

**IDF REPULSES TERRORIST INFILTRATION**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force unit repulsed a terrorist gang attempting to infiltrate the south Lebanon security zone Thursday. The clash took place near Bint Jabil village. There were no IDF casualties but blood stains on the ground indicated one or more of the infiltrators was wounded.

Personal weapons, sabotage equipment and shoulder-fired missiles were found near the scene.

Earlier Thursday, Israeli helicopter gunships attacked terrorist targets south of Sidon in south Lebanon. An IDF spokesman said buildings that served as terrorist headquarters for planning and launching attacks on Israel were hit.

Following the attack, Israel Air Force jets dropped leaflets over south Lebanon warning the local population that cooperation with terrorists would bring "harsh measures" by the IDF. Katyusha rockets have been fired into Galilee from south Lebanon in recent days. A terrorist gang that infiltrated Israel last Sunday and killed two IDF soldiers from ambush is believed to have found shelter in local villages before they breached the border fence.

**Syria, Shiite Militia Warned**

Meanwhile, Israel has reportedly warned Syria and the Lebanese Shiite militia, Amal, that it would not tolerate terrorist attacks from Lebanese territory. Military sources have noted that since the Syrian army occupied Moslem west Beirut last month and deployed elements southward, Amal has directly attacked IDF units in the south Lebanon security zone.

Previously its targets were limited to the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), the main force in the security zone. Israel warned it would hold Amal responsible for attacks on the IDF but does not consider Amal an enemy and will try to improve relations with the local Shiite population.

The most serious clash in the security zone involved the Iran-backed extremist Shiite movement Hezbollah which mounted a large-scale attack in the zone last Saturday. It was repulsed by IDF infantry backed by tanks and helicopter gunships. Hezbollah casualties were severe. Initially, 18 bodies were discovered. Seven more were found in the area this week, bringing the total to 25. Four IDF soldiers were slightly wounded in the clash.

A parcel bomb discovered in a Tel Aviv-to-Ashkelon bus Thursday morning was safely detonated by police sappers after it was spotted by an alert passenger.

**GUATEMALA'S DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS HIS COUNTRY HAS 'BROAD MILITARY RELATIONS' WITH PRIVATE ISRAELI BUSINESSMEN**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- Israel is supplying weapons and military aircraft to Guatemala on a business basis without the Israel government's involvement, Haaretz reported Thursday. The newspaper quoted Guatemala's Defense Min-

ister, Gen. Hector Alejandro Gramajo Morales, as telling its correspondent at an interview in Guatemala City that his country has "broad military relations" with Israel conducted by private Israeli businessmen, not on government levels.

Gramajo said his country receives "several basic items for our army. We benefit from these relations which are primarily commercial," Haaretz reported. Asked if Israel was Guatemala's main source of arms, he replied, "It is a supply source for us, but I wouldn't say that it is the sole supply source and I wouldn't say that it's the most important."

Guatemala receives arms from other countries, including Taiwan and South Korea. Gramajo said, according to Haaretz, "In our stocks there are (Israel-made) Galil rifles, Arava planes and communications equipment. We have ongoing supply ties (with Israel) and we have good relations. We are working together on these matters."

**ACTIVITIES OF LaROUCHE GROUP IN CANADA SPARK CONCERN**

By Ben Kayfetz (Toronto) and Susan Birnbaum (New York)

April 23 (JTA) -- Despite its problems with the federal government in the United States, the organization of Lyndon LaRouche is currently currying concern in Canada. According to Prof. Frank Chalk of Montreal's Concordia University, who is chairman of B'nai B'rith Canada's (BBC) social action committee, the LaRouchites in Canada are following a different strategy than in the U.S. and constitute possibly more danger there.

Last month, BBC launched a nationwide "public awareness campaign" to counter the growth of the U.S.-based LaRouche organization in Canada. At that time, they released a report, "The Lyndon LaRouche Network: The Canadian Connection," which describes the activities of the rightwing, very eccentric group that advocates mandatory AIDS testing for all, the colonization of Mars, and has accused Queen Elizabeth of England and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger of international drug trafficking.

