

**JEWISH RIOT ERUPTS IN JERUSALEM
AFTER 2 TEEN-AGERS ARE FOUND KILLED
By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- Riots broke out in Jerusalem on Monday night as Jews infuriated by the brutal murders of two Israeli teenagers over the weekend indiscriminately attacked Arabs and stoned and set fire to their cars.

The violence erupted despite the presence of heavy police details and appeals of restraint made by Mayor Teddy Kollek and Police Inspector General Ya'acov Terner.

The youths, Ronen Karami, 18 and Lior Tubol, 17, were traveling from Jerusalem on Saturday to Givat Ze'ev, a West Bank settlement a few miles from the city.

Their mutilated bodies were found Monday in an olive grove thick with a deep ravine near the Arab neighborhood of Beit Hanina, less than a mile from where they were last seen Saturday night by a friend who gave them a lift part of the way to their destination.

The bodies were extricated from the ravine by helicopter.

Their skulls were smashed and they bore numerous stab wounds in the back. The boys' arms were tied behind their backs and clothing was stuffed into their mouths.

Police reinforcements were rushed to the area of the killing between the Jewish suburb of Ramot and Beit Hanina, to prevent Jewish residents from wreaking vengeance.

Violence Erupts

But violence erupted on the other side of town, where the Jewish neighborhood of Patt and the Arab village of Beit Safafa virtually abut each other.

Jewish and Arab youths hurled stones as the police tried with great difficulty to keep them apart.

Arabs driving to work in East Jerusalem were stoned by Jews. In several instances they abandoned their cars in panic.

One Arab car was set on fire and pushed off the Bethlehem road between Gilo and Beit Safafa.

At least one television cameraman was hospitalized for head wounds Monday after he and members of his crew were stoned by Jews.

The two had left Jerusalem Saturday to visit their girlfriends, Maya Avrahami and Kinneret Mizrahi, who live in Givat Ze'ev.

The friend who gave them a lift dropped them off at a road junction near Ramot, where they apparently expected to hitch a ride to Givat Ze'ev.

When the youths failed to arrive at Givat Ze'ev, the girls telephoned their homes.

Kidnapping was immediately suspected and a massive search was mounted. More than 1,000 soldiers and police combed the hilly country, mounted and on foot, all day Sunday and into Monday afternoon, when the bodies were found. They were aided by trackers, trained dogs and helicopters.

The killings only added to tensions between Jews and Arabs, which were exacerbated following the pipe bomb killing of a Canadian tourist, 17-year-old Marnie Kimmelman, on the crowded Tel

Aviv beach July 28.

The double murders have aggravated a situation made even more volatile by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Thursday.

Politicians of all persuasions reacted swiftly to the brutal killings.

"The failure of Palestinians to condemn terrorism categorically and to expel from their midst those who perpetuate it casts a grave doubt on their ability to advance toward real peace with Israel," Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said.

"The Palestinian inhabitants must understand that continued terrorism will first and foremost hurt Palestinians themselves," he said.

The Labor Party Knesset faction expressed shock over the "inhumane and despicable act."

Labor Knesset member Shevah Weiss said such occurrences deepen the animosity between Jews and Arabs and make dialogue more difficult. Weiss said they amount to "the murder of peace."

The left-wing Citizens Rights Movement issued a toughly worded statement calling such brutal crimes the main enemy of peace between Jews and Arabs.

Yehoshua Matza of Likud claimed Jewish-Arab dialogue encouraged terrorism. He specifically denounced a meeting in Jerusalem on Sunday between a group of leftist Knesset members and prominent local Palestinians.

Kollek seemed resigned to a prolonged period of tension. Under present circumstances, he said, little could be done to prevent acts of terrorism, and the country will have to live with them for a long time to come.

"Perhaps we could have reached a settlement 10 years or three years ago, but now, particularly after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, there is nothing to do except to strengthen ourselves and learn to live with it," the Jerusalem mayor added.

