

GUNMAN WHO KILLED TWO ISRAELI SOLDIERS IS DESCRIBED BY THE IDF AS DESERTER FROM THE JORDANIAN ARMY By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- The infiltrator who killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded two others in a Jordan Valley ambush in the West Bank yesterday was a deserter from the Jordanian army, Israel Defense Force sources said today.

The infiltrator, himself gunned down by Israeli reinforcements, was identified by documents on his body as Nasser Ibrahim Abdel Aziz, 20. The IDF disclosed that two other Jordan army deserters were arrested in the West Bank three weeks ago after they crossed the Jordan River to seek sanctuary in the Israeli-held territory.

Both were arrested in Nablus. One, a West Bank resident, allegedly was involved in the stabbing of an Israeli about six months ago. He fled to Jordan, joined the army there but subsequently deserted and returned home. It remains unclear whether the deserter in yesterday's clash was escaping from the Jordanian army and engaged in a firefight with an Israeli patrol near Mehola to avoid detection or whether his intention was to attack IDF units.

According to some theories, he may have gone berserk, as Egyptian soldier Suleiman Khatar allegedly did when he machinegunned Israeli tourists at Ras Burka in eastern Sinai last October 5, killing seven. Other sources suggest the infiltrator was on a sabotage mission or that he might have precipitated a clash with the IDF to derail chances for peace talks between Israel and Jordan.

Discount Official Jordanian Role

Israeli military sources strongly discount the possibility that the deserter was aided or abetted by Jordanian authorities or that he infiltrated the West Bank with their knowledge. The sources stressed that for years Jordan has tried to block terrorist infiltration from Jordanian soil in order to avoid friction with Israel.

Senior IDF officers said they do not believe yesterday's incident signified a change in Jordanian policy. They seemed to regard it as an isolated event, though the exact circumstances are still not clear.

Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy said last night there was no connection between the Jordan Valley clash at dawn yesterday and the Israel Air Force raid on Palestinian terrorist bases in south Lebanon. He said the air attack was launched shortly before the clash occurred.

Levy said, however, that the IDF would continue its routine patrols along Israel's borders, including the road that parallels the Jordan River.

Premier Shimon Peres, who returned last night from a 12-day visit to Europe, told reporters that the Jordan Valley clash and the air attack in south Lebanon would not affect the peace process with Jordan. "I don't think it has affected the peace process at all because the Israeli position is well known. While we try to achieve peace we shall continue to fight against terrorism," he said.

He added, "Whoever wants Israel to stop fighting terrorism should stop terrorism. But as long as there are acts of terrorism, we will take the necessary measures to prevent it, to stop it and to punish it."

WEIZMAN'S MEETING WITH MUBARAK DID LITTLE TO ADVANCE THAW IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- Ezer Weizman's hurried trip to Cairo last Sunday for a meeting with President Hosni Mubarak apparently did little to advance any thaw in Israeli-Egyptian relations or bring a summit meeting between Mubarak and Premier Shimon Peres any closer.

Weizman, a Minister-Without-Portfolio, briefed his Cabinet colleagues Tuesday on his talks in Cairo. No details were made public but from what is known to the media, he is believed to have had little of substance to report. He seemed, inadvertently, to confirm this when he said the downbeat reaction to his trip was due to unrealistic expectations.

"I didn't go to Egypt with a shopping bag and I didn't come back with one," he told reporters, adding, "I don't have much to say." Nevertheless, Premier Shimon Peres, who was visiting West Germany this week, said Weizman's mission was important and he was pleased with it. Weizman himself reportedly relayed a positive account of his meeting with Mubarak to Peres in Bonn.

Nature Of Weizman's Mission

The trip was supposed to have been secret, but Weizman had hardly landed in Cairo when the Israeli media was reporting on his trip. His mission, reportedly, was to convince Mubarak of the importance of the decision by the Inner Cabinet on January 13 to accede to Egypt's demand to settle the Taba border dispute through international arbitration, but only as part of a political package to revive the normalization process between Israel and Egypt. The Israeli decision was received coolly in Cairo.

