

**IN THE NEWS**
**Suicide bombing kills 3 in Netanya**

At least three people were killed in a suicide bombing in the Israeli city of Netanya.

At least 24 people were wounded in Tuesday's blast, which occurred at a shopping mall. Islamic Jihad released a statement claiming responsibility for the attack.

The White House condemned the bombing and demanded that the Palestinian Authority take action to dismantle terrorist organizations.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas condemned the bombing as "idiotic" and said those behind it would be punished.

**U.S. considering pullout funding proposal**

The United States is considering a proposal to assist Israel in pulling out of the Gaza Strip and developing the Negev and Galilee.

Two senior Israeli officials presented the first detailed proposal on funding the pullout to senior Bush administration officials Monday.

Israeli reports said Israel has pegged the price at \$2.2 billion, but Israeli and American officials would not confirm the figure.

In any case, the amount would be in addition to the \$2.5 billion Israeli already receives in U.S. assistance.

**Israel OKs force on settlers**

Israeli forces taking part in the upcoming Gaza withdrawal will be allowed to shoot settlers if they present a deadly threat.

Under a code of conduct drawn up this week by Israeli security strategists, soldiers and police taking part in next month's pullout from the Gaza Strip and northern West Bank will be under orders to try all non-lethal means to quell settler resistance, but reserve the right to open fire if they feel their own lives are at risk.

# WORLD REPORT

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## A grim expertise: Countries turn to Israel for advice on handling terror

By MATTHEW E. BERGER

**W**ASHINGTON (JTA) — When Charles Ramsey, chief of Washington's Metropolitan Police Department, visited Israel last year, he was impressed with the number of cops he saw on Jerusalem's streets.

Mickey Levy, then chief of Jerusalem's police force, told Ramsey that the force actually was understaffed. But each police cruiser had its blue lights swirling, making them auspicious and giving the impression of police on every corner.

Now, blue and red lights swirl from police cars in the American capital as well, even when they're just on regular patrol.

"Unfortunately we have a great experience of terrorism in a small arena," said Levy, now police attache at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. "We don't have the attitude that we want to teach people, but to prevent the bloodshed we suffered."

With terrorism increasingly becoming a worldwide threat — as evidenced by the July 7 bombings on London's public transport system as well as Tuesday's suicide bombing at a shopping mall in Netanya — numerous American police forces are turning to Israeli law enforcement leaders to learn best practices from cops who have been facing the threat of terrorism for decades.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States, law enforcement officers from Israel and America have been sharing information on how each force prevents, investigates and restores order after terrorist attacks. Several American Jewish groups have facilitated these educational travel exchanges, aiding

police who protect everything from the U.S. Capitol to Disneyland.

The Israeli-aided preparation helped American law enforcement departments ratchet up security in the hours after the London bombings.

While American cooperation with Israeli law enforcement officials is advanced, it's just getting under way in Europe, partly because of negative attitudes there toward Israel. But British officials are expected to utilize Israeli knowledge of Muslim terrorist groups in its investigation of last week's attacks.

"What's important to the United Kingdom is how these operations are organized, whether it's British-based or whether the training, information and materials were brought from abroad,"

said David Capitanchick, a terrorism expert from the University of Aberdeen in Scotland.

Israeli law enforcement officials have more experience investigating terrorism crime scenes and have shared their knowledge, such as how to distinguish a suicide bomber from his or her victims, in forums throughout the United States.

Even veteran cops look stunned when they see video footage from suicide-bombing scenes, said David Friedman, Washington regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, which sponsors law-enforcement initiatives.

"These are people that have seen everything in the world — from car accidents to murders," Friedman said. "But they see a whole family lying on the floor together, and you can tell how deeply affected they are."

American police want to know how to investigate a terrorist attack while returning life to normal as quickly as possible. Stephen

*Continued on page 2*

**FOCUS  
ON  
ISSUES**

## ■ *As countries try to fight terrorism, they turn to Israel*

*Continued from page 1*

Serrao, the New Jersey State Police's counterterrorism bureau chief, said U.S. roads likely would be blocked and mass transit shuttered for days or weeks after a terrorist attack, while the streets in Israel are reopened in a matter of hours.

"We needed to have the authority to clean things up and get on with life as quickly as possible," Serrao said. "We have to learn how to minimize the impact the terrorists have by bombing."

The New Jersey State Police superintendent, Joseph Fuentes, traveled to Israel last year with the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs and spent nearly two weeks learning methodology and police tactics.

Levy and other Israeli law enforcement officials showed him how the police commander is in total control in an emergency situation and gives instructions to the local government, hospitals and fire officials. That allows a single authority to expedite the investigation, clean up and restore order.

