

**ONE DEAD, THREE INJURED  
IN ARAB ATTACK ABOARD BUS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- A 24-year-old yeshiva student from Jerusalem was fatally stabbed and three other Israelis were wounded Sunday morning when three Arabs from the West Bank attacked passengers aboard a bus north of Tel Aviv.

One of the assailants was killed and his two companions were wounded in the melee that followed the stabbings.

All of the injured were treated at Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva, where the student, Baruch Eisler, died while undergoing surgery. He was buried in Jerusalem on Sunday evening.

The incident was the latest in a wave of revenge attacks by Arabs on Jews that began after the Oct. 8 Temple Mount riots, in which Israeli police killed at least 17 rioting Arabs.

Sunday's incident followed by only a few hours a grenade attack in the heart of Tel Aviv on Saturday night, which might have caused high casualties had the grenade not failed to explode.

The hand grenade was tossed from a speeding car into crowded Dizengoff Street, Tel Aviv's main shopping and entertainment thoroughfare. Strollers and cafe patrons were promptly evacuated and the street was closed to traffic while police sappers safely dismantled the grenade. It was said to be a type used by terrorists.

The stabbings occurred on a No. 66 bus of the Dan line, which operates interurban service in the Tel Aviv area.

Eyewitnesses said three Arabs boarded the Petach Tikva-Tel Aviv bus near Tel Hashomer medical center and took seats on the rear bench.

**Nurse Blames Israel For Stabbing**

There were about 30 passengers on the bus at the time. As it passed an intersection between Bnei Brak and Ramat Gan, the Arabs suddenly shouted "Allah Akhbar" (God is Great) and stabbed the four passengers sitting directly in front of them.

The driver stopped the vehicle, fired his pistol into the air and pointed it at the three Arabs.

By chance, a police explosives expert carrying an Uzi submachine gun was riding in a vehicle behind the bus. When he saw the bus halt and heard the commotion, he raced toward it.

According to accounts, the policeman fired his Uzi once into the air as he approached the bus from the rear. One of the Arabs rose from his seat, brandishing a knife, and was shot to death by the policeman.

Another of the Arabs was wounded in the hand and the third was severely beaten by bus passengers before he was arrested.

Meanwhile, a Swedish volunteer nurse who was stabbed by an Arab youth two days ago in a hospital in Gaza has blamed Israel for the stabbing, the weekly Hadashot reported.

"My stabbing is undoubtedly a result of an Israeli conspiracy, intended to induce conflict between the Arabs of the territories -- and the medical organizations that help them -- and the world," said Ingrid Udden, 28, who was attacked in Ahli Hospital, where she worked.

**ISRAELI LEADERS ARE DEEPLY TROUBLED  
BY BUSH OVERTURE TO SADDAM HUSSEIN**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Israelis were profoundly shocked by President Bush's announcement Friday that he was ready to send Secretary of State James Baker to Baghdad for talks with Saddam Hussein and also willing to meet in Washington with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

The unexpected development was discussed by deeply troubled Cabinet ministers Sunday at their weekly meeting.

While no one agreed with Science and Energy Minister Yuval Ne'eman's characterization of Baker's mission as a "Munich," the delicacy of Israel's position was stressed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in his summary of events.

Shamir spoke with caution. But according to reports from the Cabinet room, the prime minister noted sourly that the American move was a complete surprise to Israel.

As several newspapers pointed out, Shamir once again was not among the regional leaders Bush telephoned personally over the weekend to explain his actions, though Baker did send a letter containing reassurances.

Bush's overture to Iraq was made in the context of a hard-won U.N. Security Council resolution authorizing member states to use force to evict Iraqi forces from Kuwait if they have not withdrawn by Jan. 15.

The Iraqis, after a show of swagger, readily accepted the offer. They suggested that the talks also deal with the issue of a Palestinian homeland but got a strong rebuff on that from Vice President Dan Quayle.

Bush stressed at his Friday news conference that Baker's journey "isn't a trip of concession" and pledged the United States will never waver from its demands that Iraq get out of Kuwait, restore the legitimate government and free all hostages.

