

**SOLDIERS BAR GAZANS FROM ISRAEL FOR LACKING NEW IDENTITY CARDS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Several hundred Gaza Strip laborers were denied entry into Israel on Thursday because they did not have the new magnetized identification cards issued by the Israeli authorities.

The Arab workers, who are employed in Israel, were turned back by security forces at the Erez checkpoint even though showing the cards is not supposed to be mandatory until Friday.

No explanation was given as to why the deadline was advanced. Some observers suggested that the security forces wanted to impress the Gaza residents that they mean business.

The head of the civil administration in Gaza, Brig. Gen. Arye Ramot, personally inspected the checkpoint Thursday morning and said that new ID cards were made necessary by a wave of assaults on Israeli citizens attributed to Arabs from the Gaza Strip.

The new computerized cards, Ramot said, "prevent those people who do not have a clean security or criminal record from entering Israel."

He said 60,000 new cards have been issued and an additional 30,000 to 40,000 will be issued in the next few weeks.

But leaders of the Palestinian uprising say they have been seizing the new cards almost as fast as they are issued.

Ramot estimated that about 2,000 workers had their cards confiscated, and about half of them have been given replacements.

About 110,000 Gaza Arabs commute to jobs in Israel every day.

Leaflet No. 44 issued this week by the uprising committees urged Gaza Arabs to boycott their jobs in Israel for one week starting Friday.

Ramot said if there is a strike, Israel would win because the Gazans depend on their jobs for survival.

But some Palestinians contend they could live without wages for a month whereas Israeli factories would be forced to close in days without cheap Arab labor.

**ISRAEL'S LEBANON SECURITY ZONE HOME TO 25,000 BEIRUT REFUGEES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Israel has allowed some 25,000 refugees from Beirut into the southern Lebanon security zone as a humanitarian gesture, despite the fact that 90 percent of them are Shiites, a Moslem community hostile to Israel, according to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Speaking to a group of Israeli and foreign correspondents during a visit to the security zone Thursday, Rabin contrasted Israel's humanitarian gesture with the failure of the world community to halt the Syrian bombardment of Beirut.

The security zone is an enclave parallel to the Israel border which is policed by the Israel Defense Force and its surrogate South Lebanon Army.

Rabin held his impromptu news conference at the Beth Yahoun crossing, where refugees from the fighting in northern and central Lebanon

arrive daily.

As he spoke, Rabin pointed to a family -- including 2- and 3-year-old toddlers -- who were just arriving from shell-torn Beirut with whatever possessions they could rescue on their backs.

The world powers express shock and regrets but do nothing to put a stop to the "genocide," Rabin told the journalists.

He was repeating the charge leveled by the Israeli Foreign Ministry on Wednesday, after the U.N. Security Council convened to deal with the carnage in Lebanon but failed even to pass a formal resolution condemning the bloodshed.

At least 800 Lebanese are believed to have died and thousands have been injured since the Syrian army launched an artillery and rocket attack two weeks ago on Lebanese Christian strongholds defended by the forces of Gen. Michel Aoun.

Rabin gave vent to a familiar complaint of Israelis that they are held to a higher standard of conduct than others.

"When the Syrians started killing scores of hundreds of people in and around Beirut, nobody bothered to summon the Security Council," Rabin said.

"But when three of our soldiers overstepped the rules of military conduct in Nablus, we were denounced throughout the world."

Rabin dismissed a statement attributed to the Syrian foreign minister, Mustafa Klas, that Damascus would allow the Palestine Liberation Organization and other terrorist groups to attack Israel from Syrian territory.

"I cannot imagine that the Syrians will allow terrorists to act against us anywhere along the Israel-Syria frontier on the Golan Heights," he said.

"That would be a serious contravention of the separation of forces agreement between them and us on the Golan Heights, and the Syrians are aware of what Israel's reaction would be to such attacks."