**LEVY-BAKER MEETING POSTPONED
AS PERSIAN GULF TAKES PRECEDENCE**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- Secretary of State James Baker has postponed a meeting planned for Thursday with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, and instead will visit Turkey to discuss further strategy in dealing with Iraq.

The meeting has been rescheduled for Sept. 6 or 7, State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler announced Monday.

But Tutwiler said the Iraqi invasion "doesn't alter" U.S. hopes for Israeli acquiescence to U.S. proposals for holding Israel-Palestinian talks in Cairo, in order to discuss possible elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Oded Eran, Israel's deputy ambassador here, said he was not surprised by the State Department's continuing interest in such a meeting. "I don't think (the Iraqi invasion) changes very drastically the U.S. position on this issue," Eran said.

Ever since Iraq's invasion last week of neighboring Kuwait, government officials in Israel have been saying how the event would sharply reduce U.S. pressure on Israel to start a dialogue with Palestinians in Cairo.

However, Eran said, "They will continue to

work on the same issues that were at the center of the dialogue between Israel and the United States."

Tutwiler said the invasion "underscores" the need for all countries in the Middle East to achieve peace. Peace between Israel and Arab countries would provide "another way to counter Saddam Hussein's objectives in the area," Tutwiler argued.

Ernan agreed with political analysts who are calling Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak a loser in Iraq's display of power. "I'm sure that he is," he said, indicating it would hurt Mubarak's ability to gain support among Arab states for a more diplomatic posture toward Israel.

The postponement follows an earlier one of a planned Baker-Levy meeting in Paris that was put off because of Levy's recuperation from heart ailments.

Ernan said the Iraqi invasion "underlies the dangers that we saw long ago" in Hussein as a threat to other countries in the region.

He did not rule out any Israeli military support, such as use of air bases, for U.S. forces being deployed in the region and added, "The U.S. knows we are there, and if they need anything, we are there."

In another development Monday, Iraq rounded up 28 U.S. citizens from three Kuwaiti hotels and placed them on buses, Tutwiler confirmed. There were also reports of hundreds of other foreign nationals being taken by Iraq from Kuwait. But Tutwiler refused to call the 28 Americans "hostages," saying it was unclear what Iraq was going to do to them.

U.S., British and French warships have taken up positions in the surrounding Mediterranean, Arabian and Red Seas to enforce a blockade of any Iraqi oil shipments attempted through Turkey and Saudi Arabia, the Washington Post reported.

The biggest immediate help in sanctions against Iraq that the United States can receive is a halt in the flow of Iraqi oil through a Turkish pipeline.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney arrived in Saudi Arabia on Monday not only to help prepare against any Iraqi invasion but to gain Saudi support as well for closing down its oil pipeline from Iraq.

ISRAEL MAINTAINING LOW PROFILE IN WORLD SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ
By Allison Kaplan

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- As the United Nations Security Council took historic harsh measures against Iraq on Monday, it appeared that Israel was keeping a very low profile in the worldwide diplomatic and economic battle against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Analysts have argued that any highly public Israeli role would hurt U.S. efforts to galvanize a unified Arab front against Hussein.

In Washington, Deputy Ambassador Oded Ernan agreed with this strategy, and said the United States has not requested any prominent Israeli role in countering Hussein.

"Let the rest of the world deal with this, because this is the only effective way," Ernan said.

At the White House on Monday, spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said that Bush has not spoken to Israeli leaders since the invasion, while speaking to other worldwide leaders.

Israel's acting permanent representative to

the United Nations, Johanan Bein, said that Israel was "not active" in U.S. efforts there to mobilize support for sanctions against Iraq.

The U.S. succeeded Monday in pushing through the Security Council tough economic measures against Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, including an arms embargo and a ban on their oil exports.

The 15-member Security Council approved the stringent measures with a 13-0 vote. Only Cuba and Yemen abstained from voting.

The resolution adopted stated that the Security Council was "determined to bring the invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq to an end and to restore the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait."

