

**RABIN DECLARES SUICIDE BOMBING
WILL NOT CAUSE ISRAEL TO SPEED UP
PHASED TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 11 (JTA) — Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said today that the suicide truck bombing that took the lives of 12 Israeli soldiers and wounded 14 in south Lebanon yesterday would not precipitate the Israel Defense Force into speeding up its phased withdrawal from Lebanon.

The IDF will continue to withdraw from south Lebanon in an orderly fashion while maintaining a security belt to protect Israel's northern border settlements, Rabin said.

Several Likud Knesset members insisted today that Israel maintain a permanent security belt in south Lebanon, beyond the international border, as suggested recently by Gen. (res.) Yehoshua Saguy, former chief of military intelligence.

MKs Urge Immediate Pullout

But six other MKs presented urgent agenda motions today calling for an immediate pull-out of the IDF from Lebanon instead of the gradual three-stage withdrawal presently underway. The first stage was completed on February 16. The second stage, begun last week, is now in progress. The third and final stage, which as originally envisaged would bring the IDF to the international border, is not expected to be completed until some time next summer.

Amnon Rubinstein, of the Shinui faction suggested that the second and third stages be completed in succession, without pausing for Cabinet review and approval. The MKs who called for an immediate, total pull-out are Haika Grossman and Victor Shem-Tov of Mapam; Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM); Mardchai Virshubsky of Shinui; Meir Wilner of the Hadash Communist Party; and Gen. (res.) Matityahu Peled of the Progressive Movement for Peace.

Meanwhile, President Chaim Herzog, who sent condolences today to the families of the 12 fallen soldiers (see separate story) lashed out at mindless terrorism.

"We are witnessing a terrifying phenomenon which threatens the peace of the world," he said. "This new terrorist dimension, based on extreme religious fanaticism, augers ill for civilized society. This expression of bitter, uncompromising and inhuman hatred, bereft of all reason, has already caused casualties to the citizens of other nations, and the civilized world must awake to the realities and mobilize to face this danger and eradicate it," Herzog said.

He was referring to the extremist elements of the Shiite Moslem community in south Lebanon, believed to be influenced by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran. A minority among the Shiites, they are held responsible for most of the attacks on IDF units.

Shiites Not Enemy

Herzog stressed that Israel has never been and is not now an enemy of the Shia sect in Lebanon. "Israel has nothing to do with the cruel and murderous events which have taken place lately in Lebanon,"

he said. He was referring to last Friday's car-bomb attack on an apartment house in a Shiite suburb of Beirut which killed at least 75 persons. The immediate reaction of the Shiite population was to blame Israel and the United States.

Israel's sole purpose, Herzog declared, is to secure the lives of its citizens "and we shall continue with determination to do everything compatible with our civilized principles in order to remove any threat to our borders and eliminate any hand raised to strike us. That is our sole purpose."

SHAMIR BLAMES SYRIA FOR BOMBING
By Yossi Lemkovicz

BRUSSELS, March 11 (JTA) — Israel's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir today blamed Syria for the suicide truck-bomb attack which killed 12 Israeli soldiers and wounded 14 in south Lebanon yesterday.

Shamir, on an official visit to Belgium, was in contact this morning with his Likud-Herut colleague, Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens in Jerusalem, for information about the attack.

"The terrorists, who are instruments in the hands of the Syrians, succeeded yesterday in committing an atrocious and blind terrorist act against Israeli soldiers busy with the dismantling of our equipment in the frame of the army's withdrawal process from Lebanon," Shamir told reporters here.

He promised that the Israeli government will take all necessary measures "to stop this murderous madness." The terrorists, he said, do not serve the interests of Lebanon but are the agents of Syria.

Asked about the wave of other attacks on Israeli forces in south Lebanon, Shamir declared, "Israel will fight against terrorism, against any terrorism, the Palestinians as well as the Shiites. We will protect our army and the population of Galilee against any terrorism and we will use all our means to do it," he said.

**ISRAEL IN MOURNING AS 12 KILLED
IN SUICIDE-TRUCK BOMBING ARE BURIED**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 11 (JTA) — Israel was in mourning today as military burials were given the 12 soldiers killed in yesterday's suicide truck-bomb attack on an Israel Defense Force convoy in south Lebanon, less than a mile from the Israeli border. An additional 14 soldiers were wounded, three of them seriously.

