

ISRAELI LEADERS VOW REVENGE OVER DEATHS OF ISRAELI SOLDIERS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Israeli leaders vowed retribution for the deaths of seven Israeli soldiers killed Wednesday in a suicide car-bomb attack in the southern Lebanon security zone.

The victims, most of them commissioned and non-commissioned officers, were buried at various military cemeteries Thursday.

They were identified as Maj. Ilan Tal-Taussig of Rosh Pina; Capt. Ilan Ben-Chaim of Beersheba; Capt. Ron Werner of Haifa; Sgt. Maj. Maurice Dehan of Haifa; Staff Sgt. Shalom Ben-Ami of Acre; Cpl. Saguy Blau of Ramat Yishai; and Pvt. Yaacov Ben-Shaanan of Holon.

Meanwhile, forensic experts began sifting through the debris of an Israel Defense Force motor convoy for information about the car loaded with over 300 pounds of high explosives that blew up in its midst.

Eight other IDF soldiers and two Lebanese civilians were injured in the blast.

Hezbollah, the extremist pro-Iranian Shiite guerrilla group in Lebanon, has claimed credit for the attack.

Reports from Lebanon Thursday quoted a threat by Hezbollah sources that they would execute two IDF soldiers they captured in 1986 if there was any retaliation by Israeli forces.

"Our hands will catch every murderer. Not one will be spared. Those who send suicide car-bombers should know that they will pay the price," Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared while visiting the scene of the attack.

Visibly shaken, Rabin blamed the disaster on the reign of chaos in Lebanon.

"But the fact that there is no law and no judge there, no governor and no government, does not give immunity either to Lebanon or to the Hezbollah madmen," Rabin said.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir promised that "Israel's sure and just hand will catch the murderers, each and every one."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said, "The Lebanese insanity and its murderous ways have hit our soldiers this time. We shall not rest until we find the perpetrators and bring them to punishment."

TV Ads Canceled

Six of the major political parties canceled the evening's electioneering broadcasts out of respect for the victims.

The Labor Party was an exception. It said it would use the time to allow Rabin to be interviewed on military and defense policies.

The cancellation of the broadcasts was in response to a request by the chairman of the elections committee.

IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron said Thursday that the bombing incident did not call for any changes in IDF policy in Lebanon.

Military and defense establishment leaders seemed in agreement that despite the tragedy, the southern Lebanon security zone has proved its worth by keeping the suicide bomber away from Israel's northern settlements.

They also rejected demands by right-wing

militants that the border security fence, which separates the security zone from Israel, be moved north to fence off the zone from the rest of Lebanon.

That would prevent the free movement of Lebanese within their own country and be tantamount to annexing the zone with its more than 100,000 residents, the military sources said.

Meanwhile, security services are trying to determine how the explosive-laden car and its driver managed to enter the security zone and pass through military checkpoints set up by the IDF and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army.

FIVE PALESTINIANS WOUNDED IN WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Five Palestinians were wounded in clashes with Israel Defense Force troops in the West Bank and Gaza Strip Thursday.

Two of them, youthful residents of the Shati refugee camp in Gaza, were shot in the course of a riot.

Two other Palestinians were wounded during a disturbance in a village near Nablus, where the IDF had just demolished illegally built houses.

A funeral in Hebron for three Arab victims of a road accident turned violent. Soldiers opened fire wounding one person.

The accident occurred Wednesday near Beit Omar village on the Jerusalem-Hebron road. An Israeli truck hit the Arab car causing the fatalities.

Israelis recall that the Palestinian uprising was triggered 10 months ago by a similar accident in which Arabs were killed in the Gaza Strip last December.

A truck struck an Arab car and nationalist circles immediately spread the story that the collision was on purpose.

Meanwhile, the Council of Jewish Settlements in the administered territories has drawn up plans to build 53 new settlements in the next three years.

The settlers claim 19 of them have already been approved by the Cabinet's Ministerial Settlement Committee.

The ultraright-wing Tchiya and Tsomet factions and the National Religious Party have endorsed the project. The Likud has yet to respond.

FORMER FRENCH MINISTER INDICTED FOR NAZI CRIMES

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- The long-festering charge that high-ranking Frenchmen collaborated with the Nazis during World War II may yet be decided if an investigating magistrate in Bordeaux decides to place a former Cabinet minister on trial.

That possibility was raised with the disclosure Wednesday that Maurice Papon, budget minister in the government of former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, was secretly indicted three months ago for wartime collaboration.

Papon, 79, was the second-highest official in

the Bordeaux area during the war. He has been accused of willingly helping the Nazis deport 1,690 Jews between 1942 and 1944.

