

## ISRAELI JETS BOMB TERRORIST BASES

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 14 (JTA) — Israel Air Force jets attacked terrorist bases in south Lebanon Monday. It was the second air strike in five days, triggered by escalating terrorist activity in which the Israel Defense Force sustained casualties. Israeli leaders are blaming Syria for the escalation.

A military spokesman said Monday the targets were in the Shouf area between Beirut and Damur. Israel Radio, monitoring reports from Lebanon, said they were located near the Druze village of Einab and three neighboring villages. They included buildings used by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a terrorist group headed by George Habash.

According to Lebanese sources, the air raid lasted about 30 minutes and was carried out by American-made F-16s and Phantom jets. The Israel Air Force attacked four terrorist bases outside Sidon last Thursday afternoon, using combat helicopters.

The attack Thursday was in retaliation for an attempted terrorist infiltration of Israel by sea. The terrorists were forced ashore in the south Lebanon security zone by Israel Navy patrol boats and engaged in a fire-fight with an IDF unit. Two Israeli soldiers were killed and nine wounded. Four terrorists were killed and as many as 10 more were reported killed by the air strike later in the day.

A military spokesman said Monday's air raid was not retaliatory but in line with Israel's policy of striking terrorist targets at will. It followed the wounding of three IDF soldiers Sunday when their vehicle struck a mine in the security zone. The Shiite Moslem Amal militia said it had planted the mines. Three soldiers of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were wounded by Katyusha rocket fire in the security zone Sunday. According to SLA sources, the rockets were fired from positions in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon.

## Syria Held Responsible

Israel, meanwhile, is apparently holding Syria responsible for the upsurge of terrorist activity in south Lebanon. Premier Shimon Peres said in a Voice of Israel Radio interview Sunday that even if Syria's role in the infiltration attempt was passive, the command headquarters of the terrorist organizations are in Damascus "and they cannot do a thing without the consent of the Syrian authorities."

Peres told a public gathering in Jerusalem last Friday that the infiltration attempt was carried out by Habash's group in conjunction with the Nationalist Social Party, a Lebanese militia backed by Syria. He stressed that Israel would seek political means to discourage Syrian support for the terrorists before resorting to other means.

But Peres seems less than optimistic about the situation. Addressing a conference in Jerusalem Friday of the Washington-based Institute for Near East Policy, he stated, "I think Syria is preparing for war." He advised Israelis to remain calm. The IDF will contain the dangers posed by Syria and the terrorists, he said.

## COMBAT HELICOPTERS USED IN ISRAELI STRIKE AGAINST TERRORIST TARGETS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 14 (JTA) — The use of combat helicopters in Israel Air Force strikes against terrorist targets in south Lebanon was confirmed Sunday by Air Force Commander Gen. Amos Lapidot. He said the type used in last Thursday's attack on terrorist bases near Sidon is regularly deployed in coordination with Israel Defense Force ground forces.

Lapidot did not identify the helicopters. But according to the latest edition of "The Middle East Military Balance" published last week by Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, the Israel Air Force has 20 Bell Cobra and 35 Hughes Defender attack helicopters.

Lapidot said the helicopters are used for routine patrolling and as a deterrent. They are available to local ground commanders and can be sent into action within minutes if necessary, he said. He added that the helicopters are one of several options the Air Force has to employ in strikes against enemy targets.

The terrorists do not know where, when and how the next Air Force strike will be carried out and this keeps them off balance, Lapidot said. He described the raid near Sidon. "The attack was carried out by combat helicopters which hit the targets from a distance of several kilometers. We used very exact weapons which permitted direct hits, which achieved the goal of destroying the targets but not buildings, objects or people unconnected with the terrorist organizations."

According to "The Middle East Military Balance," the Israeli helicopters can be armed with TOW anti-tank missile systems which are accurate and effective against buildings as well as tanks.

Lapidot said in reply to questions that the use of helicopters in the latest attack on terrorists "doesn't mean we are making any special change" of methods of attack. "In each instance, regarding each attack, we analyze the target, analyze the problem and adapt the type of attack and weapon to that same specific target," he said.