As military sources and media correspondents pieced together details of the carnage, the IDF reported that it killed 24 terrorists and arrested a large number of suspects in a raid on Al-Azhariya village, just north of the Litani River, a suspected base for assaults on Israeli units. The IDF also detained 10 Lebanese army regulars who allegedly tried to interfere.

The truck-bombing was the worst disaster to hit the IDF in Lebanon since November 4, 1983 when another suicide bomber crashed a vehicle into a military headquarters building in Tyre, killing 28 Israeli soldiers and 35 Lebanese and Palestinians.

Three rival groups within the Shiite Moslem community claimed credit today for yesterday's suicide mission. Israeli sources said this was typical, with each extremist group trying to outdo the other to enhance its image in the Arab community. President

Chaim Herzog said today however that Israel does not consider itself an enemy of the Shiite community in Lebanon but will do everything possible to protect its soldiers who are now in the process of withdrawing from south Lebanon.

Herzog sent his condolences to the bereaved families. He described the fallen soldiers as victims of a mad and inexplicable hatred.

The death toll, originally reported as 10, was revised upward today to 12. Adding to the impact of the tragedy was the fact that it occurred less than a mile from Israel territory, within sight and sound of the border town of Metullah where windows were shattered by the blast. Several children at a school facing the road which parallels the border — where the attack occurred — sustained slight injuries, apparently from flying glass.

The doomed convoy entered Lebanon from Metullah. It was carrying regular soldiers and reservists, mostly non-coms, returning to their units in Lebanon from weekend leave in Israel. The convoy consisted of two "Safari"-type transport trucks with a canvas roof, open at the sides. The soldiers sit back-to-back on a central bench with their weapons ready to fire at attackers from either side of the road. The trucks were preceded by a lead jeep and a tail jeep guarding the rear of the convoy.

Lone Driver In Truck

According to eye-witness reports, a small red Chevrolet pick-up truck bearing Lebanese license plates and a lone driver approached the convoy from the opposite direction at low speed. An officer in the lead jeep signaled the driver to pull off the road to allow the convoy to pass.

The vehicle continued to approach and, when directly alongside the first "Safari" transport, exploded, leaving a long, deep crater and pieces of twisted metal. The truck bomb is believed to have contained more than 100 kilograms of explosives.

The "Safari" truck was also blown to pieces. The soldiers who survived the blast suffered severe burns over most of their bodies and fractured bones. Medical help was on the spot within minutes of the attack. Helicopters flew the injured men to hospitals, mainly in Haifa. Some were taken to the Safed Hospital and transferred later to the Sheba government hospital near Tel Aviv and to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

One of the terrorist groups that took credit for the attack said the suicide driver had intended to drive his vehicle into Metullah and blow it up there, in which case the victims would have been civilians.

Ban On Lone Drivers Extended

The IDF today extended its general order banning all Lebanese vehicles with fewer than two occupants from the roads in all parts of south Lebanon still under Israeli control. The ban was originally imposed two weeks ago as a precaution against suicide attacks. But it applied only to areas where IDF patrols and positions had come under attack in the past.

The army also closed all bridges over the Litani River. Trucks coming from the north must transfer their cargoes to other vehicles on the south bank of the river to prevent the smuggling of weapons and explosives.

The IDF today published the names of the soldiers killed yesterday. They are: Regimental Sgt. Major Avraham Bousaglio of Migdal Haemek; Staff Sgt. Haim Avner of Jerusalem; Staff Sgt.

Ephraim Michael of Holon; Sgt. Yitzhak Shazar of Kiryat Shmona; Cpl. Hatib Rokn of Beit Jann; Cpl. Alexander Schneiderman of Carmiel; Cpl. Ofer Dayan of Haifa; Cpl. Tzafir Segal of Tel Aviv; Pvt. 1st Class Danny Melamed of Acre; Pvt. Moshe Dahan of Holon; Pvt. Giora Memon of Kiryat Ata; and Pvt. Shlomo Nagar of Hadera.

