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**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
THE AFTERMATH OF A TRAGEDY:
FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR VICTIMS
OF TERRORIST CARNAGE IN ISTANBUL**
By Yohanan Lahav

ISTANBUL, Sept. 10 (JTA)-- Funeral services for the 21 Jews murdered by terrorists while at worship in the Neve Shalom synagogue here last Saturday were held Wednesday in the very same sanctuary where the carnage took place.

The blood-stains had been removed. But the walls were charred by the fire set by the killers in an attempt to destroy the bodies of the dead and dying. An aura of death and destruction still hovered over the place and was sensed by the thousand mourners who packed the chamber where normally 400 congregants would constitute a capacity.

They stood pressed together, swaying, weeping and praying. Men and women fainted. There were heart-rending outcries from the spouses and mothers of the victims. Ida Baruch, who had watched from the women's gallery her husband being riddled by bullets, cried out, "Evil men killed my husband in the house of God."

"God, how could you allow that to happen," Ayal Alzir cried repeatedly. She had seen both her son, the synagogue cantor, and her grandson die under a hail of machinegun bullets and grenade fragments. Hers was the eternal question of the loved ones of victims: Why? The Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel, Mordechai Eliahu, seated on the platform next to Turkey's Chief Rabbi, David Asseo, gave the only answer he knew: "Who can fathom the ways of God?"

There are 5,000 Jewish families in Istanbul and every one was represented at the funeral. Jewish business all over the city had closed long before noon when the services were scheduled to begin. The streets outside the synagogue, normally bustling with commerce, were a solid mass of humanity.

Mourners From All Over The World

Mourners came from all over the world. Jewish leaders from Europe, the United States and Israel attended the services, among them Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat of France and the Chief Rabbis of Holland, Sweden and Yugoslavia. There were many diplomats too. The U.S. was represented by its Ambassador to Turkey, Robert Strausz-Hupe. The French Ambassador was on hand as was the Israeli Charge d'Affaires from Ankara, Yehuda Millo. Israel and Turkey have diplomatic relations, but not on the Ambassadorial level.

The Turkish authorities were severely shaken by the synagogue attack. Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's government was represented at the funeral by his Interior Minister, Yildirim Akbulut. The Governor of Istanbul province, Nevat Ayaz, attended, accompanied by the Mayor of Istanbul, Bedrettin Dalan, and senior military officers.

Many Christian churches were represented. But the Mufti of Istanbul was not there; nor any other Moslem clergymen. The absence seemed to reflect an opinion prevalent in influential segments of Moslem society and expressed by a

rightwing politician who wrote earlier in the week that the massacre did not occur in a house of God because God dwells only in mosques.

Chief Rabbi Asseo officiated at the services, assisted by the five dayanim of the Istanbul Bet Din. A cantor chanted the opening prayers in a clear, grief-stricken voice, interrupted repeatedly by cries of anguish from bereaved mothers and widows.

Services were late in starting because of the crowds and spontaneous outpourings of grief. When they ended, thousands jammed into cars and buses for the funeral procession. The victims, all Sephardic Jews, were buried at the Ashkenazic cemetery--save for two, visiting Israelis, whose bodies were flown home and buried Tuesday in Jerusalem. The Ashkenazic cemetery was used because there is no room for fresh graves in the Sephardic cemetery.

The Neve Shalom killers were Arabs, probably Palestinians, and their motivation was hatred of Israel. But Israel was not mentioned in the only speech at the synagogue services. It was delivered by the leader of Istanbul's Jewish community, Jaque Veissid. "They were good Turks and good Turkish Jews," he said of the victims. They were singled out for slaughter because "in today's world, moral values are eroding," he said.

Chief Rabbi Eliahu told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he came here to offer condolences to Jews and Turks alike for the tragedy. He said Israel would offer replacements for the Neve Shalom synagogue functionaries who were killed. He expressed hope that young Turkish Jews would come to Israel to study. He urged all diaspora Jews to come to Israel. "But not because of what happened here," he added.

