

**ARON DRAWS THE LINE FOR IRAQ:
CROSS INTO JORDAN, WE ATTACK**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Israel made official Tuesday what it has been saying ever since Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2: If Iraqi troops enter Jordan, Israel will retaliate.

The line was drawn by Defense Minister Moshe Arens, in a carefully prepared statement he read during a special Knesset debate on the Persian Gulf crisis. Parliament was called out of summer recess for the discussion.

"I ought to stress that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait does not constitute a strategic change from Israel's standpoint," Arens said.

"But the moment we see that we face a change -- for instance, the entry of the Iraqi army into Jordan -- we will act," the defense minister added.

He stressed that "this was the policy of Israel's governments in the past and remains so now.

"Israel will continue to watch closely the actions of the Iraqi ruler, and will know how to defend her interests and her security," Arens said.

The defensive doctrine he enunciated is considered likely to win approval from both the left and right within the political mainstream.

Arens' position corresponds precisely with the position advanced by Yossi Sarid of the opposition Citizens Rights Movement immediately after the invasion last Thursday.

Speaking for the opposition Labor Party, Moshe Shahal warned President Saddam Hussein of Iraq that he would bring disaster to his nation by aggression against Israel.

"Israel is not Kuwait," the former energy minister observed.

**SHARON CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE MEASURES
TO BRING END TO PALESTINIAN UPRISING**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- In the wake of the brutal murder Saturday night of two Israeli teen-agers, Ariel Sharon temporarily put aside his crusade for a massive housing program to demand immediate measures to end the intifada.

The outspoken minister of construction and housing, saying there should be no more talk of reducing the Palestinian uprising to a tolerable level, called for the immediate deportation of some 150 alleged "leaders of the intifada" he said were living in East Jerusalem.

"This very night," he emphasized.

Sharon told a meeting of the Likud Political Committee in Tel Aviv that the intifada "should be eliminated now." He repeatedly used the word "lechassel," meaning to destroy, and declared that "he who is incapable of doing that should step aside."

His remark was seen as a direct swipe at Defense Minister Moshe Arens, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's choice to preside over the defense establishment, which Sharon headed when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982.

Sharon has often said that he could break the intifada "in three days" if not constrained by

public opinion at home and abroad.

Now he appeared to be suggesting that the government can safely take the measures he advocates, at a time when most Israelis are furious over the murder of the two teen-agers and world opinion is preoccupied with the Persian Gulf crisis.

Sharon blamed terrorism and the intifada on the "series of spurious unity governments."

But now, a "national government is in power, unfettered by the Labor Party and its wrong headed policies," Sharon said.

He said Israel should not be ashamed to seek more military aid from the United States, because it is America's most credible and reliable ally in the region.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST ARABS CONTINUES
AS TWO MURDERED TEENS ARE BURIED**

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Widespread violence against Arabs accompanied the funeral rites Tuesday for Ronen Karamani and Lior Tubol, two Jewish youths murdered Saturday night north of the capital.

A 25-year-old Arab woman was killed and some 60 Arabs have been reported injured in the latest spate of Jewish rioting against Arabs that was prompted by the murders. Arab drivers have reportedly been pulled from their cars and badly beaten, and their cars overturned and burned.

Police continued to comb the area for clues where the bodies of Karamani and Tubol were found, but no progress was reported so far toward solving the crime.

Police believe the murders of the two youths were committed by three or more people who were familiar with the terrain and had planned the crime long in advance, though the two youths became the victims by sheer chance.

The police base their theory on the fact that the youths were found handcuffed with plastic cuffs, such as are used by security forces in the territories. That means that the killers equipped themselves to kidnap their victims, which is evidence of advance planning, the police said.

In Tuesday's violence, one Arab man was hurt seriously when he, his wife and two children were attacked in their car on the Hebron Road in southern Jerusalem. Their car was torched.

Two of those beaten in the riots were said to be Pakistani citizens in a car with blue West Bank license plates.