The mandatory sanctions contained in the resolution prohibit all trade, imports and exports with Iraq and Kuwait, which are under the control of Saddam Hussein.

The United Nations has imposed mandatory sanctions only twice before in its history: In 1966, it took economic measures against the white-dominated African colony of Rhodesia, which later became Zimbabwe; and in 1977 it imposed an arms embargo against South Africa, which is still in effect.

The Security Council also set up a committee to monitor whether member nations are abiding by the sanctions against Iraq.

(JTA correspondent Howard Rosenberg in Washington contributed to this report.)

ISRAELI HOMELESS AT U.S. CONSULATE REQUEST IMMIGRATION AS REFUGEES
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- A small group of Jerusalem homeless camped Monday on the grounds of the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem, declaring they would apply for refugee status in the United States because they cannot live normal lives in their own country.

American officials distributed alien immigration application forms.

One woman said she would rather live on the streets of New York than be without a home in Israel.

Although the 20-odd demonstrators were only a handful, they represented a growing number of Israelis affected by the nation's housing crisis.

They derived little comfort from Sunday's meeting of the so-called Aliyah Cabinet, the ministerial committee directly concerned with immigration and absorption, which includes housing.

Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz was pessimistic when he emerged from the meeting.

"Many immigrants will come in the near future," he said, but "regardless of our wishes, we shall not be able to supply them all with housing."

The Israel Defense Force, meanwhile, offered 5,000 housing units in recreation camps used by military personnel and in regular military camps that are not classified secret.

Maj. Gen. Danny Yatom, head of the IDF's Planning Division, told the Cabinet the army could immediately absorb 700 families and 2,500 single people.

Low-income Israelis, especially young couples, are competing for scarce housing with newly arrived immigrants, mainly from the Soviet Union.

Hundreds of these new homeless are now living in tent cities all over the country.

**KNESSET DENOUNCED BY POLICYMAKERS
FOR \$1 BILLION HOUSING DECISION**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- Two of the country's leading economic policymakers have taken sharp issue with the government over its decision to spend more than \$1 billion outside the regular budget for imported housing.

Professor Michael Bruno, governor of the Bank of Israel, the country's central bank, said the measure would open the way to "disaster."

Ya'acov Lifshitz, the Treasury's director general, predicted that the government would have a hard time finding the extra billion dollars.

Both officials agreed with Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, who fought a tough but losing battle against the extra expenditure for imported prefabricated housing, an expense he called inflationary and capable of crippling the economy.

Moda'i and three colleagues nearly precipitated the downfall of the Likud-led government Thursday when they absented themselves from the Knesset during the vote for a supplementary budget.

A government loss on the issue would have been interpreted as a no-confidence vote. The Agudat Yisrael faction, nominally part of the opposition, raised its hands to save Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's regime.

The incident demonstrated Moda'i's cold anger over the government's decision to import the housing "without consulting him."

Determined To Solve Crises

The episode was the latest in the Treasury's running battle with Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, who is determined to solve Israel's housing crisis as swiftly as possible, regardless of cost.

Warning that the housing shortage could end aliyah from the Soviet Union and stir social unrest in Israel, Sharon demanded a crash program.

Instead, Sharon proposed importing tens of thousands of prefabricated houses and mobile homes over the next two years.

But the \$3 billion price tag was too daunting.

Shamir proposed a compromise, which the Cabinet, except Moda'i, agreed to Thursday.

It calls for the import of 5,000 mobile homes for \$75 million and another \$180 million for 9,000 prefabricated homes.

According to the Treasury, an additional budget of \$1.25 billion would be required.

Moda'i attempted to block it in the Knesset with the help of three colleagues from Likud's Liberal Party wing. They defected from Likud early this year to form an independent Knesset faction, but returned to the fold in time to enable Shamir to put together a governing coalition with the right-wing and religious parties.

Although Moda'i holds a prestigious and influential portfolio, he no longer enjoys high status in the Likud leadership as a result of that political gamble.