However, it is their racism, anti-Semitism and revisionist version of the Holocaust, couched in obscurantist allegations and frequently self-contradictory, that have garnered the attention to the group as a danger that must be watched.

In the U.S., the LaRouche candidates entered state primaries on the Democratic ticket, confusing voters, particularly in last year's gubernatorial primary in Illinois, when Democratic candidate Adlai Stevenson III was forced to quit his party's ticket and run independently after two LaRouchites won the primary as his running mates.

**Nature Of The Concern**

In Canada, however, the LaRouche candidates have run on their own registered political party, the Party for the Commonwealth, known in Quebec as Le Parti de la Republique du Canada. In the last national elections in Canada in 1984, the party fielded 65 candidates nationwide, 47 in Quebec alone. It polled only .06 percent of the total vote, but it ran candidates for provincial, municipal and school-board elections in four

provinces -- Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. What is of particular concern in Canada, Chalk told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, is the presence of LaRouchites at major airports, including Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Calgary, where they staff tables filled with innocent-looking literature that travelers are rather easily convinced to read. This includes the Executive Intelligence Review, a Washington-based weekly magazine with European headquarters in West Germany, which Chalk said looks like an ordinary business publication. "You might very well not perceive the ideology of the LaRouche organization by looking at it," Chalk said.

He said that the organization has been functioning through the Schiller Institute, which was founded in 1984 by LaRouche's German-born wife, Helga-Zepp LaRouche, "for unclear purposes." The Institute has been trying to recruit students at Montreal's four universities, said Chalk, setting up tables on campus labelled "For a High Culture."

They have tried to register at the schools as a student organization, but have been deterred till now from doing it. At Concordia, said Chalk, a student complained to the school authorities that the group was anti-Semitic, and the school did not accredit them.

Chalk said it is better to risk giving the LaRouche people a little free publicity than to allow Canadians to continue being largely unaware of what the organization stands for. "Some people who don't know what they are might vote for them," he said.

#### U.S. Federal Agents Shut Down Organization

In contrast, in the U.S., federal agents have effectively shut down the organization by occupying its offices in Leesburg, Va., and several other cities in their efforts to collect fines totaling over \$16 million. On Monday, a federal bankruptcy judge in Alexandria, Va., placed three LaRouche-related organizations in involuntary bankruptcy at the Justice Department's request. Involuntary bankruptcy, labeled "Chapter 7" of the federal bankruptcy law, calls for liquidation of a company's assets, differing from the voluntary "Chapter 11" filing which gives a bankrupt firm time to reorganize in order to pay off its creditors.

LaRouche organization representatives vigorously protested the government's actions, claiming that they have almost no funds.

A spokesman for the group, Warren Hammerman, said the bankruptcy action was a political vendetta against LaRouche because of his calls for AIDS testing and his contentions that a "secret government" exists. LaRouche has said that there is an international fascist-communist conspiracy led by the Rockefellers, the Ford Foundation, labor unions and international bankers.

#### An Extremely Rare Move

Lawyers for the LaRouche organization were reportedly unaware of the proceedings, a move described by legal experts as extremely rare. The government named a temporary trustee, Norman Oliver, over the companies with LaRouche ties.

Henry Hudson, U.S. attorney in Alexandria, told reporters that the move was "somewhat extraordinary," necessitated by the LaRouche's organization's refusal to pay a \$21 million judgment by the U.S. government against the organization for contempt of court, besides the millions owing to private individuals, mostly elderly, who have charged being defrauded by the LaRouchites.

Hudson's office is also conducting a major tax fraud investigation of LaRouche and his associates.

The trustees were set to inventory LaRouche offices in Washington, Leesburg, Houston, Palisades Park, NJ, Quincy, Mass., and possibly other locations. LaRouche representatives were denied entry to the raided offices.

Late last year, a federal grand jury in Boston indicted 13 LaRouche associates and five organizations on charges of credit card fraud and obstruction of justice.

