

Date and Time: Thursday, May 2, 2024 6:12:00PM EEST

Job Number: 223358364

Documents (100)

1. [*Israel denies it killed bomber and his children: Mystery surrounds the death in the Gaza Strip on Sunday night of a leading Palestinian militant*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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2. [*Israeli forces attack Gaza, West Bank after bombing*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

3. [*After 3,000 years, the worst is still to come*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

4. [*MIDDLE EAST: PALESTINIANS LEFT IN DESPAIR BY ENDLESS INTIFADA; THE VIOLENT UPRISING THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO FREE THE PEOPLE FROM MISERY AND LIBERATE THEIR LAND FROM ISRAEL IS LOSING IMPETUS*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

5. [Bryn Jones, 38, Musician Known as Muslimgauze](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

6. [INTIFADA IS GOING NOWHERE, WEARY PALESTINIANS SAY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

7. [Five Palestinians killed in heavy clashes](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

8. [Palestinian activist killed in ambush by Israelis](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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9. [Fury of Mideast clashes ebbs after mediation mediation](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

10. [World round-up](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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11. ['A step up' in intensity of Ramadan; These days, Muslim holy time takes on more significance](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

12. [Bomber an Israeli Arab](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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13. [Islamic scholars divide over attacks: Clerics say there are rules for militants to follow](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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14. [Israel 's revenge on West Bank 'terrorists'](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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15. [Arafat's familiar balancing act gets trickier](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

16. [Islam's kamikaze smile as they await heaven's delights WAR ON AMERICA](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

17. [Israeli settler dies in copy of father's death](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

18. [HEIRS AND GRACES PART 2](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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19. [World round-up](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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20. [CHILD DIES IN ATTACK ON PALESTINIAN MOURNERS. GAZA: VIOLENCE MARS FUNERAL](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

21. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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22. [VIOLENCE ECLIPSES MIDDLE EAST TALKS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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23. [Israeli forces retaliate for wave of bombings](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

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24. [World](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

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25. [Mourning never ceases for the land they lost](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Narrowed by
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26. [*Mideast talks amid violence; Palestinian boy shot, more bombs in Israel*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Narrowed by
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27. [*Clashes kill five Palestinians: Dispute over dirt sparks shootout in refugee camp*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

28. [*THE AD CAMPAIGN; Politicizing the Bombing of the Cole*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

29. [*WAR ON TERRORISM: BACKGROUNDER: CRISIS ON A GLANCE; Latest developments at home and abroad*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

30. [*BARAK, ARAFAT AGREE TO MEET CLINTON PLANS TO ATTEND THE EMERGENCY SUMMIT IN EGYPT TOMORROW. ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS, HOWEVER, REMAIN CAUTIOUS.*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by
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31. [*Eight die as truce teeters on brink*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

32. [*Blair's Mideast visit doesn't halt fighting*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

33. [*Explosion injures 21 in Tel Aviv: No claims of responsibility for bomb loaded with nails*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

34. [*Palestinians, Israelis condemn Tel Aviv blast*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

35. [*Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

36. [*Revenge demanded for slain leader: Palestinian 's funeral draws thousands*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
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37. [*U.S. , ISRAEL DISCUSS ARAB PLAN AS VIOLENCE PERSISTS; PERES WILL MEET WITH POWELL, BUSH, SEEKING WAYS TO END FIGHTING*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

38. [*Rush hour bomb in street kills 4*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

39. [*Middle East toll hits 100*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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40. [*Taleban training suicide squads to confront ground troops*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

41. [*Jewish worshippers under fire*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

42. [BOMBERS DON'T FIT 'FANATIC' PROFILE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

43. [READER OPINIONS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

44. [Letters from readers](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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45. [SHARON HIDES HIS FAILURE WITH CLICHES OF 'TERROR'; BRUTALISED AND SUBJUGATED. PALESTINIANS HAVE LOST THE ONE THING THAT KEPT THEM IN THEIR PLACE: FEAR](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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46. [Sirens, silence, violence: 5 killed as Palestinians mark 1948 anniversary](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

47. [In Brief](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

48. [ARAFAT ORDERS HALT TO BLOODSHED](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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49. [NO HEADLINE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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50. [Datelines](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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51. [Israel slowly seals off Palestinians](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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52. [EIGHT DIE IN BUS-STOP ATTACK; CRASH CARNAGE: DRIVER PLOUGHS INTO CROWD OF SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Dec 31, 2001

53. [Foreign Briefs](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Dec 31, 2001

54. [Attacker inspired by bomber: Palestinian told his mother by mobile phone he was in his car on his way to carry out a suicide mission in Israel.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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55. [Palestinian 's low-tech attack fuelled by fury](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to
Dec 31, 2001

56. [CRISIS AT A GLANCE; Latest developments at home and abroad](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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57. [Car bomb kills two](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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58. [War against terrorism: A week in review](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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59. [TWO BLASTS ROCK ISRAEL AS SUMMIT IS CALLED OFF](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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60. [They should return the favor](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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61. [GLOBAL NEWS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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62. [Taleban readies suicide squads](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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63. [MIDDLE EAST PEACE RHETORIC: PALESTINIANS GIVE U.S. ENVOYS ULTIMATUM](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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64. [TALIBAN TRAINING SUICIDE SQUADS TO CONFRONT INVASION OF GROUND TROOPS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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65. [Mideast an excuse to attack America](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

66. [Leicester teacher Kerrigan Rudon on human rights](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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67. [PALESTINIAN RAGE ERUPTS AS PRAYERS COME TO AN END](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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68. [Death and destruction in Islam's name](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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69. [CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM: MIDDLE EAST: FIVE ISRAELIS KILLED AS PALESTINIANS HIT BACK](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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70. [Disguised gunman kills Israelis](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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71. [Israeli PM lashes out at U.S. after shooting](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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72. [REPRESSIVE REGIMES; BACKGROUNDER: THE UNITED STATES AND ISLAM](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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73. [Peace that left a public behind](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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74. [Pleasure and pain - TYRANNY OF TERROR - THE TERRORISTS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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75. [Israel demolishes more buildings in Palestinian areas; Yesterday, 14 houses under construction were torn down. Ten structures were removed today. Peace hopes are dimming.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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76. [CHAPEL IN SCHOOL REOPENS; BUT ACLU QUESTIONING LEGALITY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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77. [Israeli wedding disaster kills 22](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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78. [Violence overshadows diplomatic efforts](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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79. [SOCCER DIPLOMACY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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80. [SEAN LANGAN \(RIGHT\) TELLS ALEX MITCHELL ABOUT "ISLAMIC EXTREMISM" - INSIDE TELEVISION: INTERVIEW - ANTENNA EDITED BY ALEX MITCHELL; 'I'M MORE SCARED WALKING LATE AT NIGHT IN SHEPHERDS BUSH THAN IN THE MIDDLE EAST'](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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81. [PALESTINIAN HEADQUARTERS HIT BY ROCKETS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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82. [VIOLENCE FLARES IN MIDEAST AS PERES HOLDS TALKS IN U.S.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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83. [Sharon widens lead over Barak as CIA tries to contain violence](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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84. ['Shoot-to-kill' policy exposed; Israeli army embarrassed at revelation](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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85. [Palestinian activist gunned down by Israeli soldiers; 'Political assassination' marks the fourth killing of a West Bank leader in as many weeks](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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86. [Playing with fire in Iraq; Family will suffer from this decision](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

87. [Shoot-to-kill policy is exposed in Israel](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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88. [ANOTHER MISTAKEN BOMBING PUTS ISRAELI MILITARY'S REPUTATION ON LINE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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89. [ISRAEL 'S NEW 'HIT' POLICY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

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90. [ARAB TARGETS ISRAELI SOLDIERS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

91. [ANOTHER MISTAKEN BOMBING PUTS ISRAELI MILITARY'S REPUTATION ON LINE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

92. [ISRAEL](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

93. [*Soldier talks terrorism with Northwestern U. students*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

94. [*JUDAISM SUFFERS THE UNHOLY ACTS OF A 'HOLY MAN'*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

95. [*Illinois Briefs*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

96. [*Letters*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

97. [*Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to Dec 31, 2001

98. [*Arafat's battle starts now: Palestinian leader begins high-stakes process to implement peace accord*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to
Dec 31, 2001

99. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to
Dec 31, 2001

100. [Cyclists are OK](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Hamas

Search Type: Natural Language - Expanded Results

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1998 to
Dec 31, 2001

Israel denies it killed bomber and his children: Mystery surrounds the death in the Gaza Strip on Sunday night of a leading Palestinian militant

The Guardian (London)

August 21, 2001

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Section: Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 9

Length: 938 words

Byline: Suzanne Goldenberg in Rafah, Gaza Strip

Body

Samir Abu Zeid would appear a prime candidate for assassination by Israel. His wife says he never left home without an M-16 slung over his shoulder, his neighbours say he taught scores of young men how to fire a gun, and the local commanders of the Palestinian uprising say he was a master at assembling mortar bombs.

However, the Israeli army was categorical in its statement yesterday that it had no hand in the explosion which killed Abu Zeid, 37, his seven-year-old daughter Inas, and six-year-old son Suleiman, inside the shack the family called home.

At first, the army blamed the three deaths on a stray mortar fired by Palestinian militants.

But hours later, a statement said the army had "unequivocal, reliable and verified information" that Abu Zeid was killed "at a time when he was engaged in hostile terrorist activity initiated by him".

Abu Zeid's widow, Somaya, is convinced that this is not true. On Sunday evening, her husband came home with new school uniforms for the children. Suleiman was to start his first year at school next month and he and Inas screamed with delight.

In the distance, Ms Abu Zeid heard the low drone of a pilotless Israeli spy plane. A few flares lit up the sky - fairly normal activity for Rafah, which is one of the fiercest battlegrounds of the 11-month Palestinian uprising.

It was late now, past 10pm, but Inas and Suleiman were too excited to sleep. Of all her five children, these two were particularly close to their father, and so Ms Abu Zeid had deposited Inas in her father's lap.

Ms Abu Zeid left the corrugated-roofed shelter the family sleeps in during the summer months for the family's main home, a stifling one-room breezeblock house about 10 yards away, to put the other three children to sleep.

"I had just left them to put the children down when I heard the first explosion," she said yesterday, surrounded by **women** mourners at the home of her husband's parents.

"About 30 seconds later, there was a second explosion. I knew immediately what it was. I knew Samir had been targeted and when I heard the blast, I knew it had arrived for him."

Israel denies it killed bomber and his children: Mystery surrounds the death in the Gaza Strip on Sunday night of a leading Palestinian militant

The neighbours say that when they reached the site of the explosion, Inas was breathing, but only barely. Father and son were unrecognisable. They support Ms Abu Zeid's account of twin explosions, and swear they found fragments of rockets.

But yesterday, the site of the blast, a sandy patch of wasteland east of Rafah, a few hundred yards from the Israeli frontier, offered little sign as to how Abu Zeid and his two children were killed. There was no crater or missile fragments.

Palestinians say the security forces and local activists of Abu Zeid's Palestinian Resistance Committee descended on the site immediately after the explosion, and carted the shrapnel away, leaving only the blood-spattered sheets of corrugated asbestos in a heap.

The Israeli army says there were no missiles. "We are sure it was not from the fire of the Israeli army," an army spokeswoman said. "At the beginning, we thought it was mortar fire, but it was not. We have the intelligence as to what it was, and it was a work accident."

Although Israel has become increasingly open about a campaign which has killed 38 Palestinian militants and 17 innocent bystanders, the army does not claim all assassinations.

Dozens of men from the Palestinian security forces, or militias, have been killed in mysterious explosions which Israel has disowned.

If army involvement in the killing of the children was proven, it would be especially embarrassing for Israel, which faced international condemnation only weeks ago when two young brothers were among six Palestinians killed by guided missiles intended for the two leading figures of Hamas in the West Bank.

The timing is also highly inconvenient as Israel braces for more criticism ahead of a security council debate on the Palestinian uprising.

Few of the Palestinian militants slain since last November were as high profile as Abu Zeid, who ranked among the most important Palestinian military commanders in the Rafah area.

A veteran of the first intifada, Abu Zeid spent four years in Israeli jails, and emerged as a power in the early days of this uprising when he helped to found the Popular Resistance Committee, a joint command for Mr Arafat's Fatah militias, Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Within these circles, he was so renowned for his expertise in making mortar bombs that his comrades called him "the engineer".

"He was one of our most important commanders, and involved in making all kinds of weapons," said Abu Bakr al-Qassem, another leader of the PRC. "But we have special factories for that. It was not in his house and not around his children. He had more sense than that."

Mr al-Qassem and neighbours say Abu Zeid was also responsible for raising several squadrons of gunmen, drilling them on a patch of wasteland near his home.

He believed he was a wanted man, Abu Zeid's widow said. A few weeks earlier, strangers had begun appearing in their close-knit neighbourhood, asking about her husband's movements. Abu Zeid, who had already been warned by his comrades to begin changing his movements, was rattled, she said.

"He was always telling me that he knew he had been targeted," she said. "He was always nervous especially when he heard the sound of helicopters."

* Israeli police yesterday were investigating accusations by a Palestinian shepherd that his flock was poisoned by Jewish settlers near the West Bank city of Nablus. A police spokesman said the shepherd had lost 123 sheep.

Israel denies it killed bomber and his children: Mystery surrounds the death in the Gaza Strip on Sunday night of a leading Palestinian militant

Special report on Israel and the Middle East on the Guardian network at guardian.co.uk/israel

Load-Date: August 21, 2001

End of Document

Israeli forces attack Gaza, West Bank after bombing

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

March 29, 2001 Thursday

Final Edition

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Section: WORLD; Pg. 15

Length: 405 words

Byline: Associated Press

Dateline: GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

Body

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) -- Israeli helicopters rocketed the headquarters of Force 17, Yasser Arafat's elite guard, in Gaza and the West Bank town of Ramallah on Wednesday, retaliating for a wave of bombings, including a suicide attack that killed two Israeli teenagers.

Red flares lit up the night sky over Ramallah, where two people were killed in the assault, and flames leaped from burning buildings and cars as firemen attempted to extinguish multiple blazes.

Doctors in Ramallah said the dead included a member of Force 17 and a female civilian, and that several people were injured. In Gaza City, at least nine Palestinians were wounded, two of them critically, doctors said. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has repeatedly accused Force 17 of involvement in attacks against Israeli civilians.

"The purpose is to strike directly at those responsible for terrorism," the Israeli military said in a statement. The military said it hit the Force 17 headquarters in Ramallah, and four Force 17 targets in Gaza -- including a training camp and an arms depot.

The buildings under attack -- all in areas governed by Arafat's Palestinian Authority under peace agreements -- had been evacuated after the Israeli military warned the Palestinians to leave.

The nighttime assault came hours after a suicide bomber detonated nail-filled explosives strapped to his body near a group of Jewish seminary students waiting at the roadside near the West Bank, killing two. The previous day, militants carried out back-to-back attacks, including a suicide attack that injured two dozen people.

The Palestinian militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for both suicide bombings and said more bombers were ready to strike.

Sharon, who had been under mounting pressure to respond to the string of attacks, called his security cabinet into session minutes before the Israeli offensive began.

"We are witnessing grave terrorist activities -- terrorist activities that the chairman of the Palestinian Authority (Arafat) has not been willing until now to control," Sharon said.

Israeli forces attack Gaza, West Bank after bombing

Israel says Arafat has released hundreds of Islamic militants from prison in recent months, and that gunmen of the Tanzim militia affiliated with Arafat's Fatah movement have killed a number of Israelis in shooting attacks during the past six months of violence.

Since late September, 440 people have been killed, including 359 Palestinians, 62 Israeli Jews and 19 others.

Graphic

Photo: Associated Press; Israeli police investigators examine the bodies of the victims of a suicide bomb in a gas station near the northern Israeli village of Sdeh Hemed, near the West Bank, on Wednesday. ;

Load-Date: February 17, 2006

End of Document

After 3,000 years, the worst is still to come

The Evening Standard (London)

August 10, 2001

Copyright 2001 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

Section: Pg. 13

Length: 975 words

Byline: Philip Jacobson

Body

Veteran Middle East reporter Philip Jacobson has never been so pessimistic about the Arab-Israeli conflict

THE PALESTINIANS knew it was coming, and in a series of predawn raids today they began to feel Israel's furious retaliation for the pizza parlour bombing in Jerusalem.

As harrowing images of blood and broken bodies were flashing around the world, Israeli war planes strafed Palestinian Authority buildings in Ramallah on the West Bank while tanks rolled into the outskirts of Gaza City.

Troops and police also struck a symbolic blow at Yasser Arafat by seizing the PLO's headquarters at the Orient House in the Arab side of the city.

The message could not be more clear, or more depressing: in place of a Middle East peace process, Israelis and Palestinians are locked in an intensified and seemingly unstoppable cycle of violence. While their leaders exchange heated insults and accusations, ordinary people on both sides of the divide exult openly at the killings carried out in their name.

In the week before this latest outrage, an opinion poll revealed that nine out of every ten Israelis wanted the hard-line government of Ariel Sharon to step up its campaign of assassination on Palestinian militants, at whatever cost in civilian casualties. Palestinian crowds demonstrating after a rocket attack in which two innocent young boys had died demanded more suicide bombings inside Israel, more drive-by shootings of Jewish settlers.

Few observers doubt that there is worse to come in this dirty little war.

The Israeli army has just relaxed its guidelines on opening fire to allow soldiers to shoot at anyone they suspect poses a threat. The recent capture of a Palestinian girl in the act of planting a bus stop bomb suggests that the Islamic terror organisations - who claim to have female volunteers clamouring for missions - believe women have a better chance of evading security checks.

Israel's decision to start targeting senior Palestinian political figures for assassination, alongside suspected bombers and gunmen in the name of "self-defence" has predictably hardened minds within Yasser Arafat's inner circle. Following a missile attack on the car convoy in which he was travelling, the veteran West Bank activist Marwan Barghouti (who still maintains contacts with Israeli doves) wondered aloud whether Sharon is intent on destroying any lingering prospect of reconciliation: "Who will be their partners for peace if they get rid of all of us now?"

After 3,000 years, the worst is still to come

In Israel's present savage mood, even Arafat himself is not necessarily immune from retribution: according to sources close to the super-hawks in Sharon's cabinet, the possibility of killing him has already been discussed.

As recent attacks have shown, no amount of bodyguards can prevent the sort of swift and deadly operations at which Israel's military excels and, in Sharon's days as defence minister in the early 1980s, he authorised direct attacks on Arafat during the fighting in Beirut.

While international criticism of a cold-blooded assassination would be intense, many an Israeli would rejoice at the death of the man they blame for sheltering the extremists of Hamas and Islamic Jihad (former prime minister Ehud Barak, who once talked peace with him, now calls him "a thug"). If friends of Israel abroad find this distressing, they would do well to consider what one of the country's most distinguished writers, Amos Oz - kibbutznik, soldier and unblinking realist - pointed out some two decades ago.

People who wanted Israel to be a European country, he warned, "are going to be very disappointed ... in the years to come" because Israel was already on the road to becoming part of the Middle East. "In the future I hope we will behave no worse than other Middle Eastern countries but you would be rash to expect it to behave any better."