After the war, he was the longest-serving police chief of Paris until he joined Giscard's government.

The drive for the indictment was led by German-born Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld, who had an important role in bringing the former Lyon gestapo chief Klaus Barbie to justice more than 40 years after the war.

Klarsfeld charged that the French authorities were trying to bury the Papon case in solidarity with the former minister.

Papon always denied collaborating with the Germans and insisted he had helped Jews escape.

Papon was indicted on similar charges in 1983 and 1984, but they were dropped last year after the court of appeals cancelled proceedings on technical grounds.

After his first indictment, he asked to be tried by a court of honor, composed of former resistance fighters headed by the legendary resistance figure, Marie-Madeleine Forcade.

It did not absolve Papon but found no grounds to indict him.

Papon is only one of a number of ranking French officials accused by Jewish survivors and former resistance fighters of collaboration.

Most of them claimed they only pretended to cooperate with the Germans in order to help the resistance underground, and to save Jews and others from possible deportation.

JUDGE AWARDS JDL HEAD \$100,000 FROM U.S. NAZI

By Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Irv Rubin, the national chairman of the Jewish Defense League, has won a \$100,000 judgment against an American Nazi who publicly asserted that Rubin had AIDS.

Judge Joseph Kalin of the Glendale Superior Court handed down the sentence against Stanley Witke, a leader of the National Socialist American Workers Party.

Kalin ordered Witke to pay Rubin \$10,000 in damages for slander and an additional \$90,000 in punitive damages.

During a confrontation last November at a Glendale hotel, where the Nazi group was conducting a "Crusade Against Corruption," Witke pointed to Rubin in front of television cameras and yelled, "Mr. Rubin has AIDS. Can't you see the sores on his face?"

After sentencing, Witke claimed that he had no income to pay the \$100,000, and that he was dependent for his living expenses on a "super-secret group, the American Aryan Committee."

The JDL leader in turn promised that "I'll be vigorous in collecting the judgment. I'll haul him into court every week if I have to."

As an outgrowth of the same Glendale melee, Rubin himself faces a court date next month on charges of rioting and unlawful assembly.

HOUSE DELIVERS GENOCIDE BILL FOR WHITE HOUSE SIGNATURE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- The bill making genocide a crime in the United States is now on President Reagan's desk awaiting his signature to make it law.

The nearly 40-year struggle over the bill, which makes genocide a crime under the U.S. Criminal Code, ended Wednesday when the House approved the bill by a voice vote.

The bill was adopted by the Senate last Friday night.

The House had first approved the bill last April, but had to vote a second time because of some "technical" changes made in the Senate version.

One change was to name the bill the Proxmire Act after Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.), who is retiring from the Senate this year.

Proxmire was the leading advocate for Senate ratification of the U.N. convention outlawing genocide and the current legislation implementing the treaty.

Once the president signs the bill it will be sent to the United Nations, where the United States will become the 100th nation to have ratified the treaty.

FEARING ANOTHER ESCAPE ATTEMPT, WEST GERMANY DETAINS MAIKOVSKIS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- West German authorities have detained Boleslavs Maikovskis, an ex-Nazi who was recently discovered having fled the United States while awaiting deportation.

Klaus Schacht, chief war crimes investigator for the West German state prosecutor's office, said Maikovskis was arrested at his home in Munster because of fears he might try to flee West Germany.

Schacht said his office in Dortmund would appreciate assistance from the Soviet Union, but he did not say whether West Germany would deport Maikovskis to the Soviet Union.

There is currently no extradition treaty between West Germany and the Soviet Union.

The Soviets have reportedly offered West Germany all the necessary assistance.

According to the latest, unverified accounts, Maikovskis asked for West German asylum last November after fleeing the United States.

The United States ordered him deported in 1984 for acts perpetrated during World War II. He had lived here since 1951.

Maikovskis was sentenced to death in absentia in 1965 by a court in Riga, Latvia, for his wartime crimes, which included ordering the burning of the village of Audrini and the massacre of the population.

The Office of Special Investigations of the Justice Department had been trying to deport Maikovskis to the Soviet Union because its first choice, West Germany, had refused several requests to try Maikovskis there.

A spokesman for the OSI, which has been criticized by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith for not having known Maikovskis' whereabouts and for having allowed him to "vanish" from the United States, declared Maikovskis' appearance in West Germany as "a victory for the OSI."

"We have sent Boleslavs Maikovskis to the country that we originally designated, a country that, unlike the United States, has criminal jurisdiction in such cases and which four years ago prosecuted Maikovskis' immediate superior, Albert Eichelis."