**PALESTINIANS TURN TO WEAPONS IN LATEST TACTIC OF INTIFADA**

By Gil Sedan

NABLUS, West Bank, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Israeli officials say that leaders of the intifada, no longer able to incite mass disturbances, are resorting to individual acts of violence against Israeli targets with deadly weapons.

They point to events on Thursday morning as an example.

By 10 a.m., crowds here in Nablus, the largest Arab town in the West Bank, were thick at the fruit and vegetable stands where many shoppers were stocking up for the weekend.

Suddenly, three pistol shots rang out.

Within seconds, the shoppers and vendors took shelter, and steel shutters were pulled down over shop windows. Within minutes, the market was crawling with soldiers.

The shots, fired at an Israel Defense Force lookout post on a building in the center of town, came from among trees on a grassy mall that divides Nablus' main street. One bullet struck the butt of a soldier's rifle, barely missing the soldier.

The IDF closed off the area immediately and began a house-to-house search. Several suspects were arrested.

Firearms have been used only rarely in the intifada. By and large, the Arab populace has obeyed the Palestine Liberation Organization's injunction to stick to throwing stones, believing that it has earned the Palestinians sympathy in world opinion for exercising restraint.

But recently, "hot" weapons have come into play.

On Wednesday night, an armed terrorist was killed in a clash with security forces in Idna village in the Hebron hills.

Two Israeli tax collectors, driving to work in Ramallah on Monday, were severely burned when gasoline bombs struck their car. Gas bombs were also thrown at soldiers in Nablus 10 days ago.

The shooting in Nablus occurred shortly before four U.S. lawmakers visited the city to see the intifada first hand.

Rep. Robert Wise (D-W.Va.) said the situation reminded him of Belfast; Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) said the American news media were not showing the intifada as it was; and Rep. James McDermott (D-Wash.) said their junket was important because "there is interest in the United States where American money goes."

#### ISRAEL AND STATE DEPARTMENT DENY D.C.-JERUSALEM FRICTION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office denied a New York Times report Thursday that the hostage situation was straining relations between Israel and the United States.

Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media spokesman, said that Shamir has had no recent communication from President Bush, and denied that Shamir received an uncharacteristically harsh cable from the White House on Aug. 1.

The Times said Israeli officials found the communique so "offensive" in tone and content that they declined to respond.

In Washington, meanwhile, the State Department's deputy spokesman, Richard Boucher, responding to the Times' story, said "There's been no shift in our relations with Israel."

He called the relationship "close," "abiding" and "enduring."

But Israel Radio's Washington correspondent reported Thursday that despite efforts by officials on both sides to play down tensions, sharply discernible friction has developed between Israel and the United States since the kidnaping of Obeid.

According to the Times story, the administration demanded to know what goals Israel was pursuing and specifically why it abducted Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid of the extremist Hezbollah, or Party of God, from his home in southern Lebanon on July 28.

The cable was sent immediately after the White House viewed a videotape that purported to show the hanging of Lt. Col. William Higgins, an American hostage held by Hezbollah.

Eight days later, Shamir telephoned Bush and the two discussed many of the points raised in the cable. But the Times said Bush complained to aides afterwards that he still had not gotten the answers he sought from Shamir.

(JTA Washington reporter Howard Rosenberg contributed to this report.)

#### 'VITRIOLIC' STATEMENT IN SOVIET PRESS MARKS ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE'S RETURN

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Rumored to have been withered by the winds of glasnost, the Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee has re-emerged with a vengeance.

Jewish groups in the United States have denounced a recent statement by the Jewish-led committee which equated Zionism with racism and claimed that Zionist activity in the Soviet Union could only lead to "anti-Jewish sentiments in this country."

The statement was carried in the official Soviet news agency Tass, giving it a sheen of government approval that worries U.S. Soviet Jewry activists.

In a joint statement, two Jewish groups said they were "outraged" that the committee was given a "media platform for its vitriolic, anti-Zionist, anti-Semitic rhetoric."