On Monday night, Aziza Jaber of Hebron died after being shot in the head while driving past the Jewish township of Kiryat Arba. Her cousin, Najeh Jaber, who was driving, was wounded in the back.

Doctors quoted Najeh Jaber as saying the car was fired on by Kiryat Arba residents out for revenge. Local Jews disputed this.

The Jewish population seems inflamed by the brutal slayings of Karamani, 18, and Tubol, 17, whose mutilated bodies were discovered Monday afternoon in a ravine between the northern Jerusalem suburb of Ramot and Beit Hanina, an Arab neighborhood.

They had been bludgeoned and stabbed

numerous times while handcuffed, with clothes stuffed in their mouths.

A crowd of thousands attended their funeral, held at the Sanhedria parlor in northern Jerusalem, near the road to Ramot. The crowd followed the two biers toward the Har Hamenuhot cemetery, at the western approaches to the city.

But the ceremony was disturbed throughout by hecklers shouting down Minister of Religious Affairs Avner Shaki, who represented the government at the funeral.

During his eulogy, in which he assured that the government would not rest until it found the murderers, Shaki was jeered with chants of "death to the Arabs."

Egged On By Kahane Supporters

The chant was taken up by hundreds of persons, egged on by followers of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement, and Shaki was forced to cut short his address.

The crowd also was oblivious to urgent appeals made by the father of Karamani and from the two chief rabbis, asking mourners to desist from acts of indiscriminate revenge against Arabs.

As the cortege made its way to the cemetery, it happened upon a van transporting four Arab men. Members of the crowd immediately set upon the car. The men were taken out and beaten and the car turned over and smashed.

Eventually, police managed to wade into the fracas and rescue the victims.

Further violence erupted when the cortege passed two gas stations at the entrance to the city. Young men in the crowd stopped to beat Arab-looking men and pound on their cars.

Tempers abated at the funeral, however, particularly with no Arabs in sight.

Even before the funeral, Jewish crowds had surged into road junctions looking for Arab-owned cars to damage.

Police had posted signs on roads entering Jerusalem from the West Bank advising Arab motorists to detour.

In the Arab village of Beit Safafa, where Jews and Arabs stoned each other Monday night, Arabs stayed indoors Tuesday and did not go to work.

Equipped With Riot Gear

Border police equipped with riot gear were posted at the junctions of West and East Jerusalem.

Right-wing militants hold the Palestinian leadership directly responsible for the murders and have urged their arrest and deportation.

The Knesset held a special recess debate earlier Tuesday on the killings, which followed a debate on the situation in the Persian Gulf.

Justice Minister Dan Meridor of Likud added his voice to those calling for calm, seeking to assure the public that the youths' murderers would be brought to justice.

Members from left to right had called for Arab condemnation of the youths' murders.

Shevach Weiss of Labor called on the Palestinian leadership to "take responsibility for events such as this," and put an end to them.

Uzi Landau of Likud said that among those responsible for the Jewish youths' murders were the leaders of the intifada.

He named the most senior Palestinian leaders in the Jerusalem area, Faisal Hussini, Radwan Abu-Ayyash and Sari Nusseibeh, and urged they be jailed or deported.

But even as Landau spoke, the Palestinian leadership issued a statement of "sorrow and deep pain over the death of innocent people on both sides."

The Palestinians blamed the "government's oppressive policy in the territories" for the deteriorating situation.

In Hebron, meanwhile, the Arab population declared a general strike in protest against the killing of Aziza Jaber.

Some Jews of Kiryat Arab, which overlooks Hebron, said they saw a passing car and conjectured that the bullets had come from there. She may have been killed in a blood feud or as a suspected collaborator, Jews said.

Police were investigating all possibilities.

CHIEF RABBI OF RAMAT GAN SEEKS BAN ON HITCHHIKING

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Hitchhiking, a favorite means of transportation among Israelis, may be forbidden by religious injunction if Rabbi Yitzhak Barda, the Sephardic chief rabbi of Ramat Gan, has his way.