"They go in-depth on how law enforcement can better collect and analyze and disseminate intelligence and how it can better respond to a terrorist incident," said Steve Pomerantz, a former FBI assistant director who runs JINSA's counterterrorism program.

Serrao said his force now uses more intelligence-based policing. If a routine traffic stop turns up a person with forged documents or other suspicious details, an intelligence officer will go to the scene to seek terrorism clues.

"We've learned we've got to have the resources out in the field 24/7," he said.

The U.S. Capitol Police, which guard Congress' workplace, also learned to think "outside the box" from their Israeli counterparts. When a suspicious man stood unresponsive next to two suitcases in April, the Capitol Police assumed the worst and blocked off several streets until the man was tackled and apprehended.

"The Israelis opened our eyes to other types of incidents that we may not have seen before or may not have been used to," said Officer Michael Lauer, the Capitol Police's public information officer.

Ted Sexton, a sheriff in Tuscaloosa, Ala., who is president of the National Sheriff's Association, said the techniques he learned on a trip last year sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee were "invaluable." They ranged from a briefing on how much to tell the media — enough to calm the public but not to tip off terrorists as to techniques — bomb dismantlement techniques, and crisis management, which came in handy preparing for the recent hurricane season.

His group is planning another AIPAC-sponsored tour in February, Sexton said.

"Homeland security cooperation between the United States and Israel is one of the areas where people are paying more and more attention," AIPAC spokesman Josh Block said. "In coming years you will see a number of measures out of Congress that will enhance that cooperation. It is certainly something AIPAC is working on."

There's a limit to what tactics American police can replicate from the Israelis. Serrao said Israelis might destroy the house of those responsible for a terrorist attack, but that response wouldn't work in New Jersey.

And U.S. police can't operate checkpoints or follow other tactics Israel has developed to prevent attacks. That's especially true in New Jersey, where law enforcement has been reprimanded in recent years for using racial profiling tactics in traffic stops.

But there still is much to learn from a country too familiar with fighting terror-

ism. Levy said Israeli children are taught, starting in kindergarten, to look out for suspicious packages. Six car bombs in the past four years were prevented in Israel because members of the public alerted police to suspicious vehicles.

In the wake of the London bombings, more European countries may consider Israeli tactics. An aide to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Tuesday that intelli-

gence ties with Britain will be "tightened" after the London attacks, which killed at least 52 people and injured some 700.

England historically is familiar with terrorism because of the Irish Republican Army attacks in the 1980s. In fact, Israeli intelligence on Libya, a major supporter of the IRA and Palestinian terrorist groups, was used at that time.

But the lessons learned from IRA terror attacks were not necessarily helpful in dealing with the threat of Islamic extremism.

In the 1990s, the U.K. became a haven for Muslim radicals seeking refuge from hostile regimes, including those in Algeria and Saudi Arabia.

"The U.K. treated them with a great deal of tolerance and didn't interfere, provided they weren't carrying out attacks in this country," Capitanchick said.

That allowed extremist Islamists such as Abu Hamza Al-Masri — the one-eyed, hook-handed cleric whose trial on multiple charges including soliciting the murder of Jews began last week — to recruit and indoctrinate young Muslims in Britain.

Intelligence sharing was heightened again in 2003 when two young British Muslims attacked Mike's Place, a Tel Aviv bar. At least one of the Mike's Place bombers was known to have attended the Finsbury Park mosque in London where Al-Masri preached.

German media have suggested that forensic investigators have found that the same explosive materials were used in both the July 7 London attacks and the Mike's Place bombing, but the Israeli military chief of staff, Lt.-Gen. Dan Halutz, told the Knesset on Tuesday that the two attacks were unrelated.

*(Ron Kampeas in Washington and Daniela Peled in London contributed to this report.)*

**'We don't have the attitude that we want to teach people, but to prevent the bloodshed we suffered.'**

**Mickey Levy**

Former Jerusalem police chief

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# Maccabiah athletes celebrate sports, Jewishness

By DINA KRAFT

RAMAT GAN, Israel (JTA) — Standing below a sky bursting with fireworks, Gloria Suciú says being an athlete at the Maccabiah Games is a world away from competing in her native Europe.

Suciú, a tennis player from Cluj, Romania, stood in wonder at being part of a sporting event with so many other Jews.

Some 7,000 athletes from 52 countries are competing in the 17th Maccabiah Games, which opened Monday and run through July 21.

"It's not about competing with them so much as just being part of it all," said Suciú, 26.

At the Opening Ceremonies, athletes marched in country by country, some dancing and blowing kisses for cheering onlookers in the stands of Ramat Gan Stadium.

