

THREE WEST BANK ARAB YOUTHS DETAINED IN MURDER OF TWO JEWISH TEACHERS WHOSE BODIES WERE FOUND STUFFED IN A CAVE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA) — Three West Bank Arab youths have been detained in connection with the murder of two Afula school teachers whose missing bodies were discovered Friday stuffed into a cave on the slopes of the Gilboa Hills overlooking the Jezreel Valley.

The three suspects, aged 17, 18 and 19, are family members from the West Bank village of Arabuna, some five kilometers northeast of Jenin, near where the bodies were found, Israel Radio reported. They participated this morning in a police reconstruction of the crime.

Police Minister Haim Barlev said today that two of the suspects have confessed to the murders, and the third suspect admitted to having helped the others hide the bodies. Barlev said the suspects were not part of an organized group. The Mukhtar of the village was quoted as saying the entire village opposed the murders.

Premier Shimon Peres today sent a message of praise to the police and the Shin Bet, the Israel general securities service — the secret service — for the speed with which they solved the crime, on the day the victims were to be buried. He said he hoped the speedy solution to the murder would deter other similar acts of terrorism.

Demand Death To Terrorists

But news of the murder set off angry protests in Afula over the weekend where residents chanted "death to terrorists" and shouted support for Rabbi Meir Kahane. Some 650 police were on duty in Afula today where a large crowd demonstrated outside the Afula police station.

The bodies of the two school teachers — Yosef Eliahu, 35, and Lea Elmakais, 19 — were discovered by a resident of an Emek settlement and a Bedouin Arab tracker stuffed into a cave that was little more than a crack in the rocks on the Gilboa Hills.

Their disappearance on July 21 after leaving their school to drive home set off a huge man-hunt involving police, border police, soldiers and civilian volunteers — including both Jews and Arabs from surrounding villages — searching the area between Afula and Jenin, where Eliahu's car had been found abandoned with a spent bullet and blood stains on the seat earlier in the week.

The two persons who discovered the bodies were following what they thought were suspicious tracks and were reported to have come across an abandoned private telephone list bearing Elmakais' name. They were attracted to the crack in the hillside by the stench and masses of flies at its entrance. It took police some time to extricate the bodies because the cave was too small to crawl into, and the bodies must have been pushed in by force.

Eliahu leaves a wife and five children, some of whom he had been due to take to music lessons and whose lateness home led his wife to report his absence to the police. Teachers said he had been giving a lift home to Elmakais, a student teacher doing her national service as an educator in the school.

The murder weapon, police said today, was a carbine stolen several weeks ago from a farmer in the Gilboa area. When the three suspects were detained the gun was reportedly found in their possession, together with a pistol owned by Eliahu, a purse belonging to Elmakais, a two-way radio and binoculars. The binoculars had been used to keep a watch on the area where they held up the car and on the area of the cave.

Police sources said the suspects held up the teacher's car at gunpoint on the outskirts of Afula and made Eliahu drive it into the Gilboa Hills, where the two were murdered and their bodies hidden the next day, after having been left in the car overnight.

Violent Demonstration In Afula

News of the discovery of the bodies set off a violent demonstration in Afula where police were forced to break up a rowdy demonstration of enraged residents who massed outside the police station and the municipality building. Several Arab looking bystanders were beaten, and police detained at least eight demonstrators.

Security continued to be massive and tight in Afula to prevent any incidents during today's burial of Eliahu. The funeral of Elmakais took place at the same time in her native town of Hadera, where the atmosphere is quieter but still tense. Both victims were given full state funerals with ministers representing the Cabinet attending both burials.

Deputy Premier David Levy, representing the government at the funeral for Eliahu, said he would press for implementation of the death penalty for terrorist murders. His remarks were greeted with satisfaction by the large crowd of mourners.

