

APR 26 1988

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY * 330 SEVENTH AVE. * NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 * (212) 643-1890

VOL. 66 - 71st YEAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1988

NO 74

ISRAEL DEPORTS EIGHT MORE TO LEBANON: TWO SOLDIERS FOUND GUILTY OF ABUSES By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 19 (JTA) -- Israel deported eight more West Bank Palestinians to southern Lebanon Tuesday, charging they were involved in "planning and implementation of violent disturbances in Judea and Samaria in the past few months."

The deportees had all waived their right to appeal, which they considered hopeless in light of the Supreme Court's recent ruling that deportations were legal. Israel deported eight other Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip on April 11.

Those ousted Tuesday included six from Beita village, near Nablus in the West Bank, the scene of a clash on April 6 between teen-age Jewish hikers and local villagers. Two Palestinians and a 15-year-old Israeli girl, Tirza Porat, were killed in that incident.

The Palestinians were shot by an adult Jewish settler escorting the hikers, Romam Aldubi. An autopsy and subsequent investigation by the Israel Defense Force determined that Porat also was killed, accidentally, by Aldubi's M-16 rifle. Nevertheless, the IDF demolished 14 homes in Beita in reprisal, until ordered to halt by the Supreme Court on April 10.

In Geneva, a spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross reported Tuesday that the eight latest Palestinians expelled are camping outside the ICRC offices in the Lebanese town of Ksara. He said the ICRC has increased its delegation to the Israeli-administered territories to 36. The organization will expand its budget to pay for new ambulances and other humanitarian needs, the spokesman said.

Beating And Kicking

A military court in Jaffa, meanwhile, gave suspended prison sentences Tuesday to two IDF soldiers found guilty of beating and kicking handcuffed Palestinian youths at a prison camp near Nablus last month. The incident came to light because it was filmed by a CBS camera

Cpl. Yehuda Anjel received a three-month suspended sentence and his commanding officer. Capt. Yossi Haddad, was sentenced to two months, also suspended. A senior IDF officer who testified on their behalf claimed beatings were necessary because soldiers were constrained from using more lethal force to quell rioting.

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were quiet Tuesday after the bloodiest weekend since the Palestinian uprising began more than four months ago. Details were sketchy because of a media ban in effect in much of the territories.

But as many as 15 Palestinians were reported killed and scores wounded last weekend in widespread protests against the assassination Saturday of Khalil al-Wazir, the Palestine Liberation Organization's No. 2 man, at his home in Tunis.

The Palestinians are convinced the killing was the work of Israel's secret service, Mossad, and many Israelis openly share that view. Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central region, which includes the West Bank, told senior officers Tuesday that the uprising has its ebbs and flows. The trend now is escalation, he said, adding,

"I have no doubt that the name of the game is alertness and patience."

Nablus, the largest Arab city in the West Bank, remains under a curfew imposed Saturday. Its Israeli-appointed mayor, Hafez Toukan, announced Monday he plans to resign. Curfews are also in effect at 15 refugee camps in the West Bank, at six in the Gaza Strip, as well as in the Gaza Strip town of Abasan.

The Palestinians are on a general strike in both territories. But while shops, schools and businesses remained closed Tuesday, most Arab day laborers employed in Israel reported for work.

TUNISIA ASKS U.N. TO CONDEMN ISRAEL FOR ABU JIHAD KILLING By Edwin Evtan

PARIS, April 19 (JTA) -- The Tunisian government asked the United Nations Security Council Tuesday to condemn Israel for what it called "the wanton murder" of Khalil al-Wazir, second in command of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

At the United Nations in New York, officials said the council members would convene behind closed doors Wednesday morning to consider Tunisia's request.

President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia has instructed his foreign minister, Mahmoud Mestri, to use "all the diplomatic means at his disposal" to have the 15-member Security Council condemn Israel.

