



## IN THE NEWS

## Coalition calls for action in Darfur

A coalition of Jewish groups called on President Bush to intervene in the crisis in Darfur, Sudan, where the international community has foundered in its efforts to stop the government-backed slaughter of non-Arab minorities.

In a letter to the president last Friday, the coalition called on Bush "to assert moral and political leadership, promoting immediate and comprehensive international intervention," including an increase in peacekeeping troops and humanitarian aid.

The letter, led by the American Jewish World Service, has signatories from all the Jewish religious streams as well as the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, United Jewish Communities, and World Jewish Congress.

## Did London bomber plan Tel Aviv attack?

Israeli authorities reportedly believe one of the London suicide bombers helped plan a similar attack on a Tel Aviv pub.

Ma'ariv reported Sunday that Mohammad Sidique Khan, who British police named as the ringleader of the terrorist cell that struck the London transport system July 7, traveled to Israel in 2003 to plan the suicide bombing on the Mike's Place pub.

Three Israelis were killed in that attack, which was carried out by two British Muslims.

## Third Jewish fatality confirmed in London

A third Jewish fatality of the London terror bombings was confirmed by police.

Anat Rosenberg, 37, an Israeli who had lived in London for nearly 20 years, was on the bus destroyed in one of the four suicide bombings that hit the British capital July 7.

# WORLD REPORT

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## HIAS exec's surprise departure comes amid transition at agency

By MATTHEW E. BERGER

**W**ASHINGTON (JTA) — Leonard Glickman's abrupt departure from the helm of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society comes amid a period of transition for Jewish immigration efforts.

But the organization's leadership says it has a strong mission for the future, focused on aiding Jews and other religious minorities around the world.

Glickman stepped down as president and CEO on July 6 after more than seven years with the organization.

HIAS quickly named Neil Greenbaum, a Chicago lawyer and a former HIAS chairman, as Glickman's successor. It is also working with David Edell, the president of Development Resource Group, a nonprofit executive-recruitment firm, to find a chief executive for the long term.

Jerome Teller, HIAS' chairman, said Glickman left because of a "difference of opinion on management style," but he added, "We have the highest respect for Leonard Glickman."

"It's not possible to summarize in one sentence all the factors that eventually led to my decision to move on," Glickman told JTA. "It was not a very easy decision to make, because HIAS was such a great opportunity."

Glickman faced charges leveled by a senior staff member last year of creating a hostile workplace environment, but he had been exonerated, sources close to the organization told JTA. Others said those charges were unrelated to Glickman's decision to leave the agency.

At least two senior HIAS staff members have resigned in the past year.

Both Glickman and Teller said a leadership change had been in the works for months.

"The circumstances are not unusual," Glickman said. "I've been in discussions with the lay leadership for some time about transitioning."

But the move caught many in the Jewish community and within HIAS by surprise. Few knew July 6 was going to be Glickman's last day, and there was no replacement search conducted before Greenbaum's ascension. Glickman's name was taken off HIAS' Web site on July 7.

Others expressed surprise at a lay leader being named to serve as the agency's chief professional, if only for three to six months while a search for a long-term executive takes place.

Glickman came to HIAS after serving as the top career official at the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement in the Department of Health and Human Services.

At HIAS, he was credited with moving the organization beyond immigration efforts in the former Soviet Union and toward Africa, Kosovo and other troubled areas. He also helped push the Jewish community to aid other religious minorities throughout the world and was a leader on immigration projects worldwide.

The main HIAS focus in the 1990s was rescuing tens of thousands of Jews each year from the former Soviet Union. It expanded its operations at that time to meet demand.

The operation peaked in 1992, when HIAS resettled 46,379 refugees — almost all from the former Soviet Union, according to its

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BEHIND THE HEADLINES

## ■ Exec's departure leaves HIAS in transition

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Web site. In contrast, HIAS resettled only 2,305 refugees in 2004, including 1,339 from the former Soviet Union.

The Russia mission was always supposed to wind down at some point, HIAS officials said, and the organization has since focused its attention elsewhere.

As the number of people to be rescued decreases, HIAS is left with a smaller agenda, and it has been struggling to communicate a vision for the 21st century. After broadening its scope to help more non-Jews come to the United States, it has faced criticism from some in the Jewish community who say it should be helping only Jews.

Teller said the organization remains concerned about the plight of religious minorities in Iran, including 30,000 Jews, and it is the only State Department-funded processing agency for Iranians arriving in Vienna, which has served for decades as a migration way station.

Last year, 183 Jews were resettled from Iran, as well as 19 Christians, 88 Bahais and 12 Zoroastrians.