But Barlev, representing the Cabinet at the funeral in Hadera, was met with hostility when he said that while stringent measures would be taken to halt terrorism, the perpetrators would receive a fair trial. He was interrupted with cries of "death to terrorists." Reporters and television cameramen reporting the funeral were attacked at graveside by the family of Elmakais. Police intervened to prevent violence.

Kahane, meanwhile, appears to be reaping benefits from this latest act of terrorist murder. The angry crowds in Afula and near Hadera have been shouting "Kahane, Kahane" as they demand death sentences for terrorists and the expulsion of Arabs from Israel. Kahane had earlier, last week, been prevented from visiting Afula. The family of Eliahu appealed on the radio to Kahane not to visit them before the funeral as he said he would do with his Kach supporters.

Observers say that every murder or terrorist act increases the potential vote for the extremist Kach

Party. The murder of Eliahu and Elmakais was the latest in a number of cases involving the disappearance of individuals and couples whose bodies were later found, apparently killed by terrorists.

Tehiya MK Geula Cohen immediately blamed the government for the murders, as the Cabinet had recently released to their homes in Israel and the West Bank hundreds of convicted terrorists in the prisoner exchange for three Israel Defense Force soldiers captured in the Lebanon war.

CABINET TO DISCUSS IMPOSING DEATH PENALTY ON TERRORIST MURDERERS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA) -- The Cabinet will meet tomorrow to discuss imposing the death penalty on terrorist murderers, amidst a growing public demand for capital punishment. At the same time, Haaretz published a public opinion poll today which showed that some 70.5 percent of 1,200 people interviewed support capital punishment for terrorists while only 20.1 percent voted against it.

The public clamor for the death penalty increased appreciably over the weekend with the murder last week of two Jewish teachers whose bodies were found in a cave Friday on the slopes of the Gilboa Hills. (See separate story.)

The Cabinet is said to be split on implementing the death penalty which is on the statute books but has not been used against terrorists. The only person ever executed in Israel was Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann in the early 1960's. Likud ministers are said to favor the death penalty while the Labor ministers favor automatic deportation for Arabs found guilty of terrorist acts -- to reduce the number of PLO supporters in Israeli prisons who can be used as bargaining chips in hijack hostage demands.

The practice of deporting Arab terrorists and political leaders was stopped as a general rule in 1979 by then Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, but there were exceptions -- such as the deportation of the Arab mayors of Hebron and Halhoul and recently the deportation of a former security prisoner from the Gaza Strip.

Division On Issue Of Capital Punishment

It was not clear today whether the demand for capital punishment would win support in the Cabinet and the Knesset as well. According to some reports, the heads of the security branches opposed the death penalty during internal deliberations last week in preparation for tomorrow's Cabinet session.

The two main arguments against capital punishment were the fear that this might tempt Arab terrorist organizations holding Israeli prisoners to do the same, and the concern that Arab terrorists might be less inclined to turn themselves in while confronting Israeli security forces if they know that they would face the death penalty.

In the Cabinet, Premier Shimon Peres and Police Minister Haim Barlev, both of the Labor Party, oppose capital punishment. Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, both of Likud, have spoken out in favor. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has not made up his mind. It is expected, however, that Rabin's views, when they are crystalized, will carry much weight among the ministers, including those on the right.

Unlike the death penalty, there is wide support in the Cabinet for tougher actions against terrorists, primarily deportations and administrative arrests. The Cabinet is also scheduled to discuss tomorrow ways and means to defend the Arab population in the face of Jewish extremists. The Cabinet usually meets on Sundays but it was postponed because of Tisha B'Av.

GUSH EMUNIM LEADERS CONDEMN KIRYAT ARBA COALITION AGREEMENT By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA) -- The Gush Emunim condemned a coalition agreement reached in Kiryat Arba which provides for the mass dismissal of Arab workers employed by that municipality and hiring restrictions based on race.

Daniella Weiss, secretary general of the militant movement of West Bank settlers, said that while it was proper to favor Jewish labor, there was no justification to fire Arabs already employed by the local council or organizations.