The IDF action at Al-Azariya village was not linked by military sources to the truck bombing nor were there any suggestions that it was in retaliation. The village, located one kilometer west of the area under IDF control, was described as a base from which attacks were mounted on Israeli units and where preparations were being made for further attacks. In addition to the 24 terrorists reported killed and the unspecified number detained, the IDF found large quantities of war materiel, an army spokesman said.

The altercation with the Lebanese regular army — the second in less than a week — occurred when Lebanese soldiers fired at Israeli troops after they had been warned not to interfere, an IDF spokesman said.

RABBI ZALMAN DWORKIN DEAD AT 85

NEW YORK, March 11 (JTA) — More than 5,000 Hasidim attended the funeral yesterday of Rabbi Zalman Dworkin, dean of the worldwide Lubavitch Rabbinic Council, who died of cancer Saturday at the Mount Sinai Medical Center. He was 85 and had been a resident of Brooklyn. Services were held at the Lubavitch World Headquarters in Brooklyn.

As dean of the Brooklyn-based Rabbinic Council, Rabbi Dworkin was instrumental in issuing decisions on aspects of Jewish religious law. Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, a Lubavitch spokesman, said Dworkin's influence "transcended" the movement and that his opinions were sought "by people all over the world."

He came to the United States in 1958 and headed the Lubavitch Rabbinic Study School in Pittsburgh from 1958 until 1967.

Born in Rogochof in what is now Soviet Byelorussia, he studied from the time he was 11 until he was 24 at the Lyubavichi Yeshiva, near Smolensk. He married Tzivia Dubrowsky, the daughter of a leading rabbi.

Dworkin served as chief rabbi for several Russian cities until the start of World War II. At that time, many Soviet Jews sought refuge in Samarkand, a Soviet province and he served them as rabbi. After the war he became chief rabbi of cities in Germany, France and Ireland.

One of his principal interests was providing counseling for construction and operation of mikvahs throughout the United States and Canada.

MODAI WARNS U.S. JEWISH LEADERS NOT TO BE DECEIVED BY MUBARAK By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 11 (JTA) — Yitzhak Moda'i, Israel's Finance Minister, warned American Jewish leaders today not to be deceived by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and not take his statements at face value.

"After all he comes from the orient and you have to distinguish between imagination and facts in his statements," Moda'i told a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations here.

A delegation of American Jewish leaders was scheduled to meet with Mubarak this evening in Washington. A number of Jewish leaders who were present at today's Presidents Conference meeting, expressed surprise at the remarks of the Israeli Minister. "He had

no business saying that to us," one of them told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after the meeting. Modai recalled that he was misled by the Egyptian leader a few weeks ago when he went to Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian ruler. "I wanted for a long time to go to Cairo, but I was not invited until recently. Two days after my meetings in Cairo it was announced that Mubarak will be going to Washington," Modai said, indicating that his invitation to Cairo was part of an Egyptian ploy to gain favorable public opinion before going to Washington.

"I just want you not to be misled by Mubarak's statements," Modai said. "You have to see behind his words."

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION NONCOMMITTAL ON MUBARAK INITIATIVE, BUT READY TO LISTEN AS EGYPTIAN MEETS PRESIDENT

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, March 11 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration is maintaining its cautious, noncommittal stance toward Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's recent peace initiative, as the Egyptian President begins an official visit to Washington today.

At the same time, Administration officials appear to be playing down a sense of pessimism which has been attributed to them in the press over the expected impact of the visit and the Middle East peace process.

A senior State Department official stressed in a briefing today that the U.S. would be mostly in "listening mode" as it seeks clarification of recent proposals made by the Egyptian President through the news media.

In an interview with The New York Times last month, Mubarak called for the formation of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation that would not necessarily include Palestine Liberation Organization members and that would negotiate directly with Israel. His proposal followed the conclusion of a PLO-Jordanian agreement on a joint negotiating position toward a Middle East settlement.

Statements Raise Questions

But subsequent statements from both Mubarak and the PLO have raised a cloud of ambiguity over the initiatives. Mubarak, in a later interview, called for talks between the U.S. and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation as an initial step — a suggestion endorsed by King Hussein.

Egyptian officials have also recently suggested that no delegation could be formed without PLO representation. Meanwhile, the PLO has requested that its agreement with Hussein be modified to call for PLO representation in a general Arab delegation to negotiations under U.S. auspices.

