ISRAEL ORDERS PALESTINIANS DEPORTED AFTER BRUTAL MURDER OF JEWS IN JAFFA
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Israel ordered the deportation of four Palestinians from the Gaza Strip as police searched over the weekend for two Arabs suspected of brutally murdering three Jews at an aluminum-processing plant in Jaffa early Friday morning.

The victims of the attack were repeatedly stabbed and their bodies mutilated. They were identified as Iris Asraf, 22, of Jaffa, a clerk employed at the factory; Moshe Eiwan, 30, of Rehovot, a pipe fitter; and Yehoshua Hachmaz, 40, of Bat Yam.

Hachmaz, employed at a nearby upholstery factory, was killed when he rushed to the aluminum plant in response to the screams of the other two victims, the police surmise.

The suspects, one of whom was employed at the factory and is known to the police, live in the Gaza Strip. The territory has been sealed off since the killings, and there have been largescale arrests.

Police meanwhile had their hands full subduing widespread anti-Arab rioting by Jews infuriated over the murderous attack.

Nationalist slogans spray-painted in Arabic on the blood-stained factory walls made clear it was the work of Hamas to avenge Palestinians killed by Israelis in the intifada.

'It Looked Like A Slaughterhouse'

Hardened cops emerged from the scene of the crime pale and shaken. "A veritable massacre," said one.

"It looked like a slaughterhouse," said another. "The victims were not just stabbed. Mayhem was committed on them."

A police pathologist said the bodies bore multiple stab wounds inflicted with two large fish knives found on the scene.

The body of one victim reportedly was sliced into quarters. Another was nearly decapitated, and a third was disemboweled.

The murders occurred at the Alum-Shin factory, near the Blumenfeld football stadium in Jaffa. The ancient port city adjacent to Tel Aviv was an Arab town until its capture by Israel in the 1948 War for Independence. It was subsequently incorporated into Tel Aviv.

The bodies of the victims were discovered Friday when one of the two clerks at the plant arrived for work at 8:30 a.m. and was surprised to find the door still locked. She opened it with a spare key, found the bloody body of her fellow clerk lying near the door and ran screaming for help.

An employee of a nearby carpentry shop accompanied her back into the factory, but the two of them quickly retreated screaming.

A traffic policeman on a motor scooter raced for help, bringing uniformed police and detectives to the scene. They discovered the two other bodies.

According to the police reconstruction of events, Asraf and Eiwan arrived at the plant with their Arab co-worker and an unknown companion, who attacked them as soon they were inside.

Hearing screams, Hachmaz from the upholstery factory rushed to their aid and was himself stabbed to death.

The slogans spray-painted on the walls in Arabic said Hamas was responsible for the killings. "This is revenge for the intifada Palestinian victims," one slogan announced.

Mayor Suggests Separate State

News of the latest murders inflamed the Jewish populace already infuriated by the recent wave of stabblings of Jews by Arabs in the administered territories, East Jerusalem and elsewhere in Israel proper.

Over the weekend, Arab laborers from the territories were accosted and beaten on the streets. Palestinian cars bearing the distinctive blue license plates of the territories were stoned and in some cases set on fire.

Police tried as best they could to calm tempers and prevent agitators from arousing the crowds.

Knesset member Rehavam Ze'evi, leader of the right-wing Moledet party, which advocates the mass expulsion of Arabs from Israel and the territories, showed up at the aluminum factory, but police kept him away from the crime scene.

There were incidents of panic among Jews.

On Sunday, a 31-year-old woman from Jaffa claimed she was attacked outside the Tel Aviv City Hall by an Arab wielding a "big, black knife" who she said fled when she screamed.

Police cordoned off the area and started a dragnet. But no trace was found of the alleged assailant, and no corroborative witnesses were found.

The woman later admitted she imagined the attack. She now faces charges of false alarm.

Some 400,000 Palestinians remained sealed off in the Gaza Strip on Sunday, and many were subjected to house-to-house searches.

Palestinian sources claimed that more than 1,000 Arabs have been taken into custody so far. The Israel Defense Force disputed that number, but offered no figures of its own. Other Israeli sources said there had been 700 arrests.

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, a progressive within the Likud party, demanded the death penalty for the killers in a television interview Sunday. He also supported strict limits on the hours Palestinians from the territories are allowed into the city.

But Lahat ran into trouble with the Likud leadership by saying that the only way to end the intifada is to establish a separate state for the Palestinians in most of the administered territories. Likud colleagues called for his ouster from the party.

ARENS JUSTIFIES DEPORTATIONS AND SAYS MORE CAN BE EXPECTED
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet has affirmed Defense Minister Moshe Arens' order to deport four Hamas activists from the Gaza Strip in connection with the savage murder Friday morning of three Israelis at an aluminum-processing plant in Jaffa.

The four, who were taken into custody
Friday, have the right to appeal to the High Court of Justice against the deportation order, though the court has never reversed an expulsion.

All have been identified as leaders of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement based in the Gaza Strip, which has emerged as the most extreme and brutal of the groups involved in the 3-year-old Palestinian uprising.

The actual murderers, known to the police, were still at large Sunday, the objects of a massive manhunt.

Arens warned Sunday that there could be further deportations.

He said anyone who thinks of perpetrating such an offense in the future "must take into account that the people he has been in contact with will find themselves over the border in Lebanon."

Arens spoke on television after the Cabinet meeting to a nation deeply worried by the worsening situation and seething with anger over the latest outrage.

The defense minister said in his opinion, shared by Israeli experts and even Palestinians, deportation is an effective deterrent punishment. He maintained it is more painful and therefore more feared than imprisonment.

Shamir Calls For Composure

Arens linked the current rash of murderous attacks by Arabs on Jews to the Persian Gulf crisis.

He said some Palestinian extremists seemed to identify Iraqi President Saddam Hussein with Saladin, the 12th-century Islamic warrior who, he said, the Crusaders.

This reflects "desperation," Arens said, because most of the world, including many Palestinians, know Hussein is doomed to defeat and will contribute nothing to the Palestinian cause.

But many of the attacks have been proclaimed as revenge for the 17 Arabs killed by Israeli border police during the Oct. 8 riots on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The spate of knife attacks on Jews by Arabs dates from then.

The Cabinet issued a gloomy communiqué Sunday, stressing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's call for "composure and the strengthening of the people's spirits" as the "first and foremost requirement" in the ongoing national battle against terrorism.

Cabinet sources said Shamir cooled off some of the more fiery expressions heard around the Cabinet table by pointing out that Israel functions within a broader international setting and must take into account the consequences of its actions in the international arena.

Reports from Washington, where Shamir visited last week, said Secretary of State James Baker urged the Israeli leader during their Dec. 13 meeting to refrain from deporting Palestinians from the administered territories.

The United States is concerned with keeping intact the Arab element of its international alliance against Iraq.

Observers here attributed the relatively small number of deportees announced after the Jaffa murders to Baker's appeal for restraint.

Shamir and Arens are under constant pressure from their small, right-wing coalition partners to deport the most prominent Palestinian nationalist leaders.

Some, who are internationally known, live in East Jerusalem. They are therefore not subject to the military laws that govern the administered territories and empower the Israel Defense Force to order deportation.

On Sunday, Tehiya Knesset member Geula Cohen called the announced deportations too little and too late.

Death Penalty Proposed By Some

There was no formal discussion at Sunday's Cabinet meeting of proposals to institute the death penalty for crimes of the type committed Friday. But several ministers later indicated the controversial subject is on the agenda.

Proponents of hanging intifada murderers include Arens and Tourism Minister Gideon Patt, both of Likud. Opposed are Health Minister Ehud Olmert of Likud and Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz, an independent Cabinet member formerly of the Orthodox Shas party.

Political observers predict that notwithstanding the public outcry, senior security officials will advise Shamir against the death penalty.

The IDF, meanwhile, released background material on the four men it has ordered deported, out of hundreds of Hamas and other terrorist organization activists said were arrested Friday and Saturday in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The IDF said the four men ordered expelled were involved primarily in drafting leaflets, inciting violence, recruiting activists and initiating violent acts and terrorist activities.

They were also accused of issuing the operational guidelines that resulted in the rising rate of murders, assassination attempts and other violent acts, using knives and other weapons.

They were identified as Imad Khaled el-Alami, Mustafa Ahmed Mahmoud Kanua, Mustafa Yousef Abdullah al-Lidawia and Fadel Khaled Zaher Za'about.

AIR FORCE INVESTIGATING CRASH THAT KILLED FIVE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- The air force is investigating the crash of a transport plane that killed five officers in the Negev early Friday morning.

The board of inquiry set up by air force commander Gen. Avihu Bin-Nun immediately after the accident has ruled out engine failure as the cause.

The plane was a single-engine Cessna light transport and the flight was a routine hop from one air base to another.

The board is considering possible rudder failure, wind shear or pilot disorientation. The pilot may have become confused after entering the pitch-black desert from the lighted runway and failed to gain sufficient altitude to make a safe emergency landing.

Ground control reported no emergency communication from the pilot.

One of the fatalities was Capt. Shlomit Yair, 21, daughter of Maj. Gen. Yoram Yair, a senior air force officer. She lived in Ra'anana, near Tel Aviv.

Except for Yair, who was an operations officer, the victims were all pilots.

The air force identified them as Maj. Daniel Novogrotzky, 27, of Kfar Achiem in the Negev; Maj. Ofer Zaharoni, 28, of Moshav Ram On in the Giloa region; Capt. Ziv Groch, 25, of Kibbutz Gili Yam; and Capt. Gideon Zakai, 26, of Moshav Omer, near Beersheba.
E.C. WILL PROVIDE $6 MILLION TO HOSPITALS IN THE TERRITORIES
By Yossi Lempkowicz

BRUSSELS, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- The European Community has announced it will provide about $6 million in aid to eight private hospitals in East Jerusalem and the Israeli-administered territories, which have been deprived by the Persian Gulf crisis of their usual sources of assistance.

The funds will be channeled through the Dutch Red Cross in cooperation with the Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross.

Two of the hospitals are in East Jerusalem, two in Nablus and the others in Gaza, Hebron, El-Bireh and Beit Jala.

They lost their remittances from Kuwait when that country was invaded by Iraq on Aug. 2.

Subsequently, other major donors in the Gulf states cut them off to protest Palestinian support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, notably by Yasir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization.

The E.C., meanwhile, is planning up to $17 million in general assistance to the administered territories by 1992.

It is acting in response to remarks by Abel Matutes of Spain, the E.C.'s commissioner in charge of Mediterranean affairs, who described economic conditions in the territories since the Gulf crisis began as "disastrous."

Meanwhile, the heads of state of the 12 E.C. member nations reaffirmed their pledge to help the "economic and social development of the Palestinian people" in a statement they issued Saturday at the close of their European summit conference in Rome.

The E.C. summit was scheduled for Rome because Italy now holds the group's rotating six-month chairmanship.

The leaders of the 12 E.C. nations also agreed in principle to give the Soviet Union $2.4 billion in emergency food and medical assistance.

DOCTORS STRIKE DISRUPTS SERVICES
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- About 8,000 doctors went on strike over the weekend, disrupting government and private hospitals all over the country, including Hadassah-Hebrew University Hospital in Jerusalem.

The issue is second shifts in operating rooms, for which physicians receive overtime pay.

The second shifts are intended to reduce the waiting time for elective surgery, which has often been as long as a year. The Finance Ministry says the additional pay conflicts with the government's national wage policy and has demanded that the second shifts be canceled.

The issue is before the High Court of Justice. But the Israel Medical Association decided to call a strike in advance of the court hearing.

The result is that some 4,000 non-emergency operations scheduled for this week had to be postponed.

Second-shift pay was introduced several months ago at hospitals run by Kupat Holim, Histadrut's health care agency. Doctors at other hospitals demanded equal treatment.

The Medical Association has exempted Kupat Holim hospitals and outpatient clinics from the strike for the time being.

They are being held in reserve for the possibility it would become necessary to apply tougher sanctions, the association said.

HOLOCAUST DENIER LEUCHTER GETS CONTINUANCE, NEW LAWYER
By Steve Rosenberg
The Jewish Advocate

BOSTON, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Fred Leuchter Jr., who designs capital punishment systems for a living and pursues Holocaust denial as a vocation, won a continuance until Jan. 22 of his trial in Malden District Court for practicing engineering without a license.

Leuchter requested that his court-appointed attorney be changed to Kirk Lyons, a Houston lawyer who has defended white supremacists.

Lyons, a member of the so-called Patriot Defenders Foundation, told a news conference in Malden, a Boston suburb, that he is trying to raise money for Leuchter's defense.

Leuchter, if convicted, faces a possible three-month jail sentence and a $500 fine.

A guilty verdict could temper the effects of Leuchter's real offense, which is the use of his self-proclaimed scientific and technological expertise to give credibility to Holocaust revisionism.

That accounted for the presence outside the Malden courthouse on Dec. 11 of more than 250 Holocaust survivors who shouted, "Six million died, Leuchter lied" as the defendant was escorted to his hearing.

"The Leuchter Report," published in 1988 and 1990, alleges that gas chambers were not used to kill Jews at Auschwitz, Birkenau, Majdanek, Dachau, Mauthausen and the Hartheim Castle concentration camps.

Leuchter says he reached that conclusion by analyzing samples of brick and mortar from buildings at the camps.

"The Leuchter Report" became the most widely used document of the revisionists trying to discredit the Holocaust, led by the California-based Institute for Historical Review.

Veterans And Survivors Speak Out

After the hearing, Leuchter said at a news conference that the Nazis had no gas chambers.

"I believe that there were no alleged homicidal gas chambers at the three camps I was in," said the Malden native, who has threatened to sue two women instrumental in bringing him to trial.

They are Shelly Shapiro of Holocaust Survivors and Friends in Pursuit of Justice, and Paris-based Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld.

Forty years away stood Fred Gelin, one of the half-dozen Malden Jewish war veterans who talked about liberating the camps.

"I saw bodies piled on top of another. I couldn't go into the death camp without wearing a gas mask. That's how bad the smell of dead bodies would be," he said.

Shapiro has a new book, "Truth Prevails, Denying Holocaust Denial" which, she said, refutes Leuchter point by point. "We have shown that truth does prevail. He is no scientist, he is no engineer. He is a fake."

Klarsfeld, who helped capture Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, said, "He has to know, not only Leuchter, but the others: If they continue this dirty work in denying the deaths of millions of Jews, we will be there."

"We are eyewitnesses to the crimes committed by the Nazis," said Israel Arbel of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

"What Leuchter did at Auschwitz was a fraud, taking pieces of cement and stone. We were there. We saw the atrocities with our own eyes."
GERMAN QUOTA ON SOVIET JEWS ASSAILED BY JEWISH COMMUNITY

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- A high-level agreement to place a quota on the number of Soviet Jews admitted to Germany was assailed by the Jewish community Sunday.

Its chairman, Heinz Galinski, said a decision to set a ceiling on Soviet Jewish immigrants, reportedly reached this weekend in Dresden at a meeting of the interior ministers of the 16 federal states, ignore Germany's historic obligations, as well as the fact that Jews are persecuted in the Soviet Union.

The official Jewish community is pressing for an "open door" policy for Soviet Jews who want to immigrate to Germany.

The ministers reportedly agreed in principle, however, that free immigration would be allowed only to Jews of German origin.

The entry of others would be subject to a still undefined ceiling.

Interior Minister Dietmar Schlee of Baden-Wurttemberg denied the conference had imposed a quota of 1,000 a year.

That figure appeared in news reports over the weekend, which attributed the quota to a proposal by the interior minister of Bavaria.

"We didn't discuss numbers but only principles," Schlee insisted. "The numbers will be fixed by the prime ministers of the federal states, who will meet at a conference scheduled to be held in Munich at the end of the week," he said.

Observers believe the quota will be as high as 2,000 to 3,000 immigrants a year. They say the 1,000 number was leaked to test public reaction.

The Jewish community, however, has mounted a vigorous campaign for the free entry of Soviet Jews. It argues that Germany is morally bound to accept Jews fleeing persecution.

The community's newspaper, Allgemeine Judische Wochenzeitung, published a survey over the weekend of the attitudes of the various federal states toward Jewish immigration.

According to the newspaper, they range from negative in Bavaria to evasive in Brandenburg.

LAUDED AS MODERN-DAY MACCABEE, BUSH JOINS CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- At a White House ceremony last week marking the first day of Chanukah, President Bush was compared to the Maccabees for his leadership in acting against Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

"Your actions in the Persian Gulf, opposing wicked aggression and shameless threats of a modern Antiochus, is in the true Maccabean spirit," said Rabbi Chaskel Besser, a member of the presidium of Agudath Israel of America and chairman of the Polish department of the Ronald Lauder Foundation.

The president's participation in the Dec. 12 ceremony, held in the Old Executive Office Building, came a day after he met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"Your friendly meeting yesterday with Prime Minister Shamir gave us a lot of hope," Besser said.

Rabbi David Greenzweig, president of the Council of Jewish Organizations in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn, N.Y., presented Bush with a centuries-old menorah rescued from the Warsaw Ghetto.

"The ancient story of the first Chanukah is one of victory over persecution, aggression and intolerance," Bush told the audience of some 150 Jewish leaders and schoolchildren.

He noted that Jews have struggled against persecution over the centuries and that the first Jews "came to this country as early as 1654 to live a life free from intolerance and persecution."

The president reaffirmed to the audience "the American ideal of freedom of worship."

The president also pointed to his efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. "Last year at this ceremony, we spoke of our efforts to help Vladimir Raiz and other brave refuseniks" leave the Soviet Union, Bush said. "By Passover, Raiz was a free man."

He observed that more than 150,000 Soviet Jews have emigrated so far this year.

Bush had an opportunity to greet one of those emigres, Lidia Shestopalova, a fifth-grader at the Gesher Jewish Day School in Alexandria, Va.

Some 80 students from the day school attended the ceremony, with 15 of them making up a chorus to sing Chanukah songs.

Also present were Barbara Bush, Vice President Dan Quayle and his wife, Marilyn. As he did last year, the president tried his hand at a game of dreidels. But like last year, he did not do too well.

PUBLIC MENORAH SMASHED IN AMSTERDAM

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Unknown persons smashed a large outdoor menorah erected at Gelderland Square shopping center here after it had been lit for the first night of Chanukah last week.

The vandals are believed to have struck on Dec. 12.

The first outdoor menorah kindled in Amsterdam, it was placed there by Rabbi Isaac Vorst of the Chabad Lubavitch organization.

Gelderland Square is located in the modern suburb of Buitenveldert, south of Amsterdam. The area is home to many Jews.