

**ISRAELI SOLDIER KILLED IN AMBUSH  
SET UP BY INFILTRATORS FROM JORDAN**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA) -- Palestinian terrorist attacks spread to the generally quiet eastern border with Jordan on Friday, when an Israeli soldier was killed and a Bedouin tracker wounded by gunmen who crossed into the Arava and set up an ambush.

Jordan announced over the weekend that it had captured the attackers, who managed to slip back into Jordan without injury.

In Damascus, the Fatah Uprising, led by Col. Saed (Abu) Musa, claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred just inside the Israeli border, some three miles south of Moshav Hatzeva, in the desert valley that stretches from the Dead Sea to Eilat.

The dead IDF soldier, a reservist identified as Sgt. Maj. Oren Lior, 24, of Kfar Sava, was laid to rest in his home town Sunday.

The incident occurred as a five-member Israel Defense Force unit went on a routine patrol of the dirt track that runs alongside the rudimentary double barbed-wire fence marking the Israeli-Jordanian border.

Jordan's main Arava road runs parallel to the border some 200 yards to the east, while Israel's main road to Eilat at this point is two or so miles to the west.

The Bedouin tracker suddenly told the command car driver to halt and back up, as he wanted to investigate what he thought were tracks leading from the fence to the dirt path.

The vehicle reversed, and as the tracker got out to investigate, he was suddenly told to stop in English. A gunman hidden in a stunted bush some yards away opened fire on the tracker and the vehicle. As the IDF soldiers returned the fire, another gunman hidden in another bush some 50 yards away also opened fire, mortally wounding Lior.

**Plans To Attack Civilians**

The exchange of fire lasted about a minute and a half, but when the gunmen's fire fell silent, the soldiers, believing they had killed the attackers, put the wounded men aboard the army vehicle and sped off to get help and treatment for them.

But in the dark, the two gunmen slipped back through the wire fence into Jordan, where they were subsequently picked up by Jordanian troops.

Although first reports spoke of a cleverly planned ambush against Israeli soldiers, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and senior army officers all later said the gunmen may have been on their way to attack civilian settlements in the Arava.

This would strengthen Israeli contentions that the rising number of attempts to infiltrate Israel's borders are terrorist actions.

Yasir Arafat and other officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization say that, while they may have agreed to halt terrorist actions against Israeli civilians, attacks against IDF soldiers are part of legitimate guerrilla warfare against the Israel army and will continue.

Rabin also said Israel holds Jordan responsi-

ble for the incident and that Jordan should take energetic measures to detain the attackers.

In response, the Jordanian Petra news agency announced officially that the gunmen had been captured and that Jordanian policy was to prevent or reduce such actions against Israel.

Israeli officials point out that Israel holds Jordan and Egypt to a different standard than Lebanon, where there is no stable government to prevent such attacks or take action against those who commit them.

**Quietest And Longest Border**

Last week, two teen-age gunmen crossed into the Gaza Strip from Egypt and threw grenades at an Israeli army base. Israeli troops shot at the infiltrators and eventually took them into custody.

The attack, which occurred near Rafah, apparently took Egyptian officials by surprise. Throughout the weekend, Egyptian security forces were reported to be conducting searches for additional suspects in the Canada refugee camp, where the two teen-agers were said to have been trained.

A preliminary army investigation of the incident has uncovered irregularities in the Israeli army's handling of the incident, Ha'aretz reported Sunday. The outpost commander and the head of the squad on alert reportedly have already been reprimanded for the army's failure to return fire immediately.

The group responsible for Friday's ambush, Fatah Uprising, is a Syrian-backed splinter group that broke with Arafat in 1983. Abu Musa and his breakaway Palestinian allies succeeded in forcing Arafat to flee Lebanon in 1985.

The Jordanian border with Israel is regarded as the quietest of all frontiers, with very few incidents of attempted infiltration reported in recent years.