Weizman also reportedly tried to impress upon Mubarak the urgency of a summit meeting with Peres even before the political issues between the two countries are resolved. But the Egyptians are adamant that a summit date will be set only after there is a firm date for arbitration over Taba to begin.

Weizman denied media reports from Cairo quoting him as saying a Mubarak-Peres summit was inevitable. He said he discussed the possibility of a summit with the Egyptian leader but no dates were mentioned.

He said, in fact, that a summit was not workable under present conditions and that he went to Egypt to find out exactly what the political climate was there and to explain to the Egyptians some of Israel's views. He expressed confidence that the arbitration process would move forward. "I did not expect one trip of mine to change things by 180 degrees. Those who expected this do not understand life," he said.

"Every now and then it is worthwhile going down to Egypt and talk to the Egyptians. I think this contributes to understanding the relations and also to improving them," Weizman said.

His apparent inability to achieve anything of substance by going to Cairo minimized domestic political fallout. Likud hardliners who bitterly resent Weizman's involvement in foreign policy matters, especially with the Egyptians, stopped protesting the trip when the dove-ish minister returned.

Earlier they had attacked Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader, for approving the trip. Shamir confirmed that he was informed of Weizman's intentions beforehand and raised no objections.

One of the issues contributing to the sour relations with Cairo is Egypt's refusal to give Israel the report of the special commission of inquiry set up to investigate the murder of seven Israeli tourists by an Egyptian soldier at Ras Burka in eastern Sinai last October 1. This was one of the main conditions the Inner Cabinet set for agreeing to arbitrate over Taba.

The Egyptians said they would give the Israelis only the verdict of the Cairo court that convicted the soldier, Sulaiman Khatar, and sentenced him to life imprisonment. Khatar was found hanged a week after the verdict, an apparent suicide.

The Egyptian Charge d'Affaires in Tel Aviv, Mohammad Basioni, said on a Voice of Israel Radio interview Tuesday that the "dangerous deterioration" of relations between Egypt and Israel was partly the result of the "strong criticism in Israel on the Ras Burka affair." He said the court verdict which Egypt is offering to Israel contains in itself all the pertinent details of the investigation.

Weizman said later he recommended to the Foreign Ministry that it at least consider accepting the court verdict in lieu of the inquiry commission's report. He agreed with Basioni that the 25-page court document covered all of the pertinent facts. He said the Egyptians had told him that if Israel felt the record of the trial proceedings and the court judgement was inadequate, it could renew its request for the inquiry commission's findings.

REPORT ON U.S. OFFER TO PLO IS CHARACTERIZED AS 'FANCIFUL'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA) — A State Department spokesman said today that a report from Jordan that the U.S. would allow the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in Middle East peace talks was "fanciful and speculative" but he did not flatly deny it.

The report, in the Amman English-language daily Jordan Times, said the U.S. proposed a plan which would give the PLO a seat at the negotiating table if it allowed non-PLO Palestinians to attend talks in preparation for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The spokesman called the report "a blend of fact and fiction — mostly fiction" and said it was not an accurate projection. The U.S. position on the PLO is unchanged, he added. That position has been that the PLO must accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and publicly recognize Israel's right to exist before the U.S. will have any dealings with it.

At the World Jewish Congress:
RABIN, ARENS DISAGREE ON HOW ISRAEL SHOULD PROCEED IN THE PEACE PROCESS
By David Friedman

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his predecessor in that office,

Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, disagreed on how Israel should proceed in the peace process and about its negotiating position. The two Ministers, both former Ambassadors to the United States, expressed their views, demonstrating the differences between Labor and Likud in the coalition government, before the 50th plenary assembly of the World Jewish Congress at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel yesterday.

Rabin said that Israel should no longer "wait for the telephone call from the other side" but do what it can to "facilitate" bringing King Hussein of Jordan to the negotiating table. But Arens said Hussein had had an invitation since 1967 and even before. He is the "one man" who can decide whether there are to be direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel.

