

# **BOMB HITS ISRAELI EMBASSY IN MANILA; SECURITY BEEFED UP AFTER PLO THREAT**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- A grenade and a home-made bomb exploded Tuesday outside the Israel Embassy in Manila, causing no casualties and only slight damage, according to reports from the Philippine capital.

No group or individual claimed responsibility. Sources in Manila said the bombing was probably the work of the outlawed Communist Party.

The incident occurred as Israel began beefing up security at its installations abroad in anticipation of terrorist reprisal attacks for the sabotage of a Cypriot car ferry that was to have carried several hundred Palestinian deportees and their sympathizers on a demonstrative propaganda voyage to Israel.

The Palestine Liberation Organization warned Tuesday that it would resume attacking Israeli installations overseas in retaliation for the attack on the ship.

The 6,000-ton Sol Phryne was damaged by an underwater explosion in Limassol harbor Monday. The PLO, which was sponsoring the voyage, immediately blamed Israeli agents and announced that it and other terrorist groups would no longer be bound by the "Cairo Declaration" not to attack Israeli installations overseas.

The "Cairo Declaration" came about after Palestinian terrorists hijacked the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in Egyptian waters in October 1986 and murdered one of its passengers, a wheelchair-bound American named Leon Klinghoffer.

The international outcry embarrassed the Egyptian government. President Hosni Mubarak complained directly to PLO chief Yasir Arafat, though the Achille Lauro affair was attributed to a non-PLO terrorist organization, the Palestine Liberation Front headed by Mohammed (Abul) Abbas.

## **No Comment From Israel**

Israel has not officially commented on the Sol Phryne incident, but Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Monday, before news of the sabotage reached here, that Israel would block the voyage "in whatever ways we find."

Israel announced last week that it would exercise its rights under international law to bar a ship carrying Palestinian deportees from its territorial waters. But observers noted that any confrontation at sea would be a propaganda victory for the PLO.

The PLO maintained that only Israel had an interest in stopping the voyage before it started. It attributed the explosion, which ripped through the fuel tank of the car ferry, to agents of Mossad, Israel's secret service.

It also blamed Israeli agents for a car bombing Sunday in Limassol that killed three PLO representatives who had purchased the Sol Phryne at auction the day before, for a reported sum of \$600,000.

The PLO set up press headquarters at the Intercontinental Hotel in Athens shortly after announcing the "voyage of return" on Jan. 29. At that time, it said a ship, not identified by name

or nationality, would sail from Piraeus, the port of Athens, for Haifa with a stopover at Larnaca, Cyprus.

## **PLO Surprised By Attack**

In Athens, PLO personnel seemed genuinely surprised Monday by the sabotage, but also exuded pride that their widely publicized project may have pressured Israel into taking drastic action.

According to PLO representatives, the sabotage confirmed the excuse they were giving the press last week for refusing to divulge the name of the ship. They claimed they had to remain silent, because Israel was threatening the master and crew of any vessel that would undertake the voyage.

It was only on Monday that the PLO identified the ship as the Sol Phryne and said it would sail from Larnaca, not Piraeus. Journalists who were to make the trip were boarding buses for Athens airport to catch a commercial flight to Cyprus when news of the sabotage was announced.

Most of the press corps has now dispersed.

While Israel was ordering tightened security measures at its diplomatic missions, airline offices and shipping firms abroad, Arab affairs experts in Israel predicted there would be no serious terrorist reprisals, because the PLO would lose much of the public and diplomatic support it gained in recent months for its policy of "restraint."

(Athens correspondent Jean Cohen contributed to this report.)

# **ARABS URGED TO ATTACK SETTLEMENTS, BUT TERRITORIES ARE MAINLY QUIET**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- The West Bank and Gaza Strip were generally quiet Tuesday, despite the circulation of leaflets throughout the territories exhorting Palestinians to "attack the Israeli settlements" and hold "the most violent demonstrations in every village and town."