The statement was signed by Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Seymour Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

"We seek assurances that the 'spirit of glasnost' will not be used as an excuse for encouraging the baiting of Soviet Jews as being 'anti-Soviet,' and that such an attitude will never reflect official policy," they said.

Similarly, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith called on Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, whose liberalization policies known as glasnost have seen a limited rebirth of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union, to "forcefully denounce" the statement.

"Government-sanctioned anti-Zionism is contrary to the letter and spirit of recent Soviet commitments in the field of human rights," said Burton Levinson, ADL's national chairman, and Abraham Foxman, its national director, in a statement.

Jewish groups have denounced the Anti-Zionist Committee since it was formed six years ago -- before Gorbachev came to power -- ostensibly as the voice of anti-Zionist Judaism in the Soviet Union.

The committee's few visible members have said the group was meant to show not that Zionism is evil, but that a viable Jewish life is possible in the Soviet Union and that not all Jews were seeking to emigrate.

Last year, Soviet officials and committee co-founder Samuel Zivs assured American Jewish leaders that the committee was being disbanded. Zivs said he had resigned his leadership.

The Aug. 8 Tass report, however, follows by one week the first meeting of a Soviet Zionist organization founded by activist and Hebrew teacher Arye (Lev) Gorodetsky.

According to Tass' paraphrase, the "presidium" of the Anti-Zionist Committee said the activities of the Zionist group "would only result in kindling anti-Jewish sentiments in the country" and represented a "deliberate stoking up of tension in inter-ethnic relations."

Describing Zionism as "warlike," the "presidium" repeats the U.N. General Assembly's 1975 assertion that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination, and says Zionism "is used against the interest of the Jewish working people and in practice joins ranks with rabid anti-Semitism."



## CULTURAL ACTIVISM NEW FOCUS OF SOVIET JEWRY ORGANIZATIONS

By Allison Kaplan

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- During the darkest days of the Soviet Jewry movement, American Jews felt lucky when they managed to travel to the Soviet Union and meet with some of the thousands of refusenik families forbidden to either leave the Soviet Union or to openly take part in Jewish religion or culture.

"In the height of the despair, it was a question of Americans bringing messages of comfort and hope to the refusenik community," said Gerald Strober of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

But with the growing numbers of Jews being given permission to emigrate, the national leadership of the Soviet Jewry movement is now emphasizing cultural and religious development within the Soviet Jewish community as an important new focus of visits by American Jews.

The movement, to be sure, has not forgotten the approximately 2,000 refusenik families that remain in the Soviet Union.

However, in the present climate, there is a widespread acknowledgement that refuseniks should now no longer be the only Soviet Jews with whom American Jews make contact.

"Even at the best rate of emigration, Jews will be living in the Soviet Union for generations, if not forever," said Micah Naftalin, national director of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Leaders are referring to the changes under Mikhail Gorbachev -- allowing greater religious and cultural expression -- as "a window of opportunity."

### Carpe Diem

While there is no guarantee as to how long that window will remain open, they say the chance must be seized now to help the Soviet Jews develop a healthy communal life.

Next month, for the first time, the United Jewish Appeal will be officially sponsoring a travel mission to the Soviet Union. The 20-member group, composed of UJA donors from across the country, will visit Leningrad and Minsk.

Visiting refuseniks will be part of the mission's itinerary, but efforts will be made to "participate in whatever Jewish cultural events are available," according to a UJA official.

Conveying this new focus on cultural activism to communities across the Soviet Union is a central function also being played by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

"Reaching out to the invisible and anonymous Jews" in the Soviet Union is how Al Chernin, executive vice chairman of NJCRAC, sees the post-glasnost challenge for American Jews.

"We should play the role of a Pied Piper for Jews whose names are not on any list," said Chernin.

Recently, NJCRAC and the NCSJ held a meeting for 35 local directors of community relations councils for discussions about how this new orientation should shape local activities.