Barda has petitioned the Chief Rabbinate to issue a religious ban on hitchhiking, Yediot Ahronot reported.

The paper said the new religious edict, expected to be issued Tuesday, determines "that it is absolutely forbidden to hitchhike, especially at night."

The rule is needed, Barda explained Monday, in light of the murders of two Jewish youths who were hitchhiking in Jerusalem's suburbs Saturday night.

Youths and soldiers who hitchhike during the evening hours present a target for Arab terrorists, according to the rabbi, who said he found a verse in the scriptures that applies to such situations.

"One must refrain from hitchhiking in order not to make it easy for those wishing to kill Jews. The ruling is based on the verse, 'And you will protect your souls,' which is an obligation incumbent on every Jew. Hitchhiking is a violation of this verse," the rabbi said.

UKRAINIANS CLAIMING JEWISH ANCESTRY SEEK TO CONVERT BACK TO JUDAISM

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Hundreds of Ukrainian villagers claiming Jewish ancestry are seeking conversion back to the Jewish faith so they can immigrate to Israel, Ma'ariv reported Tuesday.

The newspaper said the applicants appealing to the Moscow rabbinical court are descendants of Romanian Jews who moved into the southern Ukraine a century ago and converted to Christianity.

Ma'ariv quoted Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, teacher and leader of the Steinsaltz Yeshiva in Moscow and head of a rabbinical court in Israel, as saying the Ukrainians have shown proof of Jewish ancestry.

"They have names like Rosen and Schwartz. Today, they are atheists and very distant from Judaism. I gave them books on the subject and asked them to read so that they could get an idea of what is involved," the rabbi said.

He said he has dealt so far with hundreds of applicants for conversion.

LEADING ISRAELI RABBIS WORRIED OVER NON-JEWISH SOVIET OLIM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Two of Israel's leading Orthodox rabbis have spoken out against dangers which they see inherent in the large number of non-Jews intermingled with the Soviet immigrants.

Rabbi Eliezer Schach, head of the Ponevezh Yeshiva in Bnei Brak and spiritual head of Degel HaTorah, told an audience of thousands Sunday night that some 20 percent of the newcomers were not Jews.

He warned that they, together with the indigenous Arab population of the country, would form the majority within a decade or so and Israel would cease being a Jewish state.

Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, former Sephardic chief rabbi and now spiritual leader of Shas, told a scholarly audience in Jerusalem that marriage registrars must exercise special care in dealing with Soviet immigrants, and should demand verification of their Jewishness.

In cases of doubt, the olim should be required to undergo conversion -- and this, Yosef stressed, meant "kabbalat ohl mitzvot," the acceptance of the yoke of the commandments.

He suggested, for example, that a would-be convert be required to attend Shabbat services in synagogue for a year prior to his conversion -- as a token of his sincere intent to accept the yoke of the commandments.

Similar concern over the demographic and halachic importance of the Soviet aliyah has been expressed by former Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren, and by other leading rabbis here.

Halachic Problems Will Arise

Virtually all the newcomers receive Israeli identity cards on arrival, on the basis of any prima facie proof of their Jewishness.

But halachic problems are likely to arise when they or their children seek to marry.

According to two landmark judgments by the High Court of Justice last year, the Interior Ministry, which issues the identification cards, is not permitted to examine minutely the validity of prima facie evidence of Jewishness -- such as a conversion certificate from any Jewish community abroad -- but should accept it at face value.

The marriage registrars, however, who are all Orthodox rabbis working under the aegis of the Chief Rabbinate, are entitled to conduct meticulous examinations, and to insist that marriages be held only in strict accordance with halachah, or Jewish law.

Regarding those Jewish couples where one of the spouses chooses to leave the Soviet Union and settle in Israel, Yosef said their civil marriage in the Soviet Union is not valid under halacha. He thereby appeared to open the way to such olim remarrying in Israel without difficulty.

Schach's 45-minute address, mostly in Yiddish, was relayed by closed-circuit television to various sites in Bnei Brak and Jerusalem.