**Baker Attempts To Reassure Israel**

Baker said in an NBC television appearance Sunday that the only reward Saddam Hussein could expect if he complied fully with every U.N. resolution was that the United States would not attack him.

But many Israeli commentators seem convinced that the United States is in fact about to negotiate with the Iraqi leader, which it had said it would never do.

Despite tough language emanating from Washington, some observers here surmise the way has been opened to reach some sort of mutual face-saving deal that might free Kuwait but would leave Iraqi military power intact and a greater menace than ever to Israel.

Those fears evidently were not entirely relieved by Baker's letter to Foreign Minister David Levy over the weekend.

Levy did not disclose its contents. He told reporters Sunday that the secretary of state sought to "calm and reassure" Israel and that he had good reason to believe that U.S. "policy regarding Iraqi aggression has not changed."

The foreign minister stressed at a meeting Sunday with visiting U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-

Utah) that the entire region would be imperiled if Hussein is left with his unconventional military potential intact.

The reference was to his ability to wage chemical warfare and the possibility of his acquiring nuclear weapons in the near future.

Levy said he also was convinced that the United States remains steadfastly opposed to any linkage between the Kuwait issue and the dispute over Israel's retention of the territories it captured in 1967.

**Vice President Rejects Linkage**

He may have been referring to Quayle's statement Saturday on the Cable News Network that while Baker would be willing "to discuss all aspects of the Gulf crisis" on his visit to Baghdad, "Palestine is not an issue on the table."

"There is no linkage," Quayle emphasized.

In that connection, however, Davar columnist Amir Oren focused Sunday on the proximity of Shamir's upcoming private meeting with Bush to the projected U.S.-Iraqi dialogue in Washington, Baghdad or both places.

Bush said he would be willing to send Baker to meet with Hussein "at a mutually convenient time" between Dec. 15 and Jan. 15. He invited the Iraqi foreign minister to meet him in Washington during the latter part of the week of Dec. 10.

Bush is scheduled to meet with Shamir at the White House on Dec. 11.

This very coincidence will strengthen the impression that Israel wants most to avoid: that there is linkage between the Persian Gulf crisis and the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, Oren wrote in the Labor Party-affiliated daily.

Dan Margalit, a leading political columnist in Ha'aretz, argued that Bush made his gesture toward Baghdad to win over sections of U.S. domestic opinion not reconciled to the use of force against Iraq.

He concluded that while Bush and Baker have not abandoned their declared goal of forcing Iraq out of Kuwait, the offer to negotiate implies that they are forgoing the more far-reaching goal of ridding the region of Hussein and his huge army with its dangerous military potential.

Margalit reflected a mounting fear in Israel that time is running out for a hard-line stance against Iraq.

**Diplomatic And Domestic Reasons**

The Agudah Yisrael party newspaper Hamodia said Bush's decision is "very worrying for Israel, because from Israel's viewpoint, the best solution would be the elimination of Iraq's aggressive power, so that it cannot in the future be a threat to Israel."

The Agudah joined Shamir's Likud-led coalition on Nov. 18 and its newspaper could be said now to reflect government views.

Bush's move seems to have been driven by both diplomatic and domestic political needs.

He said at his news conference that he was "going the extra step" for peace to "de-isolate" Hussein and make sure he had received the message that nothing short of total withdrawal from Kuwait would prevent war.

But the move also was needed to quell concern in the United States that the president was rushing headlong into war. The initiative, moreover, was intended to solidify the coalition against Iraq by addressing complaints that insufficient emphasis was being placed on the possibilities for peace.

**ISRAELI RESERVE COLONEL CONVICTED OF ILLEGAL SALE OF ARMS, KNOW-HOW**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force reserve officer was convicted by the Jerusalem Magistrates Court last week on three counts of exporting military equipment and expertise without the requisite licenses.

Lt. Col. Yair Klein, who sent arms and military know-how to Colombia and the Caribbean island nation of Antigua and Barbuda, pleaded guilty to the charges related to the shipment to Colombia and will be sentenced on Dec. 27. He faces up to three years in prison.

