



**IDF SOLDIER KILLED IN SOUTH LEBANON; FIVE OTHERS WOUNDED**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 9 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force soldier was killed and five others wounded -- one seriously -- in a clash with terrorists in the security zone of South Lebanon shortly after midnight Saturday.

The dead soldier was identified as Corporal Yisrael Sedan, 21, of Jerusalem. He was the sixth Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon since the formal withdrawal of the IDF last year.

Two terrorists were killed and a third was wounded but managed to escape. The clash occurred when an IDF patrol came on a group of terrorists in the central sector and opened fire on them. The gang replied with grenades and automatic weapons fire.

A quantity of arms, ammunition and sabotage equipment was discovered in a search of the area. Northern area commander Maj. Gen. Ori Orr noted Sunday the recent increase in the number of incidents in the security zone, just north of the Israel-Lebanon border.

It was also disclosed during the weekend that a terrorist was captured in the incident last week in which two terrorists were killed in a clash with the IDF. In that incident, the two terrorists killed in the clash had been wearing IDF uniforms and carrying Israeli weapons. A knitted skullcap was found in the pocket of one of the dead terrorists.

**N. Y. RABBI FIRED ON WHILE WALKING ALONE IN THE OLD CITY FROM SABBATH SERVICES AT THE WESTERN WALL**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA) -- A New York rabbi was fired on by an unidentified assailant in the Old City Friday night while walking alone from Sabbath services at the Western Wall. Rabbi David Blumenfeld, 50, who is executive director of the New York City Holocaust Memorial Commission, was slightly injured by stone fragments that grazed his head after a bullet aimed at him ricocheted off a wall. He was wearing a white silk skullcap at the time.

Blumenfeld, a member of Temple Israel in Great Neck, N. Y., a 1,300-member Conservative congregation headed by Rabbi Mordechai Waxman, made his way bleeding to Kisleh police station at the nearby Jaffa Gate. He was taken to Hadassah Hospital for treatment of what were minor wounds. Police, who closed off the area, found the gun used by the assailant. According to police spokesman Rafi Levy, about 20 Arab suspects were detained for questioning.

The incident was the latest in an upsurge of violence and the second assault with a deadly weapon in two days. An Israeli taxi driver, Moshe Amsalem, 35, was stabbed in the chest Thursday night after picking up two Arab passengers in Beersheba. He was taken to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba where his condition was reported to be serious.

Blumenfeld said later that whoever attacked him wanted "to instill fear in all Jews visiting the Old City." He said the shooting would never deter him.

Israeli authorities said about 200 suspected members of terrorist organizations were detained after the assassination last Sunday of Zafer Al-Masri, the Israel-appointed new Mayor of Nablus. All but 20 have been released.

**A Sharp Rise In Terrorist Incidents**

The authorities noted a sharp rise in the number of terrorist incidents in the administered territories since King Hussein of Jordan announced last month that he was abandoning his efforts with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat to bring the PLO into the peace process.

According to the authorities, there were 76 terrorist incidents in the past two weeks compared to 43 in the previous two-week period.

Police noted that taxi drivers have become a favorite target of terrorists. Most drivers now carry a pistol and are equipped with two-way radio communications. Amsalem had neither when he picked up two Arabs in the center of Beersheba Thursday night and was told to drive them to Tel Sheva, a Bedouin village east of town. Once out of Beersheba, Amsalem was grabbed around the throat by one passenger sitting behind him while the other, in the front seat, stabbed him.

When the cab stopped, the two assailants escaped, leaving the knife lodged in Amsalem's chest a centimeter from his heart. He was able to drive back toward Beersheba but stopped and called for help at a gasoline station. Police were summoned and he was rushed to the hospital where he underwent emergency surgery.

**1st ISRAELI-POLISH CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

TEL AVIV, March 9 (JTA) -- In the first cultural exchange between Israel and Poland since most East European countries broke relations with Israel during the Six-Day War, the Israeli ballet company, Bat-Dor, will perform in three Polish cities.

The ballet troupe, which flew to Poland Sunday, will appear in Warsaw, Gdansk and Lodz. The Polish national dance company, Mazowsze, will reciprocate by performing in Israel in May. Two Polish theater companies have been performing in Tel Aviv in the past two months.

The cultural exchanges, according to Israeli officials, were the result of a meeting last September in the United Nations between Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski of Poland.

**B'NAI B'RITH URGES MANDELA'S RELEASE**

WASHINGTON, March 9 (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith International has called on South Africa's President to free that nation's Black leader, Nelson Mandela, from prison. In a cable Friday to President P.W. Botha, Gerald Kraft, B'nai B'rith president, praised the lifting of the state of emergency and easing police control. He added that "the release of Mandela would be an even more dramatic signal" of the South African government's intention "to heal the national wounds" and bring all of the nation's political groups together "to negotiate a better future."