It is also Israel's longest border, and because of its relative safety, the installation of an electronic fence, similar to that in place along the Lebanese border, has never been considered worthwhile. Instead, the international boundary is marked by two strands of barbed wire, some 20 yards apart.

**MUBARAK PRAISES TABA COOPERATION,  
BUT TOURISTS REPORT LONG DELAYS**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA) -- Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak praised Israel's return of the Taba beach resort to Egyptian control last week as a model of Israeli cooperation with countries of the Middle East.

But an Israeli hotelier alleged that Israeli authorities are now trying to block tourism to the area. And tourists complained of excessive red tape at Israeli border checkpoints.

Mubarak flew to Taba on Sunday for official ceremonies marking the enclave's return to Egyptian control last Wednesday. The Egyptian president brought with him from Cairo a large entourage of Egyptian dignitaries and journalists.

Speaking from a special dais erected near the Taba Sonesta Hotel, gaily decorated with Egyptian flags and large portraits of the Egyptian

president, Mubarak called on Israelis not to be afraid of the Palestine Liberation Organization and to meet its representatives at the negotiating table.

He said the resolution of the Taba dispute serves as a model of cooperation between Israel and the countries of the region, especially Jordan.

But Eli Papushado, former owner of the Avia Sonesta Hotel and now manager of the renamed, Egyptian-owned Taba Sonesta, has called into question whether the Israeli authorities are interested in continuing the cooperation in Taba.

Papushado criticized Tourism Minister Gideon Patt for saying Friday that Israelis who continue to frequent Taba have to be "masochists." The minister expressed concern that large-scale tourism to Taba could draw tourists away from hotels in Eilat, particularly if Egypt opens a casino at Taba.

He threatened to impose a travel tax on Israelis wishing to visit the area if Egypt made such a move.

Papushado called Patt's remarks ridiculous, considering all the effort the government had put into easing Israeli access to the resort area during negotiations with the Egyptians.

Meanwhile, Israeli tour operators and tourists are reporting long delays clearing the checkpoint on the Israeli side of the border at Taba.

They have expressed harsh criticism at the inefficiency and ineptness of Israeli border control officials, comparing it unfavorably with the efficiency and courtesy extended by officials on the Egyptian side.

They complained that it took up to an hour to go through the Israeli procedures, but only a few minutes on the Egyptian side.

#### SHAMIR DEPLORES ARSON ATTACKS AGAINST PERCEIVED ISRAELI DOVES By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir spoke out Sunday against a series of arson attacks against well-known Israeli personalities that have security forces baffled.

The attacks apparently are being perpetrated by a previously unknown group calling itself Sicarii -- after the Jewish zealots who engaged in terrorism against the Romans at the end of the Second Temple period.

The group took responsibility for burning the door of the home of pollster Mina Tzemah, who had just published a public opinion survey favoring the left if elections were held today.

The group also took responsibility earlier this month for burning the car door of writer Dan Almador, who has been active in Peace Now, and last week for a similar act on the car of journalist Dan Margalit, who recently interviewed Palestinian activist Faisal al-Husseini.

The group likewise claimed responsibility for an attempt to burn gas containers near the apartment of the son of Knesset member Yair Tzaban of Mapam, the United Workers Party of Israel. Tzaban attended a conference in New York last week, along with officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Shamir reproached the "grave phenomenon" and expressed confidence during Sunday's weekly Cabinet session that the police would uncover the group and bring the responsible parties to justice. He had been under pressure to make a statement because of recent remarks against Peace Now.

#### SIX PALESTINIANS KILLED AS UNREST IN TERRITORIES REACHES NEW PEAK By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- As Palestinian terrorists in recent days tried to infiltrate Israel's northern, southern and eastern borders, unrest in the territories reached a new peak over the weekend, when six Palestinians were killed in clashes with Israeli security forces.

Two Palestinian youths were shot to death and a third youth was wounded in the village of Silat Hartiya, near the West Bank town of Jenin.