Mestri met Monday with the ambassadors of the five permanent members of the council, urging them to back his government's demand. Tunisian pressure is directed primarily on the United States, which two years ago vetoed a resolution condemning Israel for bombing PLO headquarters in Tunisia.

The assassination already has been widely denounced. The French government expressed its "deep regret" Tuesday and said the killing "will be a new obstacle to a peaceful settlement and the peace process" advanced by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The Scandinavian, Dutch, Belgian, Spanish and Greek governments also have deplored the killing and see it as a setback for Middle East

In Washington, the State Department condemned the killing Monday as an "act of political assassination," but on Tuesday said it had no comment on whether Israel was responsible.

The call for Security Council action came after an investigating commission appointed by the Tunisian president accused Israel of the assassination. Wazir, who used the nom de guerre Abu Jihad (father of holy war), headed Al Fatah, the PLO's mainstream terrorist branch. Israelis claimed he was directing the four-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

His murder, carefully planned and organized, was carried out by a team of commandos, armed with automatic weapons, who invaded Wazir's villa in the Sidi Bou suburb of Tunis early Saturday morning.

The Tunisian presidential commission said the killers used sophisticated methods and technology "which only modern states are capable of mustering." It claimed an Israel Air Force Boeing 707 flew close to Tunis at the time of the killing to iam communications to and from Sidi Bou.

Senior IDF Officer Linked

According to the commission's report, a senior Israel Defense Force officer was in charge of the operation. The Paris newspaper Le Monde said Tuesday that the officer was Gen. Ehud Barak, deputy to the IDF chief of staff, Gen. Dan Shomron.

Meanwhile, thousands of people attended funeral services for Wazir in the Tunis suburb of Soukra. His body was flown from Tunis on Tuesday to Damascus, where it will be buried at a Palestinian refugee camp in Yarmuk, outside the Syrian capital.

PLO chief Yasir Arafat did not accompany body of his aide to Syria, a country from which he himself was unceremoniously ousted in 1983. The Tunisian interior minister, Habib Ammar, did go there as the personal representative of the president.

Also accompanying the coffin were Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's foreign policy spokesman and Naif Hawatmeh, head of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a PLO breakaway group. Both men had been political opponents of Wazir in his lifetime.

Second Funeral In Syria

The slain leader will have a second funeral in Damascus, at the request of family members who live there. The fact that Syrian President Hafez Assad agreed to this indicates a thawing of relations between Assad's regime and the PLO, according to Palestinian sources.

Egypt and Jordan reportedly refused to permit Wazir to be buried on their soil.

The PLO is expected to have a difficult time replacing him. Its executive council will have to select someone and also to decide what policy to

follow. If it abstains from reacting to the assassination, the effect could be devastating on the morale of Palestinians in the Israeli-administered territories and in the refugee camps in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

But if the PLO launches a new wave of terrorist attacks on Israeli and Jewish targets in Israel and abroad, it would lose its newly won sympathy and improved image in the Western world.

(Contributing to this story were correspond-Yitzhak Rabi at the United Nations and David Friedman in Washington.)

EZER WEIZMAN CRITICIZES KILLING OF AL FATAH LEADER ABU JIHAD By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 19 (JTA) -- At least one Cabinet minister seems to believe that Israel was behind the assassination of the Palestine Liberation Organization's No. 2 man, Khalid al-Wazir, and thinks it was the wrong act at the wrong time

Ezer Weizman, a Labor Party minister without portfolio, sharply questioned the political wisdom of the killing in two radio interviews Tuesday and implied, without saying so, that Israel was involved.

Asked if Israel was indeed behind the commando-like operation that gunned down Wazir at his home in a suburb of Tunis early Saturday morning, Weizman replied, "Guess for yourself." His comments followed an NBC News report

that the assassination was approved by Israel's Cabinet, with only Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Weizman voting against it.

But Justice and Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir of Likud flatly denied any Israeli involvement. He said during a visit to France that Israel was used to "such falsehoods."