At the same time, all the evidence suggests that renewed punishment of Arafat's fledgling Palestinian Authority - already on its knees from a sustained attack on the economic infrastructure - will not succeed in forcing him to halt the violence against Israel. Most foreign journalists who work regularly in the West Bank and Gaza doubt that Arafat is able to exert significant influence on the bands of young street fighters itching to strike a blow against the hated enemy.

To the respected Palestinian moderate Hanan Ashwari, Israel's self-styled "targeted killing" tactics can only entrench the vicious circle of attack and reprisal: "If they are playing a noholds-barred game, then I imagine that the Palestinians will do the same." Right on cue, the commanders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad promised bloody revenge for every Israeli assault: over the past week, an ingenious booby trap concealed inside a melon has been discovered on a bus in Jerusalem and another hidden inside a can of Heineken beer exploded on the shelves of a supermarket in the Jewish area of the city.

Perhaps I should conclude on a personal note: I have been reporting from Israel and the occupied West Bank and Gaza for the best part of 30 years and have good friends in both the Jewish and Palestinian communities. I know them to be decent people who yearn for a just peace and in private confess to being somewhat ashamed about succumbing to the intoxicating passions generated by the intifada and Israel's response to the very real menace of terrorism.

But never before have I been so pessimistic about the outcome of this apparently endless conflict or the ability of either side's leaders to avert a disastrous final confrontation. Listening to the radio reports of the pizza parlour bombing, my heart sank when I heard one survivor, apparently deep in shock, say something along the lines of "you've got to understand that we have been fighting each other for the past 3,000 years and maybe it will take another 3,000 to settle things finally."

Load-Date: August 11, 2001

**MIDDLE EAST: PALESTINIANS LEFT IN DESPAIR BY ENDLESS INTIFADA;
THE VIOLENT UPRISING THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO FREE THE PEOPLE
FROM MISERY AND LIBERATE THEIR LAND FROM ISRAEL IS LOSING
IMPETUS**

The Independent (London)

March 24, 2001, Saturday

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Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 16

Length: 914 words

Byline: Phil Reeves In Qaryut, West Bank

Body

THE VILLAGERS of Qaryut are fed up. They are tired of Israeli soldiers preventing their men travelling out of the hills of the West Bank to labouring jobs in Israel. They are fed up of being shot at and harassed by Jewish settlers living behind razor wire in the clusters of red-roofed Toytown villas near by.

They have had enough of stories of seriously ill Palestinians dying at roadblocks because they can't get to hospital in time, and of the growing list of their countrymen shot dead or maimed by Israeli troops.

But some feel exasperation and despair on a new, very different front. They are fed up with the people behind the Palestinian intifada, the uprising supposed to free them from misery and liberate their land.

"We are like a herd without shepherds," said Kamal Moussar, 32, a Fatah activist and local blacksmith. "At the beginning we thought the intifada would lead to something, but now it seems to be going nowhere. There is no hope that it will change anything."

Israel, he said, is still building settlements on Arab land. Arab nations, meeting in Jordan next week, do little to help. And the Palestinian Authority is giving only patchy support. "It is chaotic," Mr Moussar said. "Sometimes **Hamas** takes action, sometimes Fatah. But there seems to be no central leadership that plans these actions. There should be one central leader, who operates according to one strategy."

Other villagers agreed. Sulliman Khatib is a former cloth merchant, now forced to work as a ploughman. He says the Israeli government stole his 50 acres of almond groves to build a settlement. "If the Palestinian Authority can liberate my stolen land, I will recognise it," he says sourly. "If they don't, I won't."

Next week the intifada will be six months old. There is no sign of an end to violence, or a lessening of the hostility underpinning it. But attitudes are changing, on the ground and in Palestinian political circles. The sentiments expressed in Qaryut, a village of 2,000 people 10 miles south of Nablus, appear to be widespread. In particular, there is growing unease at how it has turned from a popular uprising into a narrower armed conflict, conducted by groups remote from the bulk of the people.

MIDDLE EAST: PALESTINIANS LEFT IN DESPAIR BY ENDLESS INTIFADA; THE VIOLENT UPRISING THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO FREE THE PEOPLE FROM MISERY AND LIBERATE THEIR LAND FRO....

In the past three months, public participation in demonstrations and marches has dwindled. What began as a popular revolt against Israel's occupation, and against the failure of the Oslo negotiations to end it, has turned into a murky guerrilla war, beyond the control of any single entity.

There is concern among the Palestinian intelligentsia that this is causing them to lose the publicity battle in the world arena. During the trip by Israel's Premier, Ariel Sharon, to Washington this week, he was able, brazenly, to present the conflict as a war in which his own army was merely defending itself, and Israelis, from bombings and drive-by shootings.

This helps the Israel Defence Forces to evade condemnation for its misdeeds, which range from excessive retaliatory attacks to the collective punishment of 3 million people, an openly admitted policy of extra-judicial executions, and the killing, almost daily, of unarmed Arabs.

A move to recast the intifada as a peaceful popularist movement has been evident. Palestinian singers demonstrated at an Israeli checkpoint north of Jerusalem last weekend; Israeli troops in tanks watched helplessly as civilian demonstrators took over a roadblock in Ramallah.

The idea is to confront Mr Sharon with an uncomfortable choice: end the siege and the shootings and the violence is over, or be cast as a brutal oppressor using a military force against non-violent civilians.

The world has largely shrugged its shoulders at the spectacle of troops shooting youngsters hurling rocks, but shooting at guitar-playing students would be harder to ignore. There was a glimpse of this a few days ago when a march by Arab women, led by Dr Hanan Ashrawi, made headlines on world TV after Israeli troops - for no good reason - hurled stun grenades into it.

Dr Ashrawi is one of the most vocal of a group of Palestinian academics, civic leaders and political activists now supporting a shift to a broader, non-violent intifada. "I think the way to disarm a violent military occupation is not by adopting its methods, but by taking the moral high ground," she said. "Violence is the easiest recourse, but to take risks as civilians is more difficult. This is how the first intifada was, and how the present one started."

This campaign gained momentum this week when Marwan Barghouti, Fatah's secretary general on the West Bank - and one of the leading public players in the intifada - partly endorsed it.

He said he wanted the public's role to be broadened, for example, by involving student and trade union organisations, and called for more emphasis on non-violent protest. He also said the name of the umbrella organisation behind the uprising would be changed from the "National-Islamic Leadership of the Intifada" to the "Popular Committee of the Intifada".

Could it be a turning point? Perhaps. But there are snares. A policy of non-violent protest is unlikely to be supported by all Palestinians, particularly the most militant guerrilla groups, such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad. It may only take a bombing, or more killings by the Israeli army, for the fighting to resume at full pelt.

The death toll so far in the West Bank and Gaza uprising stands at more than 400 - at least 348 Palestinians, 66 Israelis and 13 Israeli Arabs.

Graphic

Palestinians have been forced for weeks to take to the beach to cross between northern and southern Gaza Enric Marti/AP

MIDDLE EAST: PALESTINIANS LEFT IN DESPAIR BY ENDLESS INTIFADA; THE VIOLENT UPRISING THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO FREE THE PEOPLE FROM MISERY AND LIBERATE THEIR LAND FRO....

Load-Date: March 24, 2001

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Bryn Jones, 38, Musician Known as Muslimgauze

The New York Times

January 28, 1999, Thursday, Late Edition - Final

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Distribution: The Arts/Cultural Desk

Section: Section C; ; Section C; Page 23; Column 1; The Arts/Cultural Desk ; Column 1; ; Obituary (Obit); Biography

Length: 368 words

Byline: Bryn Jones

By NEIL STRAUSS

By NEIL STRAUSS

Body

Bryn Jones, who recorded dozens of CD's of experimental music under the name Muslimgauze, died on Jan. 14 in Manchester, England. He was 38.

The cause was pneumonia derived from a rare fungal infection in his bloodstream, said Geert-Jan Hobijn, who released Mr. Jones's music on his Dutch record label, Staalplaat.

Muslimgauze occupied a strange place in the musical world. He was a powerful, prolific innovator, releasing albums that were alternately beautiful and visceral, full of ambient electronics, polyrhythmic drumming and all kinds of voices and sound effects. The recordings earned him a devoted following in underground, experimental and industrial music circles worldwide.

But the albums' liner notes and titles were dogmatically pro-Palestinian, a rarity among Western musicians in general but especially unusual in one from Manchester who was not Muslim and had never visited the Middle East. Some said Mr. Jones was aiming for shock value, but those who knew him described him as a shy, mysterious man who was serious in his political beliefs and never wavered from his commitment to music.

He began making music in 1982, Mr. Jones said, as a response to Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Each album was inspired by a political event, from massacres to peace accords. In the notes to albums like "United States of Islam," Mr. Jones wrote that "support for the P.L.O. has been a source of influence upon the music of Muslimgauze."

Mr. Jones recorded 92 albums with titles like "Hamas Arc" and "Vote Hezbollah," references to militant Islamic groups. He released some music only on DAT tapes and one album packaged with table tennis paddles (a limited edition of 500, dedicated to the Iranian female Olympic table tennis team), and he was known for his provocative artwork.

Bryn Jones, 38, Musician Known as Muslimgauze

The cover of an album from 1993 featured a close-up of Yasir Arafat and the Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, clasping hands after their historic peace accord with the album title "Betrayal," emblazoned on Mr. Arafat's hand. As his career progressed, Mr. Jones became more prolific, sending his record label tapes for one album a week.

Mr. Hobijn said he had enough material to release Muslimgauze albums five more years.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Load-Date: January 28, 1999

End of Document

INTIFADA IS GOING NOWHERE, WEARY PALESTINIANS SAY

The Independent (London)

March 24, 2001, Saturday

Copyright 2001 Independent Print Ltd

Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 16

Length: 970 words

Byline: Phil Reeves In Qaryut, West Bank

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But some are feeling exasperation and despair on a new and very different front. They are the ones fed up with the people behind the Palestinian intifada, the uprising which is supposed to free them from this misery and liberate their land.

"We are like a herd without shepherds," said Kamal Moussar, 32, a Fatah activist and local blacksmith. "At the beginning we thought the intifada would lead to something, but now it seems to be going nowhere. There is no hope that it will change anything."

Israel, he said, is still building more settlements on Arab land; Arab nations, convening for a summit in Jordan next week, are doing little to help their Palestinian neighbours. And the Palestinian Authority is giving only patchy support to the people.

"It is chaotic," Mr Moussar said. "Sometimes **Hamas** takes action, sometimes Fatah. But there seems to be no central leadership that plans these actions. There should be one central leader, who operates according to one strategy."

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In particular, there is growing unease over how it has turned from a popular uprising into a narrower armed conflict, conducted by groups remote from the bulk of the people.

INTIFADA IS GOING NOWHERE, WEARY PALESTINIANS SAY

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This helps the Israel Defence Forces to evade condemnation for its misdeeds, which range from excessive retaliatory attacks to the collective punishment of three million people, an openly admitted policy of extra-judicial executions and the killing, almost daily, of unarmed Arabs.

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The underlying idea is to confront Mr Sharon with an uncomfortable choice: end the siege and the shootings and the violence is over, or be cast as a brutal oppressor using a military force against non-violent civilian demonstrators.

The world has largely shrugged its shoulders at the spectacle of Israeli troops shooting youngsters hurling rocks. But shooting at crowds of guitar-playing students would be harder to ignore. There was a glimpse of this a few days ago when a march by Arab women, led by Dr Hanan Ashrawi, made headlines on TV worldwide after Israeli troops - for no good reason - hurled stun grenades into its midst.

Dr Ashrawi is one of the most vocal of a coterie of Palestinian academics, civic leaders and political activists now supporting a shift to a broader, non-violent intifada.

"I think the way to disarm a violent military occupation is not by adopting its methods, but by taking the moral high ground," she said. "Violence is the easiest recourse, but to take risks as civilians is more difficult. This is how the first intifada was, and how the present one started out."

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Graphic

Palestinians have been forced for weeks to take to the beach to cross between northern and southern Gaza Enric Marti/AP

INTIFADA IS GOING NOWHERE, WEARY PALESTINIANS SAY

Load-Date: March 24, 2001

End of Document

Five Palestinians killed in heavy clashes

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

December 14, 2000 Thursday Final Edition

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Section: FRONT; Pg. A07; News

Length: 432 words

Dateline: KHAN YUNIS;GAZA STRIP

Body

KHAN YUNIS, GAZA STRIP -- Crouching behind sandbags at the entrance to a refugee camp, Palestinian gunmen waged an intense nine-hour firefight with Israeli troops yesterday, one of the heaviest gun battles in weeks.

Four Palestinian policemen were killed and dozens of civilians were injured.

And for the third time in as many days, a Palestinian activist was fatally shot in what Palestinians called a pattern of Israeli assassinations. Abbas al-Awewi, a member of the militant Islamic group Hamas, was gunned down in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Associated Press

Asked about the killing, the Israeli army said only that it "uses effective methods against those who hurt Israelis."

At the Khan Yunis refugee camp in Gaza, the shootout was sparked by a dispute over an embankment of dirt and sandbags that the Palestinians had erected across the street at the front of the camp, where 35,000 Palestinians live.

BULLDOZED BARRICADE

The Israelis bulldozed the barricade Tuesday, but the Palestinians promptly rebuilt it and began shooting around 1 a.m. yesterday at Israeli troops guarding nearby Jewish settlements.

Most of the Palestinian gunmen appeared to be policemen, though civilians also took part, said Palestinian security officials.

The Israelis, meanwhile, fired tank shells. Helicopters hovered overhead, though they did not take part in the extended battle, witnesses said.

At daybreak, a large Palestinian crowd filled the street, looking on from behind as the gunmen fired their automatic rifles, sometimes shooting blindly by raising their guns over their heads.

Whenever a Palestinian was hit, several people in the crowd rushed forward to carry the wounded man to a waiting ambulance.

42 PEOPLE INJURED

Five Palestinians killed in heavy clashes

In addition to the four Palestinian policemen killed, at least 42 people were injured, Palestinian security forces said. Palestinian gunfire in the Gaza Strip, targeting Israeli soldiers and settlers, has been a daily occurrence, but the latest shootout was much more intense than anything in the previous few weeks.

Yesterday morning, the Palestinian gunmen raked an Israeli school bus with automatic gunfire as it was travelling near the Jewish settlement of Morag, just a few kilometres south of the Khan Yunis refugee camp.

The bus was armour-plated, and none of the children was hurt, the army said.

A day earlier, two Israeli women were wounded, one seriously, in a Palestinian attack near the Morag settlement.

An Israeli school in the area also came under fire.

A total of 318 people, most of them Palestinians, have been killed since the fighting broke out at the end of September.

Load-Date: October 10, 2002

End of Document

Palestinian activist killed in ambush by Israelis

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

December 13, 2000 Wednesday Final Edition

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Section: News; Pg. A12; Crime

Length: 391 words

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

JERUSALEM (AP) -- Israeli soldiers gunned down a Palestinian activist Tuesday, witnesses said, in the fourth killing of a West Bank leader in a little over a month. All are considered political assassinations by the Palestinians.

The Israeli military refused to comment on the killing of Yousef Abu Swayeh, 27, nor would it confirm that he was even on its wanted list. But Deputy Defence Minister Ephraim Sneh told Israel radio earlier in the day that the only way to stop Palestinian attacks on Israelis is to "strike at those who are leading the shooting cells and their deputies."

Associated Press

The killing near the West Bank town of Bethlehem came as Prime Minister Ehud Barak, beginning his re-election campaign, said he hoped conditions would soon be right for resuming peace negotiations with the Palestinians. First, he said, violence must be substantially reduced.

Facing extreme criticism for the fighting, Barak resigned this weekend and new elections are scheduled for Feb. 6. Barak's rivals, the Likud, decided Tuesday to hold a primary election next week to pick a candidate to oppose him. The violence, which has left more than 310 people dead, and Barak's response to it, are at the centre of the campaign.

Though no large-scale riots or confrontations were reported Tuesday, three Israelis were wounded in two shooting incidents, and the military said it defused several bombs. In recent weeks, the pattern of the Palestinian uprising, which started Sept. 28, has moved away from riots and toward shooting attacks and roadside bombings in the West Bank and Gaza.

An activist in the Fatah movement of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Abu Swayeh was gunned down in front of his home in a village near Bethlehem, witnesses said.

At least three other regional Palestinian leaders have been killed since the current unrest began. Israel took responsibility for two of the killings. On Nov. 9, not far from where Abu Swayeh died, Israeli helicopters fired at a car carrying the local Fatah commander, Hussein Abayat, killing him and two women bystanders.

In the Gaza Strip on Nov. 23, Israeli forces opened fire on a car, killing a senior Fatah commander, Jamal Abdel Razek, and several of his aides. Also on Nov. 23, a Hamas bombmaker, Ibrahim Bani Odeh, was killed in an explosion in his car. Israel denied it was involved.

Graphic

Photo: Lefteris Pitarakis, Associated Press; Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak greets cheering high school students during an election campaign visit in Petah Tikva near Tel Aviv Tuesday.

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

Fury of Mideast clashes ebbs after mediation mediation

\$%Charleston Gazette (West Virginia) virginia)

October 06, 2000, Friday friday

Copyright 2000 Charleston Newspapers newspapers

Section: News; Pg. P2A P2A

Length: 970 words

Byline: Laura King The Associated Press press

Body

BETHLEHEM, West Bank - A fragile U.S.-brokered truce appeared to take hold Thursday, as Israel rolled back tanks from sensitive positions near several West Bank cities. But one Palestinian was killed in a clash near the West Bank town of Bethlehem, and another died at a Gaza Strip crossroads.

In both the West Bank and Gaza, emotional funerals for victims of clashes with Israeli troops set off new skirmishes. And both sides braced for the possibility of large-scale trouble today, when officials feared that noon prayers - the most important of the Muslim week - could become a new call to battle. battle.

One of Thursday's two deaths came at Netzarim Junction in Gaza, the scene of repeated battles as Palestinian mobs have besieged a lone Israeli outpost that guards the access road to a Jewish settlement. At least nine other Palestinians were hurt.

The ferocious street riots that swept the Palestinian lands beginning Sept. 28 have claimed at least 68 lives and injured nearly 1,900 people, nearly all of them Palestinian.

Today's prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque, the Jerusalem shrine at the center of the current outbreak of violence, were expected to be particularly fraught with danger. Weekly sermons at Al Aqsa often consist of fiery calls from the imam, or Muslim cleric, to defend to the death Arab control of the compound, Islam's third-holiest site.

A visit to Al Aqsa last week by rightist Israeli politician Ariel Sharon set off this convulsive bout of clashes, the most intense and sustained fighting since the 1987-93 intifadeh, or Palestinian uprising against Israeli military occupation. The compound - known to Jews as the Temple Mount - is also Judaism's most sacred site, and Sharon says he was defending Jewish rights by visiting it.

In advance of Friday prayers, Israeli police were heavily deployed in Jerusalem neighborhoods, and the nearest hospital to Al Aqsa said its staff was on alert for potentially heavy casualties. Israeli media said authorities were considering banning worshippers under 35, who are considered to better fit the profile of potential rioters.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, returning to Israel after turbulent U.S.-brokered talks in Paris, expressed determination to halt the fighting and get the battered peace process back on track.

But on both sides, mistrust and bitterness were readily apparent, despite an agreement that field commanders would seek to exercise restraint.