Local residents told reporters that the youths were killed as the Israeli army tried to disperse a violent demonstration. The two dead, whose names were not immediately revealed, were reportedly 13 and 14 years old. The army is investigating the case.

But the focus of unrest in the territories this past weekend was the Gaza Strip, where four Palestinians were killed and scores wounded in clashes with security forces.

In one incident, Palestinian saboteurs burned down part of a large tomato-packing house at Moshav Netzer Hazani, in the Katif bloc of Jewish settlements north of Khan Yunis.

The fields of Arab villagers were destroyed at Deir el-Balah, in an apparent act of reprisal.

Three youths were killed and 12 wounded in clashes with security forces in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza on Saturday.

On Sunday, three border policemen were stabbed, apparently by one man, while chasing rioters in Gaza's Tufah neighborhood. The police eventually shot the stabber to death.

Shmuel Goren, coordinator of government affairs in the Israeli-administered territories, on Sunday visited both the Jewish tomato-packing house and the Arab farmers at Deir el-Balah whose fields were damaged.

He expressed regret over the damage done to the Arab fields and said he viewed gravely the fact that someone was taking the law into his own hands.

The civil administration was considering compensating the Arab farmers for the damage.

#### FIREBOMB MURDERER SENTENCED TO LIFE By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- The military court in Nablus on Sunday convicted Mohammad Daoud of Kalkilya for the murder two years ago of Ofra Moses and her son Tal, residents of the West Bank settlement of Alfei Menashe.

Daoud also was found guilty of perpetrating seven other terrorist attacks. His sentence will be handed down Tuesday.

The two were killed April 11, 1987, when a firebomb struck the Moses family car on the road to Petach Tikva. Ofra and Tal Moses were trapped in the car and burned to death. Four others in the car escaped with first-degree burns.

Avraham Moses, the bereaved husband and one of those who was injured, left the courtroom in anger Sunday.

"It is not a matter of revenge that I think capital punishment is the right punishment," he told reporters. "It is a matter of justice."

The military prosecutor, Capt. Ronen Ketscf, said the prosecution refrained from demanding capital punishment and asked for only life imprisonment, not because of mercy, but for "other reasons."

## U.N. LEADER CHALLENGES ARENS ON ISRAELI TREATMENT OF UNIFIL

By Andrew Silow Carroll

UNITED NATIONS, March 19 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar held a brief meeting here Friday, during which Perez was reported to have protested the Israel Defense Force's treatment of U.N. peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon.

The two also discussed the peace process and the situation in the administered territories, but few other details of the 25-minute meeting were available. Arens declined to speak to reporters as he left the secretary-general's office.

A U.N. spokesman said talks about the IDF and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon were conducted as a "discussion in the form of protests."

Israel was criticized by the United Nations two weeks ago for temporarily closing its border with Lebanon to UNIFIL's Norwegian troops. The closing followed an angry but bloodless confrontation between Israeli tanks and UNIFIL vehicles near the Norwegian contingent's headquarters.

Norway has also complained about the IDF's treatment of its soldiers. Relations between the two forces, never amicable, worsened last month after the Norwegian commander likened certain Israeli actions in southern Lebanon to those of Nazis in World War II.

On Tuesday, Perez de Cuellar was highly critical of Israeli actions toward civilians in the administered territories. He told Arab foreign ministers meeting in Saudi Arabia that he had repeatedly called on Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention, which provides for the protection of civilians in wartime.

The secretary-general said there was a need for "urgent efforts" led by the U.N. Security Council to promote Middle East peace negotiations.

Israeli leaders have been cool toward U.N. involvement in a peace settlement for the same reasons they object to an international peace conference. But Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has not completely ruled out some form of U.N. participation.

## ISRAELIS WILL JOIN PALESTINIANS AT ECONOMIC FORUM IN SWITZERLAND

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 19 (JTA) -- Israeli officials from the political mainstream are due to take part in a seminar here later this week that will include the participation of well-known Palestinian activists, as well as prominent American and Soviet officials.