Arens suggested that Hussein is more concerned about losing his throne rather than any benefits he can receive from negotiations with Israel. Rabin stressed that if Jordan allows either Syria or the Palestine Liberation Organization to have a "veto" on negotiations with Israel, "there will be no beginnings of negotiations."

Rabin said the Jordanian delegation should include Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza, but no declared PLO members. He said without Palestinians participating, any agreement will be somewhat "invalid."

Both officials agreed that there must be direct bilateral negotiations, although Rabin said he would accept the "umbrella" of an international forum if this was not used for negotiations.

Rabin Rejects A Role For The USSR

Rabin also rejected the call by WJC president Edgar Bronfman Tuesday night that the Soviet Union be included in the peace process. He said if the USSR had been involved during the last 12 years there would have been no Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. He said Egyptian President Anwar Sadat went to Jerusalem because President Carter wanted to bring the Soviets into Middle East talks.

Arens and Rabin disagreed most on Israel's negotiating position. Rabin said it was much more important to have a Jewish State than to "have the borders we are justified in demanding." He declared that "I prefer the Jewishness of the State rather than the Jewishness of the border."

But Arens said Israel must maintain Judea, Samaria and Gaza for security reasons. He noted that during the Yom Kippur War these territories gave Israel the depth it needed for protection while the reserves were being mobilized. He said the demographic problem could be solved by increased aliyah.

POLICE DETECTIVE KILLED IN GANG-LAND STYLE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — The gangland-style killing of an Israeli police detective near the Jaffa Gate early today appears to have been the work of criminal elements, but the authorities are not ruling out the possibility of a terrorist act.

The victim, Avi Biazzi, 30, was driving an unmarked car to the Kishleh police station just inside Jaffa Gate when another car pulled alongside and two masked men opened fire with automatic weapons. Biazzi, survived by his wife and 18-month-old daughter, was riddled with 30 bullets, the police reported. Two passengers in a third car were slightly wounded in the hail of fire.

More than a dozen suspects were detained for questioning. Four of them, all from the Arab village of Kfar

Silwan in East Jerusalem, are being held. The prime suspect, identified as a 22-year-old Arab with a criminal record involving drug trafficking, was apprehended at his home in Kfar Silwan in the act of burning his clothes, apparently to destroy evidence.

Biazzi was a member of the team investigating this suspect when he was murdered. Jerusalem Police Inspector General David Krauss told reporters, "It appears the background (of the crime) is criminal. All the same, we're not ruling out the possibility there are other directions to the investigation."

Police found the car used in the attack abandoned in a wadi. It was a stolen vehicle. A search yielded spent cartridge shells. Police are looking for the murder weapons.

Although the authorities seem fairly convinced that the underworld was involved, the Palestine Liberation Organization's "Force 17" claimed responsibility for the killing.

At The World Jewish Congress:
JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS ARE
URGED TO OSTRACIZE KAHANE
By David Friedman

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Menachem Rosensaft, who was born to Holocaust survivors in the Bergen-Belsen camp in 1948, demanded today that Jewish organizations ostracize Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Kahane, who is a member of the Knesset, "is a disgrace to the entire Jewish people and a grim reminder of the fact that we are also susceptible to evil," he told the some 800 delegates from about 60 countries attending the eighth plenary assembly of the World Jewish Congress at the Jerusalem Hilton.

"Thus Meir Kahane has to be unconditionally and unambiguously repudiated once and for all by the international Jewish community and we must demand that all Jewish organizations and institutions cease to provide him with a platform and any type of support."

Rosensaft, founding chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, said Kahane "has spent more than a decade proving that it is indeed possible for a Jew to be both a racist and a fascist." Noting that Kahane claims Zionism and democracy are incompatible, Rosensaft declared that "it is Kahanism that is incompatible with both Zionism and the prophetic tradition of Judaism."

