

ISRAELI SOLDIER KILLED IN SKIRMISH WITH TERRORISTS IN SOUTH LEBANON

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) — An Israeli soldier, Sgt. Arie Touboul, 20, from Beersheba, was killed in Lebanon in a skirmish with terrorists Thursday morning.

Touboul's unit came across the terrorists in the northwest section of the security belt in south Lebanon, about seven kilometers from Israel's northern border. Touboul was mortally wounded in the ensuing exchange of fire. Two of the terrorists were also killed.

Kalashnikov rifles, low rockets and other weapons were found near the bodies of the terrorists who were carrying documents issued by the Shiite Amal group, though it was not immediately clear if they actually belonged to that faction.

Chief of Staff Moshe Levy, visiting the site of the battle, said that Katyusha rockets are occasionally fired across the border into Israel from that area. Levy also noted that the unit involved in Thursday's incident was the same one whose commander was wounded in another battle with terrorists on the Rosh Hanikra cliffs recently.

AFTER BUSH'S VISIT: ISRAELIS FEEL MORE SECURE, CONFIDENT
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) — Israel as a whole has a markedly more secure and confident feeling Thursday, after Vice President George Bush's visit here, than it did at the beginning of the week.

The man who may well be the next U.S. President and leader of the free world had been regarded here with a certain sense of distance, even trepidation.

Some of the media, and some pundits, had written that Bush, while not unfriendly, was less friendly than other American leaders — and other Presidential hopefuls — towards the Jewish State. At best, they said, he was uncaring, indifferent to the unique features of the Jewish historical experience.

Now, after stripping away all the pap and pazzaz inevitably present in a Vice Presidential visit, and in Vice Presidential rhetoric, most Israelis are left with a comfortable feeling that Bush follows what is by now a mainstream tradition in American government of regarding Israel as both a strategic ally and a moral mainstay for the United States.

Statements Leave A Glow

His declaration that the two countries were "allies in every sense of the word" and his statement that "many intangible, and in a sense spiritual, ties" have developed "a multitude of wordly bonds" between the U.S. and Israel, seemed to leave a glow here. And Israeli leaders, particularly Deputy Premier Yitzhak Shamir, had made a point of emphasizing Bush's personal involvement in the rescue of Ethiopian Jewry and his long-time interest in the cause of Soviet Jewry.

Bush for his part visited a Russian immigrant family and an Ethiopian absorption center in his packed, much photographed and filmed four-day itinerary here — thereby stressing those same points.

No Major Policy Pronouncement

In terms of substantive policies, the Vice President had no major pronouncement to make here. But he pleased his hosts by indicating that Washington is weighing a new, more preferred, status for Israel in the field of military supplies and support. He said at his press conference Wednesday in Jerusalem that Israel might in the future benefit from the same preferential trade benefits as Australia and New Zealand enjoy.

He was also at pains to ease recent tensions surrounding the Pollard spy affair and subsequent allegations of Israeli technology-smuggling, which have sullied relations between the U.S. and Israel.

He hoped, he said, that his visit had had the effect of dispelling misplaced suspicions here that some American officials were conducting a vendetta against Israel.

On the Palestinian issue, moreover, Bush was careful not to step out beyond the Reagan plan — this despite pressures on him by headline Palestinian circles in the West Bank and Gaza.

And he was generous in his praise of Premier Shimon Peres' visit to King Hassan of Morocco last week.

On The Debit Side

On the debit side in summing up this visit, there were the failed hopes that somehow Bush's presence in the area could be used as pivot around which to construct the long-awaited summit between Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Some Israeli officials believed the summit could become a threesome, with Bush participating.

But this is apparently not to be, as Israeli and Egyptian negotiators still continued Thursday in Eilat to haggle over the finishing touches to the Taba arbitration document.

Similarly, the visit was to have marked a new leap forward in tourism ties between Israel and America. But in the event the tourism pact signed by Bush and Peres was a largely declaratory document — in part because the U.S. balks at Israel's continued imposition of a travel tax upon its citizens.