#### **TWO LABOR PARTY MINISTERS DIFFER IN THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE PNC MEETING** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Two Laborite Ministers expressed divergent views Thursday on the meaning of the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers for the Middle East peace process.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said the hard line taken at the meeting by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat showed that once again, the PLO has missed an historic opportunity for peace. But Ezer Weizman insisted there are still elements within the PLO whom "one could talk to."

Arafat, attempting to affect a reconciliation with terrorist extremists such as George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh, formally renounced his 1985 accord with King Hussein of Jordan which aimed at joint negotiations with Israel. Farouk Kadoumi, the PLO's "foreign minister," demanded that Egypt cancel the Camp David accords to return to the Arab world.

Shahal, speaking at the Druze village of Joulis, said "The PLO is more interested in making peace between rival factions in the organization than with achieving peace for the Palestinian people."

Weizman, a Minister-Without-Portfolio who works out of the Foreign Ministry, told the convention of Kibbutz Haartzit, part of the Mapam movement, that the PLO has emerged stronger from the Algiers meeting and sooner or later Israel would have to negotiate with Palestinians associated with it.

He said the ban on any contacts with the PLO was without substance since Israel has had indirect contacts with it for the past 2 1/2 years and Israeli leaders have met with PLO-supporters in the administered territories.

Meanwhile, the PNC, the so-called Palestinian parliament in exile, is considering resolutions which would force Arafat to break with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and enlarge the PLO executive committee to include more radical elements. The resolutions will be voted on at the closing session Saturday.

#### **TENSION ABATES IN TWO WEST BANK TOWNS** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir visited the Arab town of Kalkilya and the Jewish settlement of Alfe-Menashe in the West Bank Thursday to see if tension has abated since an Alfe-Menashe resident was killed by a firebomb April 11.

The victim, Ofra Moses, 35, died in the blaze and her husband, three children and a young friend were severely burned when a Molotov cocktail struck their car. Infuriated Jewish

settlers rampaged through Kalkilya and nearby Arab villages destroying property and burning fields. But Mayor Abdul Rahman Abu-Sneinch of Kalkilya assured Shamir that the "good relations" between Arabs and Jews in the area were not permanently harmed.

In Alfe-Menashe, the Premier was confronted with a list of demands for improved security in the area. The settlers want to establish a "civil guard" along the lines of those in Israel, with the power to detain suspected terrorists. The army has long opposed such groups in the administered territories on grounds they would become the nucleus of civilian militias which would conflict with the operations of the security forces.

Shamir was non-committal on that proposal, though he promised to improve security in the area. He sympathized with the settlers and told them recent events would lead to more Jewish settlements in the territory.

#### **RABIN REJECTS WEST BANK JEWISH SETTLERS' DEMANDS FOR SECURITY STATUS SIMILAR TO ISRAELI BORDER TOWNS** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin flatly rejected claims by Jewish settlers in the West Bank, particularly the settlers of Alfe-Menashe and Ariel, for the same security sensitive status as Israeli towns on the northern borders.

He stated furthermore that the territory on which those settlements are located would be negotiable when the time came for peace talks with Jordan. Rabin's remarks, at a meeting of the Labor Party Central Bureau Thursday, unleashed a storm of protest from Likud.

Alfe-Menashe and Ariel lie close to the old "green line," the demarcation line between Israel and the West Bank. A resident of Alfe-Menashe died April 11 in a firebomb attack on a car which severely burned her husband, three children and a friend. The incident triggered demands by settlers for improved security.

Rabin maintained that "The status of Alfe-Menashe is similar to that of Afula (in the Emek)." He said neither Alfe-Menashe nor Ariel contribute to Israel's security. "From the defense viewpoint there is no difference between Ariel and Afula," he said.

Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar called Rabin's assertions "most serious." He said that "If Alfe-Menashe, which lies only a few dozen meters from what was the green line -- the 1949 cease-fire line with Jordan -- is open to negotiation, then Rosh Haayin and Kfar Saba (both within Israel's 1967 boundaries) are also open to negotiation because they are close to the old border."