Referring to his controversial appearance at the Yad Eliahu sports stadium March 26, when he attacked the kibbutzim -- and obliquely the Labor Movement -- Schach insisted he had not questioned the "Jewishness" of the kibbutzniks.

But once again, he flayed them for eating non-kosher food and warned that they would not have the strength to resist Israel's enemies if they persisted in spurning its religious heritage.

LEFT-WING POLITICIANS, PALESTINIANS, FAIL TO AGREE ON JOINT STATEMENT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- A group of 26 left-of-center Knesset members and local Palestinian political figures met here Sunday but were unable to agree on a joint statement outlining their position.

The meeting had some historic precedence nevertheless, since it took place at the Notre Dame Hotel, which straddles the line between East and West Jerusalem.

Arieh (Lova) Eliav, the veteran Labor Party member who headed the Knesset group, observed that "for years, we have been meeting in all kinds of symposia and conferences overseas. Now we finally meet in Jerusalem."

The Palestinians included individuals who identify with Al Fatah, the main wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Palestinian Communist Party.

It is against Israeli law to conduct meetings with known members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

In addition to Eliav, who represented the dovish wing of the Labor Party, the group was composed of Yair Tsaban, representing Mapam, Shulamit Aloni for the Citizens Rights Movement and Amnon Rubinstein for the Center-Shinui Movement.

But as one of the Palestinian participants, Ziyad Abu-Ziyyad, noted, neither the Israelis nor Palestinians who attended the meeting could speak for anyone but themselves.

The Israelis are all in the opposition and the Palestinians cannot commit the PLO.

They spent about 90 minutes discussing a joint statement drafted by Yossi Beilin, a Labor Knesset member, and Sari Nusseibeh, a prominent Palestinian from East Jerusalem.

Stretch Platform To The Limit

Although the draft did not mention the PLO or refer to an independent Palestinian state, it did, as Beilin admitted, stretch the Labor Party platform to the limit.

Radwan Abu-Ayyash, chairman of the Palestinian Journalists Association, was unhappy with the wording.

But it was the Israeli contingent that appeared most divided.

Rubinstein demanded that the Palestinians condemn Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait last Thursday.

The Palestinians refused, pointing out that 300,000 Palestinians live in Kuwait and that the PLO leadership has expressed support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The draft included four major points:

- * The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is at the heart of the Middle East problem;

- * The Palestinians are entitled to self-determination;

- * Negotiations must take place between the Israeli government and the legitimate, internationally recognized representative of the Palestinian people, within the framework of an international conference.

- * Neither side will decide who will represent the other party.

No one challenged Abu-Ziyyad when he said, "The negotiations must take place between the Israeli government and the PLO."

OSI BEGINS CITIZENSHIP PROCEEDINGS AGAINST EX-SS NAZI LIVING IN AUSTRIA

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The Office of Special Investigations of the U.S. Justice Department has begun proceedings to revoke the citizenship of Martin Zultner, a former resident of Chicago who served in the Waffen SS at three subcamps of the Mauthausen concentration camp during World War II.

According to the government complaint, from August 1943 until April 1945 Zultner served at the Schwechat, Floridsdorf and Modling concentration camps, on assignments including administrative aid to the SS guard supervisor and camp commandant.

The complaint alleges that Zultner's responsibilities included assigning armed guards to accompany prisoners to slave labor sites; issuing rifles to guards; and otherwise assisting in the Nazi program of persecution, including forced labor, starvation and extermination of prisoners.

It charges that Zultner assisted in persecution based on race, religion, political opinion and national origins.

Although Zultner, 78, is a citizen of the United States and entitled to a citizen's full rights, he has not lived in the country since 1975, when he moved to Salzburg, Austria. He had emigrated from there to the United States in 1950.

Despite the fact that he does not live in this country, denaturalization proceedings against him will continue unless he voluntarily relinquishes his citizenship.