Gal Fridman, who captured Israel's first Olympic gold medalist in windsurfing at last year's Olympics, ran through the stadium to a roar of cheers on his way to lighting the torch for the Maccabiah, known as the "Jewish Olympics."

Many of the spectators became emotional looking down at a field of Jewish athletes at an event considered to be the world's largest gathering of Jews.

"Your arrival here signifies the bond between all the Jewish communities, with Israel at the center," Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said from a bulletproof VIP box. "I hope that by the next Maccabiah you will all make aliyah to the Jewish homeland and be a part of the Israeli delegation."

Israeli President Moshe Katsav also addressed the athletes, telling them, "The Maccabiah symbolizes our being one people, one large family."

For Jordan Schlachter, a basketball player for the over-35 U.S. men's team, being part of the Maccabiah Games is more than being part of a family, it's about celebrating his new family.

Schlachter came to the Maccabiah fresh from his June 19 wedding to Leslie Carlson, who plays on the U.S. women's basketball team.

The two met and fell in love in 2003 during the Maccabiah's Pan-American Games in Chile.

On Tuesday night, after both played their first round of games, they met again

on the Tel Aviv beach to have a second wedding ceremony surrounded by their teammates.

"It kind of makes it official. The Maccabiah is such a big part of our lives that we wanted a proper tribute of being married in the State of Israel as well," said Schlachter, 37.

Schlachter, 6 feet 7 inches tall, played basketball for Harvard University and participated in his first Maccabiah in 1991. His new wife is 6 feet 4 inches.

Schlachter, head of marketing for MTV, said his involvement in the Maccabiah has become a big part of his life.

"It gives me a sense of Jewish identity, of international Jewish identity that I never felt anywhere else before and the chance to meet people with the same passion for sports and the same pride for being Jews," he said.

Ron Carner, vice president of the Maccabi World Union and Maccabi USA, said the event is unique in using sports to bolster Jewish identity.

"You don't get these kids here because of culture or identity but because of sports, and then you expose them to Jewish identity. We change a lot of lives," he said.

Carner also noted the high caliber of athletics at the Games. There are many world-class athletes competing, including Olympic swimmers and fencers on the U.S. teams.

Outside of the stadium, young Israeli boys rushed up to Izzy Goldfein, 35, a member of the South African men's soccer team. They jostled around him, asking for an autograph. He laughed and obliged, writing in both Hebrew and English.

"This gives us the opportunity to see Jews from all over the world," Goldfein said. "Without this I never would have seen something like this."

He said he was awed at the sight of the athletes trading pins and shirts and jackets.

Athletes from Italy could be seen wearing Australian shirts and Mexican sombreros.

Miriam Mercado Massri, 16, was excited to be part of her first Maccabiah Games. She had traveled to Israel from Mexico City and is part of the girls' soccer team. Her father had played for Mexico's men's team in past Maccabiah.

"It feels great, like we are part of a huge family," she said. "I've never seen so many Jewish people in my entire life . . . and they are athletes too. It was so powerful to see, I could never have imagined it to be like this."

Eylon Gelman, 20, had traveled to Israel from Toronto, where he plays basketball for York University.

He knows Israeli scouts will be in the stands when he plays, and he's hoping to catch their eye.

"My goal after university is to come play for an Israeli team," Gelman said. ■

Two athletes at the Maccabiah have a second wedding during the Games.

THE 17TH  
MACCABIAH  
GAMES

## Israeli doctor helped London victims

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A vacationing Israeli doctor gave first aid to victims of one of the London bombings.

Benny Meilik, an emergency surgeon and consultant at Tel Aviv Medical Center, was eating breakfast with his family at a hotel in the British capital July 7 when he heard the blast that tore through the London Underground's Piccadilly Line.

"I have heard enough explosions to know what they sound like, and when I heard the boom I sprang into action," the Jerusalem Post quoted him as saying later.

Accustomed to working with victims of Palestinian terror attacks, Meilik helped pull out and treat casualties of the bombing, one of four that tore through London's public transportation system that day, killing at least 50 people.

"I have worked on many, many victims of bomb attacks, and I can say this is as bad as any I have seen. I have a lot of experience in treating blast victims, and this bomb was powerful," Meilik said.

One of the commuters he treated praised the "Israeli hero" in remarks to reporters. ■

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## NORTH AMERICA

### Record one-day aliyah leaves for Israel

Two El Al flights took off Tuesday, carrying the largest-ever single-day aliyah of North American Jews to Israel.

The flights, sponsored by Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Jewish Agency for Israel, left Tuesday afternoon from New York and Toronto packed with some 500 new olim.

The planes are the first of six dedicated El Al flights this year carrying 3,200 North American immigrants to Israel through these organizations.