On the credit side, however, the visit did catalyze the initialing of an accord on the building of huge Voice of America transmitters in the Negev — with Washington pledging that some 50 percent of all the contracts linked to this \$250 million project will go to Israeli companies.

JEWISH LEADER CHARGES THAT 'SOME PEOPLE' IN THE ADMINISTRATION ARE SEEKING TO WEAKEN THE DE FACTO ALLIANCE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U.S.
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA) — Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, charged Thursday that "some people" in the Reagan Administration, "appear determined to weaken" the "de facto alliance that ex-

ists today between Israel and the United States." Speaking at a press conference at the Presidents Conference's headquarters here, Abram, who assumed the chairmanship of the Conference July 1, said that those elements in the "American government bureaucracy" who attempt to undermine the good relations between Jerusalem and Washington "do so by leaks, by false charges, by manipulating the media."

He said that those responsible for the leaks are "lower echelon" officials in the Justice Department and the Customs Bureau, a branch of the Treasury Department.

Abram cited the recent case when NBC-News camera crews accompanied Customs agents who showed up at a warehouse in Upstate New York to investigate the possible illegal acquisition by Israel of technology for tank cannon barrels, as an example of the charges he made.

Citing another example, Abram stated: "Recently some people in the Justice Department -- not Attorney General (Edwin) Meese, I want to make clear -- made public, even before Israel was notified, an investigation of a non-existent plan for the illegal export of equipment to Israel used to manufacture cluster bombs. The embarrassment of our government was reflected in its apology to Israel for this outrageous and unauthorized conduct."

High-Ranking Officials Not Involved

Abram stressed, however, a number of times, that those who try to damage Israeli-American ties "are not high-ranking government officials," adding: "I believe their attempts to disrupt the U.S.-Israel relationship are embarrassing to the Administration as they are annoying to Israel."

Abram disclosed that he recently met with Meese who "made it clear he opposed the leaks" against Israel and noted that the source of the leaks in the Justice Department were low-ranking officials.

Abram has just returned from a five-day visit to Israel, where he met with Premier Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier Yitzhak Shamir and "virtually" the entire Cabinet. He was accompanied on the trip by Malcolm Hoenlein, the recently appointed executive director of the Presidents Conference.

Unprecedented Israeli-U.S. Friendship

"The overwhelming impression of my visit to Israel, and the conversations with Administration officials in Washington that I had immediately before my departure, was that the leaders of each country feel a degree of friendship, trust and closeness with the other that is both remarkable and unprecedented in the history of U.S.-Israel relations," Abram said.

"I should add that, on the Israeli side, this sentiment was expressed to us not only by the leaders of the present government but by those who will assume higher office when the 'rotation' agreement takes effect (as I believe it will) in October."

Continuing, he stated: "I came to this conclusion -- or, indeed, because -- of the so-called 'blips' in that relationship that we all know about: the Pollard case, the difference of views on the Lavi aircraft, the charges about cluster bombs, etc. What is truly significant, in my judgment, is that neither of the two countries will let these differences threaten or jeopardize the relationship that exists."

Abram said that a meeting between the Presidents Conference and Vice President George Bush will be held in Washington on August 12. He also said that Meese will address a meeting of the Conference in New York next week.

U.S. PLANS TO GIVE JORDAN \$4.5 MILLION IN ECONOMIC AID By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 31 (JTA) -- The United States plans to provide Jordan with \$4.5 million in economic aid to be used for "developmental projects on the West Bank," the State Department announced Thursday.

"This is the first time" the U.S. has provided such funds "directly to Jordan," State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said. He said that up to now all U.S. funds to improve "the quality of life" for the West Bank have been appropriated through the West Bank Fund which is administered by private international voluntary organizations. The appropriation for the current 1986 fiscal year was about \$9 million.

Kalb said that Congress was notified Thursday that the \$4.5 million is being taken from unspent funds in the 1986 foreign aid program. He rejected the implication that by providing the funds the U.S. was supporting Jordan's claim to the West Bank.