Rosensaft said Jews must continue to fight against anti-Semitism which continues in many places. "It is not enough for us to be concerned with us alone," he stressed. "Rather, if we are to prevent a recurrence of Auschwitz, Treblinka and Bergen-Belsen, we must both speak out and act on behalf of all — Jews and non-Jews alike — who are oppressed and persecuted anywhere in the world."

Black-Jewish Relations In The U.S.

The state of Black-Jewish relations in the United States was described to the assembly, marking the 50th anniversary of the WJC's founding, by Rep. Julian Dixon (D. Cal.), a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

"We do not need new directions," he said, "but rather a renewed commitment to repair ties where they are frayed, and to ensure that our younger generations will have the opportunity for contact and exchange which we were afforded by a generation of social change."

Dixon said the problem during the 1984 Presidential campaign and since was that attention was focused on extremists on both sides rather than discussing "honest disagreements about affirmative action and Israel."

He noted that in Congress, "on diverse issues including sanctions against apartheid, aid to Israel, civil rights and maintaining the separation between church and state, Blacks and Jews have always been in the progressive alliance."

Dixon noted that he serves on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations with another Black and two Jews and it is a "model of Blacks and Jews in cooperation."

He said the subcommittee shows "a strong alliance that has worked together to secure economic and security aid for Israel, development assistance and relief for Africa, and sanctions against the immoral and inhumane apartheid system in South Africa."

Dixon noted that every member of the Black Caucus voted against the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia. He said that he believes the Reagan Administration's proposed arms package for Jordan, should come after King Hussein negotiates a peace agreement with Israel, and not be "a sweetener to induce Hussein to resume negotiations."

SEPHARDIC CHIEF RABBI PROPOSES
PLACING SYNAGOGUE ON TEMPLE MOUNT
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — A proposal by Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu that a synagogue be erected on the Temple Mount, the third holiest site of the Islamic faith, has stirred serious concern in political and security circles here that the rabbi's remarks could trigger extremist violence.

In recent weeks, the Temple Mount was the scene of angry confrontations between Moslem religious leaders and Knesset members. On one occasion, police had to extricate members of the Knesset Interior Committee from an angry Arab crowd led to believe they were desecrating Islamic shrines.

Eliahu made his proposal at a meeting of The Temple Mount Faithful, far rightwing Orthodox Jews who have been pressuring for years that a Jewish presence be established on the site where the Temple stood in ancient times. The Chief Rabbi said the proposed synagogue should be taller than the two Moslem shrines, the Al-Aksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock (Mosque of Omar). He suggested it be located on the eastern wall of the Mount with the entrance facing outward.

Israel's policy since capturing the Old City in the 1967 war has been to permit visitors of all faiths to visit the Temple Mount but to restrict organized prayer there exclusively to Moslems. The shrines are maintained by the Moslem religious council, the Waqf.

Eliahu told reporters later that he had not proposed building a synagogue but had merely offered a "suggestion" in response to questions by The Temple Mount Faithful. He insisted the idea should not arouse Arab anger because the site was sacred to both Moslems and Jews.

The Chief Rabbinate recently forbade the pious from walking on the Mount because of the presence of the mosques. He claimed that ruling applied to gentiles as well as to Jews.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW **THE WORK OF THE JNF IS THE ZIONIST** **HALUTZIC EFFORT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE** **By Yitzhak Rabi**

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- "The work of the Jewish National Fund today is the supreme Zionist halutzic (pioneering) effort of the Jewish people," Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, the newly elected president of the JNF of America said. He noted that afforestation and land reclamation are essentially "instruments for the up-building of the Jewish people through the up-building of the State of Israel."

Sternstein, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said that the JNF of America has been devoting efforts and resources towards two major goals: raising funds for the work of the JNF in Israel and undertaking an extensive educational program in the United States and Canada.

With a yearly budget of about \$18 million, the JNF of America continues to play an active role in the traditional projects of the JNF, or Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael as it is known in Hebrew, of planting trees and reclaiming land in Israel.