In response to another question, the Air Force Commander agreed that Syria's deployment of Sam-2 anti-aircraft missiles near the Lebanese border expanded the area inside Lebanon protected by missiles. "We are forced to consider this new situation which, if we ignore, places us in effective range of the missiles," he said.

However, Lapidot stressed, "We are not currently in a situation where we want to be dragged into a confrontation with the Syrians, with the Syrian air defense system, even though we have our own solutions."

He added, "We cannot today point to anything special which indicates particularly aggressive intentions on the part of the Syrians. We haven't heated things up too much and in the past few months, no special escalation has developed."

## CABINET VOTES 14-11 AGAINST JUDICIAL COMMISSION IN THE SHIN BET PROBE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 14 (JTA) — The Cabinet voted 14-11 Monday to reject the creation of a judicial com-

mission of inquiry to investigate the Shin Bet affair. As a result, Attorney General Yosef Harish will proceed with a police investigation and the Cabinet officially took note of his intention.

The two main components of the unity government, Labor and Likud, were deadlocked 10-10 on the issue. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui Party voted with Labor in favor of a commission. The three religious ministers, Yosef Burg, Yitzhak Peretz and Avraham Shapira, sided with Likud against a judicial inquiry.

Although Harish had spelled out reasons why a judicial commission was, from the government's point of view, preferable to a police probe, right-wing Knesset members congratulated the Cabinet decision. Leftwingers lambasted it.

The investigation involves allegations that Avraham Shalom as head of Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, and three of his top aides were criminally implicated in the unexplained deaths of two Arab bus hijackers in custody of security agents in April 1984 and engaged in elaborate cover-ups at two subsequent quasi-judicial inquiries.

Former Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir ordered a police investigation of the case, but the order was rescinded by Harish, who replaced Zamir last month. The government, from the outset, had been reluctant to initiate an inquiry on grounds of State security. The fear was that top secret operations of Shin Bet would be exposed.

But the Cabinet's hope that the matter was laid to rest after President Chaim Herzog granted blanket pardons to Shalom and his aides last month, was dashed when the Supreme Court intervened. The high court, hearing challenges to the pardons by several legal groups, ordered the government on July 1 to show cause why an official inquiry should not be launched.

#### Attorney Sought Judicial Commission

Harish, who must reply to the court order this week, told the Cabinet that a police investigation was the least desirable of its two options. He urged a judicial commission which would conduct its hearings in strict secrecy under terms of reference that would not compromise the Shin Bet's operations. However, Harish made clear that he would have to order a police probe if the Cabinet rejected his recommendation.

He said he could not face the high court without a decision, one way or the other. Harish said Monday night that the four Shin Bet men involved would be interrogated by the police but no charges would be brought against them since they were pardoned in advance by the President.

But Premier Shimon Peres, who had been willing to go along with a judicial inquiry, warned Monday that a police probe could implicate "others," meaning apparently Shin Bet agents not pardoned.

Legal experts said Monday that the police could also investigate the political echelons, although Cabinet Ministers and Knesset members are immune from prosecution unless their immunity is lifted by the Knesset.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of Likud, was Prime Minister at the time of the bus hijack incident and could conceivably be questioned by the police. Shin Bet is responsible only to the Prime Minister.

The Supreme Court, meanwhile, is considering petitions to declare the Presidential pardons invalid. But it is not certain the court will ever act on them. The Justices affirmed that President Herzog acted within his constitutional powers.

The petitioners contend that the Shin Bet chief and his aides, having never been officially charged with any offenses, were in fact not offenders in the legal sense and therefore ineligible for pardons.

#### EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL CANCELS VISIT

JERUSALEM, July 14 (JTA) -- Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir expressed regret Sunday at the cancellation of a scheduled visit here by his Egyptian counterpart, Fuad Sultan. No reason was given for Sultan's cancellation, nor was a new date set for the visit.

Sharir, meanwhile, expressed some dissatisfaction that efforts to revive tourism between Israel and Egypt were not making progress. Israeli tourism to Egypt has been lagging since the massacre of seven Israeli civilians by a berserk Egyptian policeman at Ras Burka in the Sinai last October. The victims were part of a group of 27 Israelis who had gone on a Succot camping trip to Sinai.