"The United States has long supported efforts to improve the life of Palestinians in the occupied territory," Kalb said. "The government of Jordan has embarked on its own efforts to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants. The U.S. believes such efforts are essential for developing a climate supportive of the peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict."

This is why the U.S. wants to make "a contribution" to the Jordanian projects on the West Bank, Kalb said. He said examples of the Jordanian projects are: expanding school systems, working with women's cooperatives, water delivery systems and agricultural products.

It was unclear whether Israel had been notified in advance of Thursday's State Department announcement. The announcement came as Vice President George Bush was in Jordan for talks with King Hussein.

The move could be seen as a U.S. effort to shore up Hussein's standing on the West Bank in the hope that Palestinians can be found willing to join the King in negotiations with Israel.

Earlier this year, Hussein blamed Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat for the failure of his year-long efforts to put together a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. However, most West Bank Palestinians have sided, at least publicly, with Arafat against Hussein.

REHNQUIST HOME HAS RESTRICTIVE CLAUSE

WASHINGTON, July 31 (JTA) -- U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice William Rehnquist said Wednesday that the deed to his summer home in Greensboro, Vermont, contains a clause forbidding it from being leased or sold "to any member of the Hebrew race."

But Rehnquist, who has been nominated by President Reagan to become Chief Justice of the United States, maintained that he did not know the restrictive covenant existed until this week, although he had owned the home since 1974. He said he was "amazed" when he found out about it following an FBI investigation.

In another development, Sen. Edward Kennedy (D., Mass.) disclosed Thursday that Rehnquist owned another home from 1961 to 1969 near Phoenix, Arizona, which contained a clause barring its sale to non-whites.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

NAZI IN ARGENTINA: JUSTICE AT LAST?

By Morton M. Rosenthal

(Editor's note: Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal is the director of the Latin American Affairs Department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.)

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA) -- Argentine authorities now have no excuses, legal or otherwise, for further delay in bringing Nazi war criminal Walter Kutschmann to justice. Almost a year has elapsed since the government of West Germany formally requested his extradition.

The last obstacle was overcome on July 28 when Federal Judge Jorge Segreto received authenticated documents that prove that Kutschmann fraudulently obtained Argentine citizenship using the alias Pedro Ricardo Andres Olmo. The documents, which include fingerprints and a death certificate issued in Spain, show that Pedro Ricardo Andres Olmo was a Carmelite monk who died in 1967.

The Kutschmann case, which has actually been crawling through the Argentine courts for 11 years, is now at its most critical point, with two different courts involved, one criminal and the other civil. Judge Segreto, of the civil court, must decide the question of Kutschmann's identity and whether he obtained his citizenship fraudulently by pretending to be the Spaniard, Pedro Olmo. Judge Fernando Archibald, of the criminal court, can then rule on the West German request for extradition.

Segreto's decision is crucial to the case. If he decides that fraud was involved, Kutschmann can be stripped of his Argentine citizenship and will then be subject either to extradition, or simply being turned over to Interpol on the German warrant for his arrest.

If Segreto rules that the man who speaks Spanish with a heavy German accent and claims he is Olmo did not obtain his citizenship fraudulently, then it is virtually certain that Kutschmann will not be extradited, because Argentine citizens cannot be extradited. Theoretically, he could be tried in Argentina for his crimes, but that seems unlikely.

Received Certified Documents

The certified documents which Segreto and Archibald received show that the man claiming to be Olmo is really Kutschmann. Those include the fingerprints of both Olmo and Kutschmann, as well as Kutschmann's birth certificate, his SS file, and many photos of him. Some of these documents were initially given to Argentine authorities in 1984 and 1985 by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

In 1983 the ADL first asked them to reopen the Kutschmann case. Elliot Welles, head of the League's Task Force on Nazi War Criminals, obtained the documents from the Berlin Document Center which is operated by the U.S. Department of State.

