

## SECOND KIDNAPPED LEBANESE JEW FOUND SLAIN IN BEIRUT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 1 (JTA) — The body of Isaac Tarrah, a 53-year-old Beirut Jew, was found in the Lebanese capital Wednesday. He was one of four Beirut Jews kidnapped last March and the second to be murdered by Shiite Moslem extremists calling themselves "The Organization of the Oppressed of the World." The first victim was Haim Cohen Halala whose body was found in Beirut on December 25. (Related story, P. 3.)

The Shiite group announced Wednesday that it "executed" Tarrah to avenge anti-Shiite acts by the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), including the demolition of houses in Kounin village in south Lebanon. The SLA blew up the houses from which two of its soldiers were killed in an ambush last week that also wounded an Israel Defense Force liaison officer. The families occupying the houses were evicted and expelled from the village.

After Halala's body was found in the no-man's-land between east and west Beirut, the same Shiite group announced "the execution of Israeli spy Haim Cohen Halala in response to the massive shelling of south Lebanon in which several strugglers were killed." Halala was abducted from his west Beirut home on March 29. Tarrah and two other local Jews were seized at the same time.

## THREE MEN ARRESTED IN ALLEGED PLOT TO BLOW UP PARIS SYNAGOGUE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 1 (JTA) — French police have arrested three men — two Portuguese and one Egyptian — who were allegedly planning to blow up the Rue Copernic Synagogue, the site of a terrorist attack five years ago. The three were arrested here Sunday and formally charged yesterday by an investigating magistrate. According to police sources, the trio was planning the attack on behalf of an unidentified Palestinian organization.

Police said a bag containing a map of Paris with the synagogue location marked in red ink was found in the hotel room occupied by the three men during their stay in Paris. The three also carried the various elements needed to build an explosive device. Letters apparently intended to be released after the attack claimed it was carried out by "a Christian anti-Zionist organization." These, too, were found in the hotel room.

A powerful bomb exploded on October 30, 1980 outside the Rue Copernic Synagogue while hundreds of worshippers attended Succoth services. Four passersby were killed, including an Israeli woman, and 20 people were injured. The terrorists were never caught. Police learned that the man who planted the bomb carried a Cypriot passport and fled to Beirut after the explosion.

## BACKGROUND REPORT JORDAN-SYRIAN RAPPROCHEMENT BODES ILL FOR THE PEACE PROCESS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Israel is watching

this week, with little enthusiasm, the blossoming rapprochement between Jordan and Syria after nearly a decade of simmering hostility. According to most analysts, it bodes ill for the peace process in the region.

King Hussein's visit to Damascus was his first in seven years. He and President Hafez Assad of Syria announced Monday night that the two neighbors would exchange Ambassadors as a symbol of their newly-established friendship.

These developments worry Israel on two counts. Syria is expected to try to woo Jordan away from the American-orchestrated peace scenario. At the same time, the Syrians appear to be deliberately escalating military tension with Israel, possibly to impress Hussein and other Arab leaders with their unswerving dedication to the struggle against Israel.

## Syria's Confrontational Role

Israeli commentators say Assad seems willing to risk a military confrontation with Israel. He stubbornly refuses to remove the Soviet-made SAM-2 surface-to-air missiles recently deployed close to the Syria-Lebanon border. To Israel, this poses a potential threat to its reconnaissance flights over Lebanon to monitor terrorist activity.

It is also seen here as a slap in the face to Israel, which apparently had a tacit understanding with Syria on the limits beyond which neither side would extend its military force. Damascus has ignored discreet diplomatic efforts by Israel through a third party to have the missiles withdrawn.

Israel is also seriously concerned with Assad's role as a "spoiler" in the faltering Middle East peace process. Hussein, at the moment, is seeking an international framework for negotiations with Israel. He has given Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat a deadline to meet the conditions for PLO participation—acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Without compliance, Hussein might go ahead on his own, with local (West Bank) Palestinian leaders. Assad is determined to prevent a peace process from developing and especially to keep Arafat, whom he loathes, from having a diplomatic role.

## Hussein Playing A Subtle Role

One Israeli analyst, Asher Susser of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center, believes Hussein's visit to Damascus is not a cause for alarm. According to Susser, the Jordanian ruler is playing a subtle game. He wants to reduce Syria's opposition to his involvement in peace moves and at the same time be in a position to seek Syrian support should the peace efforts fail.

Susser cites Hussein's "ingrained pessimism" which leads him to expect failure. Assad's priority is to foil peace efforts, but if he cannot, he wants to make sure Syria will be involved or exert some influence over their outcome, Susser says.

## SPECULATION RAISED THAT ISRAEL MIGHT HIT LIBYA FOR AIRPORT ATTACKS

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JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Premier Shimon Peres indicated strongly Wednesday that Israel would

take punitive action against the Palestinian terrorist group responsible for the coordinated attacks on El Al passenger facilities at the Rome and Vienna airports on December 27 which killed 18 people, including five Americans, and wounded more than 110.