He had asked the court to add the charge of illegal shipment to Antigua to the indictments related to Colombia, so that he could be sentenced on all four counts together and avoid a further trial. But the court will meet again to hear the Antigua charge. The weapons were shipped in April 1989 from Antigua to Colombia.

An associate of Klein's, reserve Lt. Col. Yitzhak Shoshani, will be tried later this month on similar charges.

Klein, who is director of Hod Hahanit (Spearhead), a military training and consultant firm, has maintained throughout that he was training guards to protect Colombian farmers from cattle rustlers and guerrillas.

But Colombia's intelligence service accused Klein of advising the assassins of presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan in 1989. The Colombian government issued a warrant for his arrest, but Israel refused to extradite Klein because it has no extradition treaty with Colombia.

In a prepared statement, Klein said he had entered a guilty plea "to put an end to the witch hunt running rampant in some of the press, based on rumors and speculation which are harming the state and me." He said he had acted "in good faith and in the belief that my actions were within the law."

The IDF allows reservists and retired officers to engage in military consulting and the international arms trade subject to a Defense Ministry license. The ministry has reportedly authorized 800 Israeli firms to engage in arms trafficking.

The formal charges against Klein specified his work for two mysterious organizations in Colombia, the Cattle-Raisers Association and the Farmers Association, both of which were rumored to be linked to the drug cartel.

Shoshani is charged with having been Klein's go-between with the Colombians.

Judge Miriam Bernstein found Klein guilty of negotiating without a license to provide military training to the Cattle-Raisers Association.

He was also found guilty of visiting Colombia on two occasions in 1988 to provide military training without a license to members of the Farmers Association; and exporting, without license, ammunition belts, night-fighting equipment and detection apparatus to protect air strips.

**ISRAEL BOMBS BASES IN LEBANON**

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Israeli air force jets on Saturday attacked suspected terrorist bases north of Zahle, in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon.

According to military sources, the targets were used by the Popular Struggle Front as a staging area for attacks on Israel.

**BUSH'S REAPPRAISAL OF JACKSON-VANIK  
TAKES SOVIET JEWRY GROUPS BY SURPRISE**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- President Bush's indication that he is considering waiving Jackson-Vanik Amendment trade sanctions against the Soviet Union before it enacts promised legislation reforming emigration policy has caught Soviet Jewry advocacy groups by surprise.

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews announced its opposition to the idea minutes after President Bush mentioned the possibility Friday during a White House news conference on the Persian Gulf crisis.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry is currently reviewing its policy on a waiver of the trade sanctions, which would allow U.S. agricultural products to be sold to the Soviet Union this winter, when severe food shortages are expected.

Bush pointed out that the Supreme Soviet has not yet enacted the sweeping emigration legislation that he has continually insisted must be adopted before he waives sanctions contained in the 1975 amendment, which links most-favored-nation trade benefits with reforms of Soviet emigration policy.

Adoption of pending reform legislation "has not taken place," Bush said Friday. "But some are saying that I now have a clearer waiver authority than I thought."

The president indicated he has not yet made a decision, but expects this week to consider recommendations on what to do.

A factor in his decision will be that "the exodus of Soviet Jews from the Soviet Union is high," Bush said. "I'd like to take some credit for our administration on this. We've been steadfast in encouraging the exodus of Soviet Jews."

**Helping U.S. Farmers**

Bush made clear that the major reason he is considering a waiver of Jackson-Vanik sanctions now is not only because the Soviet Union faces severe food shortages this winter, but also to help U.S. farmers in the Midwest.

"I don't know exactly what I am going to do because we're caught between some strong and understandable economic interests at home and a position for wanting to stand for free and fair emigration," the president said.

He said he did not "want to work hardship on any sector of the American economy. I'm one of the strongest proponents against a grain embargo. And yet I'm told that some in middle America think that our position is really almost resulting in a grain embargo."

But Bush also said he believes there are agricultural programs that can help the Soviets immediately without a waiver of Jackson-Vanik.

Food aid for the Soviet Union will be discussed at a hearing Wednesday of the House Agricultural subcommittee on wheat, soybeans and feed grains, chaired by Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.). The National Conference on Soviet Jewry is scheduled to testify.