But he may very well be right on the issue of the housing budget, according to Dov Genihovsky, an economic analyst writing Sunday in Yediot Achronot.

"The compromise over the import of houses was a mistake in any case," Genihovsky said.

"If Sharon is right, the government decided on too few houses. If Moda'i is right, then there are too many."

**IRA SILVERMAN STEPS DOWN
AS HEAD OF AJCOMMITTEE**

By Allison Kaplan

NEW YORK, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee has announced that Ira Silverman, its executive vice president, has stepped down after a year of battling health problems.

"The American Jewish Committee is an organization struggling for its health, and I'm a person struggling for mine. That partnership isn't as strong as what's needed," Silverman said in a telephone interview.

Silverman was referring to financial cutbacks and extensive restructuring which AJCommittee has undergone during the past year, problems which have been affected by instability in the organization's professional leadership.

Silverman's resignation represents the sixth time in the past decade that AJCommittee has had to search for a new executive vice president.

Sholom Comay, president of the AJCommittee, said that the organization hoped to replace Silverman "as quickly as is humanly possible." He said that it was hoped that a new executive vice president would be in place by early September.

"We hope to find a new professional leader who will exemplify the same qualities of vision, competence and leadership that Ira Silverman has given to the American Jewish Committee," Comay said.

Silverman, who took the helm at AJCommittee in June 1988, has suffered from digestive ailments since last summer. In December, associate executive vice president Shula Bahat officially stepped into Silverman's shoes as acting executive vice president.

"We all had hoped and Ira had hoped that he would recover fully," said Comay. "But that didn't happen."

Comay said that Silverman would remain affiliated with AJCommittee as head of the organization's Institute for Human Relations.

**PROMINENT LUBAVITCH RABBI
JACOB HECHT DEAD AT 66**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 6 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held Monday for Rabbi Jacob Hecht, 66, a prominent spiritual leader and member of the Lubavitch Chabad movement whose voice was known to tens of thousands from his Sunday radio programs.

Hecht died Sunday of heart failure while dining with campers at Camp Emunah, a Lubavitch summer camp for girls in Greenfield Park, N.Y. Hecht was founder and director of the camp.

Hecht, the official interpreter for the Lubavitcher rebbe, Menachem Schneerson, during the rebbe's discourses, was best known for his "Anti-Shmad (Conversion) Campaign," in which he was successful in deterring many Jews, particularly young people, from converting away from Judaism.

The campaign was featured in his weekly radio program, "Shema Yisroel," which was broadcast Sunday afternoons on WEVD.

Hecht was rabbi of Congregation Yeshiva Meir Simcha HaCohen of East Flatbush, and was for 44 years executive vice president of the National Committee for the Furtherance of Jewish Education.

He was author of two books, "Brimstone and Fire" and "A Book of Sermons and Essays on Judaism."

ADL CRITICIZES FILMMAKER SPIKE LEE FOR STEREOTYPING JEWISH CHARACTERS

By Allison Kaplan

NEW YORK, Aug. 6 -- Filmmaker Spike Lee's portrayal of two Jewish jazz club owners in the new film "Mo' Better Blues" is being called anti-Semitic by both the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and some leading film critics.

In his previous three movies, including last year's "Do The Right Thing," Lee vividly explored the black experience and the effects of racial prejudice in America. In "Mo' Better Blues," his central character is a black trumpet player who tries unsuccessfully to wheedle a raise from the two Jewish owners of the jazz club where his band performs.

The two-dimensional depiction of the two brothers, named Moe and Josh Flatbush, who appear in brief scenes throughout the movie, was sharply criticized by Abraham Foxman, national director of the ADL.

"Spike Lee's characterization of Moe and Josh Flatbush as greedy and unscrupulous club owners dredges up an age-old and highly dangerous form of anti-Semitic stereotyping," Foxman said.

"ADL is disappointed that Spike Lee -- whose success is largely due to his efforts to break down racial stereotypes and prejudice -- has employed the same kind of tactics that he supposedly deplores."