Fury of Mideast clashes ebbs after mediation

"Yesterday in Paris, we continued to turn every stone on the way to peace, and try to stop the violence," Barak said. "I am not convinced that at this moment we have a partner for peace, but it is our obligation ... to pursue this to the end."

At a memorial service for paratroopers slain in past wars, Barak, a former general, said "the time has not yet come to beat our swords into ploughshares." But he pledged to "seek any way to bring true security and peace to this tortured and suffering land."

Later, he told a news conference: "It will be a long struggle. There will be ups and downs." A statement from his office said Barak sent a message to about 100 world leaders, calling on them to pressure Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to stop the violence and return to the path of negotiations.

Arafat, returning to Gaza, was asked whether the door remained open to future peace negotiations.

"We hope so," he replied. "But first of all, we have to stop the massacres against our people ... against our students and youth and children and women."

The Palestinian Cabinet decided to ask the U.N. Security Council to pass a resolution condemning Israel.

The Security Council began negotiations on a draft resolution Thursday condemning the violence committed by Israeli security forces against Palestinians and calling for a cessation of hostilities and the resumption of peace talks. Malaysia formally introduced the draft on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement of mostly developing nations.

Despite consistently blaming one another for the carnage, the two sides were beginning to work together to contain it.

Israel rolled battle tanks away from the West Bank towns of Ramallah, Bethlehem and Nablus on Thursday in an effort to calm tensions. Although the army had not used the tanks to fire on rioters, their deployment on the very edge of major Palestinian population centers had deeply alarmed the Palestinians.

Senior Israeli and Palestinian commanders also met earlier Thursday in Gaza and in Nablus, where firefights had raged earlier in the week around the small Jewish enclave of Joseph's tomb.

Israel has broken out some of its heaviest weaponry at Netzarim, using armor-piercing missiles and helicopter gunships to scatter rioters and target nearby buildings that have sheltered Palestinian gunmen. So Thursday's clash, though involving exchanges of live fire, represented something of a de-escalation.

Outside Bethlehem, street fighters from the Arafat-affiliated Tanzim paramilitary group threw firebombs at Israeli soldiers, drawing return gunfire, the army said. One Palestinian died and a second was hurt.

Funerals for Palestinian victims of the violence have been drawing volatile crowds.

In the West Bank town of Hebron, about 150 mourners swarmed into the center of town after a burial procession to throw rocks at Israeli troops. The soldiers shot back rubber bullets, injuring three Palestinians. In Khan Younis in the Gaza Strip, angry funeral-goers fired guns into the air and waved Palestinian and Hamas flags as they buried a 12-year-old boy killed a day earlier at Netzarim. Hamas is an Islamic militant group.

"I will continue throwing stones until I die, or victory," said Wael Abu Jamaa, 24, who was shot in the leg in Thursday's clash at Netzarim. If Arafat and Barak succeed in reaching an agreement ... it will be welcomed. But if not, we are ready to continue fighting." fighting."

Load-Date: October 7, 2000

World round-up

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

October 2, 1998, Friday

Edition 1

Copyright 1998 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS,

Length: 363 words

Body

SOUTH AFRICA: A leopard mauled two cyclists near the Kruger wild game park, then jumped on to a truck and slashed four passengers before the driver stabbed it to death with a screwdriver.

HOLLAND: The El Al cargo plane that crashed in Amsterdam in 1992 killing 43 was carrying a chemical that can be used in making the nerve gas sarin, an airline official confirmed.

tajikistan: Two men armed with machine guns attacked a car carrying workers from Save the Children and stole more than £5,000, the British charity said.

RUSSIA: Vladivostok voters rejected all 12 candidates in the city's mayoral election, according to official results.

TURKEY: 10,000 troops have been sent to the south-eastern border with Syria amid growing tension between the two countries.

ITALY: A women who posed as the "spiritual daughter" of an Italian monk who bled from his hands, feet and side in 1918, faces charges of defrauding believers of thousands of pounds with promises to cast out devils or deliver miracle cures.

WEST BANK: Intelligence officers have arrested a Hamas activist and former chemistry student who hid nearly a ton of explosives in his home next to a police HQ in the town of Hebron.

MALAYSIA: Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad is holding a dinner for 50,000 people to thank all who helped in organising the Commonwealth Games. Prizes worth £350,000 will be presented to the Malaysian medal winners.

RUSSIA: President Boris Yeltsin has suffered minor burns on his right hand, his Press office said.

pakistan: A judge who is hearing corruption charges against ex prime minister Benazir Bhutto's husband stepped down, saying he was "too angry" at the accused to be fair.

SOUTH AFRICA: Police have arrested six men and seized two pipe bombs and are investigating them in connection with the fatal explosion at a Planet Hollywood restaurant in August.

FRANCE: A court sentenced a 23-year-old woman to 20 years in jail for her part in a bungled hold-up that left three policeman, a taxi driver and her lover dead after a wild car chase in 1994.

USA: 10 years after their parents were shot to death, two brothers who took over the family business in a town near Indianapolis were charged with the crime.

World round-up

Load-Date: January 25, 1999

End of Document

***'A step up' in intensity of Ramadan;
These days, Muslim holy time takes on more significance***

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

November 17, 2001 Saturday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: Religion Faith & Values;

Length: 436 words

Byline: GAYLE WHITE

Body

For the first time in two decades, some Atlanta Muslims won't be sharing evening meals at Al-Farooq mosque in Midtown during Ramadan this year. Worshippers are afraid of becoming a target for hate crimes, said Dr. Khalid Siddiq, the mosque's director.

"We used to have food every night for about 300 people," he said. "We'd keep the doors open, and everything was fine. This year, we canceled that because of security concerns and people's apprehension."

AJC

But the change at the mosque points to a recent series of ironies for Muslims. While security concerns linger at mosques, individual Muslims have been more open about their faith --- a response to more Americans being curious about Islam.

And this year, Ramadan has taken on more poignancy as local Muslims grieve not only for fellow Americans killed in terrorist attacks Sept. 11, but also for innocent Muslims killed in the U.S. retaliation against the Taliban, said Siddiq, a physician who lives in Dunwoody. Doing without food or drink during daylight hours also has taken on more meaning, as local Muslims struggle with media images of starving Afghans.

"The intensity has taken a step up," said Dr. Moiz Mumtaz, a toxicologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a leader in the Islamic Center of North Fulton. "I'm going to pray more for my family, my community and my country."

Della Shabazz, who worships and works at Atlanta Masjid of Al-Islam in southeast Atlanta, said that, outwardly, little will be different for her this Ramadan --- she'll be sharing meals with people from her mosque as usual. But spiritually, she said, "there's more to pray for this year."

News reports from around the world also conjured mixed feelings for American Muslims as they started their first day of fasting Friday.

In Jerusalem, Israeli police beefed up their forces as Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, spiritual leader of the militant ***Hamas***, called on his people to fight against Israel "until victory or martyrdom."

And in some Arab countries, worshippers prayed for America's demise and Osama bin Laden's safety and victory.

'A step up' in intensity of Ramadan; These days, Muslim holy time takes on more significance

Abdul-Wahab Kassasbeh, preaching at a university mosque in Amman, Jordan, asked God to grant victory to holy Islamic warriors in Palestine, Afghanistan and Chechnya and seek revenge on "Americans, Jews, their allies and whoever stands behind them."

But in northern Afghanistan, thousands of men crowded into the main mosque in Taloqan to hear a new Northern Alliance-appointed prayer leader, Sadiq, who promised to give back rights to women and educated people "and bring a real Islam."

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

Load-Date: November 17, 2001

End of Document

Bomber an Israeli Arab

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

September 10, 2001, Monday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 23

Length: 429 words

Body

JERUSALEM -- A suicide bombing at a railway station in Nahariya which killed four people and wounded 36 yesterday was the first on Israeli territory by an Israeli Arab, Israel said today.

The bomber's body was destroyed in the blast, but an identity card at the scene identified him as Mohammed Salah Hbeishi 48, from the Arab village of Abu Sanan.

Abu Sanan is near Nahariya, not far from the Lebanese border, at the northern end of Israel's main coastal railway line from Tel Aviv.

AFP, REUTERS

Hbeishi was a militant in an Islamic movement and a former member of the local municipal council, Israel said.

Police had been searching for Hbeishi for several days after receiving information he had left his home and joined a **Hamas** unit which claimed responsibility for the attack.

After his disappearance, police placed an alert throughout northern Israel and, fearing an attack, late last week asked the Palestinian Authority to arrest him.

Hbeishi killed himself and three others, and wounded 36 people when he detonated a bomb as passengers were pouring from a train that had just arrived from Tel Aviv.

There are about a million Israeli Arabs, 18 per cent of Israel's population. They are Palestinians, or the descendants of Palestinians, who remained on their land at the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

In other weekend violence, car bombs exploded at an Israeli intersection and a West Bank shooting killed seven people.

Deadly events unfolded by the hour and Israel swiftly retaliated with a helicopter gunship missile strike on two empty offices of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction in and around Ramallah.

The start of the Israeli work week began with a Palestinian ambush of a van ferrying teachers to a school in a Jewish settlement in the Jordan Valley in the West Bank.

A **female** teacher and the driver were killed in the shooting.

Three hours after the Nahariya suicide blast, two car bombs exploded next to an empty bus at the busy Beit Lid junction, near the central city of Netanya.

Bomber an Israeli Arab

One person, who police said was apparently a bomber, was killed. The bus went up in flames.

Dozens of soldiers gather at Beit Lid on Sundays to await transport back to their bases.

Overnight in the Gaza Strip, Israeli forces killed a Palestinian guerilla and wounded another during an attempt to slip into Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon accused Yasser Arafat of instigating the attacks when preparations were under way for talks between the Palestinian leader and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Load-Date: November 12, 2001

End of Document

Islamic scholars divide over attacks: Clerics say there are rules for militants to follow

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

September 17, 2001 Monday Final Edition

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Section: International; Pg. C8; Crime

Length: 436 words

Dateline: CAIRO

Body

CAIRO (AP) -- The terror attacks in New York and Washington have lent new urgency to a debate among Islamic scholars about whether their religion sanctions suicide bombings.

Some clerics unreservedly support them, while others are flatly opposed. In between are those who justify suicide bombings by Palestinian groups under Israeli rule, but condemn the attacks in the United States.

Associated Press

The Palestinian militants say their attacks in Israel are part of "jihad," an Arabic word that literally means to struggle for the cause of religion.

For a Muslim, the struggle involves striving to be a better person, donating money to the poor, fulfilling obligations toward the faith and, finally, engaging in combat in defence of Islam.

Lacking a sophisticated arsenal, the **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad groups have turned suicide bombings into a powerful weapon in the latest Palestinian uprising against Israel.

Abdul-Moti Bayoumi, of the Islamic Research Centre at Cairo's al Azhar University, mainstream Islam's top seat of learning, says for jihad to be legal, it must fulfil several conditions.

Among them: A Muslim should not provoke the aggression; a Muslim should only fight the one who fights him; and children, **women**, and the elderly should be spared.

"There is no terrorism in jihad or a threat to civilians," Bayoumi said.

Based on that interpretation, Bayoumi said the suicide attacks in the United States were unjustified and therefore considered by Islam as "terror acts."

But he said the attacks against Israelis are acceptable because Palestinians don't have the high-tech weapons like Israel's.

If it was a fair fight, he said, "then you will not find anyone who would carry out suicide missions."

The Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia, Sheik Abdulaziz al Sheik, sharply disagrees. He declared in April it is "strictly forbidden in Islam" and that "the one who blows himself up in the midst of the enemies is also performing an act contrary to Islamic teachings."

Islamic scholars divide over attacks: Clerics say there are rules for militants to follow

Suicide bombers, the theologian added, should be buried without Islamic ritual and away from other Muslims.

The opposite view is taken by Sheik Youssef al Qaradawi, an Egyptian clergyman highly respected among the world's 1.2 billion Muslims.

Sheik Ikrema Sabri, Jerusalem's top Muslim cleric and an appointee of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, took a similar line -- bombings in Israel yes, elsewhere no.

"The issue is decided," Sabri has said in an interview. "Muslims believe in the Day of Judgment and that dying as a martyr has its reward -- going to heaven -- and that a martyr is alive in the eyes of God."

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

Israel's revenge on West Bank 'terrorists'

Guardian Weekly

November 7, 2001

Copyright 2001 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

Section: ATTACK ON AFGHANISTAN; The Observer; Pg. 3

Length: 1007 words

Byline: Peter Beaumont in Beit Rima

Highlight: Following the assassination of Rehavam Zeevi, ordinary Palestinians are being given a lesson in Israeli military might

Body

Kamal Barghouti was at his checkpoint at the entrance to the West Bank village of Beit Rima when he was ambushed and killed by Israeli soldiers.

Barghouti, an agricultural labourer who worked among the olive groves that ring Beit Rima, had signed on two months earlier as a "soldier" in the National Security force of the Palestinian Authority. He was given a uniform and a gun and told to check cars coming into the village. That was Barghouti's death sentence.

The night before he died he had dinner in his parents' house in the village next to the cemetery where he would be buried with full military honours. He spoke then of his fears of being a soldier amid the cycle of violence that has followed the assassination of the far right Israeli tourism minister, Rehavam Zeevi, and has claimed dozens of Palestinian lives.

"He asked us, 'If I die, will you remember me and love me still?'," said his sister, Wafiyeh. His family will remember him, but the men who killed him did not know his name.

They arrived in a van in the early hours of last Wednesday. According to his commander, Colonel Kamal Khadami, the van contained plain-clothes Israeli troops from the elite Dov Dovan -- Cherry Brigade -- disguised as Palestinians. They fired without warning, killing Barghouti in one of the first bursts.

Moments later, a second undercover unit attacked Beit Rima's police station. In the subsequent battle at least five men -- by the Israeli account -- were killed. The Palestinians claim that up to nine may have died. They say some of the dead are "missing".

The raid on Beit Rima has been portrayed by senior Israeli officials and by politicians as an operation to find Zeevi's killers.

It is a village, say officers from the Shin Bet intelligence agency, that was "a viper's nest crawling with major terrorists". Israel's defence minister, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, was even more forthright: "We are talking about a very large concentration of murderers and very dangerous terrorists. We arrested close to 11 people including the murderer's brother."

Israel 's revenge on West Bank 'terrorists'

However, the version of events that is beginning to emerge is bothering even some in the Israeli media. According to the newspaper Ha'aretz, the raid on Beit Rima was planned two weeks before Zeevi's killing on October 17 by members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

It is true that the PFLP flag was flying in Beit Rima during the funerals of some of those who died. It is also true that suspected "terrorists" have families here, among them the mother, brother and sisters of two of the dead, Bilal and Abdullah, whose family name is also Barghouti. Both were active in Hamas, according to their neighbours. It is also true that the brother of the alleged killer of Zeevi lived in the village.

However, the last issue aside, the same could be said of most larger Palestinian villages and towns. All have their men from PFLP, from Hamas and the Tanzim. There can be few without brothers, mothers or cousins.

Instead, it seems what marked out Beit Rima for last week's military action was a geographical peculiarity. Surrounded by huge Israeli settlements, it is a village easily cut off. The suspicion is growing that Beit Rima was selected because it was an easy target for Israeli forces to make a lethal demonstration. Next time -- the warning is explicit -- the target will be the Palestinian state, not just a village.

In nine days of military operations since Zeevi's death against six Palestinian cities -- and Beit Rima -- Israeli politicians and senior army officers have been crowing over their success. Thirty people have been killed, they claim -- 40 by the reckoning of others. The majority of them, they say, were "terrorists". Among those "terrorists" have been at least 16 unarmed civilians -- including four women and five children. In Ramallah and in Bethlehem, in Tulkarm, Jenin, Kalkilya and Beit Rima, it is ordinary people who are being given a lesson in the overwhelming nature of Israeli military power.

At Beit Jala hospital, on the outskirts of Bethlehem, I met Dr Peter Qumri, the hospital's director. On our first meeting, three days into the fighting, he appeared exhausted. He said that he had been sleeping with his head on his desk. His surgeons had been sleeping on chairs next to the emergency operating theatre.

Qumri listed the fatalities brought in. They were all killed, he said, by shots to the head, the neck and chest. "They are shooting to kill," he said, "regardless of whether they can identify the target."

When we met again last week he took us to meet Amjad Balawi, an anaesthetic technician shot in the leg last week during heavy fighting when, he said, Israeli tanks fired in the direction of the hospital itself.

Balawi was going to the assistance of a patient shot -- and killed -- by a bullet through the chest the moment he left the hospital compound. The previous day a doctor who volunteered to go with a United Nations ambulance to evacuate the wounded from Ayda refugee camp, near Rachel's Tomb, also came under what he said was Israeli fire. He was shot and wounded in the side.

Next Qumri took us to the children's ward. The night before there had been 14 children sleeping in the corridor. But with the fighting so bad, their mothers took them home, untreated.

Only three children remained, all suffering from leukaemia. Among them was three-year-old Mohannand and his mother Rariman Maswadeh. Rariman had arrived that day with her child for chemotherapy at the only haematology unit in the southern West Bank.

"I had a choice," she said. "I could stay at home in Hebron and my son would miss his treatment or I could risk being shot bringing him here. I had no choice and so I came."

I recalled a conversation I had with Qumri nearly two weeks earlier. "I don't know what they are doing," he said then. "Is it just to punish the people of Bethlehem as a whole? Or do they have something else in mind? Do they want to have Bethlehem back and turn it into part of their metropolitan Jerusalem?"

Graphic

Israel 's revenge on West Bank 'terrorists'

Photo, A Palestinian boy cries in front of his destroyed home in the West Bank village of Beit Rima, Jamal Aruri/EP

Load-Date: November 13, 2001

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Arafat's familiar balancing act gets trickier

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

November 8, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: WORLD; Pg. 7

Length: 1067 words

Byline: Cameron W. Barr Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

Dateline: RAMALLAH, WEST BANK

Highlight: Torn between Palestinian unity and US pressure to nail terrorists, Arafat largely plays to the home crowd.

Body

In the early aftermath of Sept. 11, Palestinians veered between hope and dread. The fear was that Israel would be given free reign against them in a US-led "war on terrorism." The hope was that the United States, in order to build a global antiterror coalition, finally had reason to pressure the Israelis into a peace agreement the Palestinians could accept.

Nearly two months after the terrorist attacks, neither scenario has come to pass. Instead Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat finds himself in a familiar place: torn between trying to maintain the unity of his people and trying to meet the expectations of the West.

At least for the moment, Mr. Arafat is mainly playing lip service to those expectations, resisting demands from US and Israeli officials that he dismantle Palestinian organizations capable of terrorism. That is because meeting those demands, Palestinian political analysts say, might well bring civil war.

Nonetheless, the US is turning up the heat on the Palestinians. A senior US diplomat told a Washington conference last week that the Palestinian campaign of resistance against Israeli occupation had become a "process of calculated terror and escalation." The Bush administration also named two militant Palestinian groups to the list of organizations it will target in coming months.

Daniel Kurtzer, the US ambassador to Israel, this week told reporters that the Palestinian leader "needs to make decisions with respect to where he stands on questions related to terrorism... [W]ords are not enough to prove that one is against terrorism. It requires actions."

"We need to see a fight against terror," complains a senior Israeli intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, "and Arafat has no intention to do that."