Egypt is now expected to hand over to Washington this week its reaction to the latest proposals regarding the wording of the Tabat arbitration document. Senior sources at the Foreign Ministry here indicated that there are still several obstacles remaining before that document is signed.

These obstacles include the maps which will be used by the arbitrators; the third impartial arbitrator, in addition to the Egyptian and Israeli arbitrators; and the question of financial compensation to the families of the Ras Burka victims.

#### TEENAGER INJURED IN BOMB EXPLOSION

TEL AVIV, July 14 (JTA) -- A 17-year-old girl was slightly injured when a bomb exploded in the cafe and shop-lined Dizengoff Street near Dizengoff Circle Sunday night. Inbar Shapira, of Kibbutz Amir in upper Galilee, was strolling with her parents when the bomb, concealed in a plastic bag which had been deposited in a garbage bin, went off.

"I lived safely through terrorist Katyushas at home in Galilee for years, only to come here on vacation to Tel Aviv to be hit by a bomb," Shapira remarked as she was taken to the hospital for treatment. At the time of the explosion, the street was filled with strollers.

#### BANK OFFICIAL RESIGNS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 14 (JTA) -- Raphael Recanati resigned Monday as managing director of the Israel Discount Bank, which the Recanati family has owned for 50 years. Resigning with him were his sons, Ehud and Leon Recanati, both directors of the bank, and Eli Cohen, one of its top executives.

Their resignations came less than 24 hours after the Cabinet decided Sunday to give Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno a free hand to remove Recanati, who had refused to step down voluntarily.

His resignation and those of the chief officers of Israel's three other largest banks were recommended in the report released in May by a commission of inquiry headed by Supreme Court Justice Chaim Beisky. The commission, set up to investigate the 1983 bank shares scandal, held the heads of the major banks culpable for the collapse of bank stocks which touched off a financial

panic. According to the commission, the banks grossly inflated the value of their shares to mislead investors. It recommended that their chief officers be forced to resign. The heads of the other banks complied. Recanat was the only hold-out.

The Discount Bank Board of Directors announced Monday that would be replaced by Yosef Ciechanover, former Director General of the Foreign Ministry and more recently head of the Israel Discount Bank's operations in the U.S. Ciechanover said he would make no public comment for the time being.

Recanat too refused comment as he left his Tel Aviv office Monday.

## BURG FEELS IT IS TOO LATE TO STOP MORMON PROJECT BUT THAT ITS ACTIVITIES WILL BE RESTRICTED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 14 (JTA) — Orthodox groups seeking to block the Mormon educational center under construction on Mt. Scopus were taken aback by Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg's reported statement that it was too late to halt the controversial project.

Burg is leader of the National Religious Party. As chairman of the special Cabinet committee set up recently to decide the fate of the center, he was considered a key figure in the fight. Last Wednesday he addressed the meeting of the Board of Governors of Yeshiva University here and reportedly told them it was "two years and nine million dollars too late" to halt the Mormon center.

That remark was quoted by a Yeshiva University spokesman four days ago. Burg seemed to back away from it Monday. But he did not deny that he thought the project, now well advanced, is unstoppable.

Orthodox objections center on the fact that the Mormon church is evangelical and they fear the center, sponsored by the church-affiliated Brigham Young University of Provo, Utah, will be used for missionary activities. It will rise adjacent to the Hebrew University's Mt. Scopus campus.

The project originated several years ago during the Likud administration of Premier Menachem Begin. It was granted all necessary permits and building licenses by the government and the Jerusalem municipality. Burg is reported to have stated last Wednesday, "There is no way to stop it."

He gave assurances, however, that "Our plan now is to restrict them as much as we can." He said center activities would be limited to Mormon students from the U.S. and there would be "no kind of public lectures or any events of that nature."

## Cites Legal Difficulties Involved

On Monday, Burg stressed that as chairman of the special committee he could not take a public position on the project. He said that in his speech to the Yeshiva University board, "I spoke of the legal difficulties involved in the issue."