At the meeting, Rabbi Doug Kahn, the CRC director for greater San Francisco, gave a presentation on a pioneering experiment in reaching out to Soviet Jews developed in his community.

In June, seven rabbis and seven ministers traveled to Moscow to meet formally with their religious counterparts. The non-Jewish clergy included Episcopalians, Baptists, Methodists,

Congregationalists, Catholics and Presbyterians, while the rabbis came from synagogues across the greater San Francisco area.

Their trip revolved around what was billed as a three-day conference on human dignity and Jewish-Christian tradition, a gathering organized and arranged by the American participants and the Jewish Cultural Center in Moscow.

Kahn said the main goal of the trip, and its "single-most achievement," was the ability to display positive interreligious relationships to the Soviets.

"We were modeling interfaith cooperation for Soviet Jews and Christians who have had no model of interfaith relations," he said.

### 'Interest Level Astounding'

Kahn said that the San Franciscans hadn't known how the project was going to be received when they planned the event, but that they found "the interest level astounding" among the Soviets. He said that the 60-odd Soviets who took part in the conference discovered common goals in their two communities.

The conference concluded with a vote on a declaration on human dignity and religious relations. Kahn said the document was being circulated among various religious communities in the Soviet Union, and that hopes were high that it could result in the formation of a Soviet interfaith organization.

"We weren't trying to import a uniquely American phenomenon. We were exploring to what extent Soviet Jews and Soviet Christians do have common interests," said Kahn.

The conference was also notable in that it was apparently free of interference by the Soviet government.

"We proceeded on the premise that we should be able to do what we want," Kahn said, adding that the conference was arranged in this manner in order to "test or even expand the limits of glasnost."

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews will conduct a similar test when they hold a 10-day conference in the Soviet Union in October.

UCSJ's Naftalin said that about 50 Jews from the West and about 100 Soviet Jews are expected to take part in the meeting, which will be held in Moscow and Leningrad.

### Focus On Communal Life

Naftalin said while there will be sessions on emigration, a substantial part of the conference will focus on Soviet Jewish communal life.

The meeting will include reports from the burgeoning Jewish communal life in the Soviet Union including, Naftalin said, a new yeshiva, a new Zionist organization which is being formed and a Jewish historical society. There will also be a full-day session on anti-Semitism.

Naftalin said that he doesn't believe encouraging Jewish communal life in the Soviet Union detracts from the UCSJ's call for free emigration.

His philosophy, he said, is to "advocate emigration as if there is no future for Jews in the Soviet Union, and the same time support the Jewish infrastructure that exists there."

He added that the goal for American Jews working with Jews in the Soviet Union should be to help them build strong independent institutions.

"We have to develop a situation where the Soviet government will deal with their own Jews and not one where progress is only made when western Jews get involved," Naftalin said.

## CONGRESSMAN CHARGES OSI WITH TRASHING 'IVAN' FILES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Rep. James Traficant Jr. (D-Ohio) has accused the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations of throwing out two documents requested by convicted Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk.

Such an act, Traficant says, would violate a federal judge's order.

The OSI, which handles war crimes, denied the charge and claimed in turn that Demjanjuk's supporters obtained copies of the documents in question without OSI approval, possibly by stealing them.

Demjanjuk, a retired Cleveland autoworker, was denaturalized in 1981 and extradited to Israel in 1986.

He was sentenced to death April 25, 1988, after being convicted a week earlier of being "Ivan the Terrible," the man who operated the gas chambers at Treblinka, where an estimated 900,000 Jews died. The appeal is scheduled to be heard Nov. 1.

Edward Nishnic, Demjanjuk's son-in-law, said he hopes that his father-in-law's Israeli lawyer, Yoram Sheftel, will seek a delay of the appeal in November on the grounds that the OSI threw out crucial evidence.

The Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility is currently investigating Traficant's charge, as well as various charges contained in a 60-page memorandum from John Broadley, Nishnic's lawyer.