Arafat's familiar balancing act gets trickier

Arafat is also facing increasing pressure from militant Palestinians. In the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, some Palestinian militants largely refrained from engaging in violence against Israelis that would be condemned as terrorism. In particular, the Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, appears not to have targeted Israelis within Israel proper - as opposed to settlers and soldiers in the West Bank or Gaza Strip - since early September.

"I won't say there is no reduction" in such attacks, says the Israeli intelligence official, "but there has been no cessation."

Indeed, the restraint is now fading. On Oct. 28, two gunmen from the Islamic Jihad group killed four Israeli women in the coastal city of Hadera, firing their weapons until they themselves were killed.

A week later a lone gunman from the same group attacked a bus in a Jerusalem suburb, killing two teenagers before being shot dead. The bus was in an area seized by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and later annexed, but it remains occupied land in Palestinian eyes.

Arafat's dilemma is not simply a matter of whether to crack down on terrorism.

Two schools of thought have emerged over how Palestinians should deal with post-Sept. 11 realities, says Bir Zeit University political scientist Hisham Ahmed.

Proponents of the first - said to include Arafat and many of his aides - argue that Palestinians should support the US in its efforts against terrorism, in the expectation that they will be rewarded for their loyalty when it comes time to negotiate a peace deal with the Israelis.

Hasan Asfour, a Palestinian Cabinet minister, is a member of the second school. "Our struggle is not to see whether the West likes us or not," he bristles during a recent interview. "If you look toward the Palestinians and say our struggle is terrorism, believe me, you will face many difficulties with Arabs and with Muslims."

This second school, Mr. Ahmed explains, believes that "the West needs us more than we need the West" - especially in building a global coalition in which Middle Eastern countries will play an important role. Before the Palestinians offer support for US efforts against terrorism, this thinking goes, they should collect their reward in advance.

Ahmed and other analysts say that the second school is the majority view, which in part explains Arafat's reluctance to match his condemnations of terrorism with action.

Arafat has always been reluctant to alienate Palestinians - no matter how much their politics or tactics diverged with his own - but in the mid-1990s, his security forces imprisoned many members of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups, who were engaged in a series of bombings aimed at disrupting the peace process.

"Arafat was able to crack down because he had a peace process that was convincing to the vast majority of the people," says Ghassan Khatib of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center. "But now he does not have a peace process to defend."

Arafat's familiar balancing act gets trickier

Mr. Khatib and other analysts estimate that the militant groups command the support of at least a quarter of Palestinians, meaning that harsh action by Arafat could provoke broad internal conflict. In the words of Mouin Rabbani, director of the independent Palestinian American Research Center in Ramallah, "You're talking civil war."

Other than appeasing Western expectations, the only reason Arafat has for sustaining a crackdown is to prevent Israeli reprisals, which have been harsher and more deadly for Palestinians in the wake of Sept. 11.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres seems to recognize that Arafat needs some sort of political carrot before he can apply the stick. His boss, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, is adamant that violence must stop completely before the two sides can return to negotiations, but Mr. Peres has lately been floating a plan that would offer Palestinians a mini-state in Gaza, followed by discussions over the future of the West Bank and Jerusalem and over other issues.

Israeli officials close to Mr. Sharon say the prime minister has other ideas and there is no indication that the Palestinians are taking Peres's ideas seriously.

Still, an Arabic newspaper based in London has reported that Arafat might use an upcoming appearance before the UN General Assembly to "declare" Palestinian statehood - perhaps in an attempt to claim that more than a year of violence has produced a tangible result. The Palestinian leader has repeatedly threatened to make a unilateral declaration, but has so far heeded US and Israeli demands that Palestinian statehood be the product of negotiation.

(c) Copyright 2001. The Christian Science Monitor

Load-Date: November 7, 2001

Islam's kamikaze smile as they await heaven's delights; WAR ON AMERICA

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

September 14, 2001 Friday

Late Edition

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Section: SUPPLEMENT; Pg. 3

Length: 435 words

Byline: Alan Philps

Body

The suicide bombers who hijacked four American aircraft and turned them into piloted missiles owe their origin to the medieval sect of Islam known as the Assassins.

Its members would knife leading officials of the ruling dynasties, knowing that they faced certain death at the hands of their bodyguards.

They were called hashashin hashish takers because it was believed that their murderous frenzy could be caused only by taking a drug. Today's assassins are also whipped into a destructive fervour of religion and politics rather than hashish.

The last people to see suicide bombers often report they are smiling as if they see their heavenly reward coming. Muslims believe martyrs receive favours of 72 virgins in heaven.

In the Palestinian territories there is a clear profile of a man, usually young, and often a shy, religious type.

Palestinians working for **Hamas** or Islamic Jihad, the two Palestinian Muslim organisations which send out suicide bombers, say they are besieged with candidates for early death.

Some are motivated by revenge. For others with no prospects of finding a decent job the attraction is glory, honour for their families and financial security for those left behind.

Their families receive the equivalent of about \$20,000 from the Iraqi Government and other, less publicised support. It would take a labourer four years to earn that money.

For Muslims who believe in the cause, "martyrdom" is a blessed release from an intolerable situation.

Suicide operations caught the Arab imagination in 1983, when Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim guerillas trained by Iran blew up 241 United States servicemen and 58 French paratroops in Beirut.

The technique and the cult of martyrdom that characterises the Shi'ite branch of Islam was transferred to the Palestinians, leading to a series of bombs in Israeli buses and market places.

Islam's kamikaze smile as they await heaven's delights WAR ON AMERICA

Islam condemns suicide as a way to hell and damnation. For the past 11 months of the intifada, Islamic scholars have debated whether blowing yourself up constitutes suicide or martyrdom. The argument has been won by the radicals who see it as a legitimate means of jihad, or holy struggle.

Ata Abu-Rumeileh, a Palestinian official in the West Bank town of Jenin, which Israel has dubbed the suicide bombers' capital, justified the killing of civilians on Tuesday, just before news broke of the co-ordinated attacks in the US.

"American and Israeli technology is used to bomb women, children and old men. We have the right to take the battle behind the Israeli lines," he said.

A trader, Shahar Saadi, said: "Suicide bombers are our Apache helicopter gunships."

The Telegraph, London

Load-Date: July 24, 2007

End of Document

Israeli settler dies in copy of father's death

The Guardian (London)

May 2, 2001

Copyright 2001 Guardian Newspapers Limited

Section: Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 13

Length: 425 words

Byline: Ewen MacAskill in Jerusalem

Body

A Jewish settler whose wife is from Britain was shot dead in a Palestinian ambush yesterday, only three months after his father died in a similar shooting.

Assaf HersHKovitz was wearing the bullet-proof vest his mother gave him after his father's death, in the hope that it would protect him.

HersHKovitz, 30, whose widow Hela is British, died almost instantly when men hiding on a hillside fired at his pick-up truck near his home in the West Bank town of Ofra. Two bullets hit him in the neck.

He had left earlier than usual to fill up with petrol before going to his job with a fence-building company.

He leaves a son, Re'i, five, and a daughter, Shvut, four.

The Islamic fundamentalist group **Hamas** claimed responsibility, saying he was shot in retaliation for the explosion in Ramallah late on Monday night which killed three Palestinians, two of them children, and levelled a two-storey house.

The Israelis said the third person killed, Hassan al Kadi, was involved in the murder of an Israeli teenager enticed to the West Bank to meet a Palestinian woman he had corresponded with on the internet.

In other incidents a Palestinian policeman was killed in a shoot-out with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip, and another Palestinian was shot as a suspected collaborator at Qalquilya in the West Bank.

Ariel Sharon was seen as the champion of the settlers when he was elected prime minister in February, but settler organisations are becoming disillusioned with his failure to either protect them or inflict harsher punishment on the Palestinians.

Women in Green, a nationalist group set up in opposition to the Oslo peace agreement eight years ago, will hold its first demonstration against him outside the kneset today.

Its co-chairwoman, Nadia Matar, said : "We grieve over the death (of HersHKovitz) but it strengthens us. Ariel Sharon has no mandate for talks, only to crush the enemy and to send Arafat back to Tunis or wherever it may be."

The presence of almost 200,000 Jewish settlers in more than 150 towns and villages in the mainly Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip is one of the main obstacles to peace.

Israeli settler dies in copy of father's death

Hershkovitz's sister Yasmin said that in spite of the two deaths in the family since it moved moved to Ofra 14 years ago, they were determined to stay. "If we leave and go someplace else, then they will shoot us there."

A neighbour, Ruchi Avital, who was born in London and arrived in Ofra a year before the Hershkovitz family, said that, far from persuading settlers to leave, the uprising had seen the arrival of 10 families in Ofra.

Load-Date: May 2, 2001

End of Document

HEIRS AND GRACES PART 2

The Scotsman

March 25, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

Section: Pg. 2

Length: 1612 words

Byline: Matt Rees

Body

After hours of daily language study, he even managed to address parliament in classical Arabic without more than a few mistakes in pronunciation.

But there remains a suspicion among Jordan experts that Abdullah may only be scratching the surface of things. Take, for example, his Elvis campaign.

Repeatedly, the king has disguised himself and gone undercover to expose the inefficiency, corruption and sheer rudeness of Jordanian public servants. He turned up as an old tramp in a chequered keffiyeh head-dress at a hospital.

At another government office, he masqueraded as a television reporter, only revealing his true identity when he was threatened with arrest. "I have become a bit like Elvis," he has quipped to journalists. "There are sightings all over the place."

Three of Elvis's forays into the uncaring world of Jordanian bureaucracy were at al-Bashir Hospital, the largest state hospital in eastern Amman. Stuck in the most crowded, depressed area of the capital, Abdullah found people complaining about the doctors' attitude, the lifts were out of order and queues were long.

Well, there are still long rows of people waiting to pay for their treatment. On a recent visit, the lifts were working, but each doctor must still see 250 patients a day.

An orderly wheels a portly, semi-conscious old woman on a gurney slowly along a crowded corridor in the emergency ward, rooting manfully with his thumb for detritus in his nose. One man, who brought his son in with a gash on the head from a fall, said he had been sent to a doctor who, looking with distaste at the bleeding, screeching child, had told him to wait until he finished his tea.

It could be that the best of intentions are not quite enough for a king against whom the numbers are stacked. The country's foreign debt is more than GBP 4 billion. Unemployment is 27 per cent, and much higher among the young, who make up 70 per cent of the population. In the last decade, per capita gross domestic product fell from GBP 1,300 to GBP 900. The One Dinar Shop opposite the Hussein Mosque in Amman's rundown central shopping district now has a loudspeaker above the pavement from which the owner barks that he has cut all his prices to half a dinar.

HEIRS AND GRACES PART 2

With an economy like that, a handout from the US is always welcome. Jordan does get \$ 250 million a year from Washington. But, in return, it has to be hard on the people Washington dislikes. That is why Batikhi has become even more valuable to Abdullah.

The secret police chief reckons his agents have foiled 707 terrorist operations aimed at Western targets since King Hussein signed a peace deal with Israel in 1994. The most prominent were the local leaders of the Palestinian Islamic fundamentalists of Hamas, who Abdullah arrested last autumn. Accused of plotting against the Jordanian government, the protesting Hamas men were deported, despite the fact that they held Jordanian passports and asked to serve their time in Jordan. This month, the trial begins of Batikhi's latest big catch, Khalil Deek, an alleged henchman of superterrorist Osama bin Laden. Deek maintains that he is just a computer programmer from California.

The trouble with all this anti-Islamic action is that it tends to look bad on Jordan's human rights record. Not to mention the deportation of Jordanian passport holders, Batikhi's men have got down to what is, to say the least, micro-management of the battle against Islamic fundamentalism. Last summer, several female Islamists were barred from standing in the election for the national teachers' union. Hardly a mortal threat to the state, but significant for a country which wants to sew salt in the Islamically fertile ground of economic hardship.

Islamic activists now maintain that the government plans to install its own appointees to Muslim charities, thus keeping tabs on meetings and preventing money being spent where it should not be. "Abdullah is depending very much on the mukhabarat (secret police)," says Laith Shubailat, one of the few opposition figures who speaks openly against the system of absolute monarchy. "We have the security state of Batikhi, and that means an American and Zionist agenda."

The depth of fear is such that Jordan's elite believes its cellular phones are subject to a new device which allows the mukhabarat to listen to what is being said in any room where there is a cellphone, even if it is not being used.

Government ministers - who ought to know - hide their cellphones in drawers when they want to talk confidentially.

The only way that opposition leaders can strike back is to use the country's parliament. Legislators have little power. Though they can block bills sent to them by the government, which is appointed by the king, they rarely do. Until this year. In a matter of weeks, parliament threw out three bills in what one palace official describes as "an absolutely unprecedented run." The bills themselves were important enough - one was intended to overturn a law which grants light sentences to men who kill their wives or sisters just because they believe they have proof of adultery; another struck at the tribal tradition of carrying weapons - but the string of rejections sent a powerful message to the king that the modern, Western elements of his approach were not acceptable. As if to rub it in, parliamentarians signed a petition calling on the government to institute sharia, Islamic law of the kind which involves the chopping of thieves' hands and the stoning of adulterous women.

Women's groups are particularly appalled at the failure of the government to end honour killings, in which male family members can walk away with sentences of as little as three months for murdering a female relative, provided they can claim she had sullied the family honour.

That dishonour can mean anything from talking to a strange man to being raped. There are 82 women held in Jordanian jails to protect them from male relatives who have threatened to kill them to preserve family honour.

Some of the women have been in prison for 13 years, living among common criminals. Azma Khader, a leading women's rights campaigner, says the king does not feel strong enough yet to force through a law banning honour killing. "He is not doing enough," she says.

Still, such domestic social issues are far from the top of Abdullah's agenda at the moment. His main concern has been to establish himself on a world stage, and in that he has most starkly revealed himself to be a man with two faces, one Western, the other Middle Eastern. Most international media have seized on the face they recognise as one of their own. It is the face which greeted a small group of reporters in his palace last October. The king invited the correspondents to sit for lunch with an American-accented, "Please, guys, sit".

HEIRS AND GRACES PART 2

But Abdullah's courting of Arab leaders, particularly the young ones, has escaped notice, to some extent, because it fits less easily into the image of the man who was educated at Deerfield Academy and Sandhurst and who spends his spare time watching American sitcoms.

The king has cosied up to Bashar Assad, son of Syria's strongman, and repaired relations with assorted Gulf princelings, all of whom had grown to detest King Hussein by the end of his reign.

Islamic leaders in Jordan recognise that face as the same one worn by the man who deported the **Hamas** leaders and whose secret agents are working hard to contain widespread popular support for the Muslim Brotherhood. "He is a true Arab leader," says Tareq Tahboub, an Islamic leader who heads the Jordanian Medical Association.

Abdullah surely wishes he had the same kind of iron control over his own family as Batikhi exercises over the general populace. The Hashemite palace complex on a hill overlooking central Amman and the old Roman amphitheatre built by Antoninus Pius in the second century harbours more than a few grudges.

Prince Hassan, Abdullah's uncle, thought for 35 years he would follow his brother as king. Thanks to the manoeuvring of Hussein's wife, Queen Noor, and Batikhi, Hussein decided Hassan had been bad-mouthing him behind his back. He fired him only a few days before he died and Hassan, a stodgy technocrat with quite a resemblance to Ronnie Barker, has been sulking ever since.

Queen Noor did get her way insofar as she managed to have Hassan pushed off the throne when he looked assured of it. But she did not get what she really wanted, which was for her 19-year-old son, Hamzeh, to be named as Hussein's successor. Hussein's favourite son, Hamzeh had been groomed to follow his father from an early age.

Unlike Abdullah, whose mother is English, Hamzeh's blood is Arab (though his mother, blonde and big-boned, was born in America) and he was educated in Jordan to perfect his Arabic.

Now the country has two queens. Noor kept the title given her by Hussein, but Abdullah named his wife, Rania (whose pregnancy with their third child was announced this week), to be queen, too. Publicly, the queens praise each other's many charitable ventures. In private, there is little love lost between them. When Hillary Clinton visited Amman earlier this year, she ended up staying in a hotel. Jordan's pair of first ladies argued so much over which one would host Hillary, the American embassy decided to check her into the Hyatt.

With that kind of bickering going on under his nose, Abdullah ought perhaps to have Batikhi infiltrate his agents into the royal court. But then, perhaps he already has. In between long draughts on his panatellas, after all, Batikhi gives away very little. Sonorously and with a smile, he says: "I am, in fact, just a soldier working for my king and country."

Load-Date: April 18, 2000

World round-up

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

February 26, 1998, Thursday

Edition 1

Copyright 1998 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS,

Length: 384 words

Body

SWITZERLAND: The first legal brothel opened its doors in Zurich with "several" bookings. The 30-room Petite Fleur is intended for use only by women who do not ply their trade on the streets.

GERMANY: The Kloster brewery in Neuzelle plans to begin selling three-litre bottles of dark beer concentrate for use in baths. "You can bathe in it, or drink it. Whoever wants to can do both," said a brewery spokesman.

USA: Daredevil Robbie Knivel, who followed in his father Evel's famous tracks, jumped into the record books in Las Vegas, leaping 231ft over 30 hotel limousines.

PAKISTAN: A bus en route from Peshawar to Chitral careered off a snowbound mountain road, killing 13 passengers and injuring five others.

SRI LANKA: Tamil Tiger guerrillas killed 16 soldiers in a northern town that the military is trying to seize from them. The guerrillas asked the International Council for the Red Cross to collect the bodies of the soldiers.

USA: Two highway patrol officers on their way to help a disabled motorist were killed when their car was pitched into a gushing river swollen by a storm in California that killed seven others and caused mud-slides and tornadoes.

CHINA: A university lecturer, his brother and five others have been executed by firing squad for running one of the largest illegal drug-making rings in the southern Guangzhou city.

HONG KONG: Policewomen are fed up with the Nora Batty look and have complained government issue tights twist, wrinkle and sag. Now the force is to test four new brands in the search for a smooth look.

GREECE: Scores of tourists were turned away from the Acropolis as workers guarding Athens' most famous landmark went on strike. Protesting against the sudden transfer of two colleagues, workers shut down the site for the day.

SOUTH AFRICA: Nelson Mandela took King Harald of Norway to meet tourists in Cape Town but it was the president they all wanted to meet. The excited tourists jostled to shake Mandela's hand as he attempting to put the spotlight on his visitor.

ISRAEL: The Mossad spy agency botched another operation and this failure contributed to the decision of the nation's spy chief to resign, a newspaper reported. Danny Yatom quit after a government inquiry found he was largely to blame for the bungled assassination attempt of a Hamas leader in Jordan.

World round-up

Load-Date: January 14, 1999

End of Document

CHILD DIES IN ATTACK ON PALESTINIAN MOURNERS. GAZA: VIOLENCE MARS FUNERAL

Western Mail

April 24, 2001, Wednesday

Copyright 2001 Western Mail and Echo Ltd

Section: NEWS; Pg. 4

Length: 424 words

Byline: Chris Jones

Body

A PALESTINIAN boy, aged 12, was killed by a gunshot to the head during a politically charged funeral in the Gaza Strip yesterday, as Israel endured its third bomb attack in two days.

The violence eclipsed diplomatic efforts to end the Mideast bloodshed, with several political initiatives underway in a bid to halt, or at least limit, the seven months of fighting.

None appeared to be generating any real momentum amid the climate of hostility.