Eliahu attended the funeral in place of Israel's Minister for Religious Affairs Yosef Burg. The Turkish authorities refused to admit him for the occasion because they did not want an Israeli political figure attending in official capacity.

The authorities so far have no clues as to the identity of the killers, who blew themselves up with a grenade, or the terrorist group they represented. Investigators here told the JTA that the terrorists are believed to have come from Syria and had a secret hideout in Istanbul prearranged by an unnamed embassy which brought their weapons into Turkey some time before.

**ISTANBUL KILLINGS PLANNED IN
SWITZERLAND, ACCORDING TO U.S. OFFICIAL**
By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The attack on the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul Saturday was planned by terrorist groups meeting secretly in Switzerland as early as last May, according to an unnamed Reagan Administration specialist on international terrorism, the Swiss Telegraphic Agency reported Tuesday.

The agency published the story which first appeared in La Stampa, a daily newspaper in Torino, Italy. It stated that the American specialist named terrorist groups based in Teheran, Damascus and Tripoli, Libya, which, he said,

formed an alliance at the meeting in Switzerland to carry out terrorist acts jointly in various countries.

The synagogue attack in Istanbul, which took 21 lives, was blamed on Hezbollah (Party of God), a pro-Palestinian Lebanese terrorist organization influenced by Iran, the story said.

There have been earlier press reports here of secret international terrorist meetings on Swiss soil. The attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports last year are believed to have been engineered at those meetings. According to the unconfirmed reports, terrorists use the Libyan and Syrian embassies in Switzerland to smuggle arms, prepare logistics for terrorist acts and obtain financing.

Western diplomatic sources here said the La Stampa report was plausible but they could not confirm it.

THOUSANDS IN PARIS MARCH IN PROTEST OF ISTANBUL SYNAGOGUE ATTACK

PARIS, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Thousands of people marched through the streets here Tuesday to protest the terrorist attack on the Neve Shalom Synagogue in Istanbul Saturday and demand that the nations of the world take the strongest possible action against terrorism.

The march began at the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr, where a wreath was laid and "Kaddish" was recited for 21 worshippers gunned down by Arab terrorists. The march continued on to the Place de La Bastille, a symbol of oppression and tyranny before the French revolution.

The marchers chanted "Syria and Libya accomplices" and urged world opinion to back a policy of armed resistance to terrorists and never to give in to their demands. Marchers included Socialist and Gaullist political leaders and members of parliament.

Meanwhile, an urgent session of European Jewish leaders of 20 countries has been convened under the chairmanship of World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman for Thursday in Paris, to implement measures for the security and protection of synagogues and Jewish institutions in Europe as the High Holy Days approach.

The Latin American branch of the WJC will meet in plenary session with representatives from 19 countries in Montevideo, Uruguay, on September 27 to coordinate increased security measures for Jewish communities in the region.

500 ATTEND LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL FOR ISTANBUL SYNAGOGUE VICTIMS

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 10 (JTA)-- Mayor Tom Bradley denounced the terrorist attack on worshippers at the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul Saturday as "the vicious, unprovoked and unwarranted massacre of people peacefully praying to their God."

He spoke before some 500 people who joined in a memorial service for the 21 victims. The event was sponsored by the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Yeshiva University of Los Angeles. Bradley observed that "there is no ideology or cause which could ever justify such brutality."

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Wiesenthal Center, called the machine gun and grenade attack on the worshippers by terrorists, apparently Palestinian, "a reincarnation of Treblinka and Auschwitz."

Three students at Yeshiva University High School here--Ziba Bolour and Bijan and Eleanor Broukhim--concluded the service by lighting the Wiesenthal Center memorial flame in memory of their grandfather, Mizrah Babazadeh, who was one of the victims of the Istanbul attack.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS, CELEBRATING FREEDOM IN U.S., MEMORIALIZE SLAIN TURKISH JEWS

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 (JTA)-- Some 5,000 Jewish Holocaust survivors gathered at the foot of the Statue of Liberty Sunday to thank the United States for providing a safe haven and home. They also turned their thoughts to the latest victims of anti-Semitism: the 21 Jewish worshippers murdered at prayer Saturday in Neve Shalom Synagogue, Istanbul, Turkey.

