community.

* In Atlanta, the JCC has a LIFE (Living Includes Fitness and Exercise) program which integrates health and fitness with the perpetuation of Jewish principles.

* In Philadelphia, the JCC's "Cook for a Friend" is a volunteer program designed to provide frozen home-cooked kosher meals to people who are over 60 years of age; who have low income; who are unable to cope either physically, emotionally or financially with cooking one's own food or shopping for food; and who have no other reasonable alternative for providing nutritious meals for themselves.

* In Boston, the Israel Program Center makes Israel a reality for people between the ages of 15 and 35 through a variety of short and long term programs in Israel and by providing information and educational exchanges in the New England area.

Example Of A Growing Community

In Dade County, Fla., there is an ongoing and growing demand for organized programs of Jewish content, Esther Leah Ritz, president of the JWB, the continental arm of the JCCs, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency during a special convention of the JWB here earlier this month.

"We think of this area as full of retirees," she said. "But south Dade County is full of young families, many two-career families, and some single-parent families. And it's that generation that said to this community, 'We need a Jewish Community Center here. We need a Center to link us with you, with the rest of the Jewish world to give us opportunities for our kids'. It's almost like a whole new area in the last five to 10 years."

Ritz pointed out that this is "a prime example of what's happening in an exploding, growing community. These young parents say that without a Center they cannot build their community. In general, Centers are excellent in serving pre-school children and their families and to see these children through camp programs and building-based programs."

But this is less successful with teenagers and even less so with college-age children "because these populations are in transition," Ritz observed. These generations, she added, "are really not part of the whole community. They are rejecting ties with their families, and if their families are involved in Centers, their kids are some place else."

She pointed out that "We have to find other ways to reach them. But some are coming back, just as the families in South Dade are coming back. I'm sure that they were disconnected from the Jewish community during their college years and maybe even during their years of marriage and career development."

But Jews, Ritz said, do not live alone as an isolated group. "We are not individualists, in spite of everything. We are required to be in and of a community. And they (those who become disconnected) find that out themselves, and so they come back," she said.

Problem Of The Jewish Poor

One of the segments within the Jewish community which the JCCs are encountering more frequently and in growing numbers are the poor. In 1983, an American Jewish Committee study, "Jews on the Edge," showed that an estimated 15 percent of the total Jewish population is economically disadvantaged and vulnerable.

The study stated that there is ongoing concern about the implications of growing Jewish joblessness for Jewish continuity and stability. "For one thing, economic disadvantage often leads to alienation or disconnection from the Jewish community," it said. "Reports from around the country suggest that memberships are down in synagogues and communal institutions."

Another report in 1983, by William Kahn, executive vice president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, showed that nearly 84,000 Jewish families in the metropolitan area were living on incomes of \$10,000 a year or less. This, he said, has created "a major revolution" on human service delivery.

And in yet another report at the time, Herbert Bienstock, former regional labor commissioner for the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Department of Labor, now head of CUNY Queens College Center for Urban Affairs, reported that close to 100,000 Jews were unemployed in the New York City area, and probably some 250,000 to 300,000 Jews were unemployed nationally.

Many of the unemployed, the three reports noted, are not only the traditionally low-income marginal industries workers, but now include many white collar professionals who had been in positions of upward mobility.

Role Of JCCs In Dealing With The Poor

The role of the JCC movement in dealing with poor Jews is vital in preventing them from becoming disheartened, alienated and disconnected from the community.

In New York, for example, Lester Pollack, who chairs the JWB committee on implementing the recommendations of a blue-ribbon panel report on Maximizing Jewish Educational Effectiveness of the Jewish Community Centers, noted that poor Jews "can come to Centers to participate in activities, giving them something to do which allows them to feel that life is worth living."

There are programs, he said, "that provide meals for them. There are programs, funded both by public and private sources, which permit them to have transportation. There are programs of learning. They have a place to go, things to do, and are given some assistance through the generosity of the Jewish community at the Jewish Community Center through the Federations, and have a place in which to be taken care of. The cost of dealing with the poor is absorbed by funding the Centers get from the Jewish community, foundation support and government programs."

Ritz pointed out that people in economic difficulties "turn to the Centers in larger numbers than to family agencies or to other agencies. People feel comfortable in coming to Centers for a whole variety of needs."

Situation In Milwaukee

She noted that in her own community, in Milwaukee, for example, "we used to get subsidies and government-supported commodities which could be bought at very low prices. Most of our needs were met that way. But that's been cut back very substantially, as have subsidies for poor kids in our camps."