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES

## A DANGEROUS MOVE

By Victor M. Binstock

(Former editor and general manager of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.)

BOCA RATON, Fla., March 9 (JTA) — As a newspaperman who has spent the better part of six decades in Jewish journalism, I am disturbed by the news from Jerusalem that the Israel government and the World Zionist Organization are jointly establishing an official agency to serve the world Jewish press.

This is bad for Israel, bad for the Zionist movement, bad for the Jewish community and dangerous for the Jewish press. Never since the 1850's when Baron Reuter established the first news agency in London has there been an official news agency that enjoyed credibility. Every dictatorship the world has known has sought to control information channels so as to be able to manipulate the news for its own purposes.

One effect establishment of this official agency will have will be to render suspect all the news from and about Israel flowing through Jewish channels. Only a small proportion of newspaper readers pay attention to the credit lines on news stories and all the news dispatches in the Jewish press, consequently, will be tarred with the "official" brush.

An Attempt To Control The News

Both the Israel government and the WZO will be accused of an attempt to control the flow of information — which they will be doing, not by censorship but by selection of the information to be relayed to the Jewish world. No one expects an official agency to report developments that reflect on its sponsors unfavorably. This agency will not disappoint its critics in this respect in the words of the popular ditty, it will accentuate the positive and in so doing seek to conceal what the authorities consider negative aspects.

It will be bad for the Jewish public which will be deprived of information to which it is entitled and ought to have. This will not be the result of censors blue-pencilling unfavorable copy but because the flood of "positive" news will swamp the limited space available in the Jewish press and crowd out hard, potentially disturbing facts.

As a former editor, I know the pressure on every journalist to select a good upbeat story with a lot of human interest as compared, say, to a critical report on the economic situation, or difficulties on the West Bank. There is a lot of good journalistic talent in Israel today and the new agency will have no difficulty in finding the skilled journeymen to produce good, well-written human interest stories.

The American Jewish press, in most cases not too generously budgeted, will be tempted to rely heavily on the official agency for its low-cost or free news and features. The service will thus discourage independent reporting and further limit the perspective the individual paper can offer its readers.

The World Zionist Organization press service already produces a large volume of news features which the Jewish press uses extensively, often, I fear, to the exclusion of more important but less attractive material that could give the American Jewish reader a better understanding of the situation in Israel.

I am concerned about the impact the official service may have on a large segment of the American Jewish press. This press has made great strides in the last half-century since Philip Slomovitz and a handful of his contemporaries founded the American Jewish Press Association and gave it professional standards.

The Jewish press has won a substantial measure of credibility and acceptance in the community and professional acceptance in the wider field of American journalism. This should not lightly be jeopardized. I would not want to see it diminished because of a general perception of the American Jewish newspapers as merely purveyors of Israeli government propaganda.

The Jewish Agency public relations establishment and the Israeli government's PR setup as well have never really understood that they cannot "sell" Israel to American Jews as a land of unadulterated milk and honey and that they can win greater loyalty and support by treating them as adults and giving them the facts, unvarnished and unadorned.

The type of promotion that "sells" Israel for El Al — the bikini-clad beauties on the beach at Eilat — may be very effective in persuading tourists to savor the pleasures the Jewish State offers but it is not the way to convince most Jews of Israel's vital role in their lives.

Not The First Attempt

The new agency is not the first attempt to control the flow of news from Palestine and dominate the news columns of the world Jewish press. Early in the 1930's, the Jewish Agency Executive started its own news agency and spent a few million on the venture.

The Palcor (Palestine Correspondence) Agency never made a deep penetration of the Jewish press and was almost a total failure with the general press. Its only accomplishment was to weaken the Jewish Telegraphic Agency which had valuable outlets in the general press through its contracts with the Associated Press, Reuters and Agence France-Press, and thus reduce the effectiveness of a major voice.

One of the first acts of the Israel government after the War of Liberation was to suspend the Palcor operation. Foreign Minister Moshe Sharet quickly perceived the anomalous position of competing with the news agencies and foreign correspondents while simultaneously trying frantically to secure their goodwill and sympathy for the infant State.

There are legitimate news functions that every government, including the Israeli, should perform. These are, fundamentally, to provide all possible access to news sources subject to security needs, to ensure freedom to transmit and publish without censorship of any kind except the minimum required for security reasons and to provide facilities to transmit news from the country speedily and inexpensively.

A Useful Service

The late Gershon Agron, editor of The Jerusalem Post and Israel's first de facto Minister of Information, recognized this and in 1949, using the JTA radio network, supplied Israeli Embassies and Consulates throughout the Western world with a daily synopsis of Israeli newspaper editorials and articles.