In the southern Gaza Strip, more than 1,000 Palestinians, some wearing green police fatigues, joined the noisy funeral procession of a Palestinian policeman who died of injuries sustained during an Israeli rocket attack last week.

As the body was being lowered into the ground at the Khan Yunis cemetery, next to a Jewish settlement, dozens of Palestinian gunmen fired 21 shots into the air as a sign of respect, said Eyad Saadoni, a teacher who was present.

In response, bursts of gunfire came from the direction of the nearby settlement which is protected by an Israeli army post about 500 yards away, said witnesses.

As gun shots rang out, Palestinian mourners scattered in panic, with women and children running barefoot through the sandy streets, many seeking shelter in abandoned buildings.

"I ran away about 100 metres, " Saadoni said. "Then I sat near a wall, where some people were trying to take cover. Some of them were kneeling next to the grave. Others covered their heads with their hands. Then I saw the wounded child collapse."

Moments later, wailing ambulances began taking the wounded Palestinians from the chaotic scene.

A 12-year-old boy, Muhanad Muhareb, was shot just above the left eye and died, and 11 Palestinians were wounded, including one who was in critical condition, according to doctors at Khan Yunis Hospital.

Meanwhile, Israel suffered its third bomb blast in two days when a car bomb exploded on Monday, injuring four people in the working-class town of Or Yehuda, east of Tel Aviv.

CHILD DIES IN ATTACK ON PALESTINIAN MOURNERS. GAZA: VIOLENCE MARS FUNERAL

A man claimed responsibility on behalf of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in a call to the Associated Press.

A day earlier, a Palestinian militant detonated a bomb near a bus in the town of Kfar Saba, near Tel Aviv, killing himself, an Israeli doctor and wounding 50 others.

The Islamic militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility and identified the bomber as 18-year-old Imad Zubadi.

At his home in the West Bank town of Nablus, Zubadi's mother said her son was scheduled to take his final high school exams in a few days, but she was proud he had become a "martyr".

Load-Date: July 16, 2001

End of Document

NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times
August 1, 2001 Wednesday
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2001 The New York Times Company

Section: Section A; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Pg. 2

Length: 1126 words

Body

INTERNATIONAL A3-8

Israeli Missiles Kill 8; Arabs Call for Revenge

Two Palestinian boys, ages 5 and 7, and six other people were killed by missiles fired by Israeli helicopters at the offices of the militant Islamic group Hamas in Nablus, in the West Bank. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office said the action was taken to prevent terror attacks being planned by Hamas, and it expressed regret at the boys' deaths. Five Israelis were later wounded, one gravely, in drive-by shootings in the West Bank. A1

10 Years for Bosnian Serb

Stevan Todorovic, a former police chief who had pleaded guilty to the persecution of non-Serbs, was sentenced to 10 years in prison, one of the lightest sentences yet from the United Nations war crimes tribunal. He pledged to assist the court. A4

India Leader Offers to Resign

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee jolted the political establishment with his sudden offer to resign. The 76-year-old leader has wearied of trying to keep his multiparty National Democratic Alliance together. But colleagues in his Bharatiya Janata Party beseeched him to stay on and appeared to have prevailed. A8

Peru Plane Inquiry Findings

An inquiry led by the State Department has found that the downing of a plane carrying American missionaries in Peru on April 20 resulted from errors by Peruvians, Americans and the civilian pilot, officials said. A3

Talks on U.N. Race Agenda

State Department officials said they had been trying to persuade other nations to omit two contentious issues from the agenda of a United Nations conference on racism next month in South Africa: whether Zionism is racism and whether nations should pay reparations for slavery. The outcome will determine whether the United States participates. A8

Missile Tests and the ABM Pact

A Pentagon agency has determined that aspects of the administration's plans for missile defense testing next year probably clash with the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty. A6

NEWS SUMMARY

World Briefing A8

NATIONAL A10-14

G.O.P. Acts to Rebuild Support Among Women

Republicans are pressing an effort to retain and regain support among women in the electorate, a response to recent surveys by party pollsters suggesting that Republicans' focus on a sweeping tax cut and several Bush administration environmental decisions had cost them some support among women and widened the Democrats' advantage. A14

Bush Backs Electoral Overhaul

President Bush endorsed some of the general principles in a bipartisan panel's report on overhauling the election system, though he did so without explicitly acknowledging that anything had gone awry in Florida's presidential ballot count. A13

Dueling Over Farm Aid

The Senate rejected a Republican proposal to limit emergency farm aid to \$5.5 billion, pushing ahead with a Democratic plan worth \$2 billion more. The White House has said advisers will recommend that President Bush veto the Democratic bill. A12

Talks on Patients' Right to Sue

Congress and the White House haggled over the the right of consumers to sue health insurance companies and employers for treatment decisions that cause harm to patients, the biggest unresolved issue. House Republican leaders are eager to schedule a vote this week on a patients' bill of rights. A13

Survey on Abuse by Dates

A survey reported in The Journal of the American Medical Association found that one in five adolescent girls become the victims of physical or sexual violence, or both, in a dating relationship. And those experiences, it said, are frequently linked to serious health problems later. A10

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Ban on Human Cloning

The House voted, 265 to 162, to ban cloning for reproduction and for medical research. A1

Insulin From Stem Cells

Researchers in Israel said they had coaxed human embryonic stem cells into producing insulin in tissue culture, a finding that could lead to a treatment for Type 1 diabetes. A12

NEW YORK/REGION B1-8

E.P.A. Chief Said to Back Clinton's Plan for Hudson

Christie Whitman was said to have agreed with a plan from the closing days of the Clinton administration requiring G.E. to spend more than half a billion dollars to dredge the Hudson of its PCB pollution. A1

Swollen Homeless Shelters

The number of homeless families lodging nightly in the city's shelters as of July rose to a record 6,252, with 11,594 children among the 20,655 members of homeless families. A1

Making the City His Business

NEWS SUMMARY

Michael R. Bloomberg, the wealthy businessman who is seeking the Republican mayoral nomination, said that the city was heading into rough economic times and that his business background made him the best choice to lead the city in a slowdown. A1

Belt-Tightening in Albany

The stripped-down budget that legislative leaders intend to pass this week imposes cuts and restraints on most state agencies and nonprofit organizations dependent on state help. B1

Public TV Stations Merging

The board of WLIW, Channel 21 on Long Island, voted to merge operations with WNET, Channel 13 in New York City. WNET's management is to be in overall charge, and while duplicate broadcasts of programs are to be curtailed, no popular programs are to be eliminated. No money changed hands as a result of the deal, which was prompted by the move to digital broadcasting. B1

EDUCATION B8

SPORTS D1-8

OBITUARIES A15

ARTS E1-8

New Lincoln Center Jazz Chief

Jazz at Lincoln Center said Bruce MacCombie, dean of the School for the Arts at Boston University, would become its executive director. E1

BUSINESS DAY C1-14

S.E.C. Uncovers Conflicts

Laura S. Unger, acting chairwoman of the S.E.C., told Congress that conflicts of interest ran deep and wide among analysts at almost all big brokerage firms. Later, she said some analyst actions might become subjects of enforcement cases. C1

Bad Day for Software Company

AremisSoft said that it was being investigated by the S.E.C. and that its chairman, Lycourgos K. Kyprianou, and its chief financial officer, Michael Tymvios, had resigned, the latter for health reasons. It also reported profits well below estimates and an inability to account for \$5.4 million logged as revenue last year. C1

Publisher Gets His Old Job Back

David Carey, president and chief executive of the business magazine division at Gruner & Jahr, resigned after just six months and will return to his previous job as publisher of The New Yorker. Falling advertising revenue and a committee management structure at Gruner & Jahr were said to be behind his decision. C1

Business Digest C1

World Business W1

DINING F1-10

EDITORIAL A16-17

NEWS SUMMARY

Editorials: An unenlightened energy bill; avoiding Florida's mantle; Argentina's bid to save itself; foot-and-mouth disease lingers.

Columns: Paul Krugman, Maureen Dowd.

Crossword E8

TV Listings E7

Public Lives B2

Weather B7

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photo

Load-Date: August 1, 2001

End of Document

VIOLENCE ECLIPSES MIDDLE EAST TALKS

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

April 24, 2001, Tuesday

Copyright 2001 The Columbian Publishing Co.

Section: World/Nation; Pg. a3

Length: 445 words

Byline: GREG MYRE, Associated Press writer

Body

JERUSALEM -- A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was killed by a gunshot to the head during a funeral in the Gaza Strip, and Israel endured its third bomb attack in two days as violence Monday eclipsed diplomatic efforts to end the Middle East bloodshed.

Several separate political initiatives were under way in a bid to halt, or at least limit, the seven months of fighting.

At a meeting late Monday between Israeli and Palestinian security officials, it was decided to work for a reduction of violence, according to an Israeli military statement, which said Israel would ease restrictions on the Palestinians when conditions allow.

In the southern Gaza Strip, more than 1,000 Palestinians, some wearing green police fatigues, joined the funeral procession of a Palestinian policeman who died of injuries sustained during an Israeli rocket attack last week.

As the body was being lowered into the ground at the Khan Yunis cemetery, next to a Jewish settlement, several dozen Palestinian gunmen fired 21 shots into the air as a sign of respect, said Eyad Saadoni, a math teacher. The Israeli military said the shots were directed at the settlement, drawing return fire.

Bursts of gunfire came from the direction of the nearby settlement, which is protected by an Israeli army post about 500 yards away, said Saadoni and other witnesses.

Palestinian mourners scattered in panic, with women and children running barefoot through the sandy streets, many seeking shelter in abandoned buildings.

"Some were trying to take cover," Saadoni said. "Some of them were kneeling next to the grave. Others covered their heads with their hands. Then I saw the wounded child collapse."

A 12-year-old Palestinian boy, Muhanad Muhareb, was shot just above the left eye and died, and 11 Palestinians were wounded, including one who was in critical condition, according to doctors at Khan Yunis Hospital.

Meanwhile, Israel suffered its third bomb blast in two days when a car bomb exploded Monday, lightly injuring four people in the working-class town of Or Yehuda, east of Tel Aviv.

In telephone call to The Associated Press, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a radical Palestinian faction.

VIOLENCE ECLIPSES MIDDLE EAST TALKS

A day earlier, a Palestinian militant detonated a bomb near a bus in the town of Kfar Saba, near Tel Aviv, killing himself and an Israeli doctor and wounding 50 people.

The Islamic militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility and identified the bomber as 18-year-old Imad Zubadi.

At his home in the West Bank town of Nablus, Zubadi's mother said her son was scheduled to take his final high school exams in a few days, but she was proud he had become a "martyr."

Load-Date: April 24, 2001

End of Document

Israeli forces retaliate for wave of bombings

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

March 29, 2001 Thursday Final Edition

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Section: News; Pg. B8; News

Length: 387 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Dateline: Gaza City, Gaza Strip

Body

Israeli helicopters rocketed the headquarters of Force 17, Yasser Arafat's elite guard, in Gaza and the West Bank town of Ramallah on Wednesday, retaliating for a wave of bombings, including a suicide attack that killed two Israeli teenagers.

Red flares lit up the night sky over Ramallah, where two people were killed in the assault and flames leaped from burning buildings and cars as firemen attempted to extinguish multiple blazes.

Doctors in Ramallah said the dead included a member of Force 17 and a **female** civilian and that several people were injured. In Gaza City, at least nine Palestinians were wounded, two of them critically, doctors said.

AP

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has repeatedly accused Force 17 of involvement in attacks against Israeli civilians.

"The purpose is to strike directly at those responsible for terrorism," the Israeli military said in a statement. The military said it hit the Force 17 headquarters in Ramallah and four Force 17 targets in Gaza -- including a training camp and an arms depot.

The buildings under attack -- all in areas governed by Arafat's Palestinian Authority under peace agreements -- had been evacuated after the Israeli military warned the Palestinians to leave.

The nighttime assault came hours after a suicide bomber detonated nail-filled explosives strapped to his body near a group of Jewish seminary students waiting at the roadside near the West Bank, killing two. The previous day, militants carried out back-to-back attacks, including a suicide attack that injured two dozen people.

The Palestinian militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for both suicide bombings and said more bombers were ready to strike.

Sharon, who had been under mounting pressure to respond to the string of attacks, called his security cabinet into session minutes before the Israeli offensive began.

"We are witnessing grave terrorist activities -- terrorist activities that the chairman of the Palestinian Authority (Arafat) has not been willing until now to control," Sharon said.

Israeli forces retaliate for wave of bombings

Israel says Arafat has released hundreds of Islamic militants from prison in recent months and that gunmen of the Tanzim militia affiliated with Arafat's Fatah movement have killed a number of Israelis in shooting attacks during the past six months of violence.

Graphic

Israeli police investigators examine the bodies of the victims of a suicide bomb in a gas station near the northern Israeli village of Sdeh Hemed, near the West Bank, Wednesday. A suspected Palestinian suicide bomber detonated explosives near a group of Israeli teenagers waiting for a ride to school, killing himself and two others. Four people were hurt, one critically. Associated Press photo: Lefteris Pitarakis

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

World

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

March 29, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: NEWS IN BRIEF; Pg. 20

Length: 423 words

Byline: Compiled from wire service reports by Robert Kilborn and Stephanie Cook

Body

Seven more suicide bombers are ready to strike inside Israel, the militant Islamic group **Hamas** said, after another attack killed two teenagers at a school bus stop. The blast, the third in two days, also killed an Arab carrying the explosives on his body and injured four others. Two other bombs were found elsewhere in Israel before they could go off. An Army radio broadcast quoted Prime Minister Ariel Sharon as saying, "Israel's deterrent capacity will return to the fullest." The latest attack came as the US vetoed a UN resolution that would have authorized sending an international observer force to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Authorization to vaccinate up to 100,000 cattle against foot-and-mouth disease was being sought from the European Union by British health officials as the number of affected sites across the nation rose to 694. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Tony Blair used a speech to a chambers of commerce meeting to plead with foreign tourists not to shun Britain this year.

A sweeping overhaul of his Cabinet, most notably the Defense Ministry, was announced by Russian President Vladimir Putin. But the changes did not include Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov, whose hold on the job was believed to be in doubt. Putin put a civilian in charge of defense for the first time, which, analysts said, strengthens his control over the military at a time of growing distrust of the US. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the military has been nagged by funding shortages and low morale.

By a ratio of 117 to 100, births of girls have fallen behind those of boys, China's national statistics bureau reported. The figures, released with other data from last year's census, are due to selective abortion of **female** fetuses and underreporting of girls, the agency said. But critics argued that the authorities were ignoring widespread abandonment and other forms of **female** infanticide. The agency put the overall population at 1.26 billion at the end of 2000.

The first UN peacekeepers in Congo are to begin deploying today, their mission chief said. A force of 100 Uruguyans will be sent to Goma, 900 miles east of the capital, Kinshasa, to monitor the disengagement of belligerents in the campaign to topple the national government. Congo's Army, its allies from Angola, Namibia, and Zimbabwe on one side, and two rebel movements and their allies from Rwanda and Uganda on the other were due to complete a nine-mile pullback from the front lines by midnight Wednesday.

World

Load-Date: March 28, 2001

End of Document

Mourning never ceases for the land they lost

The Independent (London)

April 11, 1998, Saturday

Copyright 1998 Independent Print Ltd

Section: NEWS; Page 14

Length: 878 words

Byline: Robert Fisk

Body

THE white rose petals lay scattered over the mass grave of Sabra and Chatila yesterday, their plastic wrappings churned into the mud. The ceremony 12 hours earlier had been a short one, a march by both Palestinians and Lebanese, candles in their hands, to mark the Israeli massacre of Palestinians at Deir Yassin exactly 50 years ago. Their commemoration at the site of the slaughter of yet more Palestinians - by Israel's Lebanese allies in 1982 - showed all too painfully what this year's anniversary means to the losers in the war for Israel's creation.

For losers is what the Palestinians of Lebanon are. They fled for their lives in 1948 from that part of Palestine that was to become Israel, taking with them the deeds to their homes, their tax receipts from the old British mandate, even the keys to the front doors they thought they would re-open a few days later. Even today, in the squalor of Lebanon's 12 fetid refugee camps, they live in their own ghost villages: the survivors of the 1948 exodus, their children and grandchildren, are still grouped in streets named after the towns they left in Palestine. In Chatila, one slum alley contains the people from north Acre. In Rashadiyeh camp, you can find the descendants of Um al-Faraj.

But Um al-Faraj was destroyed five decades ago - it is today called Ben Ami - and the villages these people left are, most of them, buried beneath long grass or rubble built over by Jewish settlements. The Palestinian scholar Walid Khalidi has identified 418 destroyed or depopulated Palestinian villages in present-day Israel; and no peace treaty will ever allow the Palestinians of Lebanon to return to these homes. Even the now-dead Oslo agreement relegated them to the status of "refugees", in the "final status" talks that will almost certainly never take place.

At its bleakest - and there is no other status for the Palestinians here - their case is hopeless. The West Bank and Gaza were never their homes. But nor can Lebanon be their homeland. Despised by a population whose Christian community often and unfairly blame them for Lebanon's 16-year civil war, the 362,098 UN-registered Palestinians dream of a Return - they use the word - which can never take place. They cannot work or hold residence cards in Lebanon; if they leave, they have no automatic right to come back. Yasser Arafat - once he realised that Oslo would not provide for them - cut off all their PLO funds.

Even the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA, can do little to help. Suffering from a budget deficit of \$ 85m, the organisation cannot stop the deterioration of refugee schools and hospitals. Since the PLO abandoned Beirut after encirclement by the Israeli army in 1982, Arafat has cared little or nothing for the Palestinians whose sons and daughters died in their thousands for his "revolution" in Lebanon. When Israel's Phalangist allies massacred up to 2,000 Palestinians at Sabra and Chatila, after the Israeli army had surrounded the camps, Arafat was already on his way to safety in Tunis. Israel's own inquiry recorded how Israeli troops saw civilians being taken away for slaughter - and did nothing.

Mourning never ceases for the land they lost

No wonder the Palestinian refugees of Lebanon are watching the final burial of the Oslo agreement with cynicism as well as despair. No wonder Arafat's face has been erased from almost every Palestinian wall. In its place are stuck portraits of young men who tried vainly to reach the Israeli border - once the border of Palestine - to attack the country which prevented their parents from returning home. Pictures of Hamas "martyrs" - including the bomber Yahya Ayash assassinated by the Israelis in Gaza - are plastered along the narrow streets, for Islam is taking the place of nationalism in many homes. There is no sympathy for the innocent Israeli victims of Hamas suicide bombs.

No wonder, too, that Palestinians remembered, after Sabra and Chatila, the 1948 massacre at Deir Yassin. Menachem Begin's Irgun members were responsible for the slaughter outside Jerusalem although the victims - 245 men, women and children, some of them disembowelled - were far fewer than the Palestinian death toll in later killing fields. Some of those who fled the Israelis in 1948 ended up under the knives of Israel's Lebanese allies 34 years later. Others have lived to pay brief, nervous visits to relatives who did not run away and who are now Israeli Arab citizens. One woman who escaped the Chatila massacre was married to a Palestinian Muslim from what is now northern Israel, but she refused ever to return to what was once their home. She is Jewish, and still lives in Lebanon with her Palestinian family.