This is the first year since 1983 that more than 3,000 North American Jews will be making aliyah, and the first time a plane load of olim has left from Canada.

They were expected to be met at the airport in Israel by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom, Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Zeev Bielski, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

### Ads target Air Force votes

The National Jewish Democratic Council released a series of ads attacking Republican lawmakers over religious intolerance at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

A glowering Uncle Sam asks, "Have YOU been born again?" in the ads unveiled Monday, which will be published in Jewish newspapers in Florida and Texas.

The ads target the U.S. House of Representatives' majority leader, Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), and U.S. Reps. Clay Shaw (R-Fla.) and John Culberson (R-Tex.), who voted against an amendment last month that called on the Colorado Springs, Colo. academy to address charges of religious coercion.

"It is unconscionable that Tom DeLay and the House GOP leadership refused to take seriously these charges of religious intimidation," said NJDC's director, Ira Forman, whose organization is raising funds to run similar ads around the country.

### Ahenakew guilty of hate speech

A former Canadian aboriginal leader guilty of willfully promoting anti-Semitism was stripped of the Order of Canada.

The move to strip the nation's highest civilian honor from David Ahenakew came Tuesday, days after he was fined \$1,000 for anti-Semitic comments he made in 2002.

Speaking then at a native conference and afterward to a reporter, Ahenakew unleashed a diatribe against the Jewish people, calling them a "disease" and asserting that Hitler was justified when he "fried 6 million of those guys."

### Tens of thousands mark rebbe's death

More than 30,000 people streamed by the grave site of the Lubavitcher rebbe to mark the 11th anniversary of his passing.

Many of the visitors reflected and prayed Saturday night and Sunday at Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson's burial place in the Old Montefiore Cemetery in Queens, N.Y., said Rabbi Zalman Shmotkin, a spokesman for Chabad-Lubavitch.

### Reform movement seminary's dean dies

Paul Steinberg, the longtime dean and vice president of the Reform movement's seminary in New York, died July 8.

Steinberg, who was 79, served 50 years as the dean of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute for Religion in New York, the longest tenure of a dean in the school's history.

## MIDDLE EAST

### Deployment goes to Israeli Parliament

A controversial proposal to post Egyptian soldiers on Israel's southern border likely will be brought to the Knesset.

Under the proposal, some 750 Egyptian soldiers would patrol the border after Israel quits the Gaza Strip next month, to help prevent weapons being smuggled from the Sinai to Palestinian terrorists.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, under pressure from security chiefs to justify changing the 1979 Camp David peace accord's requirement that the Sinai Desert be demilitarized, said Tuesday he might seek parliamentary backing. "I have no problem with holding a Knesset discussion if that is what is desired," Sharon told reporters.

"It is certainly important for me that there be agreement in the Knesset to the deployment of Egyptian troops, and I believe there will be."

Despite the 26-year-old peace in place with Egypt, some Israeli experts have warned against inviting the most powerful Arab country's army to within feet of the Jewish state.

### Mofaz talks tough

Israel's defense minister said 30 soldiers so far have refused to take part in the upcoming Gaza Strip withdrawal.

"There have been around 30 refusers so far," Shaul Mofaz told Army Radio on Tuesday.

Insubordination, especially by officers, has been firmly punished with time in the stockade and, on occasion, discharge from the military.

"There is no tolerance for refusers or those calling for rebellion in the ranks," Mofaz said, but added that he understood the reluctance many Israelis feel about the plan to evacuate settlers from Gaza and the northern West Bank next month.

## WORLD

### Lithuanian paper fined for article

Lithuania's leading national daily newspaper was fined the equivalent of \$1,000 for publishing an anti-Semitic article.

The July 7 decision of a court in the capital of Vilnius is seen as a major victory for the local Jewish community, which took the influential newspaper owner to court.

The court found Vitas Tomkus, owner of the Respublika daily, guilty of inciting ethnic and religious hatred for publishing an article last year that carried the headline "Who Rules the World" and featured a picture of a Jew holding a globe.

Simonas Alperavicius, leader of Lithuania's 5,000-strong Jewish community, said the article in Respublika was the "worst attack on the Jewish community since Lithuania's independence" from the Soviet Union 15 years ago.

Tomkus, who declined to apologize to the Jewish community and did not attend the court hearing, said he would appeal the ruling.

### Group wants Bosnian Serb leaders arrested

The Anti-Defamation League called for two Bosnian Serb leaders associated with the Srebrenica massacre to be arrested.

Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, the two men believed to be responsible for the mass killings, remain at large.

The call came on the 10th anniversary of the massacre, in which 8,000 Bosnians were killed and dumped into mass graves.