This service also provided the texts of official communiques that might not otherwise be available to the press abroad. The Israeli offices, in turn, distributed these summaries to the press just as the British and German information services do to this day. A service like that from Jerusalem today would be useful and free

of the propaganda stigma that attaches to an "official" news agency. A full, honest and free flow of information from Israel, warts and all, is the best propaganda the Jewish State can have. Instead of trying to spoon-feed the Jewish press, the government should facilitate the task of journalists seeking to inform the Jewish community by encouraging them on their own to explore, investigate and report every facet of Israeli life.

Nearly 100 years ago, the great American publisher, E.W. Scripps, put this motto on his papers: "Give light and the people will find their way." It is a precept still valid for all governments and news media.

## JACOB JAVITS DEAD AT 81

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 9 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held Monday in New York for Jacob Javits, four-term United States Senator from New York, who died Friday of cardiac arrest while on vacation in West Palm Beach, Florida. He was 81 years old. Thousands are expected to attend the services, which will be held at Central Synagogue in Manhattan.

Javits, the son of Jewish immigrant parents, rose from poverty on the Lower East Side of New York to become one of the longest-serving senators in the Congress and one of the biggest vote-getters in American history. A political maverick, he ran as a liberal Republican in every political race, beating out well-known Democrats in overwhelming Democratic bastions.

Always a minority in the minority party, Javits became a champion of liberal causes, borrowing the sensibilities of his youth in New York's Jewish ghetto and expanding them to embrace all minorities. He was a moving force behind the civil rights movement, fair treatment for the poor and elderly, guaranteed pensions for retired persons, and, in the end, of the right to die with dignity.

### A True American Dream

His career was a true American dream. Jacob Koppel Javits was born May 18, 1904 in a Stanton Street tenement where his father, Morris, was the janitor. Morris Jawetz from Galicia, who changed the name's spelling in America, liked to say he believed the name's origin lay in the Biblical family of scribes of Jabez, near Jerusalem.

His mother, Ida Littman, was a native of Safed in Ottoman Palestine, who came to America by way of Russia. She helped support the family by peddling sundry wares from a pushcart.

The family moved to Brooklyn and then Washington Heights, later to be Javits' stepping-off point in his political career. He put himself through Columbia University and New York University Law School nights while working days in a print shop and a pipe factory. He passed the New York Bar while clerking in his brother Ben's law firm, then joined the Republican Party with the campaign of New York City Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. He chose, he said, the party of Lincoln, which he considered the "party of equality."

His political career began in 1946 when he surprised all by winning the 21st District of New York, the Washington Heights-Inwood area of upper Manhattan heavily populated by German Jews. After two terms as Congressman, Javits was

elected New York State Attorney General. In 1956, he won his first term as Senator. Javits' strong Jewish sentiments and his staunch support for the Jewish State made him an unsurpassed favorite with Jewish voters across the political spectrum. At no time in his long career of public service did he ever forget or fail to mention his origins. He was a long-time member of several major Jewish organizations. He was active in B'nai B'rith and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, for which he served as honorary vice-chairman more than 25 years. In 1981, Javits was awarded the ADL's Haym Salomon Award.

In January 1985, Javits received a special presentation of the Community Achievement Award of the American ORT Federation (AOF). Javits was an AOF Board member since the 1940's, when he visited ORT training centers in the German DP camps immediately after World War II. His testimony before Congress helped focus attention on the plight of the refugees, and on ORT's help in preparing them for their new lives.

In October, 1984, Javits received a Public Service Achievement Award of the UJA Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. Last week, the first Jacob Javits Humanitarian Award of the UJA Young Leadership was awarded to Elie Wiesel, chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. Javits was also active in the Zionist Organization of America, the American Jewish Committee, UJA-Federation, and the America-Israel Cultural Foundation.

### Views On Topical Issues

Javits' record in Congress bespoke his overriding involvement with his Jewish heritage. "I've always felt close to Judaism," he remarked in an interview with *The Jewish Week* (New York). "Its precepts animated my public and private careers . . . My heritage is the stuff of the Prophets."

Asked to comment on his perception of the American Jewish community, Javits responded that he felt it was "healthy and vigorous . . . I believe there is an enhanced consciousness of the position of Jews on earth."

Addressing the issue of Black-Jewish relations, he said "it is regrettable that a strain has developed between the Black minority and the Jewish community. But I believe that time and good work on both sides will heal that breach and again secure the natural alliance for human rights and for civil rights and liberties."

On Israel, he remarked, "I believe Israel will live to see a day when it is a real leader in the affairs of mankind, and this goes for science, technology and health, as well as moral and spiritual leadership and international security."

Maintaining his rights as an American Jew, however, he counseled that "Jews in the United States should not be inhibited respecting criticism of Israel . . . while we should give our full support to Israel for security and economic well-being, we must recognize its right to have an independent point of view and policy."