He said he "stressed that there is no doubt that proselytizing is a cardinal element in the Mormon faith. They have developed various and sophisticated means of acting among people of other faiths, and have even printed special instructions about how to forge missionary links with Jews, particularly in Israel."

Mormon spokesmen here have stressed repeatedly that the church does not and will not engage in missionary activities in Israel. The Mormon church has in

fact maintained a small center in Jerusalem for years without arousing controversy. But the size and facilities of the Mt. Scopus center has generated concern in Orthodox circles.

Informed sources here believe Burg's committee will have to agree that the center is indeed a fait accompli since it complies with all legal requirements. But it will recommend the tightest restrictions and a careful definition of what will be allowable.

Meanwhile, the Young Israel of North America, an Orthodox group, has offered to raise \$9 million to reimburse the Mormon church for its expenditures on the new center, if the project is halted. Harold Jacobs, president of Young Israel, reportedly proposed this to Burg over the weekend. Young Israel, holding its 75th anniversary convention here this week, has 44 affiliated synagogues in Israel.

## NISSIM ELNECAVE DEAD AT 75

NEW YORK, July 14 (JTA) — Nissim Elnecape, editor emeritus of the Argentine Jewish newspaper La Luz and a leader of the Sephardic community of Latin America, died Sunday in Buenos Aires of a heart attack, it was reported here Monday. He was 75 years old.

Elnecape was for many years director of La Luz, which was founded in 1931 by his father, David, who emigrated to Argentina from Bulgaria when Nissim was a youth. Nissim Elnecape's son, David, is currently director of the paper.

Nissim Elnecape was also founder of FESELA, the Federacion Sefaradi Latinoamericana, the organization of Sephardim in Latin America, and was author of several books, not only on Sephardic Jews but also on Jewish-Christian relations and on anti-Semitism. Another son, Rolando, who lives in Miami, is active there in FESELA.

Elnecape was the author of the annual chapter on Argentina for the American Jewish Yearbook. Last year, he visited Spain as an official guest of the Spanish government. He was known there as a specialist in studies of the Jews of Spain. An active Zionist leader in Latin America his entire life, Elnecape was a frequent visitor to Israel.

## 3,000 DANCERS FROM 11 COUNTRIES IN ISRAEL FOR FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL

TEL AVIV, July 14 (JTA) — Some 3,000 dancers from 11 countries stepped out lively at the opening of the Sixth International Folkdance Festival in Haifa Saturday night, at which Prime Minister Shimon Peres said he hoped the day would come when people would abandon the strategy of war for the strategy of football and the dance.

The participants at the week-long festival come from European countries such as Poland, Yugoslavia, Spain, Portugal and Britain, together with groups from Mexico and Bolivia among the Latin Americans. The U.S., which provided the Sixth Fleet band for the opening ceremonies, has also sent a folkdance group from the Brigham Young Mormon University in Utah, whose Jerusalem premises now under construction are at the center of a controversy.

The Israeli dancers include a number of ethnic groups representing Hasidic, Yemenite, Circassian and other dances.

## AJCONGRESS LEADER SAYS U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS ARE EXCELLENT DESPITE RECENT ALLEGATIONS BY THE U.S. AGAINST ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, July 14 (JTA) -- An American Jewish leader said here Monday that one of the most pressing issues of concern at present is the state of U.S.-Israel relations in light of the Jonathan Pollard spy case and the more recent allegations that Israel tried to obtain cluster bomb technology illegally from the U.S.

But according to Theodore Mann, president of the American Jewish Congress, U.S.-Israel relations, which are excellent, have been largely unaffected by those events, though there may be some fall-out from the Pollard affair. The danger lies, he said, in misperceptions by the American public.

Mann arrived here at the head of an AJC delegation to participate in the organization's 22nd annual three-day America-Israel Dialogue. Interviewed by Voice of Israel Radio, he said, with reference to the Pollard case:

"Within the American government there is a feeling that if (Israeli) political authorities here knew nothing -- and they know they knew nothing regarding the Pollard operation -- then the question is, is there sufficient accountability of the Israel secret services to the political echelon."

### Cites U.S. Concern

"There is concern about that," Mann added, "and I think there is a concern about the appointment of Eitan to an important industrial position, and there is a belief in the American public and media -- which is false -- that Col. Sella was promoted to general."