Labor MK Simcha Dinitz, who was private secretary to the late Premier Golda Meir, recalled later that when she was once asked if Jerusalem and Tel Aviv were open to negotiation in direct peace talks, Meir replied, "Yes, but we won't agree to give them up even though the Arabs may claim them."

Dinitz pointed out that the Labor Party's platform calls for direct negotiations with the Arabs without pre-conditions. "The Arabs can put anything they want on the agenda for discussion, which doesn't mean we have to accept their demands," Dinitz said.

#### **PERES; WOULD SEEK NEW ELECTIONS ON PEACE ISSUE IF NECESSARY** By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on television Wednesday night that he would seek new elections on the peace issue if necessary.

Peres said he was "sure" that Jordan would enter into direct negotiations with Israel following an "international opening" of a peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned within and outside the region.

His advocacy of an international conference for Middle East peace has brought him into open conflict with Premier Yitzhak Shamir. He was assailed by Likud Thursday for allegedly implying that Shamir was anti-peace.

#### **Peres Attacked By Arens**

Peres came under sharp attack from Likud Minister Moshe Arens who accused him Thursday of partisan pursuit of a policy (an international conference) which has not been approved by the Cabinet.

The Vice Premier said he hoped dissolution of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government and early elections could be achieved. There may well be Likud Ministers who would support an "international opening" followed by direct negotiations, he said.

Peres recalled that a ranking Likud leader, Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy, broke with his party three years ago to vote with Labor for withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force from Lebanon and for the economic austerity program. Levy's stock in the party declined when Shamir was unanimously re-elected leader at the Herut convention earlier this month.

#### **Labor, Likud Showdown Pending**

Peres has said he intends to present his proposals to the Cabinet which could precipitate a showdown between Labor and Likud. He did not say when, but most observers believe he will make his move when he returns from a visit to Washington he is scheduled to make in two weeks.

Peres said in his television interview that the political leadership is not likely to be affected by reports on Israel's involvement in the Jonathan Pollard spy case, due to be submitted in the next few weeks.

The matter is under separate investigation by a two-man committee of inquiry appointed by the Cabinet and by the Knesset's special intelligence subcommittee. The latter began drafting its findings this week and expects to complete the task some time next month.

#### **FOREIGN CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS EASED**

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- The Treasury and Bank of Israel announced Thursday an easing of foreign currency restrictions for Israelis travelling abroad and those who stay home. Starting immediately, Israelis travelling overseas may take \$2,000 per person in U.S. currency. The previous limit was \$800. Israelis may also hold foreign currency in the equivalent of \$2,000 in their bank accounts and may send gifts of up to \$1,000 abroad per year, up from \$300.

## SPECIAL INTERVIEW

## 'AMERICANIZING THE HOLOCAUST' WORRIES ISRAELIS DOING HOLOCAUST RESEARCH

By Aviva Cantor

NEW YORK, April 23 (JTA) -- Israelis involved with Holocaust research are becoming concerned about the current tendency to go too far with "Americanizing the Holocaust" -- making it accessible to the American experience -- by "packaging" it within a list of familiar evils, thus robbing it of its uniqueness in human history.

Characteristic of "going too far" in "Americanizing the Holocaust" are statements such as "the Holocaust shows what prejudice, discrimination and intolerance can lead to" and "the Holocaust is part of the long history of man's inhumanity to man," which make it possible to avoid confronting its quintessential difference and the basic questions it raises.

This view was expressed by Yitzhak Mais, director of Yad Vashem's Museum, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here. American-born Mais, who has been involved with Holocaust studies since his aliya in 1973, recently visited the U.S. where he served as a consultant to the United Jewish Appeal on its Auschwitz exhibit, now being shown in Los Angeles and is touring the country.

To Mais, the uniqueness of the Holocaust lies in "the singling out of Jews to be killed because they were considered racially dangerous." The Nazi policy of wiping out all the people of one group without exception -- "just because they existed they had to be killed" -- is what makes it significant and fundamentally different from the many other inhumane events in world history, he said.