Foxman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he issued the statement in the same spirit that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League have protested stereotypical portrayals of blacks.

'Simplistic And Crude'

"Here's a man who's creative," Foxman said of the black filmmaker, "yet he falls back on these stereotypes that are so simplistic and crude. There are many ways to portray greedy people. He had all kinds of choices. That's the choice he made."

Susan Fowler, a spokeswoman at Lee's Forty Acres and a Mule production company, said the writer/director was not issuing a statement in response to the ADL's charges. Lee feels that "the movie speaks for itself," Fowler said.

On Monday, the Los Angeles Times surveyed leading film critics, and while many agreed with the ADL charges, some also defended Lee's right of free artistic expression.

One of the sharpest rebukes came from David Ansen of Newsweek, who said in his review that the Flatbush brothers are "caricatured as villainous Shylocks." Coming "from a self-proclaimed enemy of ethnic stereotyping, this is inexcusable," he wrote.

New York Times critic Caryn James also described the two club owners as "money-grubbing, devious, ugly stereotypes with sharks' smiles," and asks, "What could have been going through Lee's mind when he invented the Jewish club owners?"

David Denby, the critic for New York magazine, agreed that Lee was feeding the currently "fashionable" anti-Semitism among black people.

But he also warned that it was dangerous to pin labels like "misogynous," "racist" or "anti-Semitic" on films, because "you get to the point where you can't say anything," Denby said.

Time magazine critic Richard Schickel panned Lee for his constant stereotyping of

characters in all his films, but did not specifically touch on the Flatbush issue in his review.

"I didn't take this to be anti-Semitism on his part," Schickel said. "These guys are fringe characters who operate marginal show business enterprises with a shrewd eye to the main chance. The type is familiar to anyone in show business . . . and not particularly Jewish. We're not talking Shylock here."

Though Lee has not responded to the criticism directly, he told Variety columnist Army Archerd last week that his own father played for jazz clubs that were owned by Jews and that he did not intend the Flatbush brothers as an indictment of all Jewish club owners.

"But the facts are that black artists have always had to struggle to be paid what their white counterparts were paid," Lee said.

Right To Creative Freedom

Lee also questioned in the interview whether the Jewish top executives at Universal Pictures, Lou Wasserman and Sidney Sheinberg, would have released the film if it struck them as obviously anti-Semitic.

The two executives were quoted in Variety as defending Lee's right to creative freedom, and a studio spokeswoman reiterated this point.

"We understand the concerns," she said, "but we are not in the business of censoring filmmakers. We didn't try on "The Last Temptation of Christ" and we aren't now. We stand behind freedom of speech. Once you start censoring, where do you stop? Who makes these judgments? Any portrayal is the filmmaker's choice."

But film critic Michael Medved challenged Universal's defense of the movie, pointing out that no Jewish group had ever called for censorship.

The ADL statement, he noted, merely said that the group hoped "that this kind of insensitive and hurtful stereotyping does not repeat itself in Lee's next movie."

Medved, who co-hosts the television program "Sneak Previews" and is also active in the Los Angeles Jewish community, expressed regret that the controversy would give the film greater publicity, and said that Lee is likely "filled with joy and glee at the ADL statement and the conflict it's engendered."

Fashionable To Attack Jews

"Spike can be a martyr now, because it looks as though the big bad Jewish establishment is coming down on this poor black filmmaker," Medved said.

Medved echoed film critic Denby in saying that it has become "fashionable among liberal black circles to verbally attack Jews."

The controversy over "Mo' Better Blues" is the second in as many months bearing on black-Jewish tensions in the entertainment industry.

Last month, a speaker at a meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People charged that black entertainers and producers had been held back due to the "century-old problem of Jewish racism in Hollywood."

Medved said that "it's ironic that people are making a point about closed doors to blacks at a time when they are so prominent, where that success has largely been orchestrated by Jewish agents, producers and directors."

(JTA correspondent Tom Tugend in Los Angeles contributed to this report.)