Maikovskis, 84, reportedly entered West Germany on a Latvian passport issued by the Latvian government in exile.

JEWS SHOULD DO MORE TO ASSIST IMMIGRANTS, SAYS U.S. OFFICIAL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration's top human rights specialist called this week on the American Jewish community to pay more attention to new immigrants.

Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs, said Sunday night that with Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union now averaging 2,000 a month, the Jewish community must do more to help new immigrants adjust to their new life.

"We must keep in mind that the immigrants need to be integrated into the new surroundings, wherever these may be," Schifter told the annual meeting here of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

"They need counseling, retraining, advice and assistance in finding a home, getting such a home and job placement."

When Schifter was asked if the United States could provide funds for Soviet Jews who are still living in absorption centers in Israel because they do not have the money for home mortgages, he replied that he believed Congress would.

Stressing that he was speaking as an individual and not as a government official, Schifter said Congress would act "more generously" if it first saw a "real effort" by the Jewish community to provide funds for this need.

Schifter spoke at a dinner during which he and Rozanne Ridgway, U.S. assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, received the UCSJ's Anatoly Sharansky Freedom Award.

Plea Not To Sign Vienna Document

A major focus of attention at the dinner, as well as throughout the three-day meeting here, was the concluding document now being discussed in Vienna by the 35 nations participating in the ongoing follow-up session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The conference is reviewing implementation of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act. Once the concluding document is signed, the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries will begin discussions on negotiations for reducing conventional arms in Europe.

The UCSJ has urged the Reagan administration not to sign the document until the Soviet Union lives up to its human rights commitments and, specifically, makes changes in its laws easing emigration restrictions.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze promised during his visit to Washington last month that these changes would be made in January.

UCSJ President Pamela Cohen, in introducing the two State Department officials, read a letter to Secretary of State George Shultz from prominent Soviet refuseniks, urging that the document not be signed.

With the Soviet Union still violating the Helsinki Accords, "it is unthinkable that Western democracies are ready to betray human rights activists in the USSR and sign yet another ambiguous document," the refuseniks said in their letter.

Ridgway stressed that "until there is the right balance between security and human rights, we will continue to sit in Vienna."

She denied that the Reagan administration wants to conclude the document before it leaves

office on Jan. 20. "If we can get an agreement between now and the 20th of January, we will sign on to it" she said. "And if we can't, we will still be there on the 20th of January."

Conference In Moscow

Ridgway said that the Western countries, and the United States in particular, are trying to extract more performance on human rights from the Soviet Union, despite the "tremendous pressure to get on with conventional forces talks."

She said that one major new problem is Soviet determination to have a human rights conference in Moscow. The West has insisted that such a conference depends on improvements in Soviet human rights practices.

Ridgway said the Soviets are now trying to change the argument on the grounds that if human rights conferences are held in Paris in 1989 and in Copenhagen in 1990, then such a conference should be held in Moscow in 1991.

Ridgway, who has personally conducted discussions on human rights during summits between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, acknowledged that "we are a witness to change in the Soviet Union." But she cautioned that no one knows whether such change will be good or bad for the United States.

She said that while prisoners of conscience have been released and emigration has increased, it is being done "in a very arbitrary fashion."

Schifter said that while the changes may benefit the Jews in the USSR, they are still at risk. He said he believes that even more than 400,000 Jews want to leave the Soviet Union.

Long-term refuseniks are still being denied on the "spurious grounds" of possession of state secrets and the need for the permission of their parents, he said. Eliminating these practices are among the proposed changes in Soviet law.

CHINESE TRADE DELEGATION LOOKING, BUT NOT TALKING

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- A Chinese trade delegation visiting Israel for the first time has proven to be extremely media shy.

The seven-member group evaded reporters after landing at Ben-Gurion Airport in the dead of night Wednesday.

They then disappeared from Sheba government hospital in Tel Hashomer Thursday morning upon spotting a large group of news reporters waiting to talk to them.

The Chinese are reportedly interested in medical equipment and machinery. Their inspection tour of the hospital has been rescheduled and will be conducted in secret.

The delegation, the first from the People's Republic of China to come to Israel using Chinese passports, is headed by Lo Chi Min, a Chinese businessman who holds Belgian citizenship but has extensive ties with Peking.

The Chinese government has been making great efforts to downplay the visit, and the Israelis are also stressing its unofficial nature.

Nevertheless, both countries seem to be treading softly toward some form of commercial contact, with the possibility of more significant relations in the offing.

There have been reports recently that Israeli officials have made clandestine visits to China. The highest-ranking Israeli said to have gone to Peking is Avraham Tamir of the Foreign Ministry.