The Holocaust, Mais continued, needs to be presented both as a uniquely Jewish event and as one having universal significance. Making it accessible and relevant to the American reality is valid. If it is inaccessible, "one can't learn from it -- it remains in an archive. If it's placed on some inapproachable metaphysical pedestal" the questions it raises as an event that happened on this earth cannot be confronted.

Authentic And Unauthentic Approaches

However, Mais said, there are authentic and unauthentic ways of making the Holocaust accessible. An authentic way of "Americanizing the Holocaust" is to deal with the American participation in the event: showing the role of American liberators, bringing in the experience of survivors, discussing what the U.S. government did and did not do.

Unauthentic ways in which "Americanization of the Holocaust" is carried too far involve placing it on a list of the horrors of human experience. "If you don't acknowledge the Holocaust's uniqueness as the watershed event in history that it is, you are dealing with it and avoiding it at the same time," he said.

Avoiding the Holocaust eliminates the necessity to confront the philosophical assumptions it calls into question such as the inherent goodness of people, the belief in progress, the value of education in forming good character, and the superiority of Western civilization.

Early post-war ways of avoiding the Holocaust involved seeing it as an aberration, an idea that still exists in the popular mind, said Mais. Statements such as "the Nazis were insane" and "Germans were brainwashed" allowed people to

"pay lip service to the Holocaust but to avoid confronting the basic fact that good husbands and good fathers carried it out."

The Eichmann Trial of 1961, after which Hannah Arendt wrote of "the banality of evil," gave impetus to serious historical research. But it was the period of the late 1960's that saw a real change in the Holocaust consciousness of American Jews.

"This was a time of ethnic pride and one when questioning and protest were accepted," Mais said. Feeling permission to question the establishment on civil rights and Vietnam, American Jews came to feel they could also question the establishment about the Holocaust. The Six-Day War of 1967, replete as it was with Holocaust analogies, was also an important factor.

Factors In Holocaust Consciousness

But what finally got the Holocaust into American consciousness, he said, was the mini-series of that name which aired on U.S. television in 1978. Even with all its problems, 220 million Americans "came to terms with the word Holocaust."

Because it would not have been aired had receptivity not been anticipated, the series was an important "signpost," he said.

While Israelis had long hoped the Holocaust would penetrate American consciousness, they are concerned about its being trivialized and misused. "We can't be blind to the Holocaust or be blinded by it," Mais said. One instance of being blinded by it occurs when people say, "You have to be Jewish because of what the Nazis did to the Jews." Here everything is "seen through the prism of the Holocaust and it is overemphasized to the point of becoming a surrogate Jewish identity or religion."

Another instance of being "blinded" by the Holocaust occurs when people say, "Israel has the right to exist because of the Holocaust." This "obliterates Zionism and its tangible expression," ignoring the fact that Jews have a right to their own country and worked for it in the 1890's, in the 1920's and 1930's, he told JTA.

Zionism Preceded The Holocaust

Using the Holocaust to legitimize Israel makes Zionism appear to be a post-Holocaust response and phenomenon, "and if so, where did the infrastructure that allowed the survivors to be absorbed come from?" It is also ideologically dangerous, Mais continued, because Arab propagandists can and do argue that "Europe spit the Jews up and we have to pay the bill."

However, he said, there is a direct historical connection between the Holocaust ending in 1945 and Israel's creation in 1948 in that the need for a refuge for 300,000 DP's the world would not accept eventually led to the UN partition vote of 1947.

Furthermore, "one cannot understand Israel without understanding the Holocaust," Mais said. "It's part of our collective memory." Israelis share the consensus that Jews cannot afford to be in a situation of "hopelessness, helplessness and powerlessness" and that "there's only one country in the world that puts Jewish survival as its number one priority."

This is reinforced, said Mais, when you walk out of Yad Vashem. "You walk out of the building, out of the darkness, and you see the sun. You see Israeli soldiers and you walk into the sunlight of Jerusalem."