HIAS has also relocated Jews from Argentina — which has faced a severe economic crisis in recent years — to more than 20 different countries.

The organization made headlines in June 2003 when Rachel Zelon, then its vice president for program operations, traveled to Iraq a month after Saddam Hussein's regime was defeated to meet with the handful of Jews that remain in the country. Zelon has since left the agency.

HIAS currently is working to aid

emigrants from Kenya, the Ukraine and Ecuador, Teller said.

He said 80 percent of operational efforts are focused on Jewish migration. But because HIAS receives funds from the Jewish federations — as well as the U.S. government — the broader mission has met with some criticism.

"There are some who have and still believe the organization should focus on Jewish migration," said Mark Levin, director of the NCSJ: Advocates on Behalf of Jews in Russia, Ukraine, the Baltic States and Eurasia.

"And there are others in the community who believe it's important that a well-respected Jewish organization be a part of the larger refugee community and participate in not just crises but the day-to-day problems."

Some in the Jewish community are opposed to open immigration because of its effect on other domestic issues and because some immigrant communities oppose U.S. support for Israel, said Mark Seal, who served as HIAS' associate executive vice president from 1992 to 1998.

Seal said HIAS has been criticized in recent years by other Jewish groups because it did not spend enough effort showing how its work — especially on behalf of non-Jews — impacts the greater Jewish community.

"I didn't get the sense HIAS did enough

work on the Jewish grass roots," Seal said. "They got too focused on Washington."

Jewish leaders said the organization has been able to build bridges to other religious minority immigration groups, including Asians and Hispanics. Its focus on immigration policy and the plight of non-Jews will strengthen Jewish ties with other religious groups and serves the biblical commandment of "helping the stranger," they say.

"We don't operate in a vacuum," Levin

said. "As Jews, we try to take care of ourselves and provide as much support as we need. But as has been demonstrated time and time again, we are much more effective and successful when we can demonstrate a broad-based coalition in support of our community's goals and aims."

Teller said the organization must remain alert to any potential threats to Jews around the world. He even suggested that Jews may be in danger in France because of the growth of the country's Muslim population and a recent rise in anti-Semitic incidents.

It's not inconceivable that French Jews could one day seek asylum in the United States, he said.

"To suggest this is an antiquated need is not consistent with what has happened to us over the last 125 years," Teller said. "And frankly, it's naive." ■

The idea that immigration 'is an antiquated need is not consistent with what has happened to us over the last 125 years.'

**Jerome Teller**  
HIAS chairman

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## French deportations marked

PARIS (JTA) — France's prime minister was overcome by emotion Sunday as he presided over a ceremony commemorating the World War II-era deportation of Jews from Paris.

In the largest roundup, on July 16 and 17, 1942, 12,884 Jewish men and women, including more than 4,000 children, were rounded up by French police and held in the Velodrome d'Hiver, an old bicycle stadium, before being sent on to containment camps in Drancy, Beaune-la-Rolande and Pithiviers, with Auschwitz their final destination.

For the past 10 years, an annual ceremony has been held in Paris on the site

where the stadium once stood.

Sunday's ceremony paid homage not only to the Jewish victims but to the citizens who saved two-thirds of French Jewry.

Prime Minister Dominique De Villepin spoke somberly of France's nefarious role in the deportations, when, he said, "France overrode her most essential values to make herself the executioner's accomplice."

Reading from a letter scrawled on a train ticket and thrown from the window of one of the convoys by an 11-year-old boy, De Villepin was overcome by emotion and paused for a moment to regain his composure, before continuing to read in a trembling voice. ■

**THIS WEEK****MONDAY**

■ Congress begins considering foreign-affairs bills. The Senate considers appropriations including \$2.5 billion for Israel, and the House of Representatives considers an authorization bill for State Department spending that could shift some military funding away from Egypt.

**TUESDAY**

■ Opponents of Israel's Gaza withdrawal rally in New York City's Times Square. Simultaneous rallies will take place in cities throughout the world to show support for and solidarity with residents of the Jewish communities of Gaza. The rally is sponsored by the Alliance for Eretz Yisrael.

■ U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice leaves for a five-day tour that will include Israel, the Palestinian areas and Africa.

**WEDNESDAY**

■ Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) and Daniel Ayalon, Israel's ambassador to Washington, examine the alliance between the United States and Israel at a forum during Hadassah's national convention in Washington. The convention, which begins Sunday, also features discussions on stem-cell research and First Amendment rights, as well as the influence of women on public policy.