A senior Administration official in another briefing this morning said the U.S. conditions for talking with the PLO remained, but indicated that in any event the Administration would prefer not to involve itself in talks with a joint delegation even if the PLO were not represented.

"We're not interested in anything that smacks of pre-negotiations of the American position," the official said. The Administration has made its recognition of the PLO contingent on the latter's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and its recognition of Israel's right to exist.

The official however, did not entirely rule out the possibility of talks between U.S. officials and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. He said the Administration would sound out the Egyptian President on his conception of how such talks could advance the object of direct Israeli-Arab negotiations. But he stressed that the United States could not accept PLO representation in any form.

Both officials indicated in the briefing that Mubarak would probably not receive the \$870 million he is requesting as a supplementary aid package for 1985. They stressed that any decision would be unrelated to Israel's request for \$800 million in 1985 supplementary aid now being considered by the Administration although recommendations to Congress for emergency assistance to both countries would probably be submitted in a form of a joint supplemental request.

Mubarak will meet with Secretary of State George Shultz today and with President Reagan tomorrow. He is also scheduled to meet this afternoon with members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. This morning he met with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Demonstrators At Embassy

Meanwhile, about 30 demonstrators from five organizations demonstrated in front of the Egyptian Embassy this morning, calling on Egypt to "fulfill the terms of the (Israel-Egypt peace) treaty." They claimed Egypt was violating the treaty by failing to return its Ambassador to Israel, stalling normalization of cultural and commercial relations and permitting anti-Semitism in the press. One of the organizers said this afternoon that three of the demonstrators had been invited in for talks with Embassy officials and were still inside the Embassy.

The organizations participating in the demonstration were: the Zionist Organization of America; Americans for a Safe Israel; the Silver Spring Jewish Center; Herut Revisionist Zionists of America; and the American Forum for Jewish-Christian Cooperation.

SOVIET ACCUSED AT UN MEETING OF DENYING JEWS THEIR IDENTITY

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 11 (JTA) — The Soviet government was accused here today of trying to obliterate Jewish culture in the Soviet Union.

Andree Farhi, representing the International Council of Jewish Women, leveled the charge at a meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Commission which opened a debate on human rights violations throughout the world. Mrs. Farhi said her organization was concerned over the situation of Jews in the USSR.

One of the several rights denied them touches on their very identity as Jews, she said. If they wished to learn Hebrew, they risked several years in prison. There are numerous cases where people accused of anti-Soviet propaganda had simply been studying Hebrew.

Farhi observed that the UN Charter, the covenants on human rights and even the Soviet constitution confirmed the linguistic, cultural and religious rights of all people. Despite these instruments, there is a deliberate effort by the Soviet government to deprive the Jewish community of a culture which was linked with the history of mankind, she said.

NEW YORK (JTA) — The 850th anniversary of the birth of Maimonides will be observed March 31, with a scholarly conference and cultural festival sponsored by Yeshiva University's Jacob E. Safra Institute of Sephardic Studies.

JNF DELEGATES, IN VISIT TO KIRYAT SHEMONA FOREST, OTHER SITES, GET FIRST-HAND VIEW HOW RECREATIONAL PROJECTS BENEFIT PEOPLE

By Gil Sedan

KIRYAT SHEMONA, March 11 (JTA) -- The forest of Kiryat Shemona, a patch of green area in the middle of this northern development town, has never before had such visitors: Some 300 American Jews, mostly elderly, walked through the winding paths of the wildly growing bushes and trees, as if they were exploring the land. It may not have looked like it, but this was one of the highlights of the 59th National Assembly of the Jewish National Fund of America held for the second time in Israel.

In the distance one could hear faintly the tune, Hevenu Shalom Aleichem. As the music grew louder and the visitors were greeted by flag-waving children, even the most cynical among the tourists must have been overwhelmed with emotions. "All this is for us," one elderly woman exclaimed to a friend.

It was Purim, a day of vacation from school. Dozens of Kiryat Shemona children welcomed the delegation in the heart of the park, singing songs, and offering the guests fried potatoes and hot coffee, cooked and brewed over bon fires in the best of Boy Scout tradition.

This was the way the 20,000 residents of Kiryat Shemona expressed their appreciation for the plans of the JNF to develop the site into a park, to become a major tourist attraction in the north. It would give a boost to the further development of this town, a prime target of Katyusha rockets before the Lebanon war.