The agreement in Kiryat Arba, a Jewish township adjacent to Hebron, was signed last week by the United Kiryat Arba list and the Kach list, comprising supporters of Rabbi Meir Kahane. It has been denounced in Israel as tantamount to apartheid.

Weiss told the Voice of Israel Radio last Thursday that she personally favored the closure of Arab universities in the West Bank and the appointment of Jews to head town councils in Arab towns in the territory.

Meanwhile, the Likud Party leadership is trying to replace the coalition agreement with an alternative agreement between a Likud-supported list and the United Kiryat Arba list which consists of both religious and secular elements. This has failed so far because of personal differences between the leaders of the two lists.

NO DECISION ON ARMS SALES TO JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA UNTIL NEXT FALL By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 28 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration stressed that no decision will be made before next fall on requests by Jordan and Saudi Arabia to buy sophisticated American arms. "Both Jordan and Saudi Arabia have informed us of their current defense needs and these remain under review," State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said last Thursday.

He reiterated that the just completed Administration study on how Middle East arms sales fit into U.S. policy does not recommend any specific sale. He said the study, which is being shown to Congressional committees on a classified basis was not "a decision" paper but "a document which contains the framework on which decisions can then be made."

Redman stressed, as did Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs in his testimony last Wednesday before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, that Congress will be consulted before a decision on any arms sales to Jordan or Saudi Arabia is made.

But Murphy was warned Wednesday that any such sale would face a tough "AWACS-type" fight in Congress where majorities in both houses are already on record as opposed to selling any new arms to Jordan or Saudi Arabia without any progress in the Middle East peace process.

At The UN Women's Conference:
FINAL FORWARD-LOOKING DOCUMENT
ADOPTED WITHOUT ANY EXPLICIT
REFERENCE TO ZIONISM OR ISRAEL
By Nancy Light

NAIROBI, Kenya, July 28 (JTA) -- The United Nations End of the Decade Women's Conference adopted a consensus final document on strategies for women to the year 2000 which after days of acrimonious debate, wrangling, and anti-Israel and anti-Zionist rhetoric, was free of any explicit reference to Zionism as a form of racism.

This was clearly a victory for Israel and Western democracies which had indicated that they would not vote for or agree to any document which included the formula equating Zionism with racism. It was also a victory in contrast to the two previous UN women's conferences, in Mexico City and in Copenhagen, where documents including the equation were adopted, both in opposition to Israel, the United States and some Western countries.

Bernice Tannenbaum, chairperson of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, a delegate to this conference who had attended the mid-decade conference in Copenhagen, said that the Israeli and Jewish delegates here were better prepared this time to prevent unduly virulent attacks on Zionism.

She asserted that the American delegation, led by Maureen Reagan, supported the Jewish and Israeli delegates all the way and cited as evidence a Senate resolution passed two weeks ago that called for the repudiation of Zionism as racism and urged parliaments all over the world to pass similar resolutions.

Beverly Davis, president of B'nai B'rith Women International, a delegate to the conference, said that if Zionism had been attacked in the final version in the consensus document, the American Jewish delegation was prepared to walk out of the gathering.

She said that for the past three years, tremendous outreach efforts had been made by Jewish women around the world to impart a greater understanding of the real meaning and contributions of Zionism to issues affecting women. As a result of this effort, Davis said that many non-Jewish women here were less hostile and more understanding.

Kenya Played A Key Role

A key role in the wording of the final consensus document was played by the Kenyan delegation. Acting as peacemaker and negotiator in an effort to safeguard the consensus when the issue of including Zionism nearly divided the conference and endangered the possibility of a consensus statement, the Kenyan delegation appealed to the African delegates, in a special meeting called during a recess in the last hours of the conference Friday, to mediate with Arab delegations for the benefit and good of the conference in developing forward-looking strategies for women worldwide.

When the session reconvened, the Kenyan delegation proposed an amendment to the proposed document that deleted the word Zionism from the text of Paragraph 95 that compared it to apartheid, racism, imperialism and colonialism. Instead, the phrase "and all other forms of racism" was inserted.