■ The Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies launch "Slingshot," a guidebook naming the 50 most innovative Jewish organizations in North America, in New York City. The organizations in the book were selected by a group of independent foundation professionals who evaluated each one on the basis of innovation, community impact, leadership and organizational efficiency.

■ Tikkun convenes a conference of progressive religious groups at the University of California-Berkeley to create a strategy to counter what it says is the religious right's recent monopoly on religious discourse. Leading Protestants, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Catholics will also attend the Progressive Spiritual Action Network.

**THURSDAY**

■ Sens. Rick Santorum (R-Penn.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) host a screening of recent Saudi television on the Hill. The screening, run by the Middle East Media Research Institute, will assess whether the Saudis have lived up to a pledge in February to combat the dissemination of support for terrorism and hate speech through the media.

**SUNDAY**

■ The first Orthodox Union conference, in New York, for mikvah attendants and mikvah board members, Pearls of Appreciation, offers professional training, as well as recognition of and appreciation for the important role that mikvah attendants fill and the time they spend assisting the observance within Jewish communities.

# Violence precedes Gaza withdrawal

By DAN BARON

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Long-simmering tensions between Israel and the Palestinian Authority are threatening to boil over into bloodshed that could kill off a truce key to the orderly handover of the Gaza Strip.

After a Palestinian suicide bombing and rocket salvo claimed six lives in Israel last week, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon unleashed a counterterrorism campaign with a ferocity not seen in months.

By Sunday nine Palestinian terrorists had been killed by airstrikes and army sharpshooters. In a sign that Israel was prepared to escalate its actions into a full-blown ground offensive, tanks and troops had gathered on the Gaza boundary.

But with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice due to make a trouble-shooting visit this week, Jerusalem made clear that diplomatic prospects had not dimmed completely.

"We are interested in reaching a political accommodation, but it is clear that this is impossible when such terrorism is wreaked along our borders," Sharon told his Cabinet. "I have therefore ordered the security apparatus to act without limitation to stop the strikes against Israeli communities."

Israel has refrained from major counterterrorist initiatives since terrorist groups promised Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in February that they would stem their attacks on Israel. Though the truce has been far from absolute — several attacks have succeeded and many more have been foiled by Israeli forces — they have slowed considerably since the height of the intifada.

The recent violence hasn't forced a change in Israel's planned pullout from Gaza and a corner of the West Bank next month, though officials have emphasized

that postwithdrawal peace talks depend on a counterterrorism crackdown by Abbas, as required by the U.S.-led "road map" peace plan.

So far, Abbas has preferred to negotiate with the political leadership of Hamas and kindred factions, but over the weekend he also ordered security forces to crack down on Gaza mortar crews. Two Palestinians were killed in ensuing clashes between Hamas and P.A. security forces.

"We have not completely lost faith in Abu Mazen," said a Sharon confidant, using Abbas' nickname. "For now, we will keep our military operations to pinpoint actions and see what his efforts produce. An Israeli sweep of Gaza is always an option."

But Israel has its own internal discord to attend to.

The army sealed off Gaza settlements to outsiders last week as a preamble to the pullout. Outraged settlers and hundreds of their supporters responded with demonstrations that spilled over into scuffles.

Nine religious conscripts ordered to reinforce the blockade refused, prompting the military chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Dan Halutz, to disband their platoon — an unprecedented move — in efforts to head off a feared right-wing rebellion in the ranks.

In what could prove to be a further embarrassment to the military, Ha'aretz reported that two soldiers opposed to the pullout went into hiding in the main Gaza settlement bloc of Gush Katif. The army did not immediately comment.

According to the Web site of Ma'ariv, another Israeli newspaper, the prospect of resistance by settlers has influenced Israel's withdrawal plan.

Citing a leaked military document, the site said the army intends to evacuate the tiny, predominantly secular settlements in northern Gaza beginning Aug. 21, before tackling Gush Katif.

'We are interested in reaching a political accommodation, but it is clear that this is impossible when such terrorism is wreaked along our borders.'

Ariel Sharon

Israeli Prime Minister

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## MIDDLE EAST

### Israel kills Hamas men

Israel resumed its policy of targeted assassinations, killing seven Hamas members on Friday and another on Sunday.

The seven were killed in helicopter strikes Friday in the northern Gaza Strip and northern West Bank, Ha'aretz reported.

Hamas claimed responsibility for the recent launching of missiles from the Gaza Strip, which killed an Israeli woman Thursday.

On Sunday, an Israeli sniper killed a Hamas man wanted for shellings Gaza settlements.