"The work of reclaiming the land continues in areas which are far removed from the cities, such as in the Negev, the Arava or Lower Galilee, side by side with projects near the major cities or in the cities themselves," Sternstein said. He pointed out that the JNF is planning to build a new recreational park near the Hatikva quarter south of Tel Aviv, complete with a lake, forest and landscaped grounds. "The JNF projects," he stressed, "are planned to improve the quality of life in Israel."

He said that in recent years, JNF has been doing "marvelous things in experimenting in agricultural produce with the least amount of water." He said that some of the attempts to grow vegetables with brackish water in the Arava gave extraordinary results.

JNF Educational Work

As for the educational aspect of the JNF work in America, Sternstein said that about 3,000 Jewish schools throughout the United States and Canada are included in the educational program of his organization.

"I can say that the education department of the JNF has the highest impact of any Zionist organization in the U.S.," said Sternstein, a past president of the American Zionist Federation and a former president of the Zionist Organization of America.

Asked to define the educational message of the JNF to the Jewish children of America, Sternstein said: "We try to show them their responsibility to Israel as the national Jewish homeland and to teach them to appreciate the vital importance of Israel to their Jewish identity."

Sternstein succeeded Charlotte Jacobson as president of the JNF. He holds a Doctorate in Medieval Jewish Philosophy. He is the Rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom of Roslyn Heights, Long Island.

KEY ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS ENDORSE **JEWISH AGENCY WEEK FEBRUARY 20-27**

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- A joint statement endorsing Jewish Agency Week (February 20-27) was issued today by the heads of the four major American Jewish organizations most closely related to the work of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

The statement, signed by Shoshana Cardin, president of the Council of Jewish Federations; Irwin Field, chairman of the United Israel Appeal; Alex Grass, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal; and Bernice Tannenbaum, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, said, in part:

"We welcome the initiative of the Jewish Agency for Israel in planning Jewish Agency Week. Jewish Agency Week will provide a unique opportunity for interaction between Israeli and North American leadership. The series of visits to communities throughout North America, undertaken by Jewish Agency Board of Governors members and senior staff, will allow for a deepening of the partnership between Israel and North American Jewry."

Jewish Agency Week, a series of visits to Jewish communities throughout North America, will involve members of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel and senior Agency staff. The Governors and staff will meet with community campaign leadership, Boards of Directors of Jewish Federations, Jewish Agency committees of Federations, and Zionist leadership designated by the individual communities. Jewish Agency Week will immediately follow the February 18-19 meeting in New York of the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors.

In commenting on the joint statement, Jerold Hoffberger, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors, said, "We welcome this warm endorsement of Jewish Agency Week and we look forward to working together to intensify the partnership between Israel and world Jewry."

UJA 1985 CAMPAIGN HAS **RAISED A TOTAL OF \$637 MILLION**

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- Alex Grass, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, reported that as of January 16, the 1985 Campaign has raised a total of \$637 million compared to \$585.9 million pledged by the same donors last year. This is a dollar gain of \$51.1 million and a card-for-card increase of 8.7 percent. Grass said he anticipated that the 1985 Regular Campaign would conclude with \$660 million.

"Adding the amounts raised by Operation Moses and Project Renewal," he continued, "will bring us to approximately \$735 million. This will be a tremendous achievement and I am indebted to national and community leaders for their outstanding efforts."

Reporting on Project Renewal, Grass stated that \$163.1 million has been raised through December 31, including \$10 million pledged during the 1985 Campaign. He explained that a special operational plan was being developed by a task force headed by UJA National Project Renewal chairperson Jane Sherman to raise \$65 million that would complete the current financial requirements needed for the inhabitants of Israel's distressed neighborhoods.

Turning to the 1986 Campaign, Grass reported that eight major gifts events under UJA auspices have taken place which involved over 1,200 people from 60 communities. Pledges came to \$51.8 million, a 22 percent increase and a gain of \$9.3 million over the amounts pledged by the same donors in 1985.

Announcing national Super Sunday on February 2, Grass discussed the \$40 million goal and said he was looking forward to an outstanding fund-raising event under the leadership of UJA national vice chairman Sanford Hollander.