The instructions were contained in "leaflet No. 7" issued Monday by the "Palestinian Uprising Committee" and were broadcast by "Radio Jerusalem," a Syrian-based station operated by Ahmed Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

Jewish settlers reacted with threats of their own. Uri Ariel, head of Emana, the Gush Emunim's settlement branch, warned that "if any Arab dares attack a settlement or a Jew passing through the area, we will open fire in accordance with the army's instructions, and all the results following such an event will rest with the attackers and rioters."

A few isolated stone-throwing incidents were reported in the territories. Curfews were promptly imposed where they occurred. A commercial general strike was observed Tuesday in many towns in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In some localities, municipal councils observed the strike, as well.

Many Arab workers employed in Israel did not show up at their jobs. Their absence was attributed by Israeli sources to intimidation by Palestinian activists.

The activists resorted to threats by tele-

phone and mail. In some instances, masked Palestinians warned Arabs they would be killed if they continued to work for Jews, the sources said.

The absentees Tuesday included employees of Israel Radio and Television's Arabic language services, as well as Palestinians who work at restaurants and cafes north of Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile, Israeli police are reported to be using commandeered Arab vehicles to enter refugee camps and towns without being stoned, in order to make arrests. The police would not confirm the report.

An Arab-owned bus was stopped by police in Jerusalem Monday. Its passengers were ordered out and the seats were filled with armed police officers, who instructed the driver to take them to the Shuafat refugee camp, where they arrested Palestinian youths, the bus owner told reporters.

Other Arab vehicle owners reported similar incidents. The vehicles used are said to include an ambulance from the Arab Mokassed hospital, an East Jerusalem bakery van and a banana truck from Abu Tor.

Israel Television last week showed police using an Arab truck under attack by rioters. The police fled and the truck was set on fire.

#### ITALIANS CRITICIZE SHAMIR FOR POLICY IN TERRITORIES

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir spent his first full day in Rome fielding criticism from Italian government leaders over Israel's tough policies against Palestinian rioters in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He also met behind closed doors with representatives of Italy's 35,000 strong Jewish community, normally tight-knit but now sharply divided over Israeli measures in the territories and apprehensive of an anti-Semitic backlash here.

Shamir arrived Monday amid extraordinary security measures at Leonardo da Vinci Airport. He met for a half hour Monday evening with President Francesco Cossiga and later with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti. He was scheduled to meet Tuesday with Prime Minister Giovanni Gorla and with the leadership of Italy's seven major political parties.

His brief session with Cossiga appeared to have set the tone of his conversations here. Cossiga's spokesman described it as an exchange that was "frank and faithful to points of view that don't always converge."

That is diplomatic jargon meaning the two leaders disagreed and neither was likely to budge. The newspaper La Stampa reported "a dialogue of the deaf."

Cossiga reportedly told the Israeli premier Italy was gravely concerned and disturbed by repressive measures his government was taking against the Palestinians. Later, Andreotti deplored events in the Israeli-administered territories.

Italy also is trying to convince Shamir to moderate his opposition to an international conference for Middle East peace. Shamir insists on direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan and does not favor trading territory for peace.

The positions of both parties are by now well known to each other. Shamir met with Cossiga and Andreotti during their official visit to Israel two months ago, when the same issues were argued.

Shamir arrived here, however, at a time

when unrest is continuing in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and public opinion is running high against Israel.

He was preceded to Rome by President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, King Hussein of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization's foreign policy spokesman, Farouk Khaddoumi, all of whom condemned Israeli policies at their meetings with Italian leaders.

#### Italian Jews Vehement

What may have surprised Shamir was the vehemence with which Italian Jews expressed their views. Tullia Zevi, president of the Italian Jewish community, spoke of the dangers to which the situation exposes Israeli citizens, as well as "the repercussions it provokes in our own community and in public opinion."

She called for a speedy political settlement and defended the rights of diaspora Jews to hold and express a wide range of opinions in issues involving Israel. Zevi upheld this by presenting two documents to Shamir.