He was referring to Raphael Eitan, a former senior Mossad operative who allegedly recruited Pollard, a U.S. Navy civilian data analyst to spy for Israel, and Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, Commander of the Rimon Air Force Base in the Negev, whom the U.S. Justice Department has named as a co-conspirator in the espionage operation which oversaw Pollard's activities.

Mann said this misperception is "very unfortunate. We know it is false but the American public is left with the impression that it is true."

Mann said another matter of concern to the AJC is the rise of religious fundamentalism in both the U.S. and Israel. The theme of this year's Dialogue will be extremism in Israel and the U.S.

Mann said in that connection the proposal by the Orthodox-controlled Interior Ministry to stamp the word "converted" next to the designation "Jewish" on the identity cards of converts to Judaism in Israel was "gross, intolerable and divisive."

### Impressed By Turkish Jewish Community

The AJC delegation spent a week in Turkey on their way to Israel at the invitation of the Turkish Chief Rabbi and the local Jewish community. Mann said he was favorably impressed by the condition of Turkey's 24,000-strong Jewish community which lives in peace and security.

He said the Turkish government was aware of their visit and viewed it favorably. They hope to secure AJC support to strengthen U.S.-Turkish relations, Mann said. The Turkish government has undertaken to organize a celebration for the Turkish Jewish community's 500th anniversary in 1992 and plans to upgrade its diplomatic relations with Israel, Mann said. He claimed there has been great improvement in the human rights situation in Turkey.

## REVIVAL OF JUDAISM IN HUNGARY

HERZLIYA, July 14 (JTA) -- In all of Eastern Europe, Hungary represents the best hope for the revival of the Jewish people. This is one of the findings of a report on Eastern Europe submitted to the Executive Committee of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture by its Committee on Eastern Europe at its recent meeting here.

Prof. Zvi Gitelman of the University of Michigan, chairman of the Committee, and Dr. Jerry Hochbaum, Foundation executive director, visited the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe at the Committee's behest to study conditions and report their findings and recommendations.

"A favorable political climate for promoting Jewish activities and a revival of interest in Judaism are evident in Hungary," Gitelman observed. "There are films and books on the Holocaust. The Hebrew Bible has been republished in Hungarian. These are vital signs. This is an opportune time for the Foundation to step up efforts to reach assimilated Jews, cultivate Jewish leadership and support Jewish activities."

### Major Efforts In Eastern Europe

Hochbaum reported that "the Foundation had undertaken a major effort to upgrade educational materials and programs for children and young people in Eastern Europe, most notably in Hungary. As a result of the Foundation's stimulation and support, five volumes are being planned for different age groups and their families dealing with the Bible, Jewish history, and Jewish holidays and customs. This program of publication, prepared in consultation with the Jewish community, has been approved by the Ministry of Culture."

According to Hochbaum, these are the first educational publications for children in Hungary since before the Holocaust.

A second important development reported by Hochbaum is a Center for Jewish Studies in Budapest to be established and named after the late Prof. Alexander Scheiber. The Foundation is negotiating with the Hungarian Academy of Science to establish this center which would engage in Jewish research and archival work.

The Foundation supports similar programs in education, archival and academic research, popular and scholarly publications and religious programs in Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Gitelman said, "Yugoslavia is a small, well-organized and active community, with good professionals and involvement of young people. There is a growing interest in Jewish education, summer camp and youth groups which expose youth to Jewish culture and customs. There are a number of useful Jewish publications. Choirs in Belgrade and Zagreb function as communal social events and include Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino and religious songs in their repertoire. There is a substantial archive and Jewish Museum."

Hochbaum reported that the Memorial Foundation allocated \$2,160,660 to East European Jewry from 1965 to 1982 for projects in research and education.

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PARIS (JTA) -- When Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie goes on trial, the trial will be held in Lyon, the city he terrorized as chief of gestapo during World War II. The Paris Court of Appeals made that official in an announcement. Barbie, who was ousted from Bolivia on February 5, 1983 and taken into custody by French authorities, may go on trial early next year. But no date has been set.