Benjamin Meed, president of the American Gathering/Federation of Jewish Holocaust survivors, who chaired the ceremonies, said:

"We call today upon the leaders of the free world to find ways to combat and stop these murderous acts, before it is too late. Will we allow history to repeat itself? Let our voices be heard today, loud and clear: Never again!"

Some 1,500 survivors who packed the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Sunday night heard Elie Wiesel, chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, call for "universal condemnation and retaliation." He added:

"The reaction must come not only from the Jewish people but from everybody. If not, what happens to Jews will happen --as it is already happening in the case of hijack victims-- to all peoples."

Wiesel suggested that a similarity exists between recent terrorist actions and Nazi persecution of Jews. "Whenever our enemies attack us," he said, "they begin by attacking the synagogue."

The celebration at the statue marked the 40th anniversary of the arrival in the United States of the first Holocaust survivors under the 1946 Truman Act.

AJCONGRESS FUND TO AID FAMILIES OF ISTANBUL VICTIMS

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress announced Wednesday the establishment of a fund to assist the families of the victims of the Neve Shalom Synagogue massacre in Istanbul last Saturday and help rehabilitate the damaged synagogue.

Henry Siegman, executive director of the AJCongress, who attended the mass funeral service in Istanbul Wednesday as representative of both the AJC Congress and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, announced from Turkey that the new American Jewish Congress Istanbul Fund has been set up with an initial gift of \$18,000 from an anonymous donor.

"We have no doubt that the Turkish community has the will and resources to take care of victims of the massacre and to rebuild the synagogue without outside help," he said. "But the establishment of this fund is an expression of solidarity with the Turkish Jewish community. It is also a message of defiance of Arab-sponsored savagery. We will continue to pray in our synagogues and we will continue in our steadfast support of the State of Israel."

JNF FOREST IN ISRAEL TO MEMORIALIZE JEWS KILLED IN ISTANBUL CARNAGE

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The San Francisco Regional Council of the Jewish National Fund will establish a 10,000-tree forest in Israel in memory of the 21 Turkish Jews killed last Saturday by unidentified Arab terrorists who attacked the Neve Shalom Synagogue in Istanbul during Shabbat services.

The establishment of the \$50,000 forest was announced by Phillip Schaeffer, president of the S.F. Council.

Responding quickly to the tragedy, the San Francisco office took the lead in establishing the forest without waiting for a national JNF campaign, according to Stanley Bresh, director of JNF's local office. The last national JNF campaign memorialized the seven American Challenger astronauts who died when their space craft blew up in January.

The memorial forest for the Turkish Jews will be located in JNF's American Independence Park outside Jerusalem, where the Challenger memorial is, according to Bresh. He and Schaeffer both urged that other cities follow San Francisco's lead in establishing forests in memory of the Turkish Jews.

Such action, Schaeffer said, will "show these and other terrorists that their mindless activities only strengthen our ties with our fellow Jews throughout the world." He added: "Each act of terrorism must be followed by actions that show our support and determination for the survival of the State of Israel and that the terrorists' cowardly acts only bind us as Jews."

ISRAELI JETS BOMB TERRORIST BASE

TEL AVIV, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Israel Air Force jets bombed a terrorist base south of Sidon at dawn Wednesday and returned safely to their bases. A military spokesman identified the target as the headquarters, storage depot and staging area of a group known as the Popular Struggle Front, headed by Samir Ghosba.

It is said to be backed by Iraq and to cooperate with the Syrian-backed Al Saiqa and with Ahmed Jibri's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

In another action Wednesday, an Israel Navy patrol boat opened fire on and damaged a rubber dinghy making its way south of Sidon, apparently on a mission to land terrorists in Israel by sea. One of the four persons on the dinghy was wounded. The small craft managed to reach shore.