Just a few days ago, the Lebanese announced the eviction of up to a thousand Palestinians from the Bourj el-Barajneh camp in Beirut to make way for a new airport highway. There is no talk of compensation or new homes. They will have to huddle in the overcrowded huts of relatives or friends. So far as the Lebanese are concerned, they can go home. But "home" is a Palestine that no longer exists. So of course there were tears on Thursday night when the white roses were thrown - Diana-like - over the mass grave at Sabra and Chatila. It was a 50th anniversary even the dead might have wished to forget.

Load-Date: April 14, 1998

End of Document

Mideast talks amid violence; Palestinian boy shot, more bombs in Israel

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

April 24, 2001 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2001 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D04; News

Length: 435 words

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was killed by a gunshot to the head during a funeral in the Gaza Strip. And Israel endured its third bomb attack in two days as violence yesterday eclipsed diplomatic efforts to end the Mideast bloodshed.

Several separate political initiatives were under way in a bid to halt, or at least limit, the seven months of fighting. The Associated Press

At a meeting late yesterday between Israeli and Palestinian security officials, it was decided to work for a reduction of violence, according to an Israeli military statement, which said Israel would ease restrictions on the Palestinians when conditions allow.

In the southern Gaza Strip, more than 1,000 Palestinians, some wearing green police fatigues, joined the funeral procession of a Palestinian policeman who died of injuries sustained during an Israeli rocket attack last week.

As the body was being lowered into the ground at the Khan Yunis cemetery, next to a Jewish settlement, several dozen Palestinian gunmen fired 21 shots into the air as a sign of respect, said Eyad Saadoni, a math teacher. The Israeli military said the shots were directed at the settlement, drawing return fire.

Bursts of gunfire came from the direction of the nearby settlement which is protected by an Israeli army post about 500 metres away, said Saadoni and other witnesses.

Palestinian mourners scattered in panic, with women and children running barefoot through the sandy streets, many seeking shelter in abandoned buildings.

"Some were trying to take cover," Saadoni said. "Some of them were kneeling next to the grave. Others covered their heads with their hands. Then I saw the wounded child collapse." A 12-year-old Palestinian boy, Muhanad Muhareb, was shot just above the left eye and died, and 11 Palestinians were wounded, including one who was in critical condition, said doctors at Khan Yunis Hospital.

Meanwhile, a car bomb exploded yesterday, lightly injuring four people in the working-class town of Or Yehuda, east of Tel Aviv.

In a telephone call to The Associated Press, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a radical Palestinian faction.

Mideast talks amid violence; Palestinian boy shot, more bombs in Israel

A day earlier, a Palestinian militant detonated a bomb near a bus in the town of Kfar Saba, near Tel Aviv, killing himself and an Israeli doctor and wounding 50 people.

The Islamic militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility and identified the bomber as Imad Zubadi, 18.

At his home in the West Bank town of Nablus, Zubadi's mother said her son was set to take his final high school exams in a few days, but she was proud he had become a "martyr."

Load-Date: November 5, 2001

End of Document

Clashes kill five Palestinians: Dispute over dirt sparks shootout in refugee camp

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

December 14, 2000 Thursday Final Edition

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Section: International; Pg. D7; News

Length: 430 words

Dateline: KHAN YUNIS, Gaza Strip

Body

KHAN YUNIS, Gaza Strip (AP) -- Crouching behind sandbags at the entrance to a refugee camp, Palestinian gunmen waged an intense nine-hour firefight with Israeli troops on Wednesday, one of the heaviest gunbattles in weeks. Four Palestinian police officers were killed and dozens of civilians were injured.

And for the third time in as many days, a Palestinian activist was fatally shot in what Palestinians called a pattern of Israeli assassinations. Abbas al-Awewi, a member of the militant Islamic group **Hamas**, was gunned down in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Associated Press

Asked about the killing, the Israeli army said only that it "uses effective methods against those who hurt Israelis."

At the Khan Yunis refugee camp in Gaza, the shootout was sparked by a dispute over an embankment of dirt and sandbags that the Palestinians had erected across the street at the front of the camp, where 35,000 Palestinians live.

The Israelis bulldozed the barricade Tuesday, but the Palestinians promptly rebuilt and began shooting around 1 a.m. local time Wednesday at Israeli troops guarding nearby Jewish settlements.

Most of the Palestinian gunmen appeared to be police officers, though civilians also took part, said Palestinian security officials. The Israelis, meanwhile, fired tank shells. Helicopters hovered overhead, though they did not take part in the extended battle, witnesses said.

At daybreak, a large Palestinian crowd filled the street, looking on from behind as the gunmen fired their automatic rifles, sometimes shooting blindly by raising their guns over their heads.

Whenever a Palestinian was hit, several people in the crowd rushed forward to carry the wounded man to an ambulance.

In addition to the four Palestinian police officers killed, at least 42 people were injured, Palestinian forces said.

Palestinian gunfire in the Gaza Strip, targeting Israeli soldiers and settlers, has been a daily occurrence, but the latest shootout was much more intense than anything in the previous few weeks.

Clashes kill five Palestinians: Dispute over dirt sparks shootout in refugee camp

On Wednesday morning, the Palestinian gunmen raked an Israeli school bus with automatic gunfire as it was travelling near the Jewish settlement of Morag, just a few kilometres south of the Khan Yunis refugee camp. The bus was armour-plated, and none of the children was hurt, the army said.

A day earlier, two Israeli women were wounded in a Palestinian attack near the Morag settlement. An Israeli school in the area also came under fire.

A total of 318 people have been killed, most of them Palestinians, since the fighting broke out in September.

Graphic

Photo: Associated Press; A Palestinian looks out of the door of her home, during an exchange of gunfire near the Gush Qatif settlement in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza strip, Wednesday

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

THE AD CAMPAIGN;
Politicizing the Bombing of the Cole

The New York Times

November 1, 2000, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company

Distribution: Metropolitan Desk

Section: Section B; ; Section B; Page 5; Column 5; Metropolitan Desk ; Column 5;

Length: 425 words

Body

This is a new 30-second commercial that the Clinton campaign plans to begin broadcasting today.

PRODUCER -- Callahan Creative

ON THE SCREEN -- The advertisement opens to the musical refrains of taps with a picture of the destroyer Cole, complete with the gaping hole in its side that was caused by a suicide bombing in the port of Aden, Yemen, last month. The ad then shifts to black screens, with excerpts from several editorials criticizing Representative Rick A. Lazio for the Republican State Committee's decision to conduct a telephone campaign that tried to suggest that some of Hillary Rodham Clinton's donors supported terrorism.

THE SCRIPT -- ANNOUNCER: "Seventeen young American servicemen and women on the U.S.S. Cole . . . killed by a cowardly act of terrorism. Sadly, Rick Lazio is trying to exploit this tragedy. His campaign is making phone calls saying Hillary supports this appalling act of terrorism. 'Absurd,' says The New York Times, 'irresponsible smear attacks.' Newsday calls it 'reprehensible,' like 'Gingrich's slash-and-burn style.' If this is how Rick Lazio campaigns for office . . . what would Rick Lazio do in office?"

ACCURACY -- The state Republican Party, not Mr. Lazio, conducted the telephone campaign that was in part aimed at Jewish voters. Mr. Lazio, however, has not disavowed the tactic since it was disclosed last week. Instead, he has repeatedly linked Mrs. Clinton to an official with the American Muslim Council who donated \$1,000 to her campaign, and who has expressed support for Hamas and Hezbollah, both of which are considered terrorist groups by the State Department. Mrs. Clinton was forced to return \$50,000 in contributions last week after it was disclosed that another group, the American Muslim Alliance, had sponsored a fund-raiser for her in June.

SCORECARD -- The advertisement reflects the belief by Mrs. Clinton's advisers that voters who learn of the telephone campaign will turn against Mr. Lazio. The advertisement is very emotive in its opening scene, recalling the deaths of the American sailors. But it quickly disintegrates into one of the most negative of the campaign, using bold red highlights and, in standard campaign tactics, quotations from newspapers, to underscore and attempt to validate the criticism of Mr. Lazio. It also mixes a picture of him with a contorted face with upbeat music. It could

THE AD CAMPAIGN; Politicizing the Bombing of the Cole

backfire, since it invites the suggestion that Mrs. Clinton is doing the same thing that she is accusing Mr. Lazio of doing: exploiting the sailors' deaths in a political campaign.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photo

Load-Date: November 1, 2000

End of Document

WAR ON TERRORISM: BACKGROUNDER: CRISIS ON A GLANCE;
Latest developments at home and abroad

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

December 5, 2001 Wednesday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News;; Brief

Length: 449 words

Series: BACKGROUNDER

Body

AL-QAIDA FIGHTERS SPOTTED: Anti-Taliban troops hunting Osama bin Laden said they clashed with al-Qaida fighters near their mountain hideouts in eastern Afghanistan. KANDAHAR FIGHTING CONTINUES: The Taliban pushed tribal fighters back from an airport near Kandahar. A U.S. soldier working with an anti-Taliban group was shot under the collarbone, but his injuries were not life-threatening. NEW GOVERNMENT NEARER: Afghanistan seemed closer to stability as four rival factions bargained over the final composition of a new interim government. They haggled over names for a planned 29-member administration, to be headed by a chairman, with five vice chairpersons, including probably one woman. TEXAS GROUP TARGETED: The Bush administration froze financial assets and closed the offices of a Texas-based foundation linked to Hamas, the Palestinian group claiming responsibility for terror attacks in Israel. AMERICAN'S FATE UNDECIDED: Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said the Bush administration has yet to decide what to do with an American believed to have been fighting alongside the Taliban and who is now receiving medical treatment from U.S. forces in Afghanistan. The secretary refused to say whether he considers the man, who has identified himself as John Walker, a traitor. "You can be certain he will have all the rights he is due," Rumsfeld said. President Bush was asked about Walker in an ABC News interview. "We're just trying to learn the facts about this poor fellow," he said. "Surely, he was raised better than to know that a government that suppresses women and women's rights, that doesn't educate young girls, is not the kind of government worth dying for."

AJCEUROPEANS TARGET TERROR: Europe's top security body unveiled counterterrorism plans aimed at illicit cash, weapons and safe havens for extremists. INTELLIGENCE ASSISTANCE: Pakistan has agreed to step up cooperation with the CIA in the hunt for bin Laden, Pakistani intelligence officials said. FIRST INTERVIEW DEADLINE PASSES: Officials extended the deadline for hundreds of Middle Eastern men in Michigan to respond to letters requesting voluntary interviews in the terrorism probe. Only about 185 of the 550 people sought for questioning had called to make appointments. The deadline for responding was Tuesday; it is now Dec. 10. What will happen to people who do not respond is unclear. FAKE ID CONVICTION: Day laborer Herbert Villalobos, 35, pleaded guilty to helping two Sept. 11 hijackers illegally obtain Virginia identification cards. PRESIDENT IN FLORIDA: President Bush took the stage at a town hall-style meeting, expressing sympathy with workers and business owners struggling in a sagging economy.

Graphic

WAR ON TERRORISM: BACKGROUNDER: CRISIS ON A GLANCE; Latest developments at home and abroad

Photo:

War and waiting

A Northern Alliance fighter waits on a bus for the expected surrender of Taliban troops near Mazar-e-Sharif on Tuesday. / ALAN CHIN / Staff

Load-Date: December 5, 2001

End of Document

**BARAK, ARAFAT AGREE TO MEET CLINTON PLANS TO ATTEND THE
EMERGENCY SUMMIT IN EGYPT TOMORROW. ISRAELIS AND
PALESTINIANS, HOWEVER, REMAIN CAUTIOUS.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

OCTOBER 15, 2000 Sunday D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A01

Length: 1043 words

Byline: Sudarsan Raghavan and Nomi Morris, KNIGHT RIDDER NEWS SERVICE

Dateline: CAIRO, Egypt

Body

After a marathon diplomatic effort by world leaders, Israel and the Palestinians agreed yesterday to meet face-to-face at a U.S.-sponsored emergency summit in Egypt designed to stop the worst Mideast violence in years.

President Clinton also plans to attend tomorrow's summit in the Red Sea resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh.

"Our central objective must now be to stop the violence, to restore calm and safety, to agree on a fact-finding mechanism concerning how this began and how we can prevent it from occurring again, and to find a way back to dialogue and negotiations," Clinton told reporters in Washington.

Faced with pressure from world leaders, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat publicly appeared to have dropped certain demands that threatened to scuttle diplomatic efforts to bring them to the table. But as of late yesterday, there were conflicting reports as to whether the sides had abandoned their prior conditions for a summit.

Most observers, Israeli and Palestinian, remained cautious about what could be achieved at the summit, given the tense atmosphere after more than two weeks of violence and bitter accusations by both sides. Much could still happen in the hours before the summit, analysts said.

Some of the key issues that will likely be discussed include an immediate cease-fire agreement, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Palestinian areas, the creation of an international committee to investigate the causes of the violence, and the rearrest of dozens of Islamic militants released from Palestinian jails in the last two weeks.

Sporadic gunfights occurred yesterday between Israelis and Palestinians, especially in Hebron, but overall the level of violence was lower than in the previous 16 days of clashes.

BARAK, ARAFAT AGREE TO MEET CLINTON PLANS TO ATTEND THE EMERGENCY SUMMIT IN EGYPT
TOMORROW. ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS, HOWEVER, REMAIN CAUTIOUS.

Across the Mideast, Arafat's decision to meet with Barak was met with outrage and frustration by many Arabs. In Damascus and elsewhere, radical Islamic guerrilla groups called for Arafat to change his mind.

"We call upon President Arafat not to attend this summit, as it is an American plan," Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, leader of the Islamic militant group Hamas, told Israeli TV last night. "The U.S. wants to defend the Israelis' crimes."

In Gaza City, angry Palestinians burned Israeli flags and continued to call for a jihad, or holy war. They believe Arafat caved in when he agreed to attend the summit without having his conditions met, particularly having a U.N. inquiry into the cause of the violence.

At Jabalya refugee camp in Gaza, Palestinians shot guns in the air and said they feared that Arafat would come back empty-handed from Sharm el-Sheikh. And in Cairo, demonstrators chanted, "The blood of Arab people is not cheap," and denounced Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for hosting the summit.

"This is a failure summit," said Samy Selam, 37, an accountant in Cairo. "How, after Israelis killed children and women and all the distrust, can Arafat shake hands with Barak? The only solution is war."

But senior Palestinian officials shifted away from previous anti-summit rhetoric.

"Arafat agreed, because if there is a one-in-a-million chance to stop the war of aggression against the Palestinian people, he'll take it," said Saeb Erekat, the Palestinians' top negotiator. "If this summit fails, it will be hell breaking loose."

In Israel, government officials said they welcomed the summit but were cautious.

"We have to approach [the summit] soberly, without too high expectations," said Yitzhak Herzog, Israel's cabinet secretary.

Hard-line opposition leader Ariel Sharon, with whom Barak intends to form a national emergency government, backed the summit if it "puts an end to the bloodshed." But not everyone in Sharon's Likud Party agreed, saying the summit could lead to excessive demands on Israel.

Uzi Landau, a Likud parliamentarian, declared the summit "worthless." Meanwhile, Jewish settler leaders on the West Bank issued a statement against the summit.

The disagreement foreshadows the political dilemma that could face a politically weak Barak if he wants to resume peace talks. He is poised to enter a coalition with parties that oppose the 1993 Oslo peace accord.

The summit follows more than eight days of round-the-clock international diplomatic efforts to end the bloody clashes, which have killed nearly 100 people, most of them Palestinians. The violence was triggered by a Sept. 28 visit by Sharon to a Jerusalem shrine sacred to Jews and Muslims.

The violence escalated Thursday, when two Israeli reservists were lynched by a Palestinian mob. Israeli helicopter gunships hit Palestinian Authority sites in Gaza City and Ramallah in retaliation.

Clinton, who has sought a lasting peace to the Middle East since he took office, proposed the summit last week during rounds of telephone diplomacy. His first call for a summit was rebuffed by Egypt and the Palestinians, but after intense pressure by Clinton, Mubarak and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, Arafat agreed to drop his key demands before agreeing to a summit.

Besides the U.N. probe, the list included Israel's withdrawing troops posted at the entrance to Palestinian cities and in West Bank towns.

Yasir Abed Rabbo, the Palestinian information minister, said at a news conference in Ramallah that Israel must "stop aggression against the Palestinian people." He said the Palestinians also wanted an immediate withdrawal of tanks positioned in Palestinian cities and a U.N. resolution calling for an investigation into the violence.

BARAK, ARAFAT AGREE TO MEET CLINTON PLANS TO ATTEND THE EMERGENCY SUMMIT IN EGYPT TOMORROW. ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS, HOWEVER, REMAIN CAUTIOUS.

On the Israeli side, government spokesman Nachman Shai said Israel would demand that militants belonging to **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad who were released from Palestinian jails in previous days be rearrested.

Barak has refused to consider a U.N. or international probe into the killings, but he does agree to a U.S.-run "fact-finding" inquiry.

Mideast analysts said their expectations were low. At the least, they hoped the violence would end. At the most, perhaps a road map would be drawn that could take both sides back to the peace negotiating table.

"The most important thing is to contain the violence, then pave the way back to the peace process," said Abdel Monem Said, director of the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo. "It's not a lot to ask."

Graphic

PHOTO;

PHOTO

Israeli border police stood guard outside the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound as Muslims prayed in Jerusalem's Old City on Friday. (JEROME DELAY, Associated Press)

Muslims pray outside the Al-Aqsa Mosque as Israeli border police stand guard. Clashes erupted in Jerusalem's Old City after Muslims under 45 years of age were prevented from entering the compound. (JEROME DELAY, Associated Press)

Load-Date: February 5, 2002

Eight die as truce teeters on brink

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

October 5, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 25

Length: 499 words

Byline: GREG MYRE

Body

ISRAEL yesterday broke off truce talks with the Palestinians, after retaliation for an attack on a Jewish settlement left two Israelis and six Palestinians dead.

Israeli army bulldozers moved into northern Gaza yester-

day, levelling farmland, after Israeli tanks shelled Palestinian police positions.

Four policemen and a civilian were killed when shells hit one of the posts, Palestinian officials said. Another Palestinian was killed in an exchange of fire.

MATP

On Wednesday two armed Palestinians infiltrated the nearby Israeli settlement of Elei Sinai.

Opening fire and throwing grenades, they killed two Israelis and wounded 15 others -- the first attack of its kind on a settlement in a year of fighting.

The two sides charged each other with violating a week-long truce that never fully took hold.

Israeli Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said Israel will stop talks "until the Palestinian Authority has taken control and stops terrorism".

Israel radio said two meetings were cancelled -- one with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian negotiators Ahmed Qureia and Saeb Erekat, and one of military commanders.

The militant **Hamas** took responsibility for the attack.

Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority denounced the infiltration, calling it a violation of the ceasefire.

But Palestinian Cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdel Rahman charged that Israel is carrying out a contradictory policy, calling on Palestinian police to

arrest militants and then attacking those very same police.

He said that despite the terms of the truce, Israeli tanks are still surrounding Palestinian cities and towns and international efforts to calm the situation "cannot succeed without sending observers immediately to Palestinian territories".

Eight die as truce teeters on brink

Mr Ben-Eliezer said Mr Arafat is talking about a ceasefire while "allowing terrorism to exist".

