

## TOP NEWS IN BRIEF

### 5 Palestinians killed in territories

Four Palestinians, including a 10-year-old girl, were killed during Israeli army operations near Bethlehem.

The soldiers were conducting the operations in the city Tuesday night when they came under fire from a car.

They returned fire, killing the car's two occupants.

One was wearing an explosives belt, media reports said.

Two other Palestinians, including the girl traveling in a second car, also were killed.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops killed a Palestinian near the settlement of Morag.

### IDF: Attacks still possible

Iraq still might attack Israel as U.S. forces move closer to Baghdad, an Israeli general said.

Gen. Amos Gilad, a spokesman for the Israel Defense Force, told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations on Wednesday that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein may attack Israel if he believes his life is in imminent danger.

Meanwhile, Israeli defense sources note that Iraqi spokesmen increasingly are referring to Israel in their comments.

They fear these comments may be an attempt to legitimize an attack on the Jewish state.

### Moynihan dies at 76

Former Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), who battled the U.N.'s "Zionism is racism" resolution, died Wednesday at 76.

In 1975, when the United Nations denigrated Zionism as racist and called it a "threat to world peace," the then-U.S. envoy delivered an eloquent and emotional defense of Jewish political independence that blasted the U.N. resolution as anti-Semitic.

"It had become a crime to be a Jew who wished to return to the Jewish national homeland," Moynihan later wrote.

Moynihan led the campaign to repeal the resolution, which was reversed in 1991.

He also spearheaded efforts to establish international recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Moynihan served in the Senate from 1977 to 1991.

### WAR IN IRAQ

## Arabs incensed that Bush choice to rebuild Iraq seen as 'pro-Israel'

By Matthew E. Berger

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The mission of rebuilding Iraq after the war has fallen to a general who has visited Israel and is being portrayed in the Arab world as biased in favor of the Jewish state.

The Bush administration has selected retired Lt. Gen. Jay Garner to direct the Pentagon's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance for Post-War Iraq. He will coordinate the civil administration after Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein is ousted, and will aid the transition to new leadership.

A former assistant chief of staff in the Army, Garner, 64, traveled to Israel in 1998 with the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs.

Two years later he signed on to an October 2000 letter that praised Israeli restraint in the face of Palestinian violence and urged the United States not to let its role as a peace facilitator hamper its responsibilities as a friend to Israel.

"Friends don't leave friends on the battlefield," the statement read.

The appointment of Garner has enraged some Arab leaders, who claim that putting a "pro-Israel" leader in charge of the reconstruction of Iraq will only feed accusations that the war is being fought for Israel's benefit. "People in the Arab world are completely amazed by the Iraq policy, they don't get it, and the view that Israel is behind it all is one that is gaining strength," said Hussein Ibish, director of communications for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

The concern over Garner's relationship with Israel highlights the politically sensitive nature of regime change in Iraq, a country that has threatened Israel for decades and launched 39 missiles at Israel during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

It also shows growing concern about the Bush administration's plans for the broader Middle East, specifically calls for democratization of the region.

Ibish said bringing in an administrator who some Arabs see as pro-Israel hurts the chances for a successful regime change. Ibish said Garner's appointment is a sign that the Bush administration either does not understand Arab public opinion or does not care.

"It's incredible that the administration would not be sensitive to what impression that would lend to other Arabs and Iraqis themselves about what sort of occupation this would be," he said.

But Jewish leaders are rejecting the charge that visiting or supporting Israel should disqualify Garner from any service in the Middle East.

"If I were Jay Garner, I would be enormously offended that for visiting Israel for 10 days, I was disqualified from serving the American government in some capacity in an Arab country," said Shoshana Bryen, director of special projects for JINSA. She noted the large number of former military leaders that visit Israel each year.

Bryen says Garner "has never failed to do anything I've asked of him," including signing letters and advising JINSA on military matters. But, she added, Garner has not been active in JINSA since his 1998 trip, and is not among the organization's core group of military liaisons.

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, called Garner's support of Israel "irrelevant."

"Should this administration look for someone who is anti-Israel?" Hoenlein asked. "The fact that he supports a close ally of the United States is natural."

A State Department spokesman said Garner was an excellent choice for the job

## MIDEAST FOCUS

### Shalom heads to Washington

Israel's foreign minister was due to travel Thursday to the United States on his first official trip since his appointment to the post.

Silvan Shalom is due to hold meetings with senior U.S. administration officials.

The talks come a week before representatives of the diplomatic "Quartet" — made up of the United States, European Union, United Nations and Russia — are due to meet to discuss how to advance their "road map" aimed at jump-starting Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

### Violence hurts Israeli economy

Israeli-Palestinian violence cost Israel between \$3 billion and \$3.5 billion last year, according to the Bank of Israel.