The incident was confirmed by the Palestine Liberation Front which announced in Beirut that one of its men was killed while on his way to carry out a mission at Nahariya. His three companions escaped, the announcement said. The PLF is a pro-Yasir Arafat faction led by Abu Al Abbas.

FORMER HEAD OF SHIN BET MAY TAKE LIE DETECTOR TEST ON HIS ROLE IN DEATHS OF ARAB BUS-HIJACKERS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Avraham Shalom, the former head of Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, may be given a lie detector test because his testimony in the case of two captured Arab bus-hijackers killed by security agents in 1984 and the subsequent cover-up conflicted with the testimony of Deputy Premier

and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Israel Radio reported Tuesday.

Shamir, who was Prime Minister at the time of the incident, testified last month that he knew nothing of the cover-up. Shalom maintained, however, that whatever actions he took were with the full authority and permission of the political echelons. Shalom resigned as head of Shin Bet several months ago under the cloud of charges that he gave false testimony and suborned others to perjury during two quasi-official inquiries into the case. He and several top aides were pardoned by President Chaim Herzog without charges having been brought against them.

Meanwhile, Shin Bet legal advisors who confessed to coaching witnesses in the cover-up will remain in their jobs despite demands for their dismissal by Attorney General Yosef Harish.

That decision was made at a meeting Monday between Premier Shimon Peres, Shamir, Justice Minister Avraham Sharir, Harish and the outgoing and newly appointed heads of Shin Bet. It was based on the opinion of a "senior jurist" that the pardons granted the Shin Bet men, including the legal advisors, constituted total rehabilitation.

Although Harish accepted the solution as satisfactory to both sides, there were rumblings among State Attorneys over the affair. The latter have refused to cooperate with the Shin Bet legal advisors. The head of the Shin Bet's legal department and his deputy eventually may resign, according to some observers, but not until spirits cool down.

The Prime Minister's Office meanwhile refused to comment on a Jerusalem Post report Tuesday that Peres was questioned by police about when he first learned of the Shin Bet cover-up. According to Reuven Hazak, former deputy chief of Shin Bet, Peres was informed on October 29, 1985, but took no action until former Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir informed him on February 17, 1986 that he intended to prosecute the case.

SHULAMIT SHAMIR IS PLEASED WITH HER VISIT TO BULGARIA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Shulamit Shamir, wife of the Foreign Minister and Likud leader, returned from a visit to her native Bulgaria this week full of praise for her Jewish community hosts and government officials involved in her visit.

She told reporters she had spent her last evening at dinner in the home of the Bulgarian Foreign Minister, sitting by the fire and discussing many things, which was romantic, but leaving the prospect of diplomatic relations to be discussed by the Israeli Foreign Minister.

Shamir's visit grew out of a conversation between Shamir and his Bulgarian counterpart at the UN last year. It was widely interpreted as a gesture by the East European country toward Israel.

Shamir was taken to see the house where she was born and another where she grew up. The government put a plane at her disposal for trips farther afield. "Everything was done to make my stay pleasant," she said.

Meanwhile, repair work is going ahead at the former Israeli Embassy in Warsaw, Poland, which is to soon become the new Israeli Consulate. The two countries have agreed to the re-establishment of consular ties.

SPAIN AND ISRAEL TO BROADEN CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL TIES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Spain and Israel have set up a joint panel of senior officials to plan a major broadening of cultural and commercial ties between the two countries.

This is one immediate and practical upshot of the current official visit here by Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez--the first-ever visit by a Spanish Cabinet member to Israel.

The Spanish Minister met Wednesday with President Chaim Herzog and Education Minister Yitzhak Navon following his talks Tuesday with Premier Shimon Peres and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The two countries established diplomatic ties nine months ago, following a meeting in Holland between Peres and Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzales, who are friends and long-time colleagues on the Socialist International.