BEERSHEBA BEDOUNS WANDER, BUT NOT BY THEIR OWN CHOICE

By Gil Sedan

ARDER, Israel, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Half-naked children aimlessly walk barefoot on the yellow desert sand among the ruins of their newly demolished tin huts.

Heavily veiled women garbed in black hide behind the curtains of their tents. The men, in a newly erected tent, argue loudly over who is responsible for their plight.

These people are Bedouins, traditional nomads of the Negev, uprooted and confronted by the well-meaning but obdurate bureaucracy of a modern state.

Arder is a community less than 20 miles south of the Negev metropolis of Beersheba. The Bedouins here are no longer wandering herdsmen but day laborers -- of necessity, not choice -- who seek work in Jewish towns and settlements. They are facing a crisis.

Their appeals having been exhausted, and last week they were forced by court order to tear down 27 tin huts which had served them as homes for the past six years. Now they will have to be relocated.

As they stand and talk, the near silence of the desert is broken by the scream of a jet fighter plane taking off from a nearby air force base.

It is from there that the problem of these Bedouins stems. They were removed from the Tel Malhata area in the early 1980s because the site was selected for one of the two air bases to replace those evacuated when Israel returned Sinai to Egypt.

The state offered them resettlement in seven modern townships. "We were ready to move, but we wanted to be resettled in a place of our choice," Hassan Abu-Kosh, a teacher, told a visitor.

On The Move

But if given a choice, Bedouin families would prefer to move freely over the desert and prairie as their ancestors had done for centuries. They do not like permanent neighbors, even if members of the same tribe.

After six years, the Bedouins here have yet to choose a permanent home. The Interior Ministry thought it could hasten their choice by demolishing their temporary homes.

"We have offered them three alternatives," said Shalom Danino, southern district commissioner, "and they have rejected them all. The court has simply lost patience with them."

But there was lack of coordination among the government agencies involved.

When they were evacuated from the air base site, the Bedouins were relocated in precisely the spot from which the Interior Ministry has been trying to get them removed.

POLIO PATIENT DIES AT 26

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- The first person taken ill in Israel's recent polio outbreak died at Meir Hospital in Kfar Sava Wednesday.

But doctors said the death of Michaela Keren, 26, may have been the result of another ailment, brought on by lying prone in bed for many weeks.

They said she appeared to be making satis-

factory progress from the polio attack and they expressed shock at her sudden death.

The Health Ministry has asked the deceased's family for permission to perform an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Keren worked as a secretary at the Carmel carpet factory in Or Akiva.

RUMORS OF A SHEKEL DEVALUATION SENDS BLACK MARKET PRICES UPWARD

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- A rumored new devaluation of the shekel has triggered a demand for black market dollars.

They are selling for 1.9 shekels to the dollar, or 15 percent more than the official rate of 1.6 shekels. The official rate has been in effect since the shekel was devalued by 10 percent in January 1987.

Rumors have spread that the government again plans to reduce the value of the shekel, even though Finance Minister Moshe Nissim is known to be opposed.

Nissim believes a new devaluation now would not be good timing, since Israel now has a healthy dollar reserve of \$4 billion.

Economists agree that it is folly to buy black dollars at the higher rate because the government is not expected to devalue the shekel at more than 10 percent.

Therefore, anyone who purchases the black dollar now at a 15 percent higher rate will eventually lose out.

Nevertheless, expectations of devaluation have caused the private sector to send large amounts of its foreign currency holdings overseas.

According to figures released by the Bank of Israel, the country's central bank, businesses have shipped \$420 million in foreign currency abroad, compared to \$600 million worth imported into Israel during the first six months of 1988.

SUGAR DADDIES FOR LABOR AND LIKUD

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Two Israeli-born multimillionaires living abroad have contributed substantial sums of money to the Labor Party and Likud campaign war chests, Hadashot reported Wednesday.

The newspaper said that Bruce (Baruch) Rappaport, who lives in Switzerland, gave \$1.5 million to Labor. The money was transferred from a bank in Geneva.

Meshulam Riklis, the Israeli-American tycoon, sent \$1 million to Likud through the First Boston Bank in New York, Hadashot said.

The newspaper attributed its information to an "economic source" with ties to both parties.

EARLY PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE DIES AT 91

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA) -- Alexander Zarhin, a Russian-born inventor who was a prisoner of conscience in the Stalin era, died here Tuesday at the age of 91.

Zarhin invented a desalination process based on the freezing of sea water, which was widely used abroad but not adopted in Israel.

A student at the Leningrad Technological Institute, he was arrested in 1934 for Zionist activities and sentenced to five years internal exile. He came to Israel in 1947.