Also yesterday, Palestinian gunmen opened fire at a crowd of Israelis celebrating the holiday of Sukkot by visiting the divided city of Hebron. Two women were wounded, one seriously.

Israeli forces control part of the city, protecting about 500 settlers who live in three enclaves along with about 130,000 Palestinians.

Witness and settler spokesman Noam Arnon said there had been an unwritten agreement that Palestinians would not fire at Jewish visitors.

"This is an especially despicable attack during a holiday," Mr Arnon said.

Palestinians demand that the settlers be removed, saying they frequently attack Palestinians and destroy their property.

After nightfall, Palestinian gunmen opened fire on an Israeli vehicle from a passing car near Jerusalem, seriously wounding a pregnant woman and her husband, police said.

The events and harsh words threatened the truce, announced by Mr Peres and Mr Arafat after intense US pressure.

The US has been trying to cool the conflict, fearing a flare-up would be an obstacle to its efforts to build a broad coalition for fighting international terrorism after the September 11 attacks in New York and Washington.

Load-Date: October 4, 2001

End of Document

Blair's Mideast visit doesn't halt fighting

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

November 2, 2001 Friday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News;

Length: 482 words

Byline: JIM GALLOWAY

Body

Jerusalem --- British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Thursday urged Israelis and Palestinians to stop killing each other and get back to the peace table so that the world could focus on the war in Afghanistan.

Israel was unwilling to cut the prime minister any slack. Hours before Blair's arrival, Israeli helicopters sent missiles into a taxi in the West Bank, killing two Palestinians who Israel said were preparing a "large-scale" suicide bombing. AJC

"We want restraint on all sides," Blair told reporters after a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "The only way we're going to get a peace process back on track again is if there's an end to violence of all kinds."

Blair's meeting with Sharon in Jerusalem and a later conference with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza concluded a Middle East tour that otherwise focused on Arab attitudes toward the U.S.-British effort in Afghanistan.

The British prime minister will go to Washington next week to brief President Bush.

"We are ready for painful compromises," the Israeli prime minister said, announcing that he had formed a team to work with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on a new peace initiative. But Israel will not compromise its security, Sharon said, and negotiations would have to wait for Arafat to put a lid on violence.

In Gaza, Arafat also expressed his willingness to engage in talks, but repeated his demand that Israeli forces withdraw immediately from Palestinian territories they occupied two weeks ago after the assassination of an Israeli Cabinet minister.

Like the Bush administration, Blair has publicly called for Arafat to arrest the Palestinian assassins, and for Israel to withdraw its forces.

Both the United States and Britain have also called on Israel to stop its practice of "targeted killings" of Palestinians.

The two Palestinians killed near Nablus on Thursday were identified as a suicide bomber and the man responsible for transporting the bomber to his target, an Israeli government spokesman said. Both reportedly were members of the militant **Hamas** group.

Blair's Mideast visit doesn't halt fighting

Blair pointedly denounced Palestinian bombings and shootings. The latest attack occurred Sunday, when four women were killed at a bus stop by two Palestinian gunmen. But Blair scolded Israelis as well.

"This cycle of bloodshed has to stop," the British prime minister said at a news conference that followed a working lunch at Sharon's home.

"I believe it is important that any measures that are taken in relation to security are measured and proper in accordance with international law," he said.

But Sharon defended what his government describes as pre-emptive strikes.

"What will bring peace earlier? That the terrorists will kill another 20 or 40 or 50 Israeli citizens or that they will be stopped on the way to the attack?" he asked. Stopping them, Sharon said, prevented an act that would have forestalled negotiations even further.

Graphic

Photo:
Tony Blair

Load-Date: November 2, 2001

End of Document

Explosion injures 21 in Tel Aviv: No claims of responsibility for bomb loaded with nails

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

August 28, 1998 Friday Final Edition

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Section: CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C3 / FRONT; News

Length: 402 words

Dateline: TEL AVIV

Body

A bomb exploded in the heart of Tel Aviv yesterday, injuring 21 people on a busy street near the city's main synagogue in an attack police said was the work of suspected Palestinian militants.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, the first in Tel Aviv since a suicide bomber killed three Israeli women in a cafe in March 1997.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would not sign any deal to give more West Bank land to the Palestinian Authority unless it fought "murderers and terror."

Reuters

He cited the blast and the recent killings of three Jewish settlers in the West Bank.

Palestinian Authority officials condemned the explosion.

"It was a terrorist attack," national police chief Yehuda Vilk told Israeli television. Israeli security officials use the term to describe attacks by Arabs.

The bomb ripped through a garbage container during the morning rush hour near the Great Synagogue on Allenby Street, a main thoroughfare in the city's commercial district.

Police said the bomb was not large, packed with no more than several hundred grams of explosives, but was loaded with nails to injure as many as possible.

BABY HURT

Hospital officials said 21 people were wounded, one of them, a woman, seriously. A 17-month-old baby was among those hurt.

"I saw a woman whose leg had been blown off," a witness told Army Radio. The blast also damaged shops and vehicles.

On Wednesday, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, leader of the militant Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, said at a rally in Gaza that the group would attack Israel in retaliation for the U.S. cruise missile strikes last week on Sudan and Afghanistan.

Explosion injures 21 in Tel Aviv: No claims of responsibility for bomb loaded with nails

Asked about the bomb blast yesterday, he said: "We don't know who carried it out. Maybe they were Jewish extremists who want to push Jews to more extremism."

But Yassin said the Palestinians had a right "to attack any place in Israel as a response to Israeli and American behaviour in general."

Nabil Amr, a minister in Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's cabinet, said: "We are against these operations that kill and threaten the lives of civilians."

The night before the blast, Netanyahu's top negotiator, Yitzhak Molho, held talks with Arafat on U.S. proposals to break a 17-month peacemaking deadlock, political sources said.

Negotiations have been snagged over the scope of an overdue Israeli troop withdrawal in the West Bank in exchange for reciprocal Palestinian security guarantees.

Load-Date: October 16, 2002

End of Document

Palestinians, Israelis condemn Tel Aviv blast

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

August 28, 1998 Friday Final Edition

Copyright 1998 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: FRONT; Pg. A6; News

Length: 392 words

Dateline: TEL AVIV

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Reuters

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Palestinians, Israelis condemn Tel Aviv blast

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Load-Date: September 22, 2002

End of Document

Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

May 27, 2000 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2000 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: FRONT; Pg. A12; News

Length: 435 words

Dateline: BINT JBEIL;LEBANON

Body

BINT JBEIL, LEBANON -- Hezbollah's triumphant leader warned Israel Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

Associated Press

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea -- that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of Hezbollah guerrillas killed in the fighting. Draped from the podium was Hezbollah's logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "Hezbollah will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. Hezbollah's yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colourful headscarves of women and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising Hezbollah. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "Hezbollah is the victor." Others chanted: "Hezbollah is brave, moving forward."

Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere. In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said.

Load-Date: October 10, 2002

End of Document

Revenge demanded for slain leader: Palestinian's funeral draws thousands

The Ottawa Citizen

August 29, 2001 Wednesday

Final EDITION

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Section: NEWS,; News

Length: 513 words

Dateline: RAMALLAH, West Bank

Body

An angry crowd of 50,000 mourners flocked to the funeral of Mustafa Zibri, the highest-ranking Palestinian slain in an Israeli campaign of targeted killings, while demonstrators called for revenge in protests across the West Bank and Gaza Strip yesterday.

Masked pallbearers bore the body of Mr. Zibri -- widely known as Abu Ali Mustafa -- through the streets of the West Bank town of Ramallah, while masked gunmen shot automatic-weapons fire into the air.

More than 20,000 mourners vowed revenge at Mr. Zibri's funeral, chanting: "Our retaliation is on its way. Expect suicide bombings and more bullets."

The Associated Press

"Abu Ali Mustafa, your blood will not be wasted!" other mourners shouted.

Residents said the funeral was the biggest for years in Ramallah, which Palestinians regard as the center of West Bank life until they establish an independent state.

Mr. Zibri, 63, was the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a hard-line group opposed to Palestinian-Israeli peacemaking, and a longtime associate of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Israeli said Mr. Zibri had a long record of involvement in terrorism.

He was killed Monday in an Israeli missile attack as he sat working at his desk in a Ramallah building about 180 metres from Mr. Arafat's West Bank headquarters.

Leaders of Palestinian factions divided by rivalries in the past marched in the funeral procession. The mourners included several of Mr. Arafat's ministers, members of the Palestinian legislature and high-ranking representatives of militant groups such as **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad.

The body, saluted by Palestinian police, was carried to the cemetery on a Palestinian military jeep. Mosque loudspeakers played the Palestinian anthem. Mr. Zibri's 55-year-old widow, Khitam, had to be supported by two **women** as she collapsed while standing over the body.

Mr. Arafat was at his Gaza Strip headquarters and attended neither the Ramallah burial nor a mock funeral held in Gaza City.

Revenge demanded for slain leader: Palestinian 's funeral draws thousands

About 4,000 mourners marched through Gaza City, shouting, "Revenge, revenge!" and condemning Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

In the West Bank towns of Nablus, Jenin and Tulkarem, thousands of mourners paraded through the streets with mock coffins.

"Israel will pay a great price for killing him," a masked gunman told the crowd in Jenin.

Shops and businesses in Palestinian areas were shuttered tight as merchants observed a commercial strike. Arafat declared three days of mourning for Mr. Zibri.

Palestinian refugees in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon also mourned Mr. Zibri and staged demonstrations protesting his killing.

Syria's largest Palestinian refugee camp, al-Yarmouk, ground to a standstill as thousands staged a one-day strike.

The Syrian government newspaper, Tishrin, denounced Mr. Zibri's killing, saying, "it unveils the terrorist trends, hostile intentions and expansionist plans of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon."

Since fighting broke out last September, about 50 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks targeting suspected militants.

Load-Date: August 29, 2001

End of Document

**U.S., ISRAEL DISCUSS ARAB PLAN AS VIOLENCE PERSISTS;
PERES WILL MEET WITH POWELL, BUSH, SEEKING WAYS TO END
FIGHTING**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

May 2, 2001, Wednesday, THREE STAR EDITION

Copyright 2001 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: NEWS, Pg. A2

Length: 420 words

Dateline: RAMALLAH, WEST BANK DEATH; FATALITY; TERRORISM; VIOLENCE; FIGHTING HOLY WAR; LAND; PALESTINE; ISRAEL; SHOOTING VICTIM; BOMBING

Body

A Jewish settler, like his father before him, was slain Tuesday in an ambush on the same road. And Palestinians suffered two more deaths even as they buried five people, including a young brother and sister.

The violence came as Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres held talks in the United States about an Arab plan to stop the fighting now in its eighth month. The Egyptian-Jordanian proposal calls for a monthlong truce, to be followed by a resumption of peace negotiations. However, Israel wants a cease-fire to last two or three months before restarting negotiations.

Peres is scheduled to talk with Secretary of State Colin Powell today and will meet with President George W. Bush on Thursday.

In the West Bank, Jewish settler Assaf Hershkovitz, 31, was killed when his van was hit by 27 bullets and overturned on a stretch of road outside Ramallah that Palestinian gunmen have repeatedly targeted.

Hershkovitz's father, Arie, was killed in an almost identical shooting in January, just three miles from where his son died.

The Islamic militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for Tuesday's killing, saying it was revenge for the Palestinians killed in two bomb blasts Monday.

Assaf Hershkovitz was wearing a bulletproof vest, but was hit in the neck, his wife Hila said. She told her children, ages 3 and 5, that their father "was not coming home again. My (5-year-old) son asked if he was killed. He knew straightaway."

In further violence, two Palestinians were killed -- a policeman shot in a firefight with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip refugee camp of Rafah and a suspected informer for Israel ambushed by a masked assailant in the West Bank town of Qalqilya.

In Ramallah, several thousand chanting Palestinians marched through the streets to mourn the deaths of a Palestinian activist and two children killed when a two-story apartment building was leveled Monday night. The blast was several hundred yards from the West Bank headquarters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

U.S. , ISRAEL DISCUSS ARAB PLAN AS VIOLENCE PERSISTS; PERES WILL MEET WITH POWELL,
BUSH, SEEKING WAYS TO END FIGHTING

Malak Barakat, 4, and her brother Shahid, 7, died with Hassan al Qady, a leading member in Arafat's Fatah movement.

At Tuesday's funeral procession, children carried posters of the dead. **Women** wept. Men shouted, "Revenge for the martyrs," while members of the Palestinian security forces fired their automatic rifles into the air.

After the funeral, Palestinian militants and the Israeli army waged a heavy gunbattle at the edge of Ramallah, and Israeli troops fired tank shells to disperse Palestinian gunmen. No injuries were reported.

Graphic

PHOTO Photo from THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - An Israeli soldier stands Tuesday on the van of Jewish settler Assaf HersHKovitz, killed by Palestinian gunmen in the West Bank. HersHKovitz's father died in a similar shooting in January.

Load-Date: May 2, 2001

Rush hour bomb in street kills 4

Western Daily Press

March 5, 2001

WP LATE CITY

Copyright 2001 Bristol United Press

Section: World Today, Pg.41

Length: 477 words

Body

A PALESTINIAN militant who detonated a bomb during yesterday's morning rush hour in an Israeli city was one of four people killed, police said.

At least 45 people were wounded in the blast in Netanya.

The bomb exploded just before 9am (0700 GMT). The force hurled a car into the air, shattered shop windows and crumpled street stalls in the city's central market area.

"It was horrible, just horrible, " said William Weiss, a municipal worker. "There were hands, legs, flesh, and a head thrown around. It turned out that was apparently the terrorist's head."

The Israeli dead were an 85year-old man and two women, Israeli officials said.

The attack - days after a bombing in northern Israel and a foiled attempt in Tel Aviv - deepened a sense of despair in Israel.

Outgoing prime minister Ehud Barak told a Cabinet meeting that "perseverance is required of us, and any behaviour which does not reflect perseverance plays into the hands of the terrorists and to a certain extent encourages them".

Israel has been hit by multiple bombings since the IsraelPalestinian fighting began more than five months ago.

Militant Islamic groups have vowed to continue attacks in an attempt to undermine Barak's successor, Ariel Sharon, who could take power as early as this week.

Most of the casualties were Israelis, but Police Commissioner Shlomo Aharonishki confirmed the bomber was among the four people killed in the blast.

The bomber was in a group of people standing at a crossroads when the explosive detonated.

The bomb, which was in a bag, was relatively small, the commissioner told Israel radio.

He put the injury toll at 45, a figure that apparently included people suffering from shock.

Two of the wounded were in serious condition, according to paramedics.

Rush hour bomb in street kills 4

Several eyewitnesses said the bomber tried to get on a bus, but was prevented from doing so, then detonated the bomb on the street.

Sunday is a working day in Israel and the street was filled with people during the morning rush hour.

Driver Meir Mayos had just dropped off children at school and was refuelling his vehicle at a petrol station when the blast occurred.

"There was smoke everywhere. I saw two people lying on the ground. I went to give them first aid but they were dead," Mayos said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

"Up to this moment, we don't know which party committed this operation," **Hamas** spokesman Mahmoud Zahar said in the Gaza Strip.

He added: "Resistance will continue until we push the occupiers out of our land."

Israeli officials have accused Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat of allowing the attacks.

In a separate incident, a Palestinian man was seriously wounded when he was shot in the abdomen in the Gaza Strip.

The violence that erupted last year has left Israelis shaken and contributed to the collapse of Barak's government and the breakdown of peace talks.

Load-Date: March 6, 2001

Middle East toll hits 100

Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

October 12, 2000, Thursday

Copyright 2000 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 11

Length: 476 words

Body

TULKAREM, West Bank: A Palestinian teenager was shot dead by an Israeli bullet in the West Bank town of Tulkarem last night, bringing to 100 the number killed in two weeks of unrest across the troubled territories.

Hospital officials said Sami Hussein Salamah, 17, was shot in the heart during an incident near an Israeli army post, but further details were not immediately available.

Sporadic clashes broke out in some parts of the West Bank amid a frenzy of diplomatic activity to try to break the spiral of violence that has raged in the Palestinian territories for two weeks.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan appealed to Israel and the Palestinians to get back to the bargaining table and end the cycle of killing.

"The region has suffered enough," he said.

His efforts continued as United States President Bill Clinton spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat by phone, trying to find a proposal for a summit the two sides would accept.

"We've been working like crazy for the last several days to help do our part," Mr Clinton said in Washington. "I just have to believe they're not going to let this thing spin out of control."

Mr Barak has given Mr Arafat an ultimatum -- extended on Monday night by what he and aides said would be a few days -- to halt the violence or face heavy reprisal.

Jewish settlers and Palestinians traded gunfire in the north of the West Bank last night following the funeral of Hillel Lieberman -- a distant cousin of US vice-presidential hopeful Joseph Lieberman -- whose bullet-riddled body was found near Nablus at the weekend.

Israeli radio said Palestinians had opened fire on the funeral cortege, and settlers had fired back. Israeli soldiers escorting the cortege also opened fire, the radio said.

It said that three Israeli tanks had taken up position near the settlement at Eilon Moreh.

Four Jewish settlers had been hurt in stone-throwing incidents which preceded the gunfire.

In the West Bank flashpoint of Ramallah, 15 Palestinian rioters were taken to hospital after being hit by rubber bullets in a confrontation with Israeli soldiers.

Middle East toll hits 100

Around 150 youths were engaged in an ongoing stand-off with the troops during the afternoon, and had begun blocking a road with old car wrecks.

In Nablus, around 150 female supporters of the extremist Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas burned an effigy of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on which was painted a swastika and a Star of David. The women chanted, "Albright go to hell." They also urged Lebanese Muslim guerrilla group Hizbollah to destroy Tel Aviv.

At the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, 12-year-old Sami Abu Jazar was declared brain dead after being shot in the head during a stone-throwing clash, hospital officials said.

The army said its troops opened fire after a firebomb was thrown into its outpost, burning a soldier.

Load-Date: December 4, 2001

End of Document

Taleban training suicide squads to confront ground troops

The New Zealand Herald
November 8, 2001 Thursday

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Section: NEWS; World; Latest

Length: 524 words

Body

The Taleban are preparing to confront Allied ground troops in Afghanistan with a kamikaze-style suicide squad, according to sources in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, close to the Afghan border.

The special unit, which includes Afghan as well as Arab fighters, is being trained for suicide attacks, said Hamid Nawaz, a Pakistani journalist in touch with sources close to the Taleban regime.

The special squad of fedayeen fighters meaning those who are about to sacrifice themselves is being readied for action once the Allies have committed forces to a ground war.

The fedayeen squad is already in existence and its members have been spotted in several Taleban-controlled areas. The mastermind behind it is a shadowy Arab, Moroccan in origin, with family connections to leaders of the Palestinian organisation Al Fatah. He has persuaded Taleban leaders, who have never previously countenanced suicide operations, that the times demand them.

The last suicide operation inside Afghanistan was carried out on 9 September, two days before the attacks on America, but it was not the work of Afghans. Two Arabs posing as journalists assassinated Ahmed Shah Masood, the legendary leader of the Northern Alliance, by means of a bomb hidden in their video camera.

The assassins also died in the blast. It emerged this week that they had been hoping to wipe out the entire Northern Alliance leadership, but failed to persuade them to sit for a group photograph.