The Hamas commander was shot dead as he left his home in Khan Younis in the central Gaza Strip.

The army said the man was responsible for deadly mortar attacks on Israeli targets.

### Israeli Islamist goes free

Israel released a Muslim leader jailed for funding Palestinian charities linked to terrorism.

Sheikh Raed Salah, founder of the Islamic Movement in Israel and former mayor of Umm el-Fahm, went free Sunday after serving two-thirds of a three-and-a-half year sentence on terrorism charges.

The Prisons Service said he won early release for good behavior.

### Arab town gets stadium

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered government funding for a soccer stadium in an Israeli Arab town.

Having already spent \$3 million on the Sakhnin stadium, the government this year will provide another \$500,000 to complete the project after the prime minister gave a green light for the funding Sunday.

The Galilee town's soccer team, Bnei Sakhnin, won the 2004 national cup, a victory that focused attention on the economic difficulties of the Israeli Arab sector.

### Israel on the heritage map

Several biblical sites in Israel were placed on UNESCO's list of world heritage assets.

Under a decision made at a conference of the United Nations Environmental, Scientific and Cultural Organization this week, four Israeli towns along an ancient incense route — Halutza, Mamsheet, Ovdad and Shivta — were granted protected status.

Also included were three hillocks in Israel that conceal relics from biblical settlements.

## NORTH AMERICA

### Divestment back in Somerville

Backers of divestment from Israel renewed their efforts to put the issue on a city ballot in Somerville, Mass.

Somerville aldermen, who rebuffed a similar effort seven months ago, voted unanimously July 14 to send to committee a petition submitted by the Somerville Divestment Project seeking to put a ballot question on divestment before the Boston suburb's 40,000 voters.

### Bush waives restrictions on P.A. aid

President Bush formally waived restrictions on \$50 million in aid to the Palestinians.

Congress approved \$300 million in aid to the Palestinians in recent months, but with restrictions that would ban direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority because of its past corruption and links to terrorism.

Bush pledged \$50 million in direct aid when he met with P.A. President Mahmoud Abbas in May, saying that the Palestinian Authority needed the cash to help smooth the transition once Israel leaves the Gaza Strip next month.

### Groups call on U.N. to dissolve committee

Two Jewish groups called on the United Nations to disband a committee on Palestinian rights.

Friday's call came after a conference in Paris this week sponsored by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People urged the international community to sanction and boycott Israel.

"The involvement of the United Nations in this conference contradicts the statements you have made committing to reform within the U.N. structure that would provide fairness to Israel," the Anti-Defamation League wrote to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

B'nai B'rith also condemned the committee and the conference.

### House rejects China arms bill

The U.S. House of Representatives rejected a bill that could have penalized Israel for its arms sales to China.

The bill rejected Thursday would have subjected companies that violate arms embargoes to tough congressional review.

It was principally aimed at European nations that are considering suspending such embargoes, but Israel might have been affected as well.

## WORLD

### Sacks speaks at vigil

Britain's Orthodox chief rabbi told thousands of mourners at a vigil for terror victims that shared grief had turned London's many faiths into one community.

Paying tribute to the three known Jewish fatalities in the July 7 bombings, Sir Jonathan Sacks told the masses gathered in Trafalgar Square on Thursday that Londoners would unite in the face of terrorism.

### French shul fire-bombed

A Molotov cocktail damaged a synagogue in a Paris suburb.

The front door of the shul in Stains, which was made of metal, was completely destroyed in Wednesday night's attack.

The violence took place on the eve of Bastille Day, France's national holiday.

### 'Hitler hotel' officially opens

A luxury hotel near the site of Hitler's "Eagle's Nest" getaway had its grand opening, although it has been accepting guests since March.

In ceremonies Friday at the new Intercontinental Resort Berchtesgaden, Bavarian Finance Minister Kurt Faltlhauser noted that it was "a place burdened by history."

The choice of the site had drawn criticism from Jewish groups. In response, the state of Bavaria opened a museum there in 1999 dealing with the location's Nazi past.

In addition, it was determined that the hotel would cater to high-income guests, in hopes of making it inhospitable for neo-Nazis.

### Chilean TV attacked

An office of Chilean National Television was attacked by a local neo-Nazi group, which left behind swastikas, anti-Semitic scrawls and death threats.

The July 14 night-time attack in Valparaiso, the nation's second largest city, followed a televised investigation that evening into increasing anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi attacks in the country.

The program gave details of a surge in neo-Nazi hate crimes in Chile directed at Jews, blacks, gays, drug addicts, punks and others deemed "different," including men with earrings.