The memos said to have been discarded were written after OSI's 1979 interview with former Nazi prison guard Otto Horn in West Berlin.

One of the memos, written by OSI investigator Bernard Dougherty, was included in the record in Israel by Demjanjuk's lawyers.

### Not Included In Trial

The other memo, written by OSI historian George Garand, was not included in the record because Demjanjuk's defense did not uncover it until after the trial, according to supporters of Demjanjuk.

Horn testified in Demjanjuk's denaturalization hearing in 1979 that he identified "this Iwan" (sic) in the first set of photographs provided by OSI investigators who interviewed him.

But both memos state that Horn identified Demjanjuk only after being shown the photographs a second time. On the second showing, Demjanjuk's picture was face up on top of the pile.

The OSI contends there would have been no substantial effect on Demjanjuk's trial in Israel had the Garand memo been included in the record.

But in a press conference recently, Traficant claimed that OSI violated the law by not providing the memos to Demjanjuk's defense, as mandated in April 1987 by Judge Louis Oberdorfer of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Oberdorfer had upheld a Freedom of Information Act request filed by Nishnic, who is president and administrator of the John Demjanjuk Defense Fund. Oberdorfer's order required OSI to provide all relevant documents on the case, with a few specified exceptions listed in an index.

The Dougherty and Garand memos were neither provided nor contained in the index.

John Demjanjuk Jr. told the Jewish Tele-

graphic Agency that "the OSI acted as if they (the memos) did not even exist."

Neal Sher, OSI's director, called the charges "an extralegal attempt to influence the courts," but refused to comment further.

A well-placed department official said OSI does not throw out original documents and questioned how Demjanjuk's defense legally obtained the two memos.

Traficant aides showed JTA the original copies of the documents, both of them in neat, unblemished condition.

Nishnic said the memos were found in the trash outside OSI's former offices on K Street, which it vacated in May 1987.

Demjanjuk Jr. said the documents were initially leaked to him by two Washington-area people who recovered the garbage and who later revealed themselves to Demjanjuk's defense team.

### Reserved For Appeal

Nishnic said he has affidavits from them, but that they would not come forward until it is necessary to testify in court or before Congress that the documents were found in the trash.

When asked to provide the name of another original document found in the trash, to be cross-checked with OSI records, Nishnic refused, saying that would be reserved for the appeal.

He claimed that contained in the OSI trash were "boxes of unwrinkled paper," such as the one that allegedly contained the Dougherty and Garand memos. OSI was "dumping entire files," Nishnic said.

However, a box next to Traficant's desk on Capitol Hill containing what the congressman said was OSI garbage contained no other original documents in condition comparable to the two unblemished memos. All documents in the box were torn into at least four parts.

Kalman Sultanik, a World Jewish Congress vice president, wrote to Traficant last week not only to complain about his accusations against OSI but to criticize the lawmaker's comment at his press conference that Horn's testimony was important because he was the only non-Jew to identify Demjanjuk.

"Your statement can only be read as suggesting that Jews (or is it only Jewish survivors of the Holocaust?) are inherently untrustworthy. This is bigotry, pure and simple, Congressman," wrote Sultanik.

### Jewish Testimony Less Credible

A Traficant aide acknowledged his boss' statement, but defended it by saying it is similar to a passage in a Feb. 19, 1986, memo by OSI trial attorney Bruce Einhorn.

That memo said that "the risk of reliance on testimony of Holocaust survivors . . . may be decreased by the use of corroborating evidence such as former Nazi collaborators like Horn."

The aide added that his boss did not mean "to infer that he felt that Jewish testimony was any less credible."

Traficant, in a letter he wrote July 26, has also asked Rep. Bruce Morrison (D-Conn.), chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on immigration, refugees and international law, to investigate the "practices and patterns of behavior" at the OSI.

Morrison has requested a report from OSI on Traficant's allegations. He will wait until he receives the report before he proceeds any further, said Paul Donnelly, Morrison's press liaison.