The first to respond to the amendment was the Soviet delegation, saying they would accept the new wording on the basis of consensus, not vote. As consensus began to gather momentum the Palestine Liberation Organization delegates said they, too, were willing to accept the wording although they would have preferred the original text with its outright condemnation of Zionism.

Subsequent delegations to take part in the discussion praised the PLO for its "magnanimity" and for its "statesmanship." When the amendment was finally adopted it was clear that it had been accepted on the merit of its implicit condemnation of Zionism, as many delegates assumed that the phrase, "and all other forms of racism," alluded to Zionism. Not until the amendment was adopted did the conference president, Margaret Kenyatta, recognize Alan Keyes, the only male on the 33-member U.S. delegation.

U.S. Denounces Nefarious Equation

Keyes, in a forceful statement, said that "no amount of repetition, no amount, shall render that slanderous lie (Zionism is racism) truthful." He was greeted with fierce booing from the floor.

Reagan denounced the "vicious slander" that developed in 1975, at the first women's decade conference in Mexico City, against Zionism in what she said was a transparent attempt to link Zionism with racism. She pledged that the U.S. would not accept any document that treats Zionism as racism or any other evil.

Paragraph 95, which originally included Zionism in a list of major obstacles to development, alongside racism and colonialism, originated at a meeting in New York last spring. It was proposed by the Soviet Union and was boosted by Iran and Syria. It was met with disapproval by Western countries.

During the conference here, delegations, including the U.S., Canada and Britain, declared that their full support of the forward-looking strategies document was contingent upon the deletion of the word Zionism in Paragraph 95.

Other Issues Dealt With

Following the debate on the issue of Zionism in the document, the conference adopted paragraphs dealing with terrorism, apartheid, and Palestinian women and children. The U.S. was alone in voting not to impose economic sanctions on South Africa.

A recommendation to adopt the proposed harsh text that assessed the plight of Palestinian women and children and that declared that the Palestinian people have a right to create their own state, was proposed by Egypt in a conciliatory gesture to those delegates who earlier had voted for the amendment on Zionism.

During the vote on this segment of the document, 97 of the 150 delegations favored adopting the harsher position, 29 delegations, mainly Western nations, abstained and Israel, Australia and the U.S. voted for the more moderate position.

The final piece of business conducted just before the conference ended, was ascertaining full agreement from each delegation to sign the document, a feat at any UN conference, historic at this one.

Reagan noted that two kinds of delegations came to Nairobi: Those interested in women's causes and those interested in political causes. "I'm glad that those who came to further women's causes triumphed," she declared.

The Israeli delegation expressed relief and jubilation that Zionism does not appear in any part of the forward-looking strategies. Delegate Tamar Eshel said, "The fact that the conference took place in Africa had a great influence on its success. Kenya, our host country, cannot be congratulated enough on its positive role and leadership." Sarah Doron, head of the delegation from Israel, expressed satisfaction with the conference and declared it a great victory for women -- the first successful conference of the decade.

DULZIN SAYS 'CERTAIN CIRCLES' IN CANADA, CHICAGO ARE INCITING ETHIOPIAN JEWISH OLIM AGAINST HALACHA
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA) -- Jewish Agency chairman Leon Dulzin accused "certain circles in Canada and in Chicago" of "incitement" of Ethiopian immigrants against halachic requirements laid down by the Israeli chief rabbinate.

In a lengthy radio interview here Friday, Dulzin said these circles, which he did not identify, had in the past falsely maligned the State of Israel for ostensibly failing to bring the Ethiopians on aliya. And now these same circles were active in inciting the newcomers on the matter of the symbolic renewal of the covenant ceremony, he said.

Dulzin praised the Chief Rabbis who, he said, had been sympathetic and responsive to Ethiopian sensibilities and had thus dispensed with the requirement of a symbolic circumcision.