Addressing the Knesset for the first time since the tragedy, Peres lashed out at Libya, which he called a "murder state," and its leader, Col. Muammar Qaddafi, raising speculation that Libya may be the target of Israeli reprisals whenever they are taken. Libya is known to harbor Abu Nidal, the terrorist leader believed to have master-minded the airport attacks. The outrage was praised by Qaddafi.

Peres spoke a day after the U.S. appeared to give Israel a green light for any retaliatory action it might be contemplating. State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said yesterday that the United States and other countries have the right to take military action against terrorists. "We and other victimized states have the right to respond," he said. (See separate story.)

#### An Appeal To The Civilized World

Peres accompanied his denunciation of Libya with an appeal to the civilized world to take a series of practical measures to combat terrorism and punish those who aid and abet it. He called on "responsible states" to expand their intelligence cooperation and tighten their anti-terrorist security at airports and aboard aircraft.

These states, Peres said, should "establish standards" of punishment, of deportation and of deterrent security. States which fail to meet these criteria must be effectively punished by international sanctions, he said.

The world has directed monumental efforts to end war, and states direct their best efforts to curb crime, the Israeli leader said. Terrorism combines both of these evils — war and crime. It could trigger massive violence, and the world must make its strongest efforts to crush it, Peres said. He said Israel for its part strives for peace but this will not affect its determination to act "without hesitation against those who act against us."

#### Denounces Tolerance Of Some Countries

The Premier excoriated the "tolerance and lack of seriousness" displayed by some other countries toward the terrorist threat. He noted that "the top terrorist agency, the Palestine Liberation Organization, has for years benefitted from misplaced, groundless assumptions ... that it is about to change and become a political action organization. But the PLO remains unchanged. The difference between its 'extremists' and its 'moderates' is simply that the extremists execute what the moderates advocate."

"Israel has acted before and will continue to act against any terrorist organization or individual ... and against their bases ... with every means at our disposal," the Premier declared.

He went on to list at length the recent record of the Abu Nidal group: 33 attacks or attempted attacks during the past year, in which 90 persons died and 350 were injured. He said the Nidal group struck at Western targets, at moderate Arab states such as Kuwait, Jordan and Egypt. It was "apparently" responsible for the Rome and Vienna outrages.

The Nidal gang does not reside in outer space, Peres went on. It has bases in Syria and Libya and has been aided by Iran. It also received aid from sources in Europe. But its "main strength" was in Libya, "a country," Peres said, "which has been involved in every form of criminal violence against other states and individuals ... where hit squads are welcomed home as heroes, where the characteristics of the country under Qaddafi are the pistol with the silencer and the loudspeaker that silences the truth."

Peres added, "Some propose action against Libya. But first, one must ask, why does Libya enjoy this forgiving attitude ... why is Qaddafi received in (foreign) capitals ... why is no legal or economic punishment levied against him?" As long as this "forgiving attitude" toward terrorist groups and their abettors persists, the war against terrorism will not succeed, Peres warned.

#### Cites Qaddafi-Abu Nidal Connection

The Premier spoke in a similar vein Tuesday when he met with high school students at Kfar Saba. He pointed to Qaddafi as the man behind Abu Nidal, called for an international boycott of Libya and denounced world leaders who agree to meet with the Libyan leader "whose hands are stained with the blood of innocents and of his political rivals at home."

The events of last Friday in Rome and Vienna capped a year of escalated terrorism in the Middle East, Western Europe and Latin America. They were preceded most recently by the hijack of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro October 7, in which Palestinian gunmen murdered a wheelchair-bound American passenger, Leon Klinghoffer, apparently for no reason.

That outrage was followed on November 23 by the hijack of an Egyptian airliner enroute from Athens to Cairo, which was forced to land in Malta. A total of 60 people died at the hands of the hijackers and in the shootout with Egyptian commandos sent to rescue the hostages.

#### U.S. APPROVES OF MILITARY ACTION AGAINST TERRORISM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1 (JTA) — The State Department stressed Tuesday that the United States and other countries have the right to take military action against terrorists. A day earlier, the State Department appealed to Israel to show restraint in the wake of last Friday's terrorist attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports.

But at the same time it stressed that it was not opposed to a military response by Israel nor was the U.S. ruling out using its "military option" as well as diplomatic and economic pressures in the fight against terrorism.

"We and other victimized states have the right to respond to terrorist acts," Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said at a Department news briefing Tuesday. "To argue otherwise is to give terrorists free rein in the face of the indiscriminate barbaric acts by terrorists perpetrated against innocent victims. The international community must be able to defend itself."

Redman's comments came in response to a question about the resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council Monday which, while condemning the terrorist attacks against the El Al counters at the Rome

and Vienna airports last Friday, urged governments to exercise restraint and refrain from any action inconsistent with their obligations under the UN Charter and other rules of international law in responding to it. The words urging caution were at the demand of non-aligned countries.