### Not Just A Senator, But A Legend

In 1980, Javits suffered his first defeat at the polls, losing his 23-year Senate seat to then-unknown Alfonse D'Amato, a Supervisor from Hempstead, Long Island. Javits was then beginning to show the signs of the debilitating motor neuron disease from which he suffered—amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, after the baseball player who died of the then-unfamiliar illness.

Javits' loss of his Senate seat cost him the prize he had sought so long, the chairmanship of the Foreign

Relations Committee, the post that would have been his as the Republicans became the majority party in the Senate for the first time in his career.

Javits' colleagues bid farewell to their long-time colleague in an hour-long tribute on the Senate floor, saying goodbye not just to a Senator but to a legend.

#### At The 15th Convention Of Herut: THE PARTY IS IN SERIOUS DISARRAY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA) -- The 15th convention of Herut which opened at the Binyanei Haoma here Sunday night found the party in its most serious state of disarray since Menachem Begin's sudden resignation from the Premiership in 1983.

The festive ceremonies hardly masked the bitter internal power struggle that had not been resolved up to the time the 1,900 delegates and distinguished guests took their seats in the huge Jerusalem convention center.

It is a three-way struggle pitting party leader Yitzhak Shamir and his close associate, Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, against Housing Minister David Levy, a rising star in Herut, and Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, its most outspoken hardliner.

Shamir, who is Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, is expected to become Premier next October under the rotation of power agreement of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government. But he faces a powerful challenge from the Levy and Sharon factions which are allied, if only temporarily.

Shamir insisted in a radio interview Friday that the internal differences are "organizational and personal -- not ideological" and therefore not "so important."

#### Last Minute Truce Fails

The party leadership failed, however, in a last-minute effort to arrange a truce. It rejected a demand by Sharon for a three-way split of representation -- and power -- at the convention between the Shamir, Levy and his own factions. Shamir and Arens dismissed the idea, maintaining that their strength exceeds that of Sharon and Levy combined. Now they must prove it.

The convention, which is to elect a new Central Committee, is expected to produce fireworks before it winds up in Tel Aviv Wednesday night. Most observers predict a tense four days, if not a rowdy political brawl.

Levy launched his most bitter public attack to date against Shamir in a radio interview Sunday, only hours before the convention opened. He accused the party leader of using undemocratic tactics to pack the convention with his supporters. The climactic moment is expected to come when the delegates cast ballots for the next Herut chairman.

Nominally, Begin still holds that position. But he has been living in seclusion since his retirement, has not taken an active role in party affairs and is not attending the convention. Nevertheless, he is the much revered founder of Herut, the leader who brought it out of the political wilderness nine years ago. Whether his father-figure image will influence the course the convention takes remains to be seen.

Begin is an unabashed supporter of Shamir and in a message read from the podium, he urged the delegates to unite under the leadership of Shamir. It was an explicit endorsement of Shamir to succeed him. But Levy's supporters were unfazed. When the young Deputy Premier and Housing Minister entered the convention hall he was greeted by a lusty chorus of "David, King of Israel."

If Shamir is not elected party chairman, his prestige and authority would suffer a politically devastating blow. His supporters are determined not to allow this to happen. But the forces arrayed against Shamir are formidable and some Herut circles are seeking a compromise candidate to avert a potentially disastrous split.

The name of Dr. Binyamin Zeev Begin, son of the former Premier, was floated on the eve of the convention. He is registered as a delegate. He had not responded by the time the convention opened. Political observers said the younger Begin's purpose in attending the convention was to do all he could to block the advance of Sharon to the pinnacle of power in Herut. This is believed by the observers to reflect his father's profound desire.

President Chaim Herzog and Premier Shimon Peres are attending the convention opening. Both will greet the delegates. Shamir will deliver the keynote address. Peres received a warm reception when he mounted the podium. And it became even warmer when he pledged, in the course of brief remarks, that the unity government would continue for the duration of the present Knesset's term. "As we agreed . . . We began together, let us continue together," he said.

#### MURPHY RETURNING TO THE MIDEAST

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 9 (JTA) -- Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, is leaving on another trip to the Middle East, the State Department announced.

But unlike his recent visits to the region, Murphy will not be concentrating on the peace process, but on bilateral issues, according to State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman.

Redman said last Thursday that Murphy will accompany Vice President George Bush to Tunisia and then visit other countries. In keeping with the normal State Department practice Redman refused to reveal Murphy's itinerary.

The official Reagan Administration policy on the peace process, now that King Hussein of Jordan has abandoned his year-long effort to work with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat, is that it is now in a period of "reflection." Murphy repeated this in a briefing Wednesday to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Knesset MK Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement was pelted with eggs and verbally abused by dozens of yellow-shirted members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's nationalist Kach Party as she attempted to address a public meeting in Petahtikva on Saturday. Police were summoned to extricate Aloni from the angry mob. Aloni delivered her speech some 90 minutes later than scheduled.