Bank officials said Wednesday that the violence had deepened Israel's economic recession.

Damages from the intifada, which began in September 2000, first were felt in the tourism industry and then spread to other areas of the economy.

### Jerusalem to get facelift

Jerusalem will get a \$5 million facelift.

The mayor of Jerusalem, Uri Lupoliansky, said the money would be spent during the next two months to fight the city's reputation for being dirty.

The money will be taken from funds loaned to the city by Israel's Interior Ministry after last month's snowstorm.

### Israel moves clocks up

Daylight savings time will go into effect in Israel at 1 A.M. on Friday.

After the clocks are moved forward, Israel will be eight hours ahead of New York and 11 hours ahead of the U.S. West Coast, until clocks are moved forward in the United States in April.



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because of extensive experience with reconstruction issues in the former Yugoslavia. "That's what his detractors should be focused on," Gregg Sullivan said. "That's the criteria for which he was chosen."

Still, Ibish said, "There are lots of other people in the United States who could do this that aren't in the pro-Israel lobby, which JINSA is a member of."

Arabs are concerned that Garner will push new leadership in Iraq that would foster a relationship with Israel, a state they see as an occupier and enemy of Arabs, Ibish said.

Leaders of the Iraqi National Congress, which operates out of London and has close ties to the Bush administration, have been working with American Jewish groups in the past few months, expressing an interest in building relationships with the Israeli government.

Entifadah Qanbar, the INC's Washington office director, told JTA last October that he believes that good relations with Israel are possible under a new regime because, he said, Saddam is the one who has a problem with Israel, not the Iraqi people.

Others dispute that analysis, saying that decades of fiercely anti-Israel indoctrination mean it will take time before the Iraqi public, under any government, would be willing to accept Israel. In any case, the INC is just one of several groups seeking a share of power after Saddam is removed from Iraq.

The group does not have a large following in Iraq, and it's unclear how prominent a role it will play.

Bryen says it's too early to speculate on whether Garner's job will even give him an opportunity to work on Iraqi-Israeli relations.

If so, it would mean his role would move beyond humanitarian concerns and into political matters, and would require an Iraqi leadership interested in improving ties.

"If he has a political mission, it's better for people with a political mission to have good feelings about Israel," she said.

Garner retired in 1997 and became president of SY Technology, a Virginia company that provides communication and targeting systems for missiles.

It was bought last year by L-3 Communications, from which Garner has taken a leave of absence.

Garner also helped lead a humanitarian effort for Kurds in northern Iraq after the 1991 war. □

## French rabbi's story is questioned, and then he suffers a heart attack

By Philip Carmel

PARIS (JTA) — A French rabbi who authorities increasingly believe may have staged his own stabbing has suffered a heart attack.

Gabriel Farhi, 34, had been at his Movement for Liberal Judaism Synagogue in Paris's 11th District on March 16 when he complained of heart pains and was rushed to the hospital.

Farhi is being kept under medical surveillance.

On Jan. 3, Farhi suffered stomach injuries following what he told police had been an attack at the synagogue by a man wielding a knife and shouting "Allah Akhbar," or "God is Great."

However, a number of media reports began to circulate soon after the attack that cast doubt on the veracity of the rabbi's claims.

The television channel France 2 recently reported that Paris police investigating the stabbing incident had found the knife used in the attack — which, they said, had come from the synagogue kitchen.

That finding seems to contradict the notion that Muslims were behind the attack.

In addition, the channel reported that "in the corridors of the Palace of Justice, the view that the wound was self-inflicted is no longer being treated as a rumor but as a serious hypothesis."

Meanwhile, the synagogue is steadfastly backing Farhi.

"When the calumny reaches this far, it is time that the slanderers, whoever they are, become conscious of their responsibilities. Today, that responsibility is particularly heavy," the synagogue said in a statement. □

## JEWISH WORLD

### Campus anti-Semitism tackled

Jewish organizations briefed U.S. senators on the rise of anti-Semitism on college campuses.

The Anti-Defamation League reported 106 anti-Semitic incidents on campus in 2002, a 24 percent increase from the previous year, at a special meeting Wednesday of the Senate Republican Conference. Jewish groups invited to the meeting, which had been requested by senators, offered varied views.

The Zionist Organization of America stressed the fears of Jewish students on campus, while Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life downplayed that point.

"Campuses are not on fire," Hillel Executive Vice President Jay Rubin said.

Rick Santorum (R-Pa.) said he would offer an amendment requiring "ideological diversity" — that is to say, right-wing viewpoints — at universities across the country.

Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) said he would form a commission to investigate anti-Semitic incidents on campuses.

### Converts in Israel face problems

People who moved to Israel and converted there can no longer receive automatic citizenship, Israel's attorney general has ruled.