One reason for delay has been the fact that the Argentine courts refused to accept the documents as authentic solely on the basis of the Berlin Document Center seal. Subsequently, the Argentine Embassy in Washington requested and received another set of documents directly from the Berlin Document Center. It then submitted them to the State Department in Washington for certification. Archibald and Segreto now have in their possession these certified documents.

Despite the conclusive evidence in hand, one still wonders whether Nazi sympathizers will be able to prevent Kutschmann's extradition from Argentina. There are indications that they are doing their best.

How else explain the report in the respected Buenos Aires daily newspaper La Nacion that Kutschmann, who has been a prisoner since his arrest on November 15, 1985, was sent to Hospital Hernandez without a guard and lodged in a second floor room, with a balcony overlooking the street, from which he could easily flee? The paper also reported that a staff doctor who examined Kutschmann found him to be in perfect health.

Why the unusually long delay in acting on the German request for Kutschmann's immediate preventive detention? The West German government dispatched the official document, requesting his arrest and extradition, on September 16, 1985 but police officials told reporters that they did not get the order of arrest until November 3. By then, Kutschmann had been tipped off.

When police went to both of his homes, they learned that he had not been seen for about a month. Apparently, Nazi sympathizers in the government bureaucracy warned him that an arrest warrant had been issued for him. He was finally located living at the home of his sister in a Buenos Aires suburb.

Earlier Arrest Cited

This was not the first time that Kutschmann had been arrested. He was detained on June 29, 1975 when Simon Wiesenthal first publicized the fact that the man who lived in Argentina under the name Pedro Ricardo Olmo was really Walter Kutschmann. However, he was released after six hours and went into hiding. Less than two months later the West Berlin Justice Department announced that the arrest warrant for Kutschmann had been revoked.

The Kutschmann case was reopened in Argentina in 1983 after the ADL provided Argentine authorities with new evidence. However, in November 1983, when Kutschmann appeared before civil court Judge Enrique Carlos Schlegel, after a three-minute hearing, the judge ruled that Kutschmann was Olmo.

At the same time, Welles provided West German authorities evidence and located new witnesses, in Israel and Germany. This was sufficient, under German law, to warrant the Berlin judge signing the order of arrest.

Kutschmann is charged with the murder of 20 Polish professors and members of their families in Lemberg, the assassination of his house maid and the mass murder of more than 2,000 Jews. Interpol, which does not get involved with political crimes, arrested him on the charge that he murdered his maid, who was a Jewish prisoner.

At the time of his arrest last November, Kutschmann tacitly admitted his identity. He told the arresting officer, Pedro Aybar, "Well, the hunt is over. I will not run." He also admitted his true identity in 1975. At that time, Kutschmann was employed by the Argentine branch of Osram Electrical Company of Munich, West Germany.

A company spokesman said that "Olmo" admitted to Harry Dauter, the manager of Osram in Argentina, that he was Walter Kutschmann, but "categorically denied" being a Nazi war criminal. He was immediately placed on pension by Osram.

Now, Kutschmann is again contending that he is Olmo, in order to retain his Argentine citizenship, which serves as a barrier to extradition. There are var-

ious proofs, in addition to his own statements, that "Olmo" is Kutschmann;

* The fingerprints of both Olmo and Kutschmann.

* The Spanish death certificate of Olmo whose name Kutschmann took when he left Spain enroute to Argentina.

* Argentine doctors found two scars on his upper thigh at the precise location where his SS biography, which he wrote by hand, indicates two machine gun bullets hit him while he was fighting in Franco's Morocco Legion in the Spanish Civil War.

* Kutschmann's SS file shows that in 1942 he applied for a license to marry Gerald Baeumler, Olmo's wife also has the very distinctive name, Gerald.

A Test For Argentine Government

The Kutschmann case is a test for the government of Argentine President Raul Alfonsin. In the 1940's General Juan Domingo Peron actively recruited Nazis and offered them a haven in Argentina; their number is estimated at more than 7,500. Since then, various Nazis have surfaced in Argentina. A few were detained for very brief periods of time, only to be permitted to go free, under one pretext or another. No Nazi war criminal has ever been extradited from Argentina.