Spain had pledged repeatedly since the death of Franco that it would end the anomaly of its diplomatic boycott of Israel. It eventually took the step following its entry into the European Economic Community (EEC).

In their statements at the arrival ceremony and at a dinner Tuesday night both Fernandez Ordonez and Shamir welcomed the visit which Shamir termed "historically and politically significant."

Recalls Ancient Ties Between Spain And Jews

Fernandez Ordonez recalled the close ancient ties between Spain and the Jewish people until the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

The Minister said that the Jews had been so prominent in Spanish life at that time, referring in particular to the role of Moses Maimonides, the Rambam, that even the inscription on the grave of King Alfonso IV was engraved in Hebrew characters as well as in Spanish and Latin.

Shamir, too, spoke of the Golden Age in Spain, noting that the Judeo-Spanish language, Ladino, spoken by Sephardic Jews who trace their ancestry to "Sepharad" or Spain is a pure form of medieval Spanish.

Middle East Issues Discussed

The Spanish Foreign Minister, while expressing his hopes for peace in the Middle East and for security for Israel, could not hide his concern, however, for the Palestinians. He noted that his country supports their right to self-determination.

Fernandez Ordonez began his three-day visit to Israel Tuesday morning with an hour-long tour of Yad Vashem, the museum of the Holocaust, where he spoke of the "complicity" of those who had remained silent during the Holocaust.

Later in the day the Foreign Minister met separately with Peres and with Shamir, to discuss cooperation between the two countries and problems of the Middle East.

The two countries agreed to set up a joint committee to study increased bilateral cooperation in the fields of tourism, science, technology, culture and consular affairs. Shamir asked Fernandez Ordonez for Spain's help on EEC quotas for Israel's agricultural exports to the European

Community. The visitor remained non-committal, though officials interpreted his declaration that he had come to Israel "to open a door and window" as meaning that Spain might be more flexible during the upcoming EEC discussions on the subject.

PERES-MUBARAK SUMMIT ALMOST CERTAIN By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The summit meeting between Premier Shimon Peres and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt appeared certain to take place Thursday as scheduled, in Alexandria, the Foreign Ministry indicated Wednesday.

David Kimche, Director General of the Foreign Ministry, who is in Cairo, told reporters there that a compromise agreement over arbitration of the Taba border dispute is expected to be reached by the Israeli and Egyptian negotiators Wednesday night.

He said if that is accomplished, the Egyptian Cabinet would convene immediately to approve the compromise and it would be signed, paving the way for the summit to be held. He said once the compromise is signed the summit "very probably" would take place.

His optimism was shared by policymakers in Jerusalem. An advance party of Israelis was preparing to leave for Alexandria later Wednesday.

SUPREME COURT ASKED TO DECIDE IF A SYNAGOGUE THAT WAS DESECRATED CAN BE PROTECTED UNDER CIVIL RIGHTS LAW By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The U.S. Supreme Court is being asked to decide whether a Silver Spring, Md. synagogue that was desecrated can be protected under the civil rights law.

Shaare Tefila, a Conservative congregation in the Washington, D.C., suburbs, has asked the high court to overrule the decision of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va., last spring that Jews cannot seek this protection because they are not members of a distinct "non-white race."

An amicus curiae brief (friend of the court) was filed in support of the synagogue last week by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and the American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

"Although the League rejects the notion that Jews should be classified as a race, the civil rights statute must be construed to cover acts of racism against Jews," Michael Schultz, chairman of ADL's national civil rights committee explained. "The statute was meant to protect against all racially-motivated violations of civil rights."

The case arises out of an incident during the night of November 1, 1981 when the synagogue walls were spray-painted in blood red with swastikas, a skull and cross bones, a burning cross, a Nazi eagle and slogans such as "Death to the Jude." The congregation decided to leave the anti-Semitic graffiti on for a week as a display for the community. Subsequently eight men were arrested. Two received prison sentences, three were convicted of related offenses and the others were not prosecuted.