One was a sharply worded appeal, signed by 500 Italian Jewish leftists, criticizing the Israeli government for its policies toward the Palestinians.

The other, signed by 3,000 Jews, called for a just peace in the Middle East. But it expressed solidarity with the Israeli state and "complete faith in Israeli democracy. . . so unjustly attacked by a campaign of distortion of the facts whose roots lie in ignorance and anti-Semitism."

The Jewish community's meeting with Shamir reflected, nevertheless, deepening concern over the fallout on the local scene from Israeli acts in the administered territories. There has been an upsurge of anti-Semitic incidents here in recent weeks and a good deal of soul-searching on the part of Italian Jews.

#### Arabs Seek Control Of Tel Aviv

Shamir answered critics in the Jewish community by stressing that Israel could not allow itself to be perceived by the Arabs as weak. He claimed that the Palestinian youths rioting in the territories secretly aspired to gaining control of Tel Aviv and Haifa, not just the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In response to appeals that Israel negotiate directly with the Palestinians, Shamir invited his critics to "come to Israel and resolve our problems." He added that finding a peaceful solution in Israel is not easy, "but what has ever been easy for the Jewish people?"

At a news conference Tuesday, Shamir said the unrest in the Israeli-administered territories was only a new phase in the continuing Arab war against Israel.

He admitted that the Israel Defense Force tactics against Palestinian rock-throwers have not ended the disturbances but said it was too early to tell whether they have been successful. He conceded that the IDF was "playing it by ear."

"We have difficulties because on one hand we want to put an end to these riots. . . and on the other hand we don't want to kill people and cause human losses," Shamir said. "We have to find a way to put an end to this negative phenomenon and . . . not to endanger human life."

The Israeli premier said he welcomed renewed U.S. efforts to bring about Middle East peace. But he said the United States has to be an "honest broker" without expressing its own position before an agreement is reached.

## AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE SPLIT OVER WHETHER WALDHEIM SHOULD RESIGN

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Feb. 16 (JTA) — Austria's governing coalition remained sharply split along party lines Tuesday over whether President Kurt Waldheim should remain in office.

The Austrian people also appeared to be divided on the issue, according to a poll taken immediately after Waldheim's nationally televised address Monday night in which he declared he has no intention of resigning.

Waldheim spoke a week after an international commission of historians submitted its report of an examination of his wartime record. It found the Austrian president had failed to intervene or even protest mass deportations and other atrocities that he knew his German army unit was engaged in when he served as a Wehrmacht lieutenant in the Balkans during World War II.

The panel accused Waldheim of "lying" to conceal his military service, but found no proof that he had committed war crimes.

The poll, taken by the newspaper Die Presse, found that 34 percent of the respondents would vote for Waldheim again if presidential elections were held next Sunday, 45 percent would not vote for him and the balance was undecided.

However, the respondents opposed his resignation by a margin of 46 to 37 percent.

### Partisan Division

Austria's politicians were equally divided.

Waldheim's address was hailed by leaders of the conservative People's Party, which had sponsored his election in 1986. The Socialist coalition partners called the speech disappointing.

People's Party chairman Alois Mock, who is Austrian vice chancellor and foreign minister, said on Tuesday that Waldheim was trying to contribute to calm and reconciliation. He said tensions with the Socialist Party could be resolved by talks and mutual respect.

Helmut Kukacha, secretary general of the People's Party, said the government should protect Waldheim from unjustified attacks.

But Kukacha's Socialist counterpart, Heinrich Keller, denounced Waldheim's speech for implying that people concerned about Austria are slanderers and liars. "Where is his contribution towards reconciliation?" Keller asked.

Waldheim's resignation was demanded by Johanna Dohnal, the Socialist secretary of state for women's affairs. Her Cabinet colleague, Minister of Education and Culture Hilde Hawlicek, said she heard from many schools that children were removing or damaging photographs of the president which hang in all classrooms.