Impact On Peace Process

Weizman, who was himself once a Likud member and served as Premier Menachem Begin's defense minister, said the assassination of Wazir also known as Abu Jihad (father of war), was a serious mistake that could jeopardize the peace nrocess

He said it closed avenues to Palestinian circles who could be negotiating partners and set back U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's Middle East peace initiative.

Although Israelis are convinced that Abu Jihad was the mastermind of the four-month-old Palestinian uprising in the administered territories, Weizman said he was not sure the 53-yearold head of Al Fatah was one of the more extreme Palestinian leaders.

Moreover, he argued, Israel has refrained until now from political assassinations, "at least not at this level of leadership and not in such a way.

"Why was it necessary to do such a thing now" at a time when disturbances in the territories appear to be winding down? If so, why escalate the situation?" Weizman asked.

He said the killing would also have a negative effect on Israel's relations with Egypt, which

has condemned the assassination.

SOVIET-ISRAELI TETE-A-TETE SCRAPPED By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 19 (JTA) -- A planned meeting between an Israeli and Soviet official in London last week did not take place because the British authorities refused to allow the Russian diplomat, Vladimir Tarasov, into the country, Hadashot reported Tuesday.

Tarasov was to have met with Dr. Nimrod Novick, political adviser to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The two had planned to discuss the American peace initiative in the Middle East and exchange views on the proposed international conference.

According to Hadashot, the Israeli Foreign Ministry had expected the Soviets to announce at the meeting the granting of visas to an Israeli consular delegation to visit Moscow.

A Soviet consular delegation has been in Israel since June 1987, and Moscow only recently agreed to allow a reciprocal visit by an Israeli consular team

But the contact in London, which some thought would be a significant step toward improving Soviet-Israel relations, was thwarted because Tarasov, having been ousted from the United States recently, was not admissable to Britain.

The British and Americans have an agreement not to allow diplomats expelled from one country to enter the other.

JEWISH LEADERS HOPE DEMJANJUK VERDICT WON'T BE LAST OF ITS KIND By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, April 19 (JTA) -- North American Jewish leaders praised Israel's criminal justice system Tuesday in applauding an Israeli court's guilty verdict in the war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk.

Leaders of the organizations said that they have begun to look beyond the case to the prosecution of additional war criminals and to mending the rifts between Jewish and Eastern European ethnic groups that arose as a result of the trial.

The Jerusalem district court ruled Monday that the retired Cleveland auto worker was the gas chamber operator at the Treblinka death camp known as "Ivan the Terrible." He was found guilty of a string of offenses including murder, crimes against humanity and crimes against the Jewish people.

Demianiuk could receive the death penalty

during sentencing next Monday.

The trial met 106 times over 15 months and resulted in a 450-page judgment that took the panel 11 hours to read. Demjanjuk retains the right to appeal to Israel's Supreme Court.

In a statement on behalf of the American Jewish Congress, associate executive director Phil Baum praised Israel's legal system and the threejudge panel led by presiding judge Dov Levin.

The judicial system had an "exemplary record," said Baum, expressing confidence that the court reached its verdict "on the basis of incontrovertible evidence and scrupulous adherence to due process."

In Montreal, the Canadian Jewish Congress echoed its American counterpart, calling the trial in its statement "part of an international momentum that exists today to bring suspected Nazi war criminals to justice."

In Los Angeles, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, said in a statement released soon after the verdict was announced that Demjanjuk had received a fair trial while exhausting due process in the United States and

Demjanjuk lost his U.S. citizenship in 1981 for lying about his wartime past and was extradited to Israel in 1986.

An Ironic Verdict

Hier noted a "bitter irony" in the guilty verdict. "This death camp guard who was determined to destroy any trace of Jewish life. . . must now end his life in the Jewish state-watching from the window the uninterrupted growth of Jewish civilization."

Hier called Demjanjuk's situation "a hard

pill for any good Nazi to swallow.'