Recircumcision, through a drawing of a drop of blood, had been required of Cochin Indian Jewish immigrants to Israel 25 years ago, Dulzin noted.

Today's two Chief Rabbis, Mordechai Eliahu and Avraham Shapiro, had ruled that the Ethiopians were fully and entirely Jewish for every halachic purpose but if they wished to get married, they would have to undergo the very same examination of their Jewishness as every non-Israeli coming on aliya and wishing to marry is required to undergo.

In fact, Dulzin said, the Chief Rabbis' requirement that Ethiopians immerse in the ritual bath prior to being permitted to marry was a dispensation -- since it simplified this process of Jewish-credential-and-antecedent checking.

RUMANIA ACCUSED OF HALVING THE NUMBER OF JEWS ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE

NEW YORK, July 28 (JTA) -- The Center for Russian and East European Jewry has accused Rumania of halving the number of Jews allowed to emigrate annually and warned that rising anti-Semitism in that country will make it necessary to evacuate the remaining Jewish community over the next few years.

Jacob Birnbaum, the Center's national director, made those points in testimony last week before the Senate International Trade Subcommittee. He charged that "Rumanian Jewish emigration has been slashed in half in the first six months of 1985, compared to 1984—from 1,026 to 543 -- in direct violation of the Freedom of Emigration Law called the Jackson-Vanik Amendment."

The Amendment to the 1974 Foreign Trade Act, links emigration from Communist nations to most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status granted them

by the U.S. Birnbaum noted that during 1984, almost 2,000 Rumanian Jews emigrated but prospects for this year are only 1,000. He asserted that about 4,000 Jews were permitted to leave in the years before MFN was granted Rumania. MFN is renewable on a yearly basis.

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations last week endorsed a one-year extension despite a "disappointing" emigration record so far this year because it provides "leverage" with the Rumanian government that would not be available if MFN was terminated.

Urges Jackson-Vanik Amendment Leverage

Birnbaum urged the Trade Subcommittee to make greater use of its leverage under the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. He suggested sending delegations to Rumania twice a year for on-site inspections and to arrange monthly meetings with Rumanian officials to review the human rights situation there in terms of emigration, religion and ethnic minorities.

Birnbaum said, "In recent years, Rumania has seen numerous manifestations of anti-Semitism which have been duly denounced by President Nicolai Ceausescu. He is now 67 and will not be able to control a potentially volatile society for many years to come. The basic insecurity of Rumanian Jewry requires an acceleration of the annual Jewish emigration rate to not less than 4,000 so that the community can be evacuated within the next few years."

RESUMPTION OF ISRAEL-USSR RELATIONS IS INEVITABLE, ISRAELI ENVOY SAYS

By Andy Muchin, Editor, Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

MILWAUKEE, July 28 (JTA) -- The resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union "will come about eventually, because it is in the nature of things," Ambassador Arye Levin, Israel's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, said here.

"We are open to reestablishing diplomatic ties," Levin said, "but our position is: The Soviet Union broke those ties. It is up to the Soviet Union to approach us with a view to reestablishment." The possibility of renewing ties, ruptured by the Soviet Union at the start of the 1967 Six-Day War, was leaked last week.

In fact, Levin said that Israel and the Soviets have been recently meeting on "the highest levels," including their foreign ministers. Levin said that he also had participated in such meetings at the UN.

"The Soviets are a legitimate part and parcel of the political scene in the Middle East," Levin explained. "They know that if they are not maintaining an official relationship, they are out of the picture."

Levin reiterated Israel's opposition to an international conference on the Middle East that would include the Soviets. Levin acknowledged that an Israeli demand to link reestablishment of relations with relaxed emigration for Soviet Jews "is not to be excluded."

Levin was the guest speaker last week at the Wisconsin State of Israel Bonds National Tribute Dinner at the Pfister Hotel. Francis Ferguson, retired chairman of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co., became the first non-Jew from Wisconsin to receive the Israel Peace Medal.