Freda Meissner-Blau, head of the opposition Green Party parliamentary faction, said Waldheim's speech should be rejected. "He thinks he can get rid of criticism of his person by emotionalizing, by calling for compassion and by prohibiting criticism," she said.

In his speech, Waldheim complained that he was questioned "without mercy" about events of more than 40 years ago and "my accusers called me a murderer, a war criminal and a liar."

He also said, "A head of state must not give in to slander, hateful demonstrations and generalized judgments."

According to a spokesman for the center-right Freedom Party, "Waldheim is on the spot, and with him the whole country."

## SOVIET REFUSENIK SAID TO NEED MARROW TRANSPLANT FROM ISRAEL

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (JTA) — A Jewish refusenik in Baku, U.S.S.R. is suffering from leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant from his sister in Israel in order to survive, according to a noted physician.

The case of the refusenik, Michael Buchman, is reminiscent of that of Michael Shirman, who died almost a year ago in Rehovot, Israel after receiving too late a bone marrow transplant from his sister.

Buchman, 42, is suffering from acute myelogenous leukemia, "the bad kind," said Dr. Kenneth Prager, a New York physician who was Shirman's doctor and friend during his battle to be reunited with his sister, Inessa Fleurova.

Prager has told the International Physicians Commission for the Protection of Prisoners in Highland Park, Ill., about Buchman's need to see his sister, Freida Melamed, who immigrated to Jerusalem in August.

Melamed has appealed to the International Red Cross as well as the Soviet Red Cross, saying, "I beseech you to help my brother come to Israel immediately, so that he does not die."

Prager, a physician at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center here, said Soviet authorities are stalling, as they did in the Shirman-Fleurova case. He said Buchman was diagnosed with leukemia in September, when he was already a refusenik, and has repeatedly contacted Soviet authorities about his need to immigrate.

Prager emphasized the Soviets' stated commitments to reunification of first-degree relatives and to apply emergency conditions to ailing Soviet citizens.

Buchman, a mechanical engineer, is married to a biologist, Ada. The couple has a three-year-old daughter.

Dr. Shimon Slavin of Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, who performed the transplant on Shirman, has written to authorities in Baku, urging Buchman's "immediate transfer" in order to have the surgery.

He requires more than a temporary visa, Prager noted, because of the gravity of the illness. "He cannot simply visit and return. He will need ongoing medical surveillance following a transplant," he said.

### NORWEGIAN'S REMARKS CREATE A STIR

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) — The Foreign Ministry demanded an explanation Tuesday of remarks by the Norwegian ambassador to Israel, Torleiv Anda, that unfavorably compared the acts of Israeli soldiers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the Nazi occupiers of his country during World War II.

Torleiv, quoted by Israel Radio, said that Norway was under occupation for five years, "but we cannot remember, or I cannot remember, seeing German occupation troops taking people and beating them in the street, breaking their arms or legs, or taking children from their homes in the dead of night."

The Norwegian ambassador later said that he had spoken in reply to a specific question and did not intend to liken the actions of Israeli soldiers in the administered territories to those of the Nazis.

## GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL STRIKE IS OVER AFTER 17 DAYS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- About 7,000 non-medical employees at government hospitals returned to their jobs Tuesday, finally ending a 17-day strike that had all but forced the hospitals to close.

The crippling walkout was broken over the weekend after Premier Yitzhak Shamir signed back-to-work orders under the emergency regulations Israel has retained from the British Mandate period. The orders were served in person to 2,300 striking maintenance and administrative employees.

The rest resumed work Tuesday on the basis of a "secret understanding," proposed after hours of negotiations Monday night by Haim Haberfeld, head of the trade unions department of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation.

Although the terms of the agreement were not disclosed, the hospital workers committee recommended acceptance to the eight-member strikers council. The issue was wages and fringe benefits equal to those won last year by employees of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut health care agency. It is not known whether this was achieved by the government hospital employees.