In a telephone interview Tuesday, Hier said the Demianiuk verdict by no means indicated that an era of war-crimes prosecution had ended. He said that in the last nine months his

center had forwarded to West German authorities the names of 272 people wanted for murder during World War II, including Josef Schwammberger, 75, the commandant of labor camps in Poland said to be responsible for the torture and execution of hundreds of Jews.

Schwammberger is in an Argentine prison. Jewish groups are seeking his extradition to West Germany.

Hier said, however, that the Israeli government may be reluctant to mount another economically and emotionally exhausting trial on the scale of Demianiuk's.

But while Hier said he understood Israel's frustration at being perceived as a "dumping ground" for Nazi war criminals, he still believes that Israel has a "unique moral responsibility" to survivors of the Holocaust to continue prosecuting war criminals.

In New York, Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman, a frequent critic of U.S. policy toward suspected war criminals, also said Tuesday that she hoped the Demianiuk case would be the beginning, not the end, of renewed efforts to bring former Nazis to justice.

'Undue Process'

"The primary activity that must be taken is for Congress to pass laws that speed up the process" of pursuing and expelling war criminals, said Holtzman, who has authored such federal legislation. "The Demjanjuk case took 12 years. That's undue process -- unduly lengthy."

Holtzman would also like to see a more thorough examination of America's treatment, and alleged protection, of war criminals shortly after World War II. Few legislators are leading such an

effort, she said.

The Demjanjuk trial "was on one hand a triumph," she said. "On the other hand, it showed how willing our government was to be indifferent and how it continues to be indifferent."

The American Jewish Committee also looked beyond the verdict, saying, "We must move to dampen the intergroup tensions that have arisen around this trial and assure that future generations understand the horror and criminality of those years."

The statement was a reference to the belief by some organizations representing Americans of Baltic and Ukrainian descent that the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations and Jewish groups were using counterfeit evidence provided by the Soviets to investigate suspected war criminals

Gary Rubin, program director of the AJCommittee, acknowledged in a telephone interview that much of the evidence used to convict war criminals, including Demjanjuk, was collected by Red Army troops in World War II and stored in Soviet archives. But Rubin said such evidence must pass vigorous challenges in American and Israeli courts.

"It's our hope that after the spectacular nature of the Demjanjuk trial that the two communities can speak to each other and create the mutual understanding we enjoy with other groups," said Rubin.

DUTCH ESSAYIST DEAD AT 90 By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, April 19 (JTA) -- Jacques de Kadt, a political essayist of Jewish origin who was a member of the Dutch Parliament for more than 20 years, died here this week. He was 90.

De Kadt joined the Communist Party as a young man but left to form an independent leftwing party in the 1930s. When the Nazis invaded Holland in 1940, he escaped to England. He then went to Australia and from there to Indonesia (then called the Dutch East Indies), where he was interned by the Japanese in 1941.

De Kadt was the author of books on fascism,

the Soviet Union and Indonesia.

BOMB EXPLODES AT FRANKFURT CENTER: KOHL PLEDGES COMMUNITY PROTECTION By David Kantor

BONN, April 19 (JTA) -- A bomb exploded at the Jewish Community Center in Frankfurt early Monday morning, causing an estimated half million dollars damage. There were no casualties and no arrests

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl issued a statement a few hours later saving his government would take all necessary measures to protect Jewish institutions and property. Kohl's statement followed a demand by Heinz Galinski, recently elected chairman of West Germany's Jewish community, for better protection of Jewish institu-

According to police, the attack occurred a few minutes after midnight Sunday, when unknown persons hurled a bomb into the yard of the community center, which is surrounded by a high concrete wall.

The building, which also houses a Jewish school, was specifically built to withstand terrorist attacks. All of its windows are fitted with special safety glass. Parts of the concrete wall and some windows were damaged by the blast, which community officials estimated at a half million dollars.

The office of the Saudi Arabian airline Alia. in Frankfurt, was also a bomb target early Monday, minutes after the Jewish center blast. Police did not say there was a connection between the two incidents but ascribed both to the latest events in the Middle East.