The 11 September suicide attacks on America by terrorists believed to be operating on instructions from Osama bin Laden were also carried out by Arabs the majority from Saudi Arabia.

The new squad has a distinctive look. Its members carry Russian AK-83 or German HK-MP5 assault rifles rather than the Taleban's standard issue AK-45s, and wear strips on their chests embroidered with verses from the Koran. Their vehicles also have distinctive livery, though exactly what remains secret.

No Afghans have been involved in suicide operations before because the Hanafi school of Islam, to which most Taleban subscribe, forbids it. The rival Hanbali school believes such attacks are permissible in emergencies, hence the **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad fighters who blow themselves up in Israeli pizza parlours and discotheques, and the Kashmiri fedayeen squads which fight their way into Indian army installations in the Himalayan territory and wreak as much havoc as they can before they are shot dead. The overwhelming military might of the US and its allies seem to have persuaded the Taleban to revise their opinions and permit suicide attacks.

Taleban training suicide squads to confront ground troops

The leaders of the 11 September attacks seem to have followed the pattern of Japan's Second World War kamikaze pilots who steeled themselves for certain death with the help of strong drink and barbiturates and allowed young women to throw themselves upon them on the eve of operations.

The Allies may draw heart from this: the Japanese only adopted kamikaze tactics in January 1945, when defeat stared them in the face. But it adds one more dire menace for ground troops to overcome in the world's most daunting battlefield.

- <http://www.independent.co.uk> INDEPENDENT

Load-Date: December 18, 2002

End of Document

Jewish worshippers under fire

The Australian

October 5, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 7

Length: 521 words

Byline: * A correspondent in Jerusalem

Body

PALESTINIAN gunmen yesterday fired on Jewish pilgrims in the West Bank, wounding two women, as tensions flared on a day of funerals after a raid on a Jewish settlement and an Israeli army backlash.

A spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said the ongoing violence proved Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was not serious about the truce pushed through by the US.

"Unfortunately, Yasser Arafat has made a complete mockery of the ceasefire that we have attempted to implement," spokesman Dore Gold said.

AFP

"Today we had an attack in Hebron against Jewish worshippers, yesterday we had an armed assault against an Israeli civilian settlement with gunmen trying to kill as many civilians as they could," he said.

Two Israeli women were wounded, one seriously, when Palestinian militants fired into a crowd of hundreds of worshippers gathered for a Jewish festival in the flashpoint West Bank town of Hebron, witnesses said.

The shots came from the Palestinian district of Abu Sneina on a hill overlooking the centre of the town where 400 Jewish settlers live surrounded by heavy army protection.

The Popular Army Front Return Battalions, a Palestinian group which has claimed several bloody anti-Israeli attacks in past months, said it carried out the Hebron shootings.

The attack was revenge for the Israeli army's onslaught earlier the same day against self-rule Gaza City, the group said.

Thousands of Israelis had flocked to the Tomb of the Patriarchs in the centre of Hebron for the holiday of Sukkot. The disputed site is holy to Jews and Muslims.

The attack came as tensions flared across the region following the raid by two Palestinian Islamic militants on a Jewish settlement in the northern Gaza Strip late on Tuesday.

The Hamas militants killed two young settlers and injured 15 more before Israeli troops shot them dead.

Israel launched an incursion with tanks into Palestinian-held Gaza early on Wednesday, killing six more Palestinians.

Jewish worshippers under fire

While Israel and the Palestinians buried their slain against a backdrop of day-long fighting in the northern Gaza Strip, Lebanese guerillas fired on Israeli army positions on the Jewish state's northern border.

The Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim group Hezbollah, which is backed by Syria and Iran, said it aimed to add the movement's weight to efforts to "liberate the occupied territories".

There were no reports of casualties from either side in the first such cross-border clash since July.

The return to violence after a week-long effort to patch together a truce deal severely undermined Washington's diplomatic offensive to form its global coalition against terror suspects.

The truce was already creaking after a weekend of conflict surrounding the first anniversary of the Palestinian uprising which has now left 850 dead, most of them Palestinians.

Mr Arafat condemned the settlement raid as an "aggression against the ceasefire".

Meanwhile, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of three Palestine Liberation Organisation factions, on Wednesday elected Ahmad Sadat, a radical, as its leader, replacing the former chief assassinated by Israel in August.

Load-Date: October 4, 2001

BOMBERS DON'T FIT 'FANATIC' PROFILE

Sunday Business

September 16, 2001

Copyright 2001 Sunday Business Group

Section: Pg. 10

Length: 511 words

Byline: Shyam Bhatia;

Body

If the Israeli experience is anything to go by, the US authorities will have their work cut out trying to understand the motivations of the desperate men who launched "the first war of the 21st century".

Until recently, Israelis believed they had a clear profile of the average Palestinian suicide bomber. Based on their eight-year experience of suicide bombings, which have killed more than 250 people, the Israelis believed they were usually bachelors in their twenties, known to be devout Muslims.

But two cases have completely changed the picture, making it all the more difficult for Israelis to identify potential bombers. This is also perhaps why the Americans failed to pinpoint the 18 suicide bombers responsible for the carnage in America.

Israeli security forces arrested Samir Toubasi, a 19- year-old Palestinian from Jenin refugee camp in the northern part of the West Bank. He was caught en route to a suicide attack in Haifa.

Israeli Shin Bet interrogators make no secret of their astonishment after discovering Toubasi's identity. They had heard of him, but only as an aggressively secular teenager who had never been seen inside a mosque.

Asked why he had agreed to blow himself up and kill Israelis, Toubasi replied: "I was simply fed up with life. I could not find work, I had no money and I was bored."

His arrest has forced Israeli forces to widen their surveillance. They no longer look for the suiciders in mosques and religious gatherings.

Just as the Israelis were adjusting to this new trend, something more shocking confronted them. For the first time, a suicide bomber, who blew himself up at a railway station in northern Israel, turned out to be a middle-aged family man with two wives and several children. Saleh Hbaishi, 46, shared none of the characteristics of previous suicide candidates. Everything in him was the opposite of the profile drawn up by Israeli security. He was both a family man and an Israeli citizen.

These two cases show that the circle of suicide bombers has been sufficiently enlarged so that anyone from a community under pressure is a potential recruit.

"All Palestinians should be regarded as potential suicide bombers," says Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a leader of the Islamic resistance in Gaza. "The greater the oppression against our people, the larger the number determined to fight back."

BOMBERS DON'T FIT 'FANATIC' PROFILE

Israelis are now concerned that the next bomber could be a woman. According to Israeli security sources in Jerusalem, there is growing evidence that some Palestinian groups are now trying to prepare women.

Earlier this month, the Israeli army thwarted yet another attempt by a Palestinian to blow himself up next to a Jewish settlement. Unique in this case was the political affiliation of the would-be suicide.

Unlike most of the others, he was a member of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. This means the circle has widened again so as to include other political groups who owe no allegiance to Islamic fundamentalists.

"A suicide bomber is worth 1,000 tanks," says Ismail Abu Shanab, another Hamas leader.

Load-Date: September 17, 2001

End of Document

READER OPINIONS

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

December 6, 2001 Thursday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: Editorial;; Letters

Length: 1207 words

Byline: DAVE MONTGOMERY, DEBBI LOOMIS, JEFF JOSEPH, JEANNETTE LEWIS, W.G. MAXWELL III, KIRBY LAWRENCE HILL, LARA DEEB, STEVE LEWIS, RANI EL-HAJJAR

Body

Atlantans receive high-quality water

The recent editorial on Atlanta water made some very valid points ("Atlanta City Hall would benefit from competition," Nov. 21). In regard, however, to United Water Services Atlanta, the observations were off the mark.

First, Atlanta does not have a "mangled water system." Rather, Atlanta has a very old system due for significant reinvestment in the basic infrastructure. That system deterioration occurred long before UWSA became manager of water operations and, in fact, has undergone significant improvements since.

For the Journal-Constitution

Second, the very same concept of competition the AJC praises in its editorial underscored the process through which UWSA became the operator of the city's water system. Far from removing oversight, the contract calls for ongoing operational review.

Last, we must take particularly strong exception to the baseless claim that Atlanta's water quality is in question. There is no such questioning concerning the quality of the drinking water UWSA produces for its customers. Our water continually meets or exceeds all federal and state water quality standards. DAVE MONTGOMERY Montgomery is vice president and general manager of the United Water Services of Atlanta.

Tribunals' use in past doesn't justify them

Mona Charen seems determined to return to a past era of American society where average citizens were not allowed to question the decisions of their government ("Protecting terrorists' rights endangers ours," @issue, Nov. 28). I believe that we study the past so as not to repeat the same mistakes in the future.

Charen would have us embrace military tribunals because they were used by past presidents. Should we also drop atomic bombs on cities filled with innocent civilians as we did during World War II? Should we allow military personnel to destroy villages and kill women and children as we did during Vietnam? DEBBI LOOMIS, Decatur

Will UGA have smart football stars?

READER OPINIONS

It was nice of professor Jim Wooten to let us all know how it would now be much better to not only include pure academic scores for 80 to 90 percent of UGA admissions, but that also it wouldn't be a problem to then let the university "decide what its interests dictate," in terms of legacies, gender, geography, socioeconomic status, family history, or any other factor ("Admission rules at UGA must be clear," @issue, Dec. 4).

If UGA is honestly going to stick to just grade-point average and SAT scores, then the occurrence of the "partial-qualifier" scholarship football player will seemingly go out the door --- along with a whole host of other applicants who didn't fully meet the "grade/score-only" standard. Can conservatives handle the vagaries of having intelligent football players --- a la Duke, Vanderbilt, Rice or Stanford?

JEFF JOSEPH, Smyrna

Deregulation only boosted prices

George Devlin's column on deregulation of natural gas inaccurately asserted that budget billing was not available until after customer choice ("Stick with gas deregulation," @issue, Dec. 4).

I had enjoyed budget billing for years with Atlanta Gas Light. The only difference is that I had to wait a year to have it offered and the monthly amount was increased from \$51 to \$78. Deregulation has increased my gas cost more than 25 percent. JEANNETTE LEWIS, Milledgeville

Industrial tree farms aren't a true ecosystem

Regarding a recent letter on forests (" 'True forests' can be harvested, replanted," Dec. 3): The statement that a "cornfield of loblolly pine trees" is a true forest would be laughable if it weren't such a sad and ignorant statement. These industrial tree farms are not a true, functioning ecosystem. A true forest has a diversity of plant life in various stages of growth. It even encompasses the dead and decaying trees, which serve their own purpose in this ecosystem. A true forest supports a variety of wildlife that feeds on mast crops, from squirrels to deer to turkey. Even the lowly, but necessary, insects need this diversity.

Clear-cutting is an abomination. W.G. MAXWELL III, Powder Springs

Middle East conflict: Blame not so easily pinpointed

Any event in Israeli-Palestinian relations is open to varied interpretations.

So it is with editorial cartoonist Mike Luckovich's Dec. 4 cartoon. Is Hamas operating behind Arafat's back, or is Yasser Arafat going through the motions of pursuing peace while actually participating in violent attacks against Israeli citizens?

Certainly the suicide bombings that killed and wounded so many civilians are heinous acts counterproductive to any hope for a just peace. But whereas Arafat's culpability is questionable, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has definitely taken actions through the government's army and agencies that most of the world views as damaging the prospects for peace.

Perhaps the cartoon would have told more of the story if it had shown Sharon, with pockets overflowing with U.S. dollars, using his two-fingered peace sign to poke Arafat in the eyes. KIRBY LAWRENCE HILL, Lithonia

Palestinians didn't start the violence

Anyone harboring illusions that the phrase "violence breeds violence" had become a trite truism would be quickly corrected by reading coverage of the recent tragic developments in Palestine/Israel --- coverage that could lead one to believe, incorrectly, that all the violence began with Palestinians killing Israelis.

READER OPINIONS

No, this cycle of violence stretches back for decades, and its key factor is the simple yet for some reason unacknowledged fact that Israel is an occupying and colonial force. One would think that Ariel Sharon's continuing policies of settlement-building, land-confiscation and military repression of Palestinians would have made this clear. But --- paraphrasing British journalist Robert Fisk --- this is the "last colonial war" --- a war where media coverage follows rules set by the colonizer and its supporters. LARA DEEB, Atlanta

State of Israel isn't a new creation

A recent letter asserts that before the U.N. resolution creating the state of Israel, "there was no Palestinian delegation" ("Israeli aggression spawned retaliation," Dec. 5). Could that be because the term "Palestinian" was never used to describe Arab refugees before 1967?

The letter goes on to assert that "there was no Israel before the U.N. resolution." I beg to differ: Israel became a nation 2,000 years before the rise of Islam, and it has always considered Jerusalem its capital. The Jews have had a continuous presence in the land for 3,300 years; the only Arab dominion of the land since the conquest in 635 lasted no more than 22 years. STEVE LEWIS, Alpharetta

Sharon's policies prevent hopes for peace

Readers of the AJC are being kept in the dark about an extremely important issue as the United States moves ahead in its wars. Implications both here and abroad are being marginalized by such bias that only seems to benefit the right-wing Israeli government led by Ariel Sharon. It is Sharon's policy that continues to deny Palestinians their right to freedom, confiscates their land for new settlements and strangles the Palestinians by maintaining the occupation.

Pick up a mainstream European, African, South American, Chinese or Indian paper and you'll know what I mean. RANI EL-HAJJAR, Atlanta

Graphic

Graphic:

Illustration of Yasser Arafat making a peace sign with his fingers. Behind him, a **Hamas** member uses the fingers as a slingshot for a bomb.

Load-Date: December 6, 2001

Letters from readers

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

November 30, 2001, Friday, Metro Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. 32A

Length: 1213 words

Body

RSEC: That's audacity

In response to your Nov. 28 editorial demanding that pressure be applied to Israel's prime minister, you may wish to consider the implications of that wonderful Yiddish word, "chutzpah."

From the moment that Israel declared its statehood, its Arab neighbors acted to destroy the nation and its people. With honorable exceptions, this intent has been confirmed in both word and deed for over a half-century.

But good news! The Israelis need no longer be concerned with long-range security matters. They only need to yield "enough" and their Arab neighbors will welcome them into a happy and stable Mideast community.

And how can the Israelis be sure that their "good conduct" will be rewarded with this change of heart? Why, they need only ignore the rhetoric that threatens to annihilate them and simply verify the inevitable brighter day with the editorial board of the Star Tribune.

"Chutzpah," maybe?

_ William A. Neiman, Edina.

Israel's war on terrorism

Your Nov. 28 editorial directed toward Israel's recent actions and the Middle East peace process was illogical and offensive. By use of juxtaposition, you appear to equate the assassination of a top **Hamas** leader responsible for the killing and maiming of numerous innocent civilians with what you term its "inevitable retribution," the machine-gunning of Israeli citizens at a bus station.

Israel is fighting a war against terrorism that makes our war against terrorism _ which has the near-unanimous approval of the American public _ look like a walk in the park. We don't have suicide bombers blowing themselves up in shopping malls, restaurants and bus stations on a regular basis (thank God). The timing of a hit against the Bin Ladins, Stalins and Hitlers of this world should not, and cannot, wait for the most politically expedient moment. You take them out when the opportunity presents itself. Shame on you.

_ Charles Horowitz, Hopkins.

President Bush, like Israel, sees there is no room for compromise when dealing with terrorists. **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, groups tolerated by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, are on the United States' known terror organization list. We cannot continue to reward terrorism because there is no good terrorism to reward.

Letters from readers

Arafat has worked with five different Israeli prime ministers. He walked away from an amazing deal at last year's Camp David summit. It's crystal clear whom the United States must press to lead to peace talks.

_ Cindy Katz, Minnetonka.

When the heart hardens

We Semites, both Jew and Arab alike, know the certain defeat of a so-called negotiation based on "hardening." Look to the book of Exodus to Pharaoh hardening his heart against biblical Moses' demand to let the Hebrews leave Egypt. To demand that "American policy needs to harden" will invite catastrophe; it's happened before.

Thus the editorial "Challenge Sharon/U.S. must press him to lead" is a failure as a call to action. It is filled with the very language of harshness and hardness that it criticizes in Ariel Sharon's current policies! It uses the power of the pen as a sword to incite further retreat from solution. How sad, that the final sentence is full of threatening and insulting language that Israel's leaders don't distinguish between U.S. political leadership and Yasser Arafat.

Shame on you for reporting example upon example of Sharon's apparent intractability without a sane breath of context to give broader and fairer meaning. Your heart is surely hardened, too.

_ Batya Spector, St. Paul.

Pride in America

At last we have an answer to the inferred question, "Why do they love us?" (Yes, some people do.) Listen up, all you self-flagellating apologist writers. The answer is on page A8 of the Nov. 28 Star Tribune in the Boston Globe article, "Despite new rulers, women will face some of same woes."

According to Nasim Barkzai, a U.N. receptionist, "All the women say, 'Long live America' for helping us. In reality, they are saying 'Rescue us from this hell.' "

While I'm not always a fan of Katherine Kersten, her Nov. 27 Commentary article is worth the price of a month's papers. She, too, demonstrates pride in America from a very in-depth, worldly perspective.

_ Vivian Mann, Golden Valley.

Semper fidelis

It saddens me to hear several national news networks refer to Johnny Michael Spann, the CIA agent killed recently in Afghanistan, as a "former Marine." Anyone who has served in the Corps knows that there is no such thing. In his death, Spann made his fellow Marines and his country proud. Honor him. He will always be a Marine.

_ Mark R. Fenwick, Minnetonka.

Therapeutic cloning

In your Nov. 26 article "A first in human cloning," Richard Doerflinger warns that the day is coming when spare parts for humans may be available from embryos. Instead of a warning, it should be a celebration!

If ideas like his prevailed, we would be ignoring everything from broken bones to brain tumors because they are "God's Plan."

_ Richard W. Duncan, Minnetonka.

A plea to Pohlrad

Letters from readers

I deplore the baseball owners and the players' union for their selfishness. I love baseball with a passion that has become more intense since recent talk of contraction. I have been looking for signs that Twins owner Carl Pohlad also has a passion for the game.

I ask myself, "For the sake of the game" would I sell the team? Is this the honorable thing to do? To deny us of finding a solution when he couldn't? To split apart the team from its fans?

A recent article cited that baseball owners lost \$500 million this last year when the Texas owner paid \$100 million over the next bidder for Alex Rodriguez. Let the Rangers owner live with his decision. Let Arizona falter for its poor spending decisions. Let Florida suffer for being greatly in debt. Our team is not in debt. Is getting rid of it the honorable thing to do? Mr. Pohlad, sell our team to someone else who can make a difference. That would be the honorable thing to do.

_ Mark Voorhees, Eden Prairie.

Ratify the contracts

If Carol Molnau, R-Cologne, thinks that providing health benefits for domestic partners of gay and lesbian state workers is discriminatory (Star Tribune, Nov. 28), I hope that she is indignant over the discrimination that prohibits gays and lesbians from being married.

Perhaps Molnau could draft legislation to change this. Then the existing health benefits for spouses would be available to all married couples, solving the issue of discrimination. Until that happens, she should ratify the employment contracts that have been negotiated.

_ Jim Kelley, Minneapolis.

Good work

We always hear of the horrors of being tagged and towed during a snow emergency. It's expensive and inconvenient, and it's never our fault.

After the start of this first snow emergency of the season, I saw the