"We see no conflict between the UN Charter and international law and the right to legitimate self-defense in response to terrorism," Redman said.

#### U.S. Welcomes UN Resolution

But Redman said the U.S. welcomes the resolution which, he noted, condemned the unjustifiable and criminal terrorist attacks. He called the attacks in which 18 persons were killed and more than 110 wounded deliberate and indescribable killings.

Redman noted that this was the fourth and strongest denunciation of terrorism by the Security Council or the General Assembly in the last two-and-a-half months.

"For the first time the UN has urged that those responsible for the attacks, and not only the actual perpetrators, be brought to trial," Redman added. "This statement, another example of the movement of world opinion against terrorism, reinforces our view of the need for strong action against terrorism and parallel support for our policy of no hiding for terrorists."

#### Points Finger At Libya

Redman reinforced the belief by the U.S., Israel and others that Libya is responsible for the attacks by its support of the Abu Nidal terrorist group which carried out the atrocities last week.

He noted that three of the terrorists had Tunisian passports which, according to reports from Tunisia, had been taken from Tunisian workers in Libya. Redman repeated that Libya had praised the attack and that Abu Nidal has been quoted as saying that Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi "is a great help to us."

Redman repeated the U.S. call for other countries to join the U.S. in exerting economic and political pressure on countries supporting terrorism.

In Libya's case, Redman noted, the U.S. has banned the sale to it of militarily usable aircraft, spare parts, and oil-drilling equipment. "There are things that can be done if the international community is willing to come together and act," he stressed.

#### ISRAELI KILLED IN VIENNA AIRPORT ATTACK IS BURIED IN ISRAEL

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Eli Jana, a 25-year-old Israeli killed in last Friday's terrorist attack on the El Al ticket counter at Vienna airport, was flown to Tel Aviv Tuesday for burial. A brief service was held at the airport here before his body was put aboard an Austrian airliner.

Jana and Ekhart Karner, 50, an Austrian, were slain by bullets fired from the automatic weapons used by the terrorists, according to the medical examiner's report. In addition, 39 persons were wounded by bullets and hand-grenade fragments, several of them seriously.

The latter include a young Austrian woman who suffered permanent brain damage from a head wound, a retired Viennese public official who lost a leg, two Austrian policemen and an El Al security officer.

Two of the three terrorists were wounded and captured and the third was killed by Austrian police who pursued them as they fled the airport in a stolen car.

President Reagan, meanwhile, sent a letter to Chancellor Fred Sinowatz thanking the Austrian authorities for their swift, effective reaction to the attack, which saved many lives.

Sinowatz, in his reply, stressed the need for closer cooperation between governments fighting terrorism. He added, however, that it is just as important to eliminate the situations that nurture terrorism by striving for a just, acceptable political solution to the Middle East conflict.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SLAIN BEIRUT JEW

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 1 (JTA) — A memorial service was held at Temple Beth Am here Monday night for Haim Cohen Halala, a Beirut Jewish businessman kidnapped and murdered by Shiite Moslem extremists. His brother and sister-in-law, Yitzhak and Rose Mary Cohen, are Los Angeles residents.

Howard Friedman, national president of the American Jewish Committee, who spoke at the service, declared, "The brutal slaying of Haim Cohen Halala adds another human being to the tragically growing numbers of innocent persons who have become victims of mindless terrorism."

Friedman went on to say that "terrorists have cast a threatening shadow over the efforts of peace-loving nations to achieve the security, understanding and reconciliation so vital in this troubled world. The death of Haim Cohen Halala should renew our determination to resist extremism, condemn its perpetrators, and demand that the world community unanimously affirm and act according to these principles."

Halala left a wife and three sons in Beirut. The State Department has conveyed its deepest regrets to the family and expressed the "revulsion" of the U.S. government at "this brutal killing." Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles sent his condolences to the bereaved family. The memorial service was attended by about 200 people.

#### RABBIS SAY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES ARE A NO NO

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Knesset member Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement demanded Tuesday that the body discuss how Orthodox authorities forced hotels here and in Haifa to cancel their New Year's Eve parties by threatening to revoke their kosher licenses.

Aloni, in introducing an agenda motion on the issue, quoted news reports that the Rabbinical Councils in Haifa and Jerusalem had warned hotels which had been advertising the parties marking New Year's Eve—known in Israel as "Sylvester," — that holding such festivities would cause them to lose their kosher certificates.

The Orthodox authorities maintained that New Year's is not an Israeli holiday. Rabbi Yisrael Lau, the liberal-minded Orthodox Chief Rabbi of Netanya, said that while he did not object to the celebration of the civilian New Year in Israel, he opposed calling the event after Saint Sylvester. This, he said, would mean Jews are honoring a fourth century Pope who had made many anti-Semitic statements and who died December 31.

# SPECIAL TO THE JTA THE NIGHT OF THE CANCELLED FLIGHT By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Jan. 1 (JTA) -- Olympic Airlines, the national air carrier of Greece, was forced to cancel a flight to Cairo last Saturday night after the pilot refused to take off because three officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization were among the passengers.