Before the hearing, the National Conference is expected to conclude a review of its policy on a Jackson-Vanik waiver, said Martin Wenick, its executive director.

The umbrella group's policy until now has been that it would support a waiver if the president receives assurances from the Soviet Union in four categories.

These are a "sustained level" of high

emigration; strict limits on the amount of time potential emigrants could be denied permission to leave on the grounds of access to state secrets; a resolution of the "poor relatives" problem, in which exit visas are denied anyone whose family members refuse to sign waivers of financial obligation; and progress on the cases of long-term refuseniks.

**New Draft Law May Be Problematic**

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, by contrast, has opposed a Jackson-Vanik waiver until emigration reforms are codified and given a chance to prove they are working.

Micah Naftalin, the group's national director, and Pamela Cohen, its president, sent a letter to Bush on Friday, in which they stressed that the Soviet commitment to human rights is not just resolved by the high number of Soviet Jews leaving the country.

"The agreements of the Helsinki process require freedom of emigration no less than the strictures of Jackson-Vanik compel the conclusion that this is the moment to press, not release, the leverage," the letter said.

Naftalin said he was surprised by the timing of Bush's remarks, because the Supreme Soviet appeared ready to vote Tuesday on a new draft of the emigration legislation that does not go as far as earlier drafts in eliminating some of the emigration restrictions.

While earlier drafts put a five-year limit on how long a person could be refused emigration for possession of state secrets, the new version can extend the time indefinitely, he said. And the latest draft does not resolve the "poor relatives" problem, he said.

Naftalin said the proposed law also would effectively prevent the emigration of young males between ages 16 and 27 who are reservists or subject to military draft.

Wenick said the National Conference would be concerned if the new law did not solve the problems of state secrecy and poor relatives. But he indicated he did not believe the law would be adopted this week, a position apparently also taken by the Bush administration.

**Concern About Flood Of Emigres**

Naftalin said the latest draft became more restrictive because of the "paranoia" of Soviet conservatives about secrecy and the concern of Eastern European countries that a more liberal law would result in a flood of Soviet emigres to their countries.

But Wenick pointed out that each country could control such immigration through their own laws.

"It is not our goal to keep food from being sold from American farmers to the Soviet Union," Naftalin stressed. But he said a way could be found to send humanitarian food aid without waiving Jackson-Vanik sanctions.

A Jackson-Vanik waiver would only be one step in providing trade credits and other benefits for the Soviet Union. These benefits could not be used until the Senate ratifies the trade agreement signed by Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at their summit in Washington last spring.

But here too, Bush promised he would not send the agreement to the Senate for ratification until the new emigration law is adopted.

"The Soviets are concerned about many aspects of this legislation, so I'm facing a decision as to what to do," Bush said Friday.

## KAHANE'S KILLER HAD 'HIT LIST' OF SIX OTHER JEWISH AMERICANS

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- The alleged assassin of Rabbi Meir Kahane kept what may be a "hit list" of six other Jewish Americans, including members of the judicial system, a congressman and a journalist for The Jewish Press, a weekly Brooklyn newspaper for which Kahane had written a column.

The persons on a list kept by the alleged killer, El Sayyid Nosair, were warned three weeks ago by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and offered physical protection.

The FBI is still maintaining that Nosair, a naturalized U.S. citizen originally from Egypt, acted alone in the Nov. 5 killing of Kahane at a Manhattan hotel. However, a law enforcement official told the daily New York Newsday, "It certainly adds to suspicions that this was part of some greater plot."

All but one of the persons on the list were involved in some way with the case of Mahmoud Atta, a Palestinian from the West Bank city of Ramallah who was extradited to Israel from New York on Oct. 27. Atta, a naturalized American citizen, is to stand trial for his alleged part in an April 1986 attack on a Jerusalem bus, in which the driver was killed and eight passengers injured.

The exception on the neatly handwritten list, which was found on the first page of Nosair's address book, is Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-N.Y.), who was not involved in the Atta case. A photograph of Ackerman from New York Newsday had been pasted over the list.