The seminar, on "Economic Development in the Middle East in the Year 2000," is scheduled to take place in Lausanne on Thursday and Friday. It is sponsored by the Getty Institute of the United States and Lord Weidenfeld of Great Britain.

Among the Israelis listed as participating in the program are Meir Sheerit, treasurer of the World Zionist Organization; Knesset members Zalman Shoval of Likud and Abba Eban of Labor; Brig. Gen. Ephraim Sneh, former head of the civil administration in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; and two former high-level Foreign Ministry officials, David Kimche and Nimrod Novik.

The Palestinians invited include: Faisal al-

Husseini, head of the Arab Studies Center in Jerusalem, recently released from administrative detention in Israel; Professor Sari Nusseibeh of Bir Zeit University, long considered a Palestinian moderate; and Hanna Siniora, editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al-Fajr.

Participating Americans include former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, former Middle East envoy Philip Habib and Professor Arthur Hertzberg of Dartmouth University.

Former Soviet Foreign Minister Anatoly Gromyko is also scheduled to take part.

## MOSSAD CHIEF STEPS DOWN AND REVEALS HIS IDENTITY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- After six-and-a-half years in office, Israel's No. 1 secret agent left his office Sunday -- out in the open.

Nahum Admoni quit his job as head of the Mossad, Israel's prestigious foreign intelligence service. He was replaced by yet another classified official, who will remain publicly nameless until he finishes his term in office.

The change of guard took place Sunday at the Prime Minister's Office. The only piece of information on the new head of the Mossad was the fact that he came from within the ranks of the agency. Prior to the change, there were reports that candidates from outside the organization were under consideration.

Admoni's resignation ends 35 years of service with the intelligence agency, for which he was thanked by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The head of Mossad reports directly to the prime minister. Admoni also served under Prime Ministers Menachem Begin and Shimon Peres.

He ended his service on a sour note. A lengthy report in a Tel Aviv local weekly described him as a colorless figure who was responsible for a great deal of Mossad's failures in Europe.

As long as he was in service he was unable to react. Judging from past experience, he is unlikely to do so even now that he is a regular citizen.

## HEALTH CARE IN TERRITORIES FOUND TO BE BETTER THAN WHAT ARABS OFFER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA) -- Health care in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is better today than it was before Israel took control of the territories in 1967 and is superior to that offered in many Arab countries, according to the head of the Israeli Medical Association.

Dr. Ram Yishai made that conclusion in a report he prepared in response to a request to study the situation from the International Medical Association.

"The state of the health system in the territories is better than that existing in most neighboring countries, as well as the situation that existed prior to 1967, when the Gaza Strip was under Egyptian rule and the West Bank under Jordanian rule," Yishai concludes.

"But there is still room for improving the medical level and that of the facilities," he adds.

The report, prepared on the basis of civil administration statistics, points to a drop in infant mortality in Gaza, from 140 incidents of death per 1,000 births before the Six-Day War, to 85 in 1975 and to three incidents in 1989.

**JEWIS IN WEST BERLIN REASSURED  
AFTER LEFT-WING GAINS THERE**

By David Kantor

BONN, March 19 (JTA) -- Prominent members of the new ruling coalition in West Berlin have assured Jewish leaders that the authorities' support for the local Jewish community will remain as steady as ever, despite recent left-wing gains at the electoral polls.

But privately, some of these government members concede that ties with Israel could suffer as a result of ideological and political differences in the new left-wing coalition in West Berlin between the Social Democratic Party and the Alternative List, a branch of the national Green Party.

Both the leadership and the membership of the Greens frequently have shown hostility toward Israel. Critics, some even within the Green Party, have accused the ecologically-minded party of anti-Semitic tendencies.

The charges surfaced during the elections last week in Frankfurt and the federal state of Hesse, when the Greens accused the ruling Christian Democratic Party of trying to stir up anti-Semitism.

The Christian Democrats immediately retorted that the Greens, themselves, have been accused of anti-Semitism.