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Today there is concern about the future, the visitors were told by Proper Azran, the 36-year-old Mayor of Kiryat Shemona. He was referring to the pullout of the Israel Defense Force from south Lebanon. But at the same time, the residents are making preparations for a renewed momentum. "We are determined to turn the town into a regional center for the kibbutzim and the moshavim in the area. This park," said Azran, "which has been our playground since we came here from Morocco in 1949, should be one of the attractions."

According to JNF plans, the park will offer a variety of amusements, facilities and services. They will include overnight camping spots and picnic sites, an abundance of hiking trails, adventure playgrounds, and recreation sites. A swimming pool will offer water sports including the always popular water slides. Natural springs will be cleaned and restored and waters will be channeled to special pools filled with animal life.

The park project is only one example, introduced last week to members of the JNF Assembly of the various contemporary roles of the JNF. The organization no longer confines itself to afforestation and land reclamation projects, but involves its experts in the development of a variety of projects.

Trees Planted in Tel Aviv

Members of the delegation visited the beach of Amnun, on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Once the \$1.5 million project is completed, it promises to be one of the most beautiful beaches in the country. They also visited the Timna Park Project, north of Eilat, a \$5 million project which converts the site of the ancient copper mines into a vast recreation park, a major tourist attraction for the south.

In Tel Aviv, last week, the JNF deviated from its traditional role in the rural area. Members of the Assembly planted the first of 18,000 trees in Hadarom park, right in the heart of the Hatikva quarter, a deprived neighborhood.

"Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat came to us and asked: Why are the people in the development towns more important than our development neighborhoods?" Samuel Cohen, executive vice president of the JNF recalled. "We came up with the forest, our gift for Tel Aviv's 75th anniversary-- a new association between the JNF and Tel Aviv, a link which began in the early days of the first all-Jewish city."

The tree-planting ceremony took place shortly after the Assembly members landed at Ben Gurion Airport.

"We have learned in the past that all the speeches in the world are not as meaningful as bringing people to the land, to witness at first-hand what the JNF has done," said Cohen. "The JNF has once again demonstrated its special appeal -- the personal identification with a tree, a grove, a small piece of Israel."

Until two years ago, JNF assemblies were all held in the U.S. In 1983, at the request of Israel's Tourism Ministry, the Assembly was held in Eilat.

CONCERN EXPRESSED ON GALILEE'S FUTURE

By Gil Sedan

TIBERIAS, March 11 (JTA) -- Charlotte Jacobson, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, has expressed concern over the future of Galilee which she sees as underpopulated and short of development funds.

Jacobson, who is in Israel for the 59th National Assembly of the JNF, attended by 300 delegates, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that American Jews are not sufficiently aware of the development needs of Galilee because there is not enough direct contact between them and this part of the country and the people who live here.

She spoke to the JTA while on a tour of Galilee and the Golan Heights. The JNF is engaged in several projects in northern Israel. Apart from its traditional afforestation and land reclamation work, it is creating public recreational areas which will serve as tourist attractions. One is planned near Tiberias on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Jacobson said one of the challenges facing the JNF is to strengthen the "mitzpin", the hill-top outposts being built in the region as the nucleus of future full-fledged settlements. The project was begun eight years ago and, according to Jacobson, it has suffered from lack of funds and the region, consequently, is under-populated. "We have a feeling that people want to come to those settlements but there are not enough facilities," Jacobson said.

LAW BARRING ANTI-HATE PROPAGANDA URGED

By David Kantor

BONN, March 11 (JTA) -- Werner Nachman, chairman of the Jewish Community in West Germany, has urged all parties in the Bundestag to support a draft law that would criminalize anti-Semitic propaganda, including the so-called "Auschwitz lie", the claim by neo-Nazis that the Holocaust never occurred and was in fact a Jewish "hoax." Debate on the law opens this week.

In a statement released here, Nachman charged that this country has failed to convey to the younger generation the enormity of Nazi crimes against the Jews. It is inconceivable, he said, that denying the Holocaust goes unpunished.

Nachman's statement followed an announcement by two coalition partners and one opposition party in parliament that they will not support the government-drafted measure.