Such converts, who are no longer eligible under the Law of Return, must now apply under the Law of Entry, which mandates a four-and-a-half year wait for citizenship.

The move was made because Israeli officials believe illegal foreign workers are using conversion as a way to obtain citizenship.

### Rabbi admits to sex offenses

A U.S. rabbi admitted he groped two girls and two former employees of a religious school.

Rabbi Richard Marcovitz of Oklahoma City agreed Tuesday to five years in jail, some of which can be reduced if he completes a program for sexual offenders.

### Parisians protest attacks

Hundreds gathered in Paris to protest the attacks against Jews during last Saturday's anti-war demonstration there.

The demonstration outside Paris' City Hall on Wednesday was called by the anti-racist organization SOS Racism after youths from the Hashomer Hatzair movement were beaten up by pro-Palestinian anti-war protesters.

Meanwhile, France's interior minister, Nicolas Sarkozy, condemned the attack. "We cannot accept behavior of this sort," he said. "It's unacceptable and intolerable."

## ADL audit finds increase of anti-Semitism on campus

By Rachel Pomerance

NEW YORK (JTA) — Rick Dorfman may be the human face of the latest findings in the Anti-Defamation League's annual report of anti-Semitic incidents across the country.

Though the incident has not yet been confirmed by police as anti-Semitic, the University of Michigan junior was punched in the head by a stranger at a bowling alley outside Ann Arbor, Mich., on Monday night while wearing a pro-Israel shirt.

A key finding in the ADL's Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents, publicly released Wednesday, showed anti-Semitic incidents on college campuses climbed to 106 in 2002, an increase of 24 percent over the previous year.

Overall, the report showed a slight increase in activity over the previous year, with 1,559 anti-Jewish incidents reported in 2002, up from 1,432 in 2001.

Referring to the group's June survey on anti-Semitism that showed an increase in anti-Semitic attitudes, reversing a 10-year decline, Myrna Shinbaum, ADL's director of media relations said, "it's not surprising to see that some of these attitudes have been acted out."

And according to Abraham Foxman, ADL's national director, unprecedented security at Jewish institutions in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist incidents has prevented more incidents.

"Certainly in New York," he said, "there's a much greater awareness than in many other cities" due to the high number of "Jews and Jewish institutions and law enforcement's concern and awareness.

"We are deeply concerned that despite the strides we have made over the years, anti-Semitic incidents continue to be carried out in large numbers," Foxman said.

The audit revealed a mixed picture in states across the country, with some states showing an increase in the number of incidents and others showing a drop.

For example, a sharp rise in activity was reported in the San Francisco Bay Area, while the number of incidents in New York, the state with the most anti-Semitic activity in the country, decreased by 25 percent. State variations depend on local situations and local culture, according to Shinbaum.

The ADL audit, published since 1988, breaks down anti-Semitic incidents into two categories. One is harassment, defined as "threats and assaults directed at individuals and institutions," which comprised 75 percent of incidents reported. The other category is vandalism, which includes cemetery desecration or anti-Semitic graffiti.

Information is compiled from official crime statistics along with reports to ADL's 30 regional offices from victims, community leaders and law enforcement officials.

The long-term trends point to less anti-Semitism in the country, as Americans become more sophisticated and better educated. But certain world events like the current Palestinian intifada have spiked anti-Israel activity, which, in some cases, result in increased anti-Semitic activity, according to those who track such developments.

And most incidents occur where Jews are more heavily populated.

The rise of activity on campuses marked the third year of an upward trend, according to ADL. Many of the events grew out of anti-Israel demonstrations on campus. For example, among the episodes reported was a vandalized sukkah at the University of Colorado. The incident followed a visit to the campus by Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi.

"Regional hostilities have often created a trigger or excuse for anti-Israel and anti-Jewish activity off the campus as well on campus and we saw a number of disturbing incidents first semester, which were largely addressed immediately by the university officials," said Wayne Firestone, director of the Israel on Campus Coalition, a coordinating body for Jewish groups working on campus.

But it's important to put the data in perspective, he said.

"In real numbers, it's not a huge amount of activity," he said, noting the report indicated 100 incidents on several thousand campuses. "Overall campuses are a safe and supportive environment for Jewish students in America." □

WAR IN IRAQ**Israel may not be at the front, but its weapons certainly are**

By Matthew Gutman

TEL AVIV (JTA) — In addition to the profit, being in the world's technological vanguard can also yield danger.

According to senior Israeli military officers, the threat to Israel ratcheted up a few levels Sunday when Iraq's foreign minister, Nadji Sabri, declared that "Israel is taking part in this aggression against Iraq. It's sending missiles. We found a missile, an Israeli missile, in Baghdad."