Confessed To SS Activities

Zultner, an ethnic German, was born in September 1912 in Saros, Romania. He joined the Waffen SS in 1943 in Vienna.

Zultner was interviewed in Salzburg in May 1990 about his wartime activities, at which time he confessed to having been a corporal in the Waffen SS at the subcamps of Mauthausen, according to the OSI.

He also confessed to concealing his SS service when he applied for a U.S. visa in 1949. Zultner became a citizen in 1955.

The government charged that Zultner's citizenship must be revoked because he obtained it illegally, and because he concealed and misrepresented his wartime activities to immigration and naturalization authorities.

Neal Sher, OSI director, said Zultner confessed to these activities during his May 1990 interview, which Zultner agreed to voluntarily. The interview took place at the U.S. Consulate in Salzburg, conducted by Eli Rosenbaum, OSI principal deputy director.

Sher had been scheduled to conduct the interview personally, but was told by Austrian authorities that he was persona non grata as an official of the U.S. government, because of a statement he made at a convening of the World Jewish Congress at the Wannsee Villa, outside of Berlin, just prior to the expected interview with Zultner.

Sher, who was at the helm of U.S. efforts to place Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on the U.S. "watch list" of undesirable aliens, said at the WJC meeting that he was proud that Waldheim remained on that list.

His statement was played up in the Austrian media, after which the Austrian Foreign Ministry summoned the U.S. charge d'affaires and expressed

concern over Sher's comment and his intended visit to Salzburg on official business.

To date, 32 former Nazis have lost their American citizenship and 27 have been removed from the United States as a result of OSI investigations, which began in 1979. Over 600 people are currently under investigation by OSI.

CANADIAN JEWISH GROUPS JOIN CRITICISM OF KLAN'S ENTRY INTO MOHAWK DISPUTE

By Bram D. Eisenthal

MONTREAL, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Canadian Jewish organizations have joined in criticizing the Ku Klux Klan for injecting race hatred into a bitter land dispute between Mohawk Indians and residents of a suburb of Montreal.

The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada and the Canadian Center on Racism and Prejudices held a joint news conference Sunday to condemn the local Klan chapter's distribution of racist literature to residents of Chateaugay this past weekend.

The Canadian Jewish Congress has also entered the fray.

Montreal's recently founded KKK group, which calls itself "Longitude 74," distributed the material at police barricades on Highways 13 and 132 on Montreal's south shore.

The Klansmen wore army fatigues with the KKK badge.

The roadblocks were set up by police several weeks ago in response to the Mohawks' blockade of the Mercier Bridge, inconveniencing the people of Chateaugay.

The Mohawks have been blocking the roads for four months in support of objections by Canadian Indians in nearby Oka to the expansion of a golf course into a pine forest which they say is "ancestral land."

The Klan is trying to aggravate tensions, which have remained high since a Quebec police corporal was killed July 11 storming a Mohawk roadblock.

In Chateaugay, Mohawks have been burned in effigy, and some individuals have been assaulted.

Stephen Scheinberg, president of the League for Human Rights, said his office had copies of Klan literature handed out to Chateaugay residents last week. An estimated 800 pamphlets were handed out.

"The Klan is trying to capitalize on the frustrations of Chateaugay residents, using their message of racial hatred," he said Sunday night.

Goldie Hershon, chairwoman of the CJC Quebec Region, has written to the parties involved and to Quebec Indian Affairs Minister John Ciaccia. She also wrote to Mayor Jean-Bosco Bourcier of Chateaugay, expressing "abhorrence" over the burnings.

On July 25, a national CJC delegation met with representatives of the Mohawk Nation, led by Grand Chief Joe Norton at the Kahnawake Indian reservation, and the president of S.O.S. Racism, an anti-racist group from Montreal.

They heard allegations by the Mohawks of human rights violations against native Canadians.

The CJC repeated its appeal for high-level federal government intervention for a negotiated settlement.

"We believe it is the federal government's constitutional and moral duty to show leadership in this matter," said Les Scheininger, CJC national president.