Within the Argentine bureaucracy, as in the Argentine society at large, there are numerous individuals who sympathize with Nazis. They will do their best to help Kutschmann avoid being brought to trial. The Argentine courts have an unusual opportunity to break the shameful tradition of providing a safe haven from Nazis. However, they must act quickly.

DOCUMENT SHOWS THAT WALDHEIM CONTROLLED TOP NAZI WAR SECRETS

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA) -- Kurt Waldheim personally kept under lock and key the most sensitive secret documents and papers of Hitler's army in the Balkans during the final year of World War II.

So sensitive were these documents -- a record of the Nazis' secret communications and orders -- that they were all destroyed by the Germans prior to their surrender.

This top secret records-diary was given into the safe-keeping of Oberleutnant (First Lieutenant) Kurt Waldheim according to a secret duties schedule dated February 15, 1944 which was located among captured war documents stored in the U.S. National Archives. The document, found by World Jewish Congress researchers, has been transmitted to the U.S. Justice Department.

The document, labelled "Geheim" ("secret"), was issued from the headquarters of the "High Command of Army Group E." It set forth changes in the "work allocation of the High Command" of this army group.

Tasks Specified In The Document

Among the changes in individual tasks specified in the document were those of the "O3" intelligence officer at the High Command. Waldheim -- as he acknowledged to the U.S. Justice Department in his memo of April 6 -- was the designated O3 officer.

(As O3, he "was the deputy of the chief intelligence officer ... responsible for all operational intelligence and the control of the intelligence staff." -- From the declassified study "German Military Intelligence" by the U.S. War Department's Military Intelligence Division, 1946.)

The document, released Thursday, orders an addition to the work assignment schedule which details the O3's tasks. Responsibility for the "V.S.-Briefteagebuch" (Records-Diary) is assigned to the OS according to this document, which states that the appropriate notation is to be inserted in the O3's work schedule in the column prior to where his responsibility for assessment of the "enemy situation" is specified.

The "V.S. (verschluss sachen) Briefteagebuch" were the army's most sensitive documents kept "under lock and key" (verschluss sachen means literally, "locked up things").

Contents Of The Records-Diary

According to the noted historian Gerald Fleming, (author of "Hitler and the Final Solution"), "V.S. contained the record of secret orders and communications and were all destroyed by the Germans: there is no knowledge of any such record books surviving." Beyond secret war plans, orders such as those relating to Jewish deportations and reprisals were examples of the kinds of confidential records held in safe-keeping, Fleming noted.

The WJC noted that the work assignment order is in fact confirmed by a previously-released Nazi war document. According to a December 1, 1943 organizational chart of Army Group E, the hand-written notation "V.S. Briefteagebuch" is located beneath Waldheim's name in the O3 column.

Fleming stressed that responsibility for the V.S. records-diary was delegated by the High Command "to the most trusted officer within intelligence." "These locked-up secret records-diaries were so sensitive that a special controller. Regierungsinsektor (government inspector) used to check on the way they were locked away by unexpected visits," Fleming pointed out.

"For Kurt Waldheim to have received this responsibility in February, 1944, indicated the High Command's complete proven trust in him," Fleming observed. The 1944 secret work schedule also links Waldheim with the "Abwehr" (counter-intelligence), since the order specifically assigns Waldheim responsibility for "personnel matters" of the "Abwehr Troop".

In releasing the document Thursday, the WJC again called on Attorney General Edwin Meese "to enforce the law and place Waldheim on the 'watch list' of aliens excludable from the United States." In April, the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations concluded that under American law, Waldheim should be excluded as a "Nazi persecutor."

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A scientific breakthrough that can save the lives of millions of people who are affected each year with malaria has been developed by the Lautenberg Center for General and Tumor Immunology, Hebrew University, Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem. A by-product of the Center's ongoing cancer research, the discovery provides a rapid, simple, sensitive immunological diagnostic test that identifies carriers of the disease. It was developed by Prof. Dov Sulitzeanu and his team.