Sabri offered no proof to back up the allegation, but media have broadcast pictures of missile fragments printed with the words "Made in Jerusalem."

The development raised anxiety levels in the Israel Defense Force that had been lowered since U.S. forces seized airfields in western Iraq in the early days of the war, minimizing the chance that Iraq would be able to fire missiles into Israel.

"Israel is now fully in the center of this war picture," one military source told JTA.

For all Saddam Hussein's posturing, the Israeli intelligence community views him as a man of his word and a rational actor.

When Saddam vowed to attack Israel before the 1991 Persian Gulf War, intelligence officials believed him — and he followed through.

When he seemed to omit Israel from bellicose speeches this winter, Israel reacted by predicting a "very, very low probability of an Iraqi attack."

With American missiles wrecking buildings in Baghdad with the frequency and regularity of a metronome, it is likely that Iraq will dig out many more Israeli parts from the debris.

Israel is, after all, the world's third largest exporter of arms, earning \$3.5 billion a year in arms sales, according to Jane's Defense Weekly.

What's more, Israeli technology is spread throughout the American army. Israeli high-tech material purchased by America ranges from Popeye air-to-surface missiles to Hunter and Pioneer unmanned drones, to computer systems on Bradley mechanized vehicles.

Israeli defense officials cringed when Joel Johnson, a spokesman for the Aerospace Industries Association, a Washington-based industry lobby, proclaimed that "we'll be shooting down some" French-built "Mirage 3s, I think, if the Iraqis ever come up. We may shoot them with an Israeli missile, from a U.S. warplane."

Officials at Israel Military Industries and Israel Aircraft Industries are proud that the United States chooses Israeli components, but wary of explicit mention of their use in Iraq.

"All we know is that the Hunter and Pioneer" unmanned aerial vehicles "were co-developed with and now utilized by the American Army," one cautious IAI official said on condition of anonymity.

Israel is trying to keep a low profile in the current conflict, according to reserve Col. Shimon Byorski, former chief of the Iraq department at military intelligence.

Tying Israel to the U.S. campaign on Iraq "gives Iraq options in case Saddam wishes to change his strategy in the future and attack Israel," Byorski said.

In that case, Saddam might try to describe such aggression as

retribution for "Israeli missiles fired at Iraq."

According to Byorski, Saddam's only strategy is survival. While it might not serve his purposes to attack Israel now — it would show that he still has Scud missiles and could cost him international support — using the myth of "Israeli aggression" might serve Saddam once the coalition's noose is closing around his neck.

Still, Byorski said, "Right now, Saddam has no intention of spoiling the anti-war rallies in the U.S. and Europe by showing the world that he possesses the very weapons he claims he doesn't have."

No missiles have been fired from Israel at Iraq. But one would be hard-pressed to separate the Israeli weapons development industry from America's tools of war.

Even one of the venerable symbols of American hegemony, the B-52 bomber, uses Israeli-engineered Popeye air-to-surface missiles against ground targets.

Developed by Rafael, a company affiliated with Israel's Defense Ministry, the Popeye is among dozens of products designed or developed jointly by U.S. and Israeli labs.

It's even possible that the Israeli-designed Hunter drones are currently being used against tanks firing on American troops in Iraq.

According to sources, U.S. Marines are using the Pioneer, which is of a similar design genealogy to the Hunter, to scout Iraqi defenses.

Both are closely related to the Predator drone that U.S. troops used to kill six Al-Qaida operatives last November in Yemen.

Rafael also is the designer of the Litening Targeting Pods used to fire precision weapons from the Marines' AV-8B Harrier jet, as well as F-15s and F-16s flown by the Air Force Reserves and Army National Guard, Lova Drori, Rafael's director of international marketing, told The Associated Press.

Israeli technology continues to focus on its strengths: automation and miniaturization. IAI is cooperating in the development of a credit-card sized drone designed to transmit real-time battlefield images.

The lightweight drone is to be fitted with sensitive, lightweight cameras that will transmit the images to highly mobile palm-sized computers.

The drone was one of several space-age inventions and designs unveiled in late February at IAI's 50-year celebration.

The development of the miniature drone comes as the demand for unmanned airborne vehicles is skyrocketing.

It's unfortunate that Israel's technology is being used as "propaganda against the West," Byorski said. "But as we have seen, it can prove useful to use the Israel card against the West." □

**Czech fund pays out**

PRAGUE (JTA) — A Czech fund for victims of Nazism said it would finish paying out the first installment of compensation to forced laborers by April 30.

The Czech Council for Victims of Nazism said it has already completed its first round of payments to concentration camp survivors but could not pay out the final 25 percent until the larger category of forced laborers, most of whom are not Jewish, was settled. Officials with the council expect to start paying the remaining sums to both slave and forced laborers at the beginning of June. □