CONGRESS EXPECTED TO APPROVE GENOCIDE BILL NEXT WEEK By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 19 (JTA) -- The congressional bill making genocide a crime in the United States is expected to be adopted by the Senate and House next week.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved the bill by a voice vote last Thursday, Yom Hashoah, after an amendment to add capital punishment as one of the penalties was defeated on a 6-6 tie vote.

Supporters of the bill feared that if the amendment had passed, some proponents of the bill would have voted against it because of their opposition to the death penalty.

The House Judiciary Committee had earlier approved the bill introduced by its chairman, Rep. Peter Rodino (D-N.J.). In the Senate the bill was introduced by Sens. Joseph Biden (D-Del.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee; Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio); and William Proxmire (D-

The House vote is expected to come next Tuesday, under the suspension rule by which no amendments are allowed. No date has been set for the Senate vote, but it too is expected next week.

Although the Senate in 1986 ratified the United Nations convention against genocide -- 37 years after it was first submitted to the Senate by President Harry Truman -- both the House and Senate must adopt the implementation bill to make genocide part of the federal criminal code.

Once the president signs the bill into law, the United States would then be able to deposit the formal instrument of ratification with the U.N. secretary general.

The United Nations convention requires the

implementation legislation before the ratification is considered official.

The legislation makes genocide a federal crime if committed in the United States or by a U.S. citizen anywhere. It would impose a fine of up to \$1 million and/or 20 years in prison if the act results in death. Anyone convicted of "incitement to genocide" would face a fine of up to \$500,000 and/or five years in prison.

HAMADEI SENTENCED FOR KIDNAPPING By David Kantor

BONN, April 19 (JTA) -- Abbas Hamadei was sentenced in Duesseldorf Tuesday to 13 years in prison for kidnapping two West German businessmen in Beirut.

One of them, Rudolf Cordes, is still being held hostage in Lebanon. The other, Alfred Schmidt, was freed three months ago.

Federal prosecutor Kurt Redman expressed satisfaction with the verdict, but refused to say how it might affect Cordes, who reportedly has suffered a severe nervous collapse in a Palestinian refugee camp, where he is confined.

He and Schmidt were abducted in January 1987. The Duesseldorf court ruled that Hamadei, 29, engineered the kidnapping to force the Bonn government to release his brother. Ahmed Hamadei, accused of air piracy and murder.

The younger Hamadei was arrested in Frankfurt 15 months ago for the June 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner and the killing of one of its passengers, a U.S. Navy diver. The Bonn authorities rejected an American request for extradition. A controversy was raised by their decision to try Ahmed Hamadei in juvenile court, which can impose a maximum sentence of 10 years.

The accused was reportedly under 21 at the time of the hijacking, a minor in the eyes of the law. His actual age is the subject of an investiga-

JEWS IN CONGRESS VOTE LIBERAL By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 19 (JTA) -- Four of the seven Jews in the Senate and 22 of the 28 Jewish members of the House can be considered liberals, according to Americans for Democratic Action.

The liberal ADA ranked the members of Congress by how they voted in 1987 on 20 key issues in the Senate and 25 in the House. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) and Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) voted 100 percent for what the ADA considers liberal positions, while those voting the most conservative, 0 percent, were Sens. Chic Hecht (R-Nev.) and Willis Gradison (R-

Two other Jews in the House voted less than 50 percent for liberal positions: Rep. Rep. John Miller (R-Wash.), 48 percent, and Rep. Ben Erdreich (D-Ala.), 40.

"The Jewish members of Congress have traditionally reflected the liberalism of the overall community, and 1987 was no exception," said Marc Pearl, the ADA's national director.

Pearl, the former Washington representative of the American Jewish Congress, noted that while the average score in the House was 51 percent liberal in 1987, the average for Jewish members was "an astounding 81 percent."

In the Senate, the average score for the Jewish members was 59 percent, compared to 53 percent for the overall Senate.