Meanwhile, 1,000 X-ray technicians still on strike were warned Tuesday by the Treasury that they faced emergency back-to-work orders if they did not end their walkout which was due to continue until Thursday.

In addition, anesthesiologists are still refusing to attend all but emergency surgery.

## ISRAEL MAY SEEK EXTRADITION OF TERRORIST FROM CANADA

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Israel may seek the extradition of convicted Palestinian terrorist Mohammad Mahmud Issa, who entered Canada a year ago on an immigration visa he allegedly obtained under false pretenses.

Reginald Smith, president of the International Association of Airline Pilots, told reporters here that he was informed by the Israel consul general in Montreal, Shalom Schirman, that "The Israel government has started juridical negotiations with the government of Canada" for Issa's extradition.

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, told McGill University students here Sunday that Israel has alerted Canadian authorities that it wants to discuss Issa's case with them.

As deportation proceedings against Issa opened Monday before an immigration court in Hamilton, Ontario, Israeli sources claimed he was not a refugee.

Instead, they charged he was a senior member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine who committed terrorist acts years after his release from prison in Greece as part of a hostage exchange.

Documents provided by Interpol, the international police information exchange, concerning terrorist acts by Issa in Morocco were sent to External Affairs Minister Joe Clark by Israel Gonen, president of the Association of Israeli Pilots.

One incident occurred dated June 11, 1987, some seven months before Issa entered Canada. Another is dated August 1986. Gonen also men-

tioned a terrorist act in 1982. He did not disclose the nature or location of these activities.

Representatives of civil aviation organizations from all over the world are in Canada this week to attend a meeting of the Montreal-based Organization of International Civil Aviation.

Gonen said on a television interview that the organization would ask the Canadian government to prosecute Issa "in accordance with the organization's agreement . . . to punish terrorists wherever they are found, and if not, they should be extradited."

Issa originally was convicted of an offense against civil aviation -- the bombing of an Israeli airliner at Athens airport in 1968 in which one man was killed. A Greek court sentenced him in 1970 to 17 years and five months in prison, but he served only a year.

He obtained his visa from the Canadian Consulate in Madrid in January 1987 by concealing his identity. When his background was finally discovered by Canadian intelligence in February, he already was on a plane for Toronto. Although immigration authorities were alerted, he evaded detection at the airport.

Issa went on Canadian television two weeks ago claiming he was a refugee who wanted only to raise his family in peace in Canada.

## NO ISRAELIS, BUT ISRAELI MEMORIES, AT CALGARY OLYMPICS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Although no Israeli athlete is participating in the 15th Winter Olympics underway in Calgary and none of the top-rated athletes is known to be Jewish, the corollary events are not without Jewish content.

The memory of the 11 Israeli athletes killed by Palestinian terrorists during the 1972 Olympics in Munich was honored by the Calgary Jewish community at a memorial service Feb. 11.

More than 750 people, including Calgary Mayor Ralph Klein, attended the service at the Calgary Jewish Center, according to Douglas Wertheimer, editor of the Jewish Star of Calgary.

"This was the largest Jewish gathering here in the last 10 years," Wertheimer said in a telephone interview. About 5,000 Jews live in Calgary, a city of 600,000 people.

As the service took place two days before the official opening of the games, it also was attended by a representative of the Olympics Organizing Committee.

Wertheimer noted two other "Jewish aspects" related to the games.

Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum of Calgary's Beth Tzedek Congregation is a member of the games' religious committee.

"The task of the committee is to draw attention to the higher goals of the Olympics, such as promoting brotherhood and peace among all people," Wertheimer explained. He said Tanenbaum composed three prayers in that spirit which were read in a ceremony before the opening of the games.

And among the 50 booths at an international food fare is the Kosher Kiosk, supervised by Rabbi David Lichtman of the Orthodox Congregation House of Jacob, Calgary, Wertheimer said.

In addition, a team of six Israelis came to take part in a concurrent international snow-sculpting contest. But according to Wertheimer, they left without participating, perhaps because of the warm winds that greeted the opening of the games.