

**COURT REFUSES TO HEAR POLLARD CASE;
ATTORNEY TO SEEK COMMUTED SENTENCE****By Kimberly C. Moore**
States News Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- An attorney for Jonathan Jay Pollard urged President Bush this week to commute his client's life imprisonment sentence following a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court not to hear an appeal of the convicted spy's sentence.

The nation's highest court, without comment, said Tuesday it would not review a ruling handed down in March by the U.S. Court of Appeals here, which rejected Pollard's claim that the government had violated the terms of a 1986 agreement, in which he pleaded guilty to spying for Israel in exchange for a reduced sentence.

That court rejected Pollard's argument that the government violated the plea bargain by asking for a stiff sentence. Pollard was given the maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

The appeals court also rejected Pollard's claim that prosecutors coerced him into pleading guilty by refusing to accept a plea from his wife, Anne, who was seriously ill at the time, unless he pleaded guilty.

Anne Pollard served about 40 months in prison and the couple have since divorced.

Pollard, a Navy intelligence analyst, admits to passing thousands of classified documents to Israel, saying the United States was not living up to agreements made with the Jewish state to share sensitive information.

He claims that some of the information he gave to Israelis included the location of Iraqi chemical weapons factories.

"Jonathan Pollard is understandably disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision not to review his claim that the government breached its plea agreement with him," said Theodore Olson, Pollard's attorney.

"We are now asking the president to commute Jonathan Pollard's sentence to the time he has served already."

'It Is Time For Compassion'

Olson said he will file a written request with the administration before the Nov. 3 election. "It is important that whoever is in office commute his sentence," he said.

Olson cited the cases of several convicted spies who received "comparatively lenient" sentences.

One such spy, Albert Sombolsy, was convicted of selling to Iraq and Jordan information on U.S. troop deployment during Operation Desert Shield. He received a 19-year sentence.

Seymour Reich, immediate past president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and B'nai B'rith International, said this week that Pollard's sentence is "cruel" when compared to other espionage sentences.

"I respectfully urge the president on humanitarian grounds to commute Jonathan Pollard's sentence to the time served -- seven years that he has been held in solitary confinement," Reich said in a statement.

"It is time for compassion to replace venge-

ance, for true justice to be done, for mercy to put an end to this human tragedy."

Supporters of Pollard say they are dismayed at the Supreme Court's decision but will not give up, despite the setback.

"We're very much disappointed," said Morris Pollard, the convicted man's father. "We're not going to give up. We have been asking for a commuted sentence."

The elder Pollard, a professor at Notre Dame University, said he does not feel betrayed by the U.S. government.

"There are certain people in the government, though, who betrayed their oath to uphold the Constitution," he said. "Our government is very strong."

Reich urged Jewish organizations to support a commuted sentence for Pollard.

A number of Jewish community services support a reduced sentence for Pollard, including B'nai B'rith, the World Jewish Congress, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Reform Judaism's Central Conference of American Rabbis and Agudath Israel of America, an Orthodox group.

However, several major Jewish agencies are not taking up Pollard's cause.

Olson also called for increased support of Pollard, saying Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, endorse a commuted sentence.

Reports in the Israeli press say Rabin raised the issue with Bush during his visit to the United States in August.

Federal prosecutors said at Pollard's sentencing that the damage Pollard caused to national security was "beyond calculation."

**VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN TERRITORIES
DESPITE END OF PRISON HUNGER STRIKE****By Gil Sedan**

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- Despite the end of a two-week hunger strike by jailed Palestinians, riots continued in the administered territories over the Sukkot festival, leaving three Arab youths dead.

Israeli forces responded with tear gas, rubber bullets and live fire as hundreds of Palestinians took to the streets in violent demonstrations that spread from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank.

Political analysts believe the unrest will subside only after peace talks resume in Washington on Oct. 21, when new openings for progress may restore the relative calm prevailing in the territories until a couple of weeks ago.

Two 15-year-old youths were killed and dozens of others wounded after the Israel Defense Force opened fire Monday to disperse a violent demonstration at the Nuscirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

Another 15-year-old was killed in a similar confrontation in the West Bank town of Salfit.

The wave of demonstrations followed the brutal murder Sunday of a Jewish computer technician on a working visit to the Gaza Strip settlement of Ganei Tal.

Security forces detained a resident of Khan Yunis who works at the moshav as a suspect in the murder of Amatzia Ben-Haim, 45, of Kibbutz

Yad Mordechai. The victim had been bludgeoned to death with a hoe.

Analysts said the sudden upsurge in the intifada differed from its spontaneous outbreak five years ago in that it is now being carefully orchestrated from the top.

Palestinian leaders visited sit-down strikers before the eyes of television cameras at International Red Cross headquarters in the territories and East Jerusalem over the holiday. Foreign consuls and other media also visited the strikers, mostly women relatives of prisoners.

An end to the strike came Sunday night following negotiations with representatives of the jailed Palestinians. But news reports said some prisoners were still on strike at the Naptha prison in the Negev. And Palestinian leaders claimed it was continuing in other prisons as well.

Defense authorities have deployed reinforced troops in the territories as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced Israel would use "every legally available means" to quell the disturbances.

At the same time, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said he will investigate prisoners' complaints about conditions in the prisons. He has appointed Levy Shaul, former commissioner of the Prisons Service, to carry out an inquiry promised in negotiations with strike leaders.

2 INFILTRATORS FROM JORDAN KILLED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- As unrest mounted in the administered territories, Israeli forces killed two men who infiltrated from Jordan four miles north of Jericho on the eve of the Sukkot holiday.

The marauders were shot dead Sunday evening by an Israel Defense Force patrol some 500 feet inside Israel. They were about 17 and 20 years old and wore civilian clothes. On their persons were three butcher knives, Molotov cocktails and a copy of the Koran.

Israeli troops suffered no casualties in the encounter.

Military sources suggest the intruders may have been acting on the momentum generated by an upsurge in the intifada in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

ISRAEL OFFERS EGYPT QUAKE AID

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- Israel has offered Egypt assistance in the wake of an earthquake near Cairo on Monday that left over 400 dead and thousands more camped along the highway in fear of further tremors.

The offer of "any assistance which the Egyptian government deems necessary" was conveyed publicly by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in a message of sympathy to the Egyptian people, and through diplomatic channels in Cairo and Tel Aviv.

The Israel Defense Force has acquired expertise in mass rescue operations amid urban ruins, Israeli diplomats noted.

Israeli Ambassador Ephraim Dubek said Tuesday that the Egyptian authorities responded "with warm thanks" to Israel's offer, but he doubted they would take it up.

Peres expressed the "deep sorrow" of the Israeli people at the human toll of the earthquake. Many Israelis, especially in the south of the country, felt the tremor that shook Cairo.

WOMEN ERECT 'PEACE TENT' ON GOLAN BUT WANT THE AREA TO REMAIN ISRAELI

By Michele Chabin

MOSHAV ELI AL, Israel (JTA) -- Over the years, thousands of Israeli soldiers have pitched their tents on the barren hills of the Golan Heights, ready to deflect an attack by Syria.

Now a group of Jewish women from the area have set up a "peace tent" to demonstrate their desire for peaceful relations with their Arab neighbors.

Overlooking the Syrian village of Ibanid, the tent was the brainchild of the Women's Forum, a non-partisan group of local residents, both religious and secular.

Two weeks ago, 75 women and their children gathered at Moshav Eli Al, near the Syrian border, to pitch the tent. One of the participants, megaphone in hand, addressed the crowd in Hebrew and Arabic, as brightly colored balloons and a flock of doves were sent over the border.

Since then, the women have been posted at the tent on a rotating basis.

The decision to erect the tent, was "a spontaneous action by the women of the Golan," said Debbie Atoun, who helped organize the event. "We are trying to show people everywhere that the Golan is part of Israel, and that our presence is not an obstacle to peace."

Atoun called the tent "an attempt to extend the hand of friendship" toward their counterparts on the other side of the border.

"We are calling on women in Syria to make similar efforts in an attempt to help create an understanding between both sides," she said.

"We would like to meet them and see if there is a willingness for peace," she added. "We hope that they saw the balloons we sent over and heard our words of friendship over the megaphone."

But the doves, Atoun noted wryly, "refused to fly over the border."

In addition to setting up the tent, the women have joined forces with other Golan activists in an attempt to press for continuing Israeli control of the region. They have demonstrated in front of the Prime Minister's Office and appealed to Knesset members through a letter-writing campaign.

"We are trying to do something to save our homes and to show Israelis what the Golan means to them," said Atoun.

So far, there has been no reaction to the tent from the Syrian women, said Atoun, "but that won't stop us from trying."

EL AL CRASH DEATH TOLL PUT AT 67

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- The body of an Israeli woman killed in the crash of an El Al cargo jet last week was being flown home for burial this week as the number of victims was again revised downward, to 67.

Anat Levy Salomon, wife of an El Al security officer in Amsterdam, had been flying home Oct. 4 for a wedding when the Boeing 707 smashed into two Amsterdam apartment buildings. The remains of the three crew members have not yet been recovered, contrary to previous reports.

Authorities have been unable to identify 31 bodies, which will be buried in a mass grave.

The cause of the crash is still unclear. But the flight-data recorder is yielding more data than expected, according to news reports.

DENTIST FACING CHARGES IN AUSTRIA FOR ALLEGED WAR CRIMES IN BELGRADE

By Marta Halpert

VIENNA, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- An Israeli doctor will testify at hearings here next week into the wartime activities in Yugoslavia of a wealthy 74-year-old Austrian dentist.

Egon Sabukoschek was arrested last week at his elegant villa in Graz, southern Austria, on suspicion of rounding up 100 Belgrade Jews for execution in the summer of 1941.

He faces charges of murder and being an accessory to murder. Dr. Elizabeth Podkaminer, of Jerusalem, told Austrian Television last Friday she knew the accused socially 51 years ago as a medical student in Belgrade. On July 27, 1941, she was shocked to see the man, whip in hand, directing a "selection" of Jews in the main city square.

She said she knew one of the men who had been rounded up and had pleaded for his life and for that of his son. Sabukoschek told Podkaminer she would have to choose between the two.

Fighting back tears, Podkaminer said: "I decided in favor of the 17-year-old son."

Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal said the accused probably held the title of "Juden kommissar" of Belgrade as a member of the Wehrmacht counterintelligence. He said the suspect had been instructed to penetrate Jewish circles in the city and pretend he was an opponent of Adolf Hitler.

Wiesenthal told reporters last week that he submitted documentation on the suspect to the Department of Public Prosecution.

Sabukoschek was ordered detained Oct. 9 by investigative magistrate Karl Buchgraber to prevent his flight, against the background of "dramatically clear testimony."

Podkaminer is one of 10 witnesses from Israel and areas of the former Yugoslavia who will testify at the hearings in Graz.

Assembled Jews in Main Square

Alexander Lebel, an eyewitness to the roundup who is now living in Belgrade, said Sabukoschek and a Gestapo officer named Strake ordered more than 1,000 Jews to assemble in the main city square and line up by profession: laborers, doctors, lawyers, craftsmen, businessmen.

"Out of this group, every fifth or 10th man was chosen and ordered to step aside. When they had their 100 Jews, the others were allowed to go home," said Lebel, a journalist and economist.

The 10 were executed the following morning. Sabukoschek has admitted that at that time he was indeed in Belgrade, where he had studied medicine. But he said his military rank was the lowly one of private and he served merely as a Serbo-Croatian interpreter to the Gestapo.

He told the investigating magistrate the roundup was ordered after a 16-year-old Serbian girl tried to set fire to a German military car and "named a Jew as her instigator."

He said he thought the 100 Jews were going to be sent to forced labor and "only much later" learned they had been shot.

Most Austrian media praised the Austrian authorities for acting quickly to block off any possibility of escape for the suspect.

But one Viennese daily quoted the doubts raised by a Conservative politician in the suspect's hometown of Graz, who said Sabukoschek held too low a rank to run such an operation.

Responding, Wiesenthal said low ranks were not unusual in German counterintelligence.

LE PEN SUES JEWISH LEADER FOR TYING HIM TO VANDALISM

By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- Jean-Marie Le Pen, the leader of the French extreme right-wing National Front, has filed a libel suit against a Jewish leader for tying him to racial violence.

His suit against Jean Kahn, president of CRIF, the umbrella structure of the Jewish organizations in France, arose from remarks Kahn made to the influential French daily *Le Monde*.

In his comments on recent racial and anti-Semitic acts in Europe, Kahn said, "One cannot but link the desecration of the Jewish cemetery of Herrlisheim to the racist events of Rostock in Germany."

He said that Le Pen's declarations "are also an incitement to racial hatred."

Kahn was referring to the vandalism last month at a Jewish cemetery in the Alsace region of France, in which some 200 graves were vandalized, and the attacks in the northern German port city of Rostock, in which right-wing youths torched a hostel for asylum-seekers.

He was alluding to remarks which Le Pen made on Aug. 23 during an address in his hometown in Brittany, in which he lashed out against those "in favor of secure borders for Israel" and in favor of destroying those of France.

Le Pen is suing Kahn for 100,000 francs (over \$20,000) plus the same amount for expenses.

Given the attitude of the Paris judiciary on other occasions in cases of this sort, observers give Le Pen and Kahn equal chances of winning.

SOCCER DEVOTEES CHARGED IN LYON CEMETERY VANDALISM

By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- Four young supporters of a soccer club in Lyon have been arrested and charged with the desecration of the Jewish cemetery in that city last month.

Of the four, two 20-year-olds and a minor were immediately jailed.

Numerous gravestones in the old cemetery in the southeastern city were daubed with swastikas and graffiti such as "Heil Hitler," "Adolf Hitler our father" and "Adolf back to power" in the early morning hours of Sept. 13.

The four told police in statements that they had gone out on a drinking spree in local bars. After an excessive number of beers, three of them climbed over the wall of the Jewish cemetery and desecrated some headstones, while the fourth pasted a hostile slogan on the outside wall of the graveyard.

The cemetery is located close to the grounds of the Lyon soccer club, the Olympique. Investigators thought immediately that the culprits might be soccer supporters, since it has become fashionable to shout anti-Semitic slogans during soccer matches throughout Europe.

During an encounter between the Olympique and a club from Paris, four youngsters were heard yelling at the visiting players the same slogans as those which had been daubed on the Jewish tombs. The four were arrested on the spot.

Asked by the police to write down the slogans they were heard shouting, the four misspelled them the way the cemetery vandals did.

They have been charged with provocation to racial hatred, profanation of graves and defacing of monuments.

ISRAEL'S CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT BANS DRIVING TO SHUL ON SHABBAT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- In a departure from the longstanding policy of Conservative Judaism, the rabbis of Israel's affiliated Masorti movement have issued a religious ruling prohibiting travel to synagogue by car on Shabbat.

The decision by the Halacha (Jewish Law) Committee of Israel's Rabbinical Assembly means that members of Masorti synagogues, as the Conservative movement is known here, are prohibited from doing something that Conservative Jews everywhere else are permitted to do.

Until the Halacha Committee's decision was published last week, the entire Conservative movement was governed by a 1950 ruling of the New York-based Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, which stated that automobile travel is allowed if the distance between home and synagogue is too far to walk.

The 1950 ruling permits driving only to and from synagogue, without stopping for any other purpose.

The Israeli Halacha Committee, in its ruling, stated that many people have come to mistakenly believe that driving on Shabbat is permitted for any purpose.

"In the State of Israel, no one works on the Sabbath. Every Israeli can open a siddur (prayerbook) and pray, and there is sure to be a synagogue in his locality," stated the Israeli decision.

The question of whether rulings made by the New York-based law committee are binding on Israel's Conservative Jews, or whether the Masorti movement is free to come to its own conclusions has yet to be worked out, according to Rabbi Kassel Abelson, chairman of the U.S. committee.

"The Conservative movement's law committee has no policy on it," he said in New York. "It has come up as an issue in principle but not in fact before."

The nature of the relationship is "being talked through now, and with this psak (halachic ruling) will have to be discussed even further," he said.

Raised By Petach Tikvah Family

But he made clear that "the impact of the Masorti movement's psak is limited to the Masorti Jews of Israel."

The three members of the Masorti Halacha Committee who issued the ruling included its chairman, Rabbi David Golinkin.

According to the ruling, driving is prohibited on Shabbat because igniting a fire, as when an engine is turned on, is a transgression specified in the Torah itself.

And in case the car breaks down en route, the driver is likely to try to fix it and breach other prohibitions.

In addition, according to the ruling, Talmudic sources say that leaving one's own city is forbidden on Shabbat. And the car's driver would be compelled to take along a wallet and money, which is prohibited under Jewish law, as is buying anything, including gasoline.

The ruling also states that permission to drive to synagogue is likely to be interpreted by Masorti Jews as permission to drive anywhere on Shabbat, and that driving can create stress and tension, which are not conducive to the Sabbath spirit.

Praying in synagogue after driving there, the

ruling concludes, is a mitzvah that comes from a transgression.

The rabbinic decree was issued in response to a question submitted by a Masorti family in Petach Tikvah. They asked if they could drive since there is no Masorti synagogue in their area and they feel uncomfortable in the local Orthodox synagogues, where men and women are treated unequally.

The family was advised by the Masorti Halacha Committee to find a relatively egalitarian Orthodox congregation in their city or, failing that, to move elsewhere.

"People for whom Shabbat observance is important will move to another home in order to live close to the synagogue of their choice," the ruling said.

(Contributing to this report was JTA staff writer Debra Nussbaum Cohen in New York.)

JOURNALIST ALVIN ROSENFELD DEAD; COVERED NEARLY ALL ISRAEL'S WARS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13 (JTA) -- Alvin Rosenfeld, a former NBC bureau chief in Jerusalem who covered nearly all Israel's wars since the birth of the Jewish state, died in Washington on Oct. 10 of cancer. He was 73.

Rosenfeld was a familiar and respected figure in the small community of veteran correspondents who covered Israel and the Middle East in the early days of the Jewish state.

A native of St. Louis and grandson of the late St. Louis Chief Rabbi Zachariah Rosenfeld, he wrote about the War of Independence in 1948 for the New York Post.

With his journalist wife, the former Judy Shepherd, Rosenfeld depicted the difficult early days of mass immigration and austerity in a weekly column for the Post.

He reported on the Sinai campaign of 1956 for the New York Herald Tribune and covered the trial of Nazi war criminal Adolph Eichmann for that newspaper and for NBC News, which he later joined as a correspondent.

As a correspondent for NBC, he was severely wounded during fighting in Cyprus in 1964. His injuries left him blind in one eye and deaf in one ear.

Rosenfeld became NBC bureau chief in Madrid in 1965 and returned to Jerusalem as Israeli bureau chief for the network in 1967, a few days before the outbreak of the Six-Day War.

He was the only Western reporter to enter the Old City of Jerusalem with the Israeli forces, led by Gen. Moshe Dayan, when they captured the Western Wall.

In 1971, Rosenfeld was posted to Washington as a State Department correspondent for NBC. After he left the network, he returned to war reportage for the last time as a special correspondent for The Washington Post, covering the Yom Kippur War and its aftermath.

He also served for a time as spokesman for Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem.

In 1986, Rosenfeld joined the nascent U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, playing a major role in its early planning. He went on to become a consultant to the museum.

Because of Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, the Daily News Bulletin will not be published Tuesday, Oct. 20, or Wednesday, Oct. 21.