West Berlin has traditionally maintained very close ties with Israeli institutions and personalities. According to a leading Alternative List member, who asked not to be identified, present contacts between the Germans and Israelis will not suffer.

The immediate priority, he said, is to try to reach out to Arabs in the administered territories. He said that in this respect, the coalition will follow what he called a more "balanced" line than the previous coalition dominated by the Christian Democrats.

West Berlin's new mayor, Walter Momper, is considered by Jewish activists to be a dedicated friend. He is likely to maintain the good working relationship between the authorities and the community's center in Fasanen Street.

The so-called "Red-Green" coalition is also likely to emerge in Frankfurt, home of West Germany's second-largest Jewish community.

**NEO-NAZI PUBLISHERS EXPELLED  
FROM ANNUAL BRUSSELS BOOK FAIR**

By Yossi Lempkowicz

BRUSSELS, March 19 (JTA) -- Publishers of neo-Nazi, racist and anti-Semitic literature were expelled from the annual Brussels book fair Saturday for having disturbed the public order.

The decision to close the controversial stand of Avalon Publishers House was made after a stormy debate on freedom of expression turned into an all-out scuffle between the publishers and left-wing protesters.

The Avalon editors, who were expelled by police order, denounced what they called a "scandalous blow to the fundamental notion of freedom of expression."

A spokesperson for the publishing house said in a television interview, "We are the only ones who cannot express ourselves, now that the whole world is reacting against the Rushdie affair."

This was a reference to the international firestorm over British author Salman Rushdie, whose "Satanic Verses" was declared heresy by

Moslems throughout the world. Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini has called for Rushdie's assassination.

But a representative of Belgian Jewish organizations, Judith Kronfeld, pointed out that Belgium has laws that prohibit and condemn books, articles or declarations that apologize for fascism or Hitlerism.

Among the books displayed at Avalon's stand were revisionist tomes that declare the Holocaust was a hoax or deny the existence of the Nazi gas chambers during World War II.

**ANTI-JEWISH GRAFFITI MAR  
COMPUTER FAIR IN HANOVER**

By David Kantor

BONN, March 19 (JTA) -- Swastikas and anti-Jewish slogans were daubed in the restrooms of two halls at the Cebit computer fair, which closed last Thursday in Hanover.

The fair's management apologized to the Israeli participants, who have been the target of other anti-Semitic displays. Swastikas were found daubed in several restrooms near Israeli stands, including toilet facilities near a reception that took place with heavy Israeli participation.

Management told the Israelis that measures were taken to prevent recurrence of the graffiti.

A West German security officer said the action apparently reflected growing anti-Israeli sentiments in Germany and Europe, where media reports are increasingly portraying the Jewish state as a brutal occupying power.

An Israeli participant at the fair said this was the first time such an incident had occurred.

A total of 23 Israeli companies participated, and most of them reported success in making contacts and promoting business opportunities. Most Israelis came here to show sophisticated software products and to seek local distributors.

**MOVE TO BAN KOSHER SLAUGHTER  
GATHERS FORCE IN NETHERLANDS**

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, March 19 (JTA) -- Just as a moratorium was announced this month on banning kosher slaughter in Sweden, a similar problem is being reported in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands Council of State -- the country's highest decision-making body on matters of administrative law -- heard a petition last Thursday by the Netherlands Society for the Protection of Animals that ritual slaughtering of animals by Jews for the purpose of export be forbidden.

The animal protection society has repeatedly tried to have ritual slaughtering by Jews forbidden entirely.

Holland, like Sweden, practices the stunning of animals before killing and regards kosher slaughter as inhumane -- the exact opposite of the intended purpose of kosher slaughter.

Religious Jews in Holland are now few in number, and the demand for kosher food is reportedly negligible here.

Ultra-Orthodox Jews here largely import their meat from nearby Antwerp, Belgium, home to a sizable community of Hasidic and other Orthodox Jews.

The animal protection society now wants the Council of State to order the Ministry of Agriculture to withdraw its license for Jewish ritual slaughter.