The incident, and unprecedented checking and re-checking of airline passengers and their baggage by swarms of security agents, highlight the panic here since Palestinian gunmen attacked the airports at Rome and Vienna last Friday morning. The terrorist outrage, which cost 18 lives, has triggered a wave of anti-Arab sentiment in Greece.

The government, which seeks good relations with the Arab world, is trying to counter it by differentiating between "good" and "bad" Palestinians, with the PLO fitting into the former category.

## Unprecedented Search of Aircraft

Olympic Flight 325, bound for Cairo, was due to depart at 6:15 p.m. local time Saturday. Before any passengers boarded, a squad of police officers came aboard and asked the pilot, Capt. Acrivou Tsolaki, for permission to search the aircraft. This had never happened before. When the pilot asked why, he was told by the senior police officer that it was part of new security measures ordered by the government in the aftermath of the Rome and Vienna attacks.

Later, after the passengers had taken their seats, the police ordered another security check, and suitcase identification. The passengers were required to get off the plane and identify their luggage, which had also been off-loaded. Only then were they allowed to return to their seats.

Finally, the doors were closed and the plane was ready to taxi to the runway for take-off when a car approached under tight security and three men who appeared to be Arabs came on board and were seated in different sections of the cabin.

By then Capt. Tsolaki was curious. He asked the chief of security to identify his last-minute passengers and was informed that they were a PLO delegation which had come to Athens for official talks with Athanasios Tsouras, the Undersecretary for Public Order. One of them was identified as Hael Abdel Hamit, a member of the El Fatah central committee.

## Captain Refuses To Fly The Plane

On learning who they were, Tsolaki flatly refused to fly the plane to Cairo on grounds that it would be endangered. A marathon discussion ensued involving the Olympic management, Minister of Public Transportation Georgios Papadimitriou, and Tsouras. But Tsolaki stood firm. At 9 p.m. the flight was cancelled.

The Greek pilot maintained that since Israel has vowed to avenge the attacks in Rome and Vienna aimed at El Al passenger facilities, his plane could become a target of the Israel Air Force if it was known to be carrying top PLO officials.

Flight 325 was rescheduled for Sunday morning, with a different pilot, Capt. Evangelos Kapsalis. But he, too, refused to fly with the PLO men aboard. Finally, the PLO officials were forced to leave Greece on three separate flights.

There was no official comment, but according to rumor the entire affair was the result of Egypt's refusal to allow the PLO officials to land in Cairo. Egyptair, the Egyptian airline, reportedly refused them passage.

## Heavy Security At The Airport

Meanwhile, the Athens airport is literally surrounded by heavily armed police, and the crack anti-terrorist unit maintains a round-the-clock patrol, focusing on the El Al ticket counter. Greek policemen and police-women in civilian clothes are scattered among boarding passengers, pretending to be passengers.

According to one report, the panic was triggered by the chief of the Italian secret service (SISMI), Fluvio Martini, who said that the surviving terrorist captured in the Rome airport attack admitted under questioning that Athens and Madrid airports were the next targets of a suicide squad dispatched by Abu Nidal, the terrorist leader who broke with the PLO years ago.

## Rising Anti-Arab Sentiment

Meanwhile, the government is countering rising anti-Arab sentiment in Greece with what some observers consider anti-Israel tactics. On the evening news Sunday night, the commentator said there were two kinds of terrorism -- extremist groups and state terrorism.

He claimed that state terrorism was first employed by Israel on July 4, 1976 when it rescued hijacked Air France passengers being held hostage at Entebbe, Uganda, and that another example was the Egyptian commando raid on the Egyptair plane hijacked to Malta last November 23, which resulted in heavy loss of life. The Egyptian airliner was hijacked shortly after taking off from Athens for Cairo.

Until now, the Greek government has made no distinctions between the various Palestinian groups. Beginning last weekend, it discovered "good" Palestinians, represented by Yasir Arafat and the PLO, and "bad" ones, who are against the PLO. A television commentator noted Sunday night that Israel accuses all Palestinians without exception of being terrorists.

The government is trying to dispel anti-Arab feelings because it is dangerously low in foreign currency reserves and hopes to get short-term loans from the wealthy Arab oil-producing countries.

## HUMAN SKIN REPOSITORY TO BE ESTABLISHED AT HADASSAH HOSPITAL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbinate has finally relented and agreed to allow the Health Ministry to establish a "human skin repository" for transplants in cases of persons suffering severe burns. It will be located at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, under the supervision of the Israel Defense Force chief medical officer and the chief chaplain.

The lack of a skin bank in Israel was brought to public attention last March when hospitals were forced to fly in skin from abroad to save the lives of several soldiers who suffered third degree burns in a terrorist car bombing in south Lebanon. Twelve soldiers were killed and 14 badly burned.

The chief source of skin for transplant is cadavers. For religious reasons, the rabbinate bans autopsies. The skin and organs of deceased persons are thus not available for transplants.



