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**SCUDS MAY HAVE SURVIVED WAR,  
ISRAELI MILITARY SOURCES SAY**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- Israeli military sources believe an unspecified number of mobile Iraqi Scud missile launchers may have survived the Persian Gulf war unscathed.

According to the sources, all 30 stationary launchers were wiped out by American and allied bombers before they could fire a single missile.

But Iraq also had 20 to 30 mobile launchers before the war started on Jan. 17, some in the south and some in western Iraq, from where they were used against Israel.

Only 6 percent of the 110,000 allied sorties flown during the war were aimed at the mobile launchers in western Iraq, the sources said.

The 39 Scuds that hit Israel carried conventional high-explosive warheads. The Israeli military sources could not say for certain whether Iraq has or had the capability to fit chemical warheads to its missiles.

With respect to the Iraqi air force, the sources estimate that about 150 reinforced hangars were destroyed by allied bombing during the first week of combat, apparently with their planes inside.

That is why the Iraqis transferred most of their front-line combat aircraft to Iran, the Israelis say. They included Soviet-built Sukhoi-24 bombers and MIG-29 fighters, as well as French-made Mirage 1 fighter-bombers.

The Israeli sources believe the initial transfer was not coordinated with the Iranians. They do not believe Iran will return the planes to Iraq but will rather keep them as partial payment of Iraq's war debt to Iran.

The Israeli sources singled out British and Canadian air force pilots for praise. They also mentioned American night-fighting capacity and said the aerial successes meant the ground war had been won before it began.

The sources said allied air losses were the lowest in the history of aerial warfare relative to the number of sorties flown.

It was disclosed meanwhile that Rafael, Israel's weapons research and development conglomerate, and the American Raytheon company, manufacturer of the Patriot anti-missile batteries, cooperated to improve the effectiveness of the Patriots deployed in Israel, Saudi Arabia and Turkey during hostilities.

**FRANCE IS PRESSING RESOLUTION  
OF ISRAEL-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 4 (JTA) -- France is determined to press the United States and other members of the victorious anti-Iraq coalition to move without delay to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian dispute.

The French want the United Nations to take the lead on the Security Council level, rather than to rely on Washington to work out a solution with the various interested parties.

That position was made clear in statements by French leaders on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's visits to Israel and the Arab

members of the coalition, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia.

President Bush says he is determined to move quickly toward an Arab-Israeli peace settlement, though he will not impose one.

But Bush has not addressed the subject with the urgency and vehemence of French President Francois Mitterrand, nor has he asserted it is a U.N. obligation to deal with the Israeli-Palestinian dispute as forcefully as it dealt with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

"It will be the task of the United Nations, which authorized war, now to seek peace," the French president said Sunday night. "The community of nations will not tolerate that different issues be treated differently. There cannot be two different scales of measurement."

"Israel must have safe and recognized borders and also the means to ensure its defense; the Palestinians must have the right to a national identity, a homeland and a state," he added.

French Defense Minister Pierre Joxe was even more explicit.

"The most urgent task which France now has to meet, the most sacred one as well, is to obtain the same political and diplomatic determination (from the U.N. Security Council) in the application of international law to the Palestinians, Israel and Lebanon, as has been done when Kuwait was concerned," Joxe said.

Prime Minister Michel Rocard stressed the French position at a meeting Monday with the Israeli ambassador, Ovadia Soffer.

Rocard said France would not try to impose any settlement on Israel but believes nevertheless that the time is now ripe for new initiatives.

"Israel should be the party launching new peace moves," instead of trying to respond to foreign initiatives, Rocard told the Israeli envoy.

**RABIN URGES TALKS WITH ARABS  
IN TERRITORIES, BUT NOT THE PLO**

By Aliza Marcus

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) -- With the end of the fighting in the Persian Gulf, it is time for Israel to take the initiative and begin direct negotiations with Palestinians in the administered territories, former Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said here Monday.

Rabin, the second-ranking Knesset member in the opposition Labor Party, suggested the Palestinians be allowed to run their own affairs save for foreign policy, security and issues concerning Jewish settlements, "without giving back one inch in terms of our control over the territories."

This would allow Israel to judge to what extent "this Palestinian entity will be the kind that will be ready to go to peace, without committing ourselves to any end solution," Rabin said during an address here to American Friends of Bar-Ilan University.

He also dismissed the so-called Jordanian option, now being promoted by Labor party leader Shimon Peres, in which a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating team would be sought. Without referring to Peres' plan, Rabin said Jordan had made it clear it did not want to speak for the Palestinians.

"It's inconceivable to me that the 1.6 million

Palestinians in the territories will not be a partner and party to the peace process, because without them (we) can't find a solution," he said.

He suggested Israel renew its May 1989 peace initiative, which proposed elections in the territories to pick Palestinians who would negotiate for limited autonomy with Israel.

#### 'A Unique Opportunity' For Peace

Rabin helped draft the May 1989 peace initiative as a key member of the Cabinet at the time. That peace plan, along with the Labor-Likud unity government, collapsed a year later when the Israeli Cabinet deadlocked on a U.S. proposal to hold preliminary talks in Cairo between Israeli and Palestinian representatives on how to implement the elections plan.

Since then, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud bloc have insisted the plan is still alive, but they have placed more emphasis on normalizing relations with Israel's Arab neighbors.

While Rabin favors talks with the Palestinians, he ruled out any role for the Palestine Liberation Organization, saying the PLO had been thoroughly discredited for supporting Iraq in the Gulf war.

Calling PLO leader Yasir Arafat and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein the two main obstacles to peace, Rabin said the Iraqi military defeat at the hands of the U.S.-led alliance had created unique opportunities in the Middle East.

"Even (with) the outburst of hatred to Israel that the Scuds brought to the Arab masses and the Palestinians, I believe it will be a unique opportunity" for peace, he said.

Referring to comments made recently by Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, Rabin said he, too, would speak to Palestinians in the territories, "regardless of the shouts of joy of the Palestinians who were standing on roofs in the territories" as Iraqi missiles exploded in Tel Aviv.

Without Palestinian participation, "there can't be a solution," he said, reiterating there is no room in the negotiations for the "PLO gang from Tunis."

#### **CALIF. DEMOCRATS ADOPT RESOLUTION URGING DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE** By Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES, March 4 (JTA) -- In the first political grassroots signal on the Middle East since the end of the fighting in the Persian Gulf, delegates to the California State Democratic Party convention in Oakland overwhelmingly endorsed direct negotiations among the region's conflicting players as the best chance for peace in the Middle East.

In a resolution introduced Sunday by some 400 delegates belonging to Democrats for Israel, the convention called on the U.S. government "to work toward direct, party-to-party bilateral talks to achieve a peaceful solution to Arab-Arab, Arab-Israel and Palestinian-Israel conflicts."

An opposing resolution, backed by Arab-American groups and their supporters, was handily defeated. It called for an international peace conference under U.N. auspices and for "national self-determination" for all peoples of the region, a clear allusion to the Palestinians.

Noting the growing influence of California as the most politically potent state in the country, pro-Israel forces hailed passage of the resolution as a harbinger of the likely national Democratic platform on the Middle East.

But one official pointed out that the resolution calls on Israel to make a good-faith attempt at peace.

"Inherent in this resolution is the sense that Israel must seriously sit down with its Arab neighbors and do something about the Palestinian problem," said David Nagler, executive director of the Jewish Public Affairs Committee, the political arm of all Jewish federations in California.

"The convention felt that there is now an opportunity for a lasting peace in the Middle East and that all the parties will have to give up something," Nagler said.

Pro-Palestinian groups played a strong and skillful role at last year's party convention. But their impact seemed more muted this year, in the wake of the Gulf war, said Richard Hirschhaut, Central Pacific regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

"We didn't see the same level of organization and slick literature as last year," said Hirschhaut, who, like Nagler, played an active role at the convention.

Hirschhaut also praised the effective work of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee and of Democrats for Israel.

#### **NUMBER OF ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS INCREASED DURING FIRST MONTH OF WAR** By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) -- At least 52 anti-Semitic incidents linked to the Persian Gulf crisis were committed nationwide during the first month of the war, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has reported.

They amounted to about half of all anti-Semitic acts reported to ADL from Jan. 16 through Feb. 14. By contrast, only six politically linked incidents were reported during the two weeks prior to the start of the war, according to Alan Schwartz, ADL's director of research.

But the total for the period is not very different from a stretch of several months in 1988, when over 100 incidents related to the Palestinian intifada were documented by ADL.

And the overall number of anti-Semitic incidents is not substantially different than the usual number reported for any four-week period in this country. The average number is about 150.

The incidents are troubling, though, because "the perpetrators of these acts have exploited a political issue to express their hatred of Jews, and have clearly crossed the boundary of legitimate political expression," ADL National Director Abraham Foxman said in a statement.

At least 20 Jewish organizations received phone or mail threats. One California country club frequented by Jews received a phone threat that said, "Kill every Jew" on behalf of "Iraqi people," ADL officials said.

Fifteen of the 52 incidents cited consisted of hate mailings to the New York UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, in response to newspaper advertisements it placed soliciting contributions for Israel.

The mailings included swastikas and statements saying "Death to Jews," and "Keep checking for those letter bombs."

Of the 52 incidents, 18 occurred in New York, seven in Ohio, five in New Jersey, four in New Mexico, three each in California, Illinois and Washington state, two each in Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and one each in Florida, Texas, Minnesota, Nevada and Colorado.

## SOVIET ALIYAH RATE PICKS UP AFTER BIG DROP IN FEBRUARY

By Kenneth Hoffman

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- The pace of aliyah from the Soviet Union picked up quickly at the end of last week, as the fighting ended in the Persian Gulf.

During the final five days of February, about 500 Soviet immigrants per day arrived in Israel, about twice the daily rate during the first five weeks of the war.

But war jitters brought the monthly immigration total for February down to 7,164 Soviet Jews, according to the Jewish Agency for Israel. That is just over half the number of Soviet Jews who arrived in January and not even a fourth of the record 35,000 who arrived in December.

Concern about the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel, however, did not deter a large number of Ethiopian Jews from immigrating last month. Aliyah from Ethiopia totaled 1,100, the highest rate since the end of Operation Moses six years ago.

Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz said Soviet aliyah should increase gradually during the next few weeks, reaching its prewar pace in about a month.

In the immigrant transit station in Bucharest, Romania, about 10 times more immigrants arrived last week than the number that came during the war.

Almost all of the Soviet Jews going through Bucharest to Israel arrive by train. Arrangements to leave by train can be made much more quickly than flight arrangements.

According to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry in New York, February's immigration figures bring Soviet Jewish aliyah for 1991 so far to 20,524. The Jewish Agency and the Israeli government expect some 300,000 Soviet Jews to arrive by the end of the year.

### Vienna 'Leak' Prevented

Concern arose last month among officials in the Jewish Agency and the government about "leaks" in the emigration pipeline that brings most Soviet Jews to Israel.

What appears to have been an attempt to reopen the Vienna route for "dropouts" was nipped in the bud by the Austrian authorities.

During the 1970s and 1980s, close to 150,000 "dropouts" left the Soviet Union with visas to Israel, but changed their destination once they reached Vienna.

Last month, some 20 families of Soviet Jews with exit visas to Israel sought permission from Austria to stay temporarily in Vienna until the war footing ended in Israel.

The Austrian Embassy in Moscow, suspecting that the emigrants were would-be dropouts, rejected their request. The Austrians, like other Western European nations, are fearful of creating precedents of any kind that would encourage immigration of Soviet citizens, Jews or non-Jews, to their countries.

Jewish Agency leaders at first blamed the New York-based Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society for organizing the Vienna initiative, but HIAS strenuously denied the accusation.

In fact, HIAS informed the Jewish Agency of the Austrian situation, according to Karl Zukerman, the agency's executive vice president.

HIAS assists Jews who wish to immigrate to the United States, including those from the Soviet

Union. A maximum of 40,000 Soviet Jews will be allowed to immigrate to the United States this fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

On Monday, HIAS reported that 1,713 Soviet Jews immigrated to the United States last month, up from 1,300 in January.

While HIAS is committed to sticking with the annual ceiling of 40,000 Soviet Jews, the Washington-based Union of Councils for Soviet Jews has proposed accelerating the immigration of those who have already applied to come to the United States.

Citing deteriorating conditions for Jews in the Soviet Union, the Union of Councils wants to launch an emergency "evacuation" of between 150,000 to 200,000 Soviet Jews to America and other countries.

Immigration authorities in Israel are upset at the proposal, maintaining that it will persuade Soviet Jews who have decided to make aliyah to apply for U.S. entry visas instead.

Israeli officials stress that the transit stations in Eastern Europe can now handle up to 50,000 immigrants a month and will soon be expanded to a capacity of 70,000 a month. That, they say, should allow all who want to leave to do so speedily.

## KU KLUX KLAN IN DECLINE WITH NO FUTURE, SAYS ADL

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) -- The Ku Klux Klan has been in decline for a decade, and there is little prospect of the hooded order once again becoming a significant force, according to a recent report issued by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

There are about 4,000 members of the different competing factions which together are known as the KKK. During the 1980s, ADL estimated that Klan membership ranged from a high of 11,500 in 1981 to 4,500 in 1987-88.

Several factors caused the decline, including the implication of Klan members in violent crime across the country; highly publicized criminal and civil trials indicting Klansmen; and the passage of hate-crimes legislation and anti-paramilitary training statutes in several states.

The Klan was also weakened internally with the departure of its most effective leaders: David Duke, Robert Shelton and Bill Wilkinson.

Duke went on to found the National Association for the Advancement of White People, which is "essentially a Klan without robes," according to Irwin Suall, director of ADL's fact-finding department.

Shelton's sect, United Klans of America, was dealt a fatal blow in 1987 when a \$7 million judgment was levied against it. The United Klans was deemed responsible for a murder committed by its agents. Wilkinson left the Klan when he was exposed as an informant for the FBI in 1985.

Their departure gave way to a period of intense factionalism for the Klan, according to the ADL report.

Some Klan leaders are trying to convince their followers to pattern propaganda on the Duke model. The idea, the report said, is to use code language for their racist ideology and to avoid being implicated in violent crimes.

"These new tactics will enable them to gain some additional strength," according to Suall, but "the Klan is doomed to remain a fringe organization."

## SENATE REPORT CHARGES ISRAELI FIRM GAVE 'DEADLY' ADVICE TO DRUG CARTEL

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, March 4 (JTA) -- Retired Israeli military commandos made Colombia's Medellin cocaine cartel "substantially more dangerous" by teaching it "potentially deadly techniques," Senate investigators have concluded.

That allegation -- and a similar one about the role of British paramilitary experts in training the rival Cali drug cartel -- were contained in a report released last week by the Republican staff of the Senate Governmental Affairs permanent subcommittee on investigations.

While the report is at times sharply critical of Israeli conduct, it is unlikely to have any significant impact on U.S.-Israeli relations.

Releasing findings on what it described as a "sordid tale of greed and intrigue," the subcommittee's Republican staff blamed the Israeli and British governments for allowing the alleged training of the drug cartels to take place.

The Israeli training, which occurred in 1988 and 1989, was allegedly provided by an Israeli firm called Hod Hahanit, or Spearhead Ltd., headed by Israel Defense Force reserve Lt. Col. Yair Klein.

"Israeli Embassy personnel (in Colombia) knew Yair Klein was operating in Colombia, but no action was taken against him until after reports of his activities surfaced in the media," the report alleged.

Klein pleaded guilty and was sentenced Jan. 3 in Jerusalem for having violated export laws by providing training, know-how and weapons without a license to clients in Colombia. He is appealing his one-year sentence, which was suspended, and fines to him and his company totaling \$75,000.

A spokeswoman for the Israeli Embassy here had no comment on the report, other than to say that it concerned the activities of a private Israeli citizen who had been tried by an Israeli court of law.

### Weapons Worth Nearly \$400,000

The Senate report found that training provided by the Israelis and British trainers "was substantial and involved potentially deadly techniques, such as surveillance and ambush and the use of explosives."

However, unlike the British trainers, who said they were in Colombia "with the intention of conducting paramilitary operations," the Israelis "deny that they intended to, or ever did, operate as traditional mercenaries," the report said.

The Israelis have said they were in Colombia to train cattle ranchers to protect themselves from rustlers and leftist guerrillas. But a former Colombian, who is now under the U.S. Marshall's Service Witness Protection Program, told the subcommittee in 1989 that the ranchers group was controlled by the Medellin cartel.

The Israeli training coincided with the shipment of a large supply of Israeli Galil assault rifles and Uzi submachine guns to the Medellin cartel in 1989. The shipment, originally marked for delivery to the Caribbean nation of Antigua and Barbuda, was later diverted to Colombia.

Geoffrey Robertson, former counsel of the Antigua Judicial Inquiry Commission, which conducted its own investigation of the affair, testified Feb. 28 that "Klein's scheme was to obtain modern Israeli weapons for the (Medellin) drug cartel by 'laundering' them through a training

school set up within the grounds of the Antiguan Defence Force."

The sale to Antigua, made using a forged Israeli export document, included 400 Galils, 100 mini-Uzis, and ammunition and supplies worth nearly \$400,000.

At least 175 Galils were found by Colombian police on the property of Medellin kingpin Jose Rodriguez Gacha after he was killed in a December 1989 raid on the cartel.

### Banks Assisted Money Transfer

Financing for the weapons, manufactured by Israel Military Industries, was traced to a November 1988 transfer of \$98,131.50 out of Spearhead's account in a Panamanian bank, Banco Aleman-Panameno. The funds went, via Philadelphia International Bank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust, to Bank Hapoalim, which then transferred the money to Israel Military Industries.

The rest of the payment, \$286,250, followed the same path, starting on Feb. 3, 1989. Also commencing that day was a transfer of \$44,000 from Spearhead's Panama account through the two U.S. banks to Bank Hapoalim's Tel Aviv account for Luis Meneses Baez.

"Meneses is a retired Colombian army officer who worked as the liaison between Gacha's paramilitary force and the foreign mercenaries," the Senate report said. "While we don't know for certain the purpose of this payment to Meneses, its timing strongly suggests that it was tied to the arms sale, possibly a commission for arranging the sale."

Daniel Rinzel, Republican counsel to the subcommittee, said Bank Hapoalim has yet to comply with a subpoena requiring it to release its records on Meneses' account in Tel Aviv.

Charles Ferris, associate counsel for Bank Hapoalim in New York, said that "under Israeli law, it's a violation of privacy and in fact secrecy to reveal customer documents and information without the customer's consent. We were unable, as was the committee, to contact the customer."

Klein and other Israelis deny they ever met Gacha. But the Colombian now under U.S. protection, Diego Viafara Salinas, told the subcommittee that Gacha met with Spearhead employees "at a place called Fantasy Island."

### Israelis Must Have Suspected

In addition, the report said that during their inquiry in Israel, subcommittee staffers "played for the Israeli instructors videotape showing Rodriguez Gacha's son, Freddy, engaged in drills at their training course."

At that point, "the Israelis acknowledged instructing a student named Freddy Rodriguez but denied knowing he was Rodriguez Gacha's son," the report said.

Viafara subsequently told subcommittee staff that Spearhead trainers once saw their trainees guarding "trucks loaded with cocaine."

"When the instructors inquired about the contents of the trucks, they were told it was baby formula," the report said. "But Viafara said it was obvious the Israelis did not believe the explanation."

At a hearing last week to discuss his staff's study, Sen. William Roth Jr. (R-Del.), the subcommittee's ranking Republican, said, "It is not credible to believe that these mercenaries, who included former officers of elite armed forces, could have made repeated trips to Colombia and not known the true identity of their employers."