The photo had accompanied an article in the paper's Aug. 4 edition, in which Ackerman had urged President Bush to call on Israel to extradite Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid, whom Israeli troops captured in southern Lebanon in July 1989.

The Shi'ite leader is believed to have been involved in the February 1988 kidnapping and killing of U.S. Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins.

The list also included the names of two federal judges, Edward Korman and Jack Weinstein; a former assistant U.S. attorney, Jacques Simmelman; and Howard Adelman, a columnist for The Jewish Press. A sixth person on the list involved has not been identified.

Atta, who also uses the name Mahmoud el-Abed Ahmad, is a suspected member of the Abu Nidal terrorist organization, which has promised it would respond to Atta's extradition.

## NEW STIFF RELIGIOUS MEASURES PROTESTED BY LIBERAL ISRAELIS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- About 60,000 mainly young, liberal and left-wing Israelis packed the plaza outside the Tel Aviv Museum on Saturday night to protest a series of restrictive religious measures backed by the government which passed their first reading in the Knesset last week or will soon be introduced.

The size of the turnout was estimated by the organizers of the rally, Hemdat.

Hemdat, whose name is an acronym for "Freedom of Science, Thought and Culture," is an umbrella body of 57 groups including left-leaning political parties, kibbutzim, Reform and Conservative organizations and Jewish humanist movements.

The protest began with a march from the Mann Auditorium to the museum. The marchers carried signs denouncing one bill that would

impose new restrictions on Israel's already tough abortion laws and another which would forbid the production and sale of pork in Israel.

Other measures attacked would virtually eliminate all forms of public transportation on the Sabbath and would censor what the Orthodox consider "lewd" advertising in the guise of an anti-pornography bill.

The legislation was the price demanded by the Orthodox Agudat Yisrael party when it joined Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud-led coalition government on Nov. 18.

Demonstrators accused the government of surrendering to blackmail by the Orthodox minority.

Many posters referred to the fact that the Orthodox are exempt from service in the Israel Defense Force but demand heavy subsidies for attending yeshivot instead.

One speaker, Knesset member Amnon Rubinstein of the Center-Shinui Movement, denounced the "rape of the majority by the minority." He called both Likud and the opposition Labor Party "willing victims of this rape."

Although the crowd was overwhelmingly secular, there was a scattering of kippot to be seen, and older people mingled amicably with the predominantly youthful protesters.

Rabbi Shmuel Avigdor Hacohen, an Orthodox member of the Labor Party who is often described as its spiritual mentor, lashed out at the ultra-Orthodox. "The attempt to enforce the religious laws is 'hilul hashem' (desecration of the Holy Name)," he declared.

The demonstration, heavily guarded by police, was unmarred except for an accident when a billboard collapsed into a concrete-lined ditch, injuring eight youngsters who had climbed on it.

## LABOR STRIKE PROTESTING NEW TAXES IDLES TENS OF THOUSANDS ON SUNDAY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- A general strike staged Sunday by Histadrut to protest tough new economic measures idled tens of thousands of workers but was less than the all-embracing walkout the labor federation had threatened.

As the 6 a.m. strike deadline approached, Histadrut released private business and industrial employees from the walkout after "some progress" had been reported in talks between labor officials and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i.

As a consequence, the Israel Chamber of Commerce did not exercise the temporary court injunction it had obtained banning the strike.

Nevertheless, the country was fairly close to total paralysis Sunday as the vast public sector was shut down.

Government and municipal offices were closed. Government-owned factories and other enterprises, including Israel Aircraft Industries and Military Industries, were idle.

Ben-Gurion Airport and other civilian airports were closed, and El Al, the national airline, was grounded. Aircraft bringing in Soviet immigrants were diverted to military airfields.

Israel Radio broadcast only three hour-long news programs during the day. Television was blacked out. Hospitals and health care clinics operated with limited Sabbath shifts.

Histadrut called the open-ended strike last week after the Cabinet approved a 5 percent surtax on income tax, effective Jan. 1, and a 2 percent hike in the value-added tax, bringing it from 16 to 18 percent by next March.