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TEL AVIV, Jan. 1 (JTA) — The body of Isaac Tarrah, a 53-year-old Beirut Jew, was found in the Lebanese capital Wednesday. He was one of four Beirut Jews kidnapped last March and the second to be murdered by Shiite Moslem extremists calling themselves "The Organization of the Oppressed of the World." The first victim was Haim Cohen Halala whose body was found in Beirut on December 25. (Related story, P. 3.)

The Shiite group announced Wednesday that it "executed" Tarrah to avenge anti-Shiite acts by the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), including the demolition of houses in Kounin village in south Lebanon. The SLA blew up the houses from which two of its soldiers were killed in an ambush last week that also wounded an Israel Defense Force liaison officer. The families occupying the houses were evicted and expelled from the village.

After Halala's body was found in the no-man's-land between east and west Beirut, the same Shiite group announced "the execution of Israeli spy Haim Cohen Halala in response to the massive shelling of south Lebanon in which several strugglers were killed." Halala was abducted from his west Beirut home on March 29. Tarrah and two other local Jews were seized at the same time.

## THREE MEN ARRESTED IN ALLEGED PLOT TO BLOW UP PARIS SYNAGOGUE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 1 (JTA) — French police have arrested three men — two Portuguese and one Egyptian — who were allegedly planning to blow up the Rue Copernic Synagogue, the site of a terrorist attack five years ago. The three were arrested here Sunday and formally charged yesterday by an investigating magistrate. According to police sources, the trio was planning the attack on behalf of an unidentified Palestinian organization.

Police said a bag containing a map of Paris with the synagogue location marked in red ink was found in the hotel room occupied by the three men during their stay in Paris. The three also carried the various elements needed to build an explosive device. Letters apparently intended to be released after the attack claimed it was carried out by "a Christian anti-Zionist organization." These, too, were found in the hotel room.

A powerful bomb exploded on October 30, 1980 outside the Rue Copernic Synagogue while hundreds of worshippers attended Succoth services. Four passersby were killed, including an Israeli woman, and 20 people were injured. The terrorists were never caught. Police learned that the man who planted the bomb carried a Cypriot passport and fled to Beirut after the explosion.

## BACKGROUND REPORT JORDAN-SYRIAN RAPPROCHEMENT BODES ILL FOR THE PEACE PROCESS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Israel is watching

this week, with little enthusiasm, the blossoming rapprochement between Jordan and Syria after nearly a decade of simmering hostility. According to most analysts, it bodes ill for the peace process in the region.

King Hussein's visit to Damascus was his first in seven years. He and President Hafez Assad of Syria announced Monday night that the two neighbors would exchange Ambassadors as a symbol of their newly-established friendship.

These developments worry Israel on two counts. Syria is expected to try to woo Jordan away from the American-orchestrated peace scenario. At the same time, the Syrians appear to be deliberately escalating military tension with Israel, possibly to impress Hussein and other Arab leaders with their unswerving dedication to the struggle against Israel.

## Syria's Confrontational Role

Israeli commentators say Assad seems willing to risk a military confrontation with Israel. He stubbornly refuses to remove the Soviet-made SAM-2 surface-to-air missiles recently deployed close to the Syria-Lebanon border. To Israel, this poses a potential threat to its reconnaissance flights over Lebanon to monitor terrorist activity.

It is also seen here as a slap in the face to Israel, which apparently had a tacit understanding with Syria on the limits beyond which neither side would extend its military force. Damascus has ignored discreet diplomatic efforts by Israel through a third party to have the missiles withdrawn.

Israel is also seriously concerned with Assad's role as a "spoiler" in the faltering Middle East peace process. Hussein, at the moment, is seeking an international framework for negotiations with Israel. He has given Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat a deadline to meet the conditions for PLO participation—acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Without compliance, Hussein might go ahead on his own, with local (West Bank) Palestinian leaders. Assad is determined to prevent a peace process from developing and especially to keep Arafat, whom he loathes, from having a diplomatic role.

## Hussein Playing A Subtle Role

One Israeli analyst, Asher Susser of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center, believes Hussein's visit to Damascus is not a cause for alarm. According to Susser, the Jordanian ruler is playing a subtle game. He wants to reduce Syria's opposition to his involvement in peace moves and at the same time be in a position to seek Syrian support should the peace efforts fail.

Susser cites Hussein's "ingrained pessimism" which leads him to expect failure. Assad's priority is to foil peace efforts, but if he cannot, he wants to make sure Syria will be involved or exert some influence over their outcome, Susser says.

## SPECULATION RAISED THAT ISRAEL MIGHT HIT LIBYA FOR AIRPORT ATTACKS

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Premier Shimon Peres indicated strongly Wednesday that Israel would

take punitive action against the Palestinian terrorist group responsible for the coordinated attacks on El Al passenger facilities at the Rome and Vienna airports on December 27 which killed 18 people, including five Americans, and wounded more than 110.