But the piper must be paid. "We have to make that up through fund-raising and membership support," Ritz said. "Scholarship subventions for members and for their activities have increased because there are increasing numbers of people who cannot pay for services at their current levels of income."

The JCC in Milwaukee is now operating a food pantry, Ritz pointed out. "It wouldn't have been contemplated any time in the last 50 years. Now, for the first time in 50 years, Jews and others can come and receive canned goods and other staples for nothing. We are part of a community-wide hunger task force but our operation is in an area where we can serve Jews particularly. This situation is part of what's going on in the economy. To a degree, it is an impact of governmental policy."

Entering A New Era

The JCCs are entering a new era and a wide arena of Jewish activities. "The Centers and Ys are not what they used to be 20 years ago," Pollack observed. "They used to be more of gyms and recreational places. When one looks at the range of services over the last 20 years — single parents, older adults, kids — the Ys and Centers have had a tremendous evolution, and what we're embarked on is a natural evolution of the JCCs which have tailored their programs to meet the needs of the community now and as perceived for the future."

The JCCs are moving in uncharted areas — and without guarantees for success, as Ritz told the opening session of the JWB special convention here. "It is a test of the vibrancy and vitality of the Center movement — that it is willing to explore that unmapped desert" of new challenges and new opportunities, she said.

The late Rabbi Joshua Heschel might have had the role and the task the JCCs have set for themselves in mind when he said in an address to the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in 1965:

"It is crucial to make Jewish youngsters and young adults aware that Jewish values are relevant to their daily lives.... Our young people are bewildered, perplexed about the meaning of their existence, about the meaning of being human, about the meaning of being a Jew. There is a waiting for meaning, but meaning is kept a well-guarded secret. It is we who fail them."

The 260 JCC leaders from 90 communities across the United States and Canada who gathered at the special convention here earlier this month pledged their commitment not to fail in the task of giving meaning to being a Jew.

ALBERTA C OF C HEAD, WHO QUESTIONED THE 'EXTENT' OF THE HOLOCAUST, REPLACED By Ron Csillag

EDMONTON, Feb. 20 (JTA) — The president of the 15,000-member Alberta Chamber of Commerce, Duncan McKillop, who recently created a stir by saying that he questioned "the extent of the Holocaust," has been replaced as spokesman for the group.

He will, however, continue to serve out his term as president until May, when the new president, Bill Smith, will take over. Last week, the executive of the Chamber voted to dissociate itself from McKillop's remarks but he was allowed to retain his title. Smith will act as spokesman in the interim.

McKillop, who made the comments in a recent interview with the Edmonton Journal, said he had "doubts about the numbers in the Holocaust and who they were but not to the point of believing it never happened. There were many Jews killed." He added: "Everytime you turn on the TV set, there's something about the Holocaust. How long do you carry this on?"

McKillop first gained notoriety in co-handling the defense of Jim Keegstra, the Eckville (Alberta) high school teacher who taught that the Holocaust was a hoax. Keegstra's trial on charges of willfully promoting hatred against Jews begins in April. McKillop blamed the uproar over his comments on "guilt by association" with Keegstra.

Continues To Stick To His Comments

Alberta Chamber of Commerce general manager Bringham Day said his organization "reiterates its position that the Holocaust is not a Chamber matter" and that it "divorces itself from all comments made by Mr. McKillop." Day added that McKillop had apologized to Abe Silverman, head of the local chapter of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce. Silverman had threatened to pull his 100-member chapter out of the Alberta Chamber but changed his mind after Day's statement.

"I think we can put this behind us now," said Silverman, who is also president of the Edmonton Jewish Federation.

However, even after McKillop was disciplined, he stuck to his comments. He told reporters he has "no idea" how many Jews were killed by the Nazis and that even "various members of the Jewish community will provide you with different figures, I've heard as high as 13 million."

VIENNA (JTA) — The two days of U.S.-Soviet talks on the Middle East ended here Wednesday with no comment from either side. A U.S. Embassy spokesman said afterwards that a statement would be issued later, either from Moscow or Washington, but didn't say when. The talks, which the U.S. repeatedly stressed were an exchange of views, not negotiations, were conducted by delegations headed by Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, and Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Soviet Union's Near East Division and the Kremlin's expert on the Mideast.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The cost of living index rose by 5.3% in January, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced.