

**THE MORNING AFTER THE TERROR:
CALM WINS OVER CHAOS, LIFE OVER DEATH**
By Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Bullet-punctured storefronts, a bloodstained roll of toilet paper, a lone sneaker.

These were the only things left Monday morning to remind people that just hours earlier, two Palestinians terrorists had opened fire on a crowd of diners in the heart of Israel's capital.

The morning-after scene on Yoel Solomon Street, lined with open-air cafes and trendy shops, was a far cry from the chaos and despair that ripped through the pedestrian mall close to midnight the previous evening.

Packed with Israelis and tourists enjoying unseasonably balmy October weather, the street in the restored downtown section of Nahalat Shiva suddenly became what one eyewitness described as a "war zone."

According to Jerusalem police, two heavily armed gunmen fired hundreds of rounds into the narrow, congested street, killing two people and injuring 13.

The dead were identified as Ma'ayan Levy, a 19-year-old soldier from Jerusalem, and Samir Amis Mograbi, an Arab resident of a village near Jerusalem, whose wife was also injured.

Levy was buried in her home village of Beit Zayit on Monday afternoon. The wail of sirens pierced the city, as hundreds of police and IDF soldiers rushed to the scene. A dozen ambulances, their red lights flashing, evacuated the wounded, some critically, to nearby hospitals.

Police shot dead the two assailants, whom the police identified as members of Hamas. The two men, both of Gaza, reportedly discussed their suicide mission in a homemade videotape.

Hamas Claims Responsibility

Police bomb disposal experts later exploded seven hand grenades found on the bodies of the terrorists and in the nearby vicinity.

The entire center of the city was closed off as police scoured the area searching for a possible third terrorist as well as for unexploded grenades.

Hamas in Gaza claimed responsibility for the attack, and identified the dead assailants as Hassan Abbas, 21, and Issam Mhana Ismail al-Johari.

There were conflicting reports Monday as to whether one of the assailants had been a serving member of the Palestinian police force, but this was denied by Israeli officials Monday night.

According to Hamas, Johari crossed into Gaza from Egypt in July in order to join the Hamas' armed terrorist unit, Izz a-Din al-Kassam. Palestinian sources said he had been a member of the Palestinian police since his arrival in Gaza.

Israeli officials confirmed that Johari had crossed into Gaza after receiving a visa from the Israeli Consulate in Cairo.

Israeli government officials vowed that acts of terrorism would not halt progress toward peace between Israel and the Arabs.

"We will fight these terrorist organizations. We will prevent them, to our best ability, from killing Israelis, and by no means will we allow them to achieve their goal to interfere in our move toward peace," Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said at a news conference following his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Monday.

Christopher, who was staying at the King David Hotel just blocks from the attack, echoed the prime minister's resolve.

The terrorists "shall not succeed in killing the peace," said Christopher, who was in the region this week for his latest round of shuttle diplomacy between Israel and Syria.

Christopher called on Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat to condemn the attack.

Although there was no immediate statement from Arafat, condemnation came from one of his top aides, Nabil Sha'ath, who called the attack a "violation of the peace agreement."

Israeli opposition leaders, meanwhile, charged that the government was responsible for the attack.

'A Hotbed Of Terror'

Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu accused the government of providing "a hotbed and refuge of terror" in Gaza.

Likud Knesset member Ariel Sharon said the Israeli accord with the PLO had "placed the security of the citizens of Israel in the hands of Arafat."

By noon on Monday, most of the bloodstains at the site of the attack had been mopped away, and glaziers were busy replacing panes of glass. Crowds of curious onlookers pointed to bullet holes, while waiters and shopkeepers worked hard to remove all traces of the 10-minute shooting spree.

Though the overall mood was surprisingly light, with several of the cafes open for business by midday, at one point a small but vocal crowd of angry men began to shout, "Rabin, go home!" "Rabin, go home!"

Ignoring the chanting outside, Ganit, a 21-year-old waitress at the Osteria Papas restaurant, recalled her ordeal while setting up tables and chairs.

"It was about 11:30 and I was carrying glasses to customers outside when I heard shooting," she said.

The waitress, her eyes ringed with fatigue, added, "All of a sudden, the glasses broke. One of the other waitresses was shot, and we ran into the back room while we tried to stop the bleeding. We spent the night with her at the hospital."

Alon Sela, the restaurant's owner, said he had left for the evening when he heard about the shooting. Assessing the damage, he said, "Things could have been much worse. If it hadn't been for a downpour of rain 15 minutes before the attack, many more people would have been sitting outside."

Asked whether he had worried about such attacks in the past, Sela confided, "I lived in the

States for 10 years, and when I returned to Israel, I began to worry about terrorism.

"But after a short time you get used to your environment," he said, adding, "Things like this can happen anywhere."

"We're thankful we weren't in the shop," said Rivka Cameli, owner of a fine-housewares store in the center of the street.

Pointing to the bullet holes in her windows, and the broken crystal bowls on the shelves, Cameli said, "We heard about the attack on the news."

Referring to the terrorism antennae that virtually all Israelis have developed over the years, Cameli said, "From now on, we will have to be even more vigilant."

"God was watching over me last night," declared Robert Vasi, owner of the Off-the-Square restaurant. "I realize now that there was nothing stopping the (terrorists) from opening the door and shooting into the restaurant."

Both patrons and staff of his restaurant escaped uninjured.

Vasi, a native Australian, described how the terrorists "were standing right here, in the alleyway. I saw them shooting, so I hurried people into the back of the restaurant, over a barbed wire fence."

The restaurateur added, "We're going to lose a lot of tourism from this attack. This, and the buildup in Iraq, could send people packing," he said, referring to the Iraqi troop movements on the Kuwaiti border.

"One attack like this, and it takes months to build trust again."

(JTA correspondent David Landau in Jerusalem contributed to this report.)

AS IRAQ FLEXES ITS MILITARY MUSCLES, ISRAELI OFFICIALS DOWNPLAY ANY THREAT
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Israeli military and political leaders are downplaying any threat to Israel following Iraq's troop movements near the Kuwaiti border over the weekend.

Confronted with what looked like a repetition of Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, Israeli intelligence officials said they were monitoring the situation, but did not believe Hussein would repeat the Scud attacks on Israel that he carried out during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, chief of staff of the Israel Defense Force, briefed the Cabinet on Sunday about the latest Iraqi moves, but said Israel did not need to take special protective measures to ward off an Iraqi attack.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin also said he thought there was no direct danger to Israel.

But, he cautioned, "in view of what happened in 1990, we cannot be too complacent, and must keep a keen eye on what is happening in Iraq."

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, visiting Israel for his latest round of Middle East shuttle diplomacy, told reporters the United States would provide "prudent" help for Israel if the Iraqi situation required it.

During the 1991 Gulf War, the United States sent anti-Scud Patriot missile batteries to Israel,

which was the target of repeated Iraqi Scud missile attacks.

Israelis at the time donned gas masks and hunkered down in sealed rooms, fearing that Hussein would make good on threats to use chemical weapons against the Jewish state.

But the Scud missiles were instead equipped with conventional warheads that killed two Israelis and caused extensive property damage.

BORDER POLICE KILL PALESTINIAN AS VIOLENCE ESCALATES IN HEBRON
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Israeli border police guarding the entrance to the Tomb of the Patriarchs in the West Bank town of Hebron last week shot and killed a Palestinian who threw battery acid in their faces and attempted to stab them.

Three policemen were slightly injured in last Friday's incident, which marked the third violent confrontation between Israeli security forces and militant Palestinians in the area last week.

The attacker was identified as Ghazi Haymouni, 24, from Hebron. According to military sources, Haymouni was a supporter of the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement.

Israeli police found on his body a copy of the Koran and a supply of knives.

On Saturday, Israeli settlers attempted to break into the Tomb of the Patriarchs, which has been closed since last February, when a Jewish settler killed 29 Muslims who were worshipping at the site.

The settlers, who were turned back by Israeli troops, said the latest incident outside the tomb proved that the site should be opened to Jewish worshipers immediately. They argued that it was more dangerous for them to be outside the place of worship than inside, which would be under police protection.

The site was due to be reopened to both Jewish and Muslim worshipers by the end of October, but security sources are now saying the recent unrest may cause further delays.

CABINET APPROVES NEW CHIEF OF STAFF
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Amnon Shahak has been chosen to serve as the next chief of staff of the Israel Defense Force.

At its weekly session on Sunday, the Cabinet unanimously approved Shahak's nomination by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who also serves as defense minister.

Shahak, currently deputy chief of staff, will replace Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak when Barak's four-year term expires in January.

Shahak, who will serve as the country's 15th IDF chief of staff, was Israel's top negotiator in the seven months of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization that led to the implementation of Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho enclave in the West Bank that began in May.

During his army career, Shahak has held a number of key IDF posts, including commander of the West Bank from 1983 to 1986 and chief of military intelligence from 1986 until his appointment as deputy IDF chief of staff in 1991.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
AS GERMANS HEAD TO THE POLLS,
JEWS AGREE ON NEED TO STEM THE RIGHT**
By Miriam Widman

BERLIN, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- As German voters head to the polls on Sunday to determine whether Chancellor Helmut Kohl should get an unprecedented extension of his 12 years in office, German Jewish leaders say their major concern is that the radical right parties do not make any gains.

Given the results of recent state and local elections and numerous polls leading up to the Oct. 16 national vote, there appears to be little German support for either the radical right Republican Party or the smaller ultranationalist German People's Union.

The Republicans failed to receive a single seat in elections for the state government in Bavaria last month, and they have consistently polled between 2 and 3 percent in recent surveys.

This is in sharp contrast to neighboring Austria, where in elections held Sunday, Jorg Haider's anti-foreigner, nationalist Freedom Party received 22.8 percent of the vote, according to initial results.

While Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky's Social Democratic Party emerged victorious in the elections, the Freedom Party's showing indicated that right-wing leaders in Austria are more capable of rounding up support at the polls than their German counterparts.

One theory that attempts to explain the different voting patterns in the two countries is that while many Germans are in favor of limiting immigration and harbor anti-foreigner views, they are appalled by skinhead attacks against foreigners and Jews.

Yet Germans have shown little civil courage in combatting the skinheads, according to analysts. By way of example, an asylum-seeker from Ghana was seriously injured recently after skinheads threw him from a moving train -- as more than a dozen passengers reportedly watched.

'No Difference' In Attitudes Toward The Right

Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and a prominent member of the Free Democratic Party, said he does not know why anti-foreigner protests here have been more violent than elsewhere in Europe.

But he added that when it comes to opposing extremist organizations, "there is no difference among the mainstream parties' attitudes toward the radical right groups."

The Free Democratic Party is currently the junior partner in a coalition with Kohl's ruling Christian Democratic Union.

Still, some here feel that the German government is not doing enough to clamp down on the radical right.

While the Jewish community is pleased that the German electorate shows little sign of responding to the calls of the right, some liberal-leaning Jews say that the Kohl government has been lax when it comes to clamping down on perpetrators of xenophobic and anti-Semitic acts.

Lea Rosh, a prominent television journalist and member of the opposition Social Democrats, believes justice in Germany "is blind in the right eye" and tougher measures should be enforced.

The Social Democrats were recently responsible for passing legislation that increases criminal penalties for Holocaust denial from three to five years' imprisonment.

But Bubis believes that rather than enacting tougher legislation, existing laws need to be more strictly enforced.

The problem, he said, is not that the judges are too tough, but that they are too liberal -- products of a liberal generation who believe that rehabilitation, not punishment, should come first.

Anti-Semitism and the radical right are two sides of an issue that figure high on the agenda of the German voters: crime.

Still, crime is not the most important issue in the upcoming election; unemployment is.

It is the economic issues that may determine the election. Politicians and analysts will be carefully watching the polls to see how much support is garnered by the Party for Democratic Socialism, the successor to the Communist Party in the former East Germany.

Just a week before the election, the former Communists were seen as carrying the swing vote that could decide the future of German politics and the makeup of the governing coalition.

Under German law, a party must get at least 5 percent of the vote to achieve representation in the Bundestag, or lower house of Parliament.

A Very Pluralistic Voting Pattern

While it seems unlikely that the far-right parties will be able to clear this hurdle, the 5 percent minimum is much on the mind of Gregor Gysi, the leader of the Party for Democratic Socialism. While his party typically receives between 17 to 20 percent of the vote in eastern Germany, it gets only minimal support in the western portion of the country.

Bubis describes the voting patterns of the German Jewish community as very pluralistic, noting that Jewish voters range from staunch Kohl supporters to those who back Gysi.

But even if all the Jewish voters in Germany were all to cast their ballots in the same way, they would not be likely to determine the election's final outcome.

Out of a total German population of 80 million, the German Jewish community totals about 43,000. Of them, Bubis says, about 10,000 are eligible voters.

Despite the low numbers, Bubis believes the importance of the Jewish community "is much higher" than its numbers.

Speaking at a meeting of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America during a visit to the United States last week, Bubis said the Jewish people is "like a moral institution," reminding Germany of its past.

"We are always watching what is going on in the country," he said. "The people are always listening to what we say."

Therefore, he said, leaders of the various prominent or ruling parties come to the Jewish community for backing or advice.

Bubis said he expected that right-wing parties would not win more than 3 percent of the vote in next week's federal election.

"But this doesn't mean this is the end of the extremist parties," he added.

(JTA staff writer Susan Birnbaum in New York contributed to this report.)

BEHIND THE HEADLINES:

**FROM ROMANIA TO ISRAEL TO THE RHINE:
RUMMIKUB MAKES WAVES AMONG DEVOTED**
By Gil Sedan

BONN, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- For those mourning the early demise of the baseball season -- to say nothing of the less than promising start to the year in hockey -- take heart: There's always Rummikub.

Two weeks ago, aboard a luxury pleasure ship sailing along the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam, 20 expert Rummikub players gathered for the second world championship of the Romanian-born card game.

The experts played for hours on end, swearing that they could not think of a better way to spend their time.

More than four decades prior to the latest world championship, Rummikub was brought to Israel in 1950 by Ephraim Hertzano, who emigrated from Romania to Israel.

The former perfume vendor was looking for some sort of occupation in Israel, which at the time was suffering a deep economic crisis known as the "Tsena."

In the kitchen of his modest home in Tel Aviv, Hertzano began developing Rummikub as a family game. He soon began selling the game door to door, with not too much success, along with other games he had developed.

With its similarity to gin rummy, the goal being to match card suits and numbers, Rummikub was obviously not Hertzano's original invention. But he took the Romanian game, added wooden chips -- as well as some of his own rules -- and began seeing the first signs of a modest success.

Years later, his son Micha, after completing his studies in the United States, attempted to make a go of the game in America.

Don Rickles Publicizes The Game

He had little luck -- until one day in 1977, as Micha Hertzano tells it, when comedian Don Rickles appeared on "The Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson. Talking about a visit to Israel, Rickles said he was impressed by his wife's obsession with that "funny game," Rummikub.

The next day, according to Hertzano, the phones in his office began ringing off the hook. Rummikub had become a known commodity in the United States, and shortly thereafter Europe followed suit.

Hertzano, now 50, and president of the multimillion-dollar family business, Lemada Light Industries, is the first to admit that the game did not originate with his father, who died in 1987.

"There are only 10 original games in the world, and all the rest are variations," he says.

Whether the game is original or not, Hertzano says that Rummikub is Israel's leading exported game. In a recent year, some 600,000 copies were sold in 34 countries, he says.

So who won the championship? As the boat cruised along the Rhine, Nihad Zahran, 33, the mother of two from Alexandria, Egypt, became the world champion Rummikub player.

After embracing the golden cup she had just won, Zahran kissed her husband, Mamdouh, with whom she would share the championship's first prize -- a trip around the world.

She then sat down for yet another round.

FOCUS ON ISSUES:

**FRANKFURT 'YENTE' HAS A MATCH
FOR JEWISH SINGLES IN GERMANY**
By Miriam Wildman

BERLIN, Oct. 10 (JTA) -- What would you do if you were single and Jewish -- in Germany?

Jose Weber, Frankfurt's own Colombia-born Jewish yente, has an answer. For the past 10 years, he has been running "Siman Tov," or Good Omen, which he says is the only Jewish dating service in Germany.

From his office, a room in his Frankfurt apartment, he attempts to find the perfect one-and-only for Jewish singles not only in Germany but throughout the rest of the world.

The Jewish dating scene here is about as tough as making it through those last few hours of the Yom Kippur fast.

While singles ads in German newspapers or city magazines are quite popular, such ads with a Jewish twist are rare.

One Israeli who responded to one of the rare Jewish singles ads in a Berlin city magazine said that he had been living in Germany for 18 years before he saw such an advertisement.

Jewish singles here often complain about not having access to new people. Those born and raised in Frankfurt, for example, pretty much know the community's 6,000 members, at least the active ones.

Weber is critical of the various singles clubs in Germany, saying that the same people go to these gatherings all the time, or that there are not enough new faces to go around.

Ads 'Conceivably The Worst Way' To Meet

He calls the ad route "conceivably the worst way" to meet a person. He labels as "desperate" those who answer or put in such ads.

Finding success through Weber's services usually means a move, since the prospective partner supplied by Weber comes from his worldwide database. Usually, it is the woman who has to move, Weber admits.

Siman Tov has two offices in Israel and also has representatives in Los Angeles, Montreal, Panama and in Cali, Colombia. He notes that some recent successful matchups have been made among Swiss, Belgian and British Jews.

Weber, who is divorced but dating a Russian Jewish immigrant he met through work, says he typically asks prospective clients to commit themselves to two years of enrollment in his service.

The matchmaker refused to say how much it costs for the two-year contract, only that most working people should be able to afford it.

If a marriage results, then both the bride and the groom are required to pay him what he calls a "success fee," which he also won't reveal.

The blue questionnaire given to new clients is fairly typical. They are asked to describe themselves and what they are looking for.

Weber searches his databank and comes up with a few initial suggestions. He then passes on names and numbers to both prospects, but strictly warns the woman not to call the man first.

"I'm very strict about this," he says. If a woman has not received a call from her prospective suitor within 14 days, she is to call Weber, not the man.