Addressing the Knesset for the first time since the tragedy, Peres lashed out at Libya, which he called a "murder state," and its leader, Col. Muammar Qaddafi, raising speculation that Libya may be the target of Israeli reprisals whenever they are taken. Libya is known to harbor Abu Nidal, the terrorist leader believed to have master-minded the airport attacks. The outrage was praised by Qaddafi.

Peres spoke a day after the U.S. appeared to give Israel a green light for any retaliatory action it might be contemplating. State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said yesterday that the United States and other countries have the right to take military action against terrorists. "We and other victimized states have the right to respond," he said. (See separate story.)

#### An Appeal To The Civilized World

Peres accompanied his denunciation of Libya with an appeal to the civilized world to take a series of practical measures to combat terrorism and punish those who aid and abet it. He called on "responsible states" to expand their intelligence cooperation and tighten their anti-terrorist security at airports and aboard aircraft.

These states, Peres said, should "establish standards" of punishment, of deportation and of deterrent security. States which fail to meet these criteria must be effectively punished by international sanctions, he said.

The world has directed monumental efforts to end war, and states direct their best efforts to curb crime, the Israeli leader said. Terrorism combines both of these evils — war and crime. It could trigger massive violence, and the world must make its strongest efforts to crush it, Peres said. He said Israel for its part strives for peace but this will not affect its determination to act "without hesitation against those who act against us."

#### Denounces Tolerance Of Some Countries

The Premier excoriated the "tolerance and lack of seriousness" displayed by some other countries toward the terrorist threat. He noted that "the top terrorist agency, the Palestine Liberation Organization, has for years benefitted from misplaced, groundless assumptions ... that it is about to change and become a political action organization. But the PLO remains unchanged. The difference between its 'extremists' and its 'moderates' is simply that the extremists execute what the moderates advocate."

"Israel has acted before and will continue to act against any terrorist organization or individual ... and against their bases ... with every means at our disposal," the Premier declared.

He went on to list at length the recent record of the Abu Nidal group: 33 attacks or attempted attacks during the past year, in which 90 persons died and 350 were injured. He said the Nidal group struck at Western targets, at moderate Arab states such as Kuwait, Jordan and Egypt. It was "apparently" responsible for the Rome and Vienna outrages.

The Nidal gang does not reside in outer space, Peres went on. It has bases in Syria and Libya and has been aided by Iran. It also received aid from sources in Europe. But its "main strength" was in Libya, "a country," Peres said, "which has been involved in every form of criminal violence against other states and individuals ... where hit squads are welcomed home as heroes, where the characteristics of the country under Qaddafi are the pistol with the silencer and the loudspeaker that silences the truth."

Peres added, "Some propose action against Libya. But first, one must ask, why does Libya enjoy this forgiving attitude ... why is Qaddafi received in (foreign) capitals ... why is no legal or economic punishment levied against him?" As long as this "forgiving attitude" toward terrorist groups and their abettors persists, the war against terrorism will not succeed, Peres warned.

#### Cites Qaddafi-Abu Nidal Connection

The Premier spoke in a similar vein Tuesday when he met with high school students at Kfar Saba. He pointed to Qaddafi as the man behind Abu Nidal, called for an international boycott of Libya and denounced world leaders who agree to meet with the Libyan leader "whose hands are stained with the blood of innocents and of his political rivals at home."

The events of last Friday in Rome and Vienna capped a year of escalated terrorism in the Middle East, Western Europe and Latin America. They were preceded most recently by the hijack of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro October 7, in which Palestinian gunmen murdered a wheelchair-bound American passenger, Leon Klinghoffer, apparently for no reason.

That outrage was followed on November 23 by the hijack of an Egyptian airliner enroute from Athens to Cairo, which was forced to land in Malta. A total of 60 people died at the hands of the hijackers and in the shootout with Egyptian commandos sent to rescue the hostages.

#### U.S. APPROVES OF MILITARY ACTION AGAINST TERRORISM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1 (JTA) — The State Department stressed Tuesday that the United States and other countries have the right to take military action against terrorists. A day earlier, the State Department appealed to Israel to show restraint in the wake of last Friday's terrorist attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports.

But at the same time it stressed that it was not opposed to a military response by Israel nor was the U.S. ruling out using its "military option" as well as diplomatic and economic pressures in the fight against terrorism.

"We and other victimized states have the right to respond to terrorist acts," Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said at a Department news briefing Tuesday. "To argue otherwise is to give terrorists free rein in the face of the indiscriminate barbaric acts by terrorists perpetrated against innocent victims. The international community must be able to defend itself."

Redman's comments came in response to a question about the resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council Monday which, while condemning the terrorist attacks against the El Al counters at the Rome

and Vienna airports last Friday, urged governments to exercise restraint and refrain from any action inconsistent with their obligations under the UN Charter and other rules of international law in responding to it. The words urging caution were at the demand of non-aligned countries.

"We see no conflict between the UN Charter and international law and the right to legitimate self-defense in response to terrorism," Redman said.

#### U.S. Welcomes UN Resolution

But Redman said the U.S. welcomes the resolution which, he noted, condemned the unjustifiable and criminal terrorist attacks. He called the attacks in which 18 persons were killed and more than 110 wounded deliberate and indescribable killings.

Redman noted that this was the fourth and strongest denunciation of terrorism by the Security Council or the General Assembly in the last two-and-a-half months.

"For the first time the UN has urged that those responsible for the attacks, and not only the actual perpetrators, be brought to trial," Redman added. "This statement, another example of the movement of world opinion against terrorism, reinforces our view of the need for strong action against terrorism and parallel support for our policy of no hiding for terrorists."

#### Points Finger At Libya

Redman reinforced the belief by the U.S., Israel and others that Libya is responsible for the attacks by its support of the Abu Nidal terrorist group which carried out the atrocities last week.

He noted that three of the terrorists had Tunisian passports which, according to reports from Tunisia, had been taken from Tunisian workers in Libya. Redman repeated that Libya had praised the attack and that Abu Nidal has been quoted as saying that Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi "is a great help to us."

Redman repeated the U.S. call for other countries to join the U.S. in exerting economic and political pressure on countries supporting terrorism.

In Libya's case, Redman noted, the U.S. has banned the sale to it of militarily usable aircraft, spare parts, and oil-drilling equipment. "There are things that can be done if the international community is willing to come together and act," he stressed.

#### ISRAELI KILLED IN VIENNA AIRPORT ATTACK IS BURIED IN ISRAEL

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Eli Jana, a 25-year-old Israeli killed in last Friday's terrorist attack on the El Al ticket counter at Vienna airport, was flown to Tel Aviv Tuesday for burial. A brief service was held at the airport here before his body was put aboard an Austrian airliner.

Jana and Ekhart Karner, 50, an Austrian, were slain by bullets fired from the automatic weapons used by the terrorists, according to the medical examiner's report. In addition, 39 persons were wounded by bullets and hand-grenade fragments, several of them seriously.

The latter include a young Austrian woman who suffered permanent brain damage from a head wound, a retired Viennese public official who lost a leg, two Austrian policemen and an El Al security officer.

Two of the three terrorists were wounded and captured and the third was killed by Austrian police who pursued them as they fled the airport in a stolen car.

President Reagan, meanwhile, sent a letter to Chancellor Fred Sinowatz thanking the Austrian authorities for their swift, effective reaction to the attack, which saved many lives.

Sinowatz, in his reply, stressed the need for closer cooperation between governments fighting terrorism. He added, however, that it is just as important to eliminate the situations that nurture terrorism by striving for a just, acceptable political solution to the Middle East conflict.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SLAIN BEIRUT JEW

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 1 (JTA) — A memorial service was held at Temple Beth Am here Monday night for Haim Cohen Halala, a Beirut Jewish businessman kidnapped and murdered by Shiite Moslem extremists. His brother and sister-in-law, Yitzhak and Rose Mary Cohen, are Los Angeles residents.

Howard Friedman, national president of the American Jewish Committee, who spoke at the service, declared, "The brutal slaying of Haim Cohen Halala adds another human being to the tragically growing numbers of innocent persons who have become victims of mindless terrorism."

Friedman went on to say that "terrorists have cast a threatening shadow over the efforts of peace-loving nations to achieve the security, understanding and reconciliation so vital in this troubled world. The death of Haim Cohen Halala should renew our determination to resist extremism, condemn its perpetrators, and demand that the world community unanimously affirm and act according to these principles."

Halala left a wife and three sons in Beirut. The State Department has conveyed its deepest regrets to the family and expressed the "revulsion" of the U.S. government at "this brutal killing." Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles sent his condolences to the bereaved family. The memorial service was attended by about 200 people.

#### RABBIS SAY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES ARE A NO NO

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) — Knesset member Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement demanded Tuesday that the body discuss how Orthodox authorities forced hotels here and in Haifa to cancel their New Year's Eve parties by threatening to revoke their kosher licenses.

Aloni, in introducing an agenda motion on the issue, quoted news reports that the Rabbinical Councils in Haifa and Jerusalem had warned hotels which had been advertising the parties marking New Year's Eve—known in Israel as "Sylvester," — that holding such festivities would cause them to lose their kosher certificates.

The Orthodox authorities maintained that New Year's is not an Israeli holiday. Rabbi Yisrael Lau, the liberal-minded Orthodox Chief Rabbi of Netanya, said that while he did not object to the celebration of the civilian New Year in Israel, he opposed calling the event after Saint Sylvester. This, he said, would mean Jews are honoring a fourth century Pope who had made many anti-Semitic statements and who died December 31.

# SPECIAL TO THE JTA THE NIGHT OF THE CANCELLED FLIGHT By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Jan. 1 (JTA) -- Olympic Airlines, the national air carrier of Greece, was forced to cancel a flight to Cairo last Saturday night after the pilot refused to take off because three officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization were among the passengers.

The incident, and unprecedented checking and re-checking of airline passengers and their baggage by swarms of security agents, highlight the panic here since Palestinian gunmen attacked the airports at Rome and Vienna last Friday morning. The terrorist outrage, which cost 18 lives, has triggered a wave of anti-Arab sentiment in Greece.

The government, which seeks good relations with the Arab world, is trying to counter it by differentiating between "good" and "bad" Palestinians, with the PLO fitting into the former category.

## Unprecedented Search of Aircraft

Olympic Flight 325, bound for Cairo, was due to depart at 6:15 p.m. local time Saturday. Before any passengers boarded, a squad of police officers came aboard and asked the pilot, Capt. Acrivou Tsolaki, for permission to search the aircraft. This had never happened before. When the pilot asked why, he was told by the senior police officer that it was part of new security measures ordered by the government in the aftermath of the Rome and Vienna attacks.

Later, after the passengers had taken their seats, the police ordered another security check, and suitcase identification. The passengers were required to get off the plane and identify their luggage, which had also been off-loaded. Only then were they allowed to return to their seats.

Finally, the doors were closed and the plane was ready to taxi to the runway for take-off when a car approached under tight security and three men who appeared to be Arabs came on board and were seated in different sections of the cabin.

By then Capt. Tsolaki was curious. He asked the chief of security to identify his last-minute passengers and was informed that they were a PLO delegation which had come to Athens for official talks with Athanasios Tsouras, the Undersecretary for Public Order. One of them was identified as Hael Abdel Hamit, a member of the El Fatah central committee.

## Captain Refuses To Fly The Plane

On learning who they were, Tsolaki flatly refused to fly the plane to Cairo on grounds that it would be endangered. A marathon discussion ensued involving the Olympic management, Minister of Public Transportation Georgios Papadimitriou, and Tsouras. But Tsolaki stood firm. At 9 p.m. the flight was cancelled.

The Greek pilot maintained that since Israel has vowed to avenge the attacks in Rome and Vienna aimed at El Al passenger facilities, his plane could become a target of the Israel Air Force if it was known to be carrying top PLO officials.

Flight 325 was rescheduled for Sunday morning, with a different pilot, Capt. Evangelos Kapsalis. But he, too, refused to fly with the PLO men aboard. Finally, the PLO officials were forced to leave Greece on three separate flights.

There was no official comment, but according to rumor the entire affair was the result of Egypt's refusal to allow the PLO officials to land in Cairo. Egyptair, the Egyptian airline, reportedly refused them passage.

## Heavy Security At The Airport

Meanwhile, the Athens airport is literally surrounded by heavily armed police, and the crack anti-terrorist unit maintains a round-the-clock patrol, focusing on the El Al ticket counter. Greek policemen and police-women in civilian clothes are scattered among boarding passengers, pretending to be passengers.

According to one report, the panic was triggered by the chief of the Italian secret service (SISMI), Fluvio Martini, who said that the surviving terrorist captured in the Rome airport attack admitted under questioning that Athens and Madrid airports were the next targets of a suicide squad dispatched by Abu Nidal, the terrorist leader who broke with the PLO years ago.

## Rising Anti-Arab Sentiment

Meanwhile, the government is countering rising anti-Arab sentiment in Greece with what some observers consider anti-Israel tactics. On the evening news Sunday night, the commentator said there were two kinds of terrorism -- extremist groups and state terrorism.

He claimed that state terrorism was first employed by Israel on July 4, 1976 when it rescued hijacked Air France passengers being held hostage at Entebbe, Uganda, and that another example was the Egyptian commando raid on the Egyptair plane hijacked to Malta last November 23, which resulted in heavy loss of life. The Egyptian airliner was hijacked shortly after taking off from Athens for Cairo.

Until now, the Greek government has made no distinctions between the various Palestinian groups. Beginning last weekend, it discovered "good" Palestinians, represented by Yasir Arafat and the PLO, and "bad" ones, who are against the PLO. A television commentator noted Sunday night that Israel accuses all Palestinians without exception of being terrorists.

The government is trying to dispel anti-Arab feelings because it is dangerously low in foreign currency reserves and hopes to get short-term loans from the wealthy Arab oil-producing countries.

## HUMAN SKIN REPOSITORY TO BE ESTABLISHED AT HADASSAH HOSPITAL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbinate has finally relented and agreed to allow the Health Ministry to establish a "human skin repository" for transplants in cases of persons suffering severe burns. It will be located at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, under the supervision of the Israel Defense Force chief medical officer and the chief chaplain.

The lack of a skin bank in Israel was brought to public attention last March when hospitals were forced to fly in skin from abroad to save the lives of several soldiers who suffered third degree burns in a terrorist car bombing in south Lebanon. Twelve soldiers were killed and 14 badly burned.

The chief source of skin for transplant is cadavers. For religious reasons, the rabbinate bans autopsies. The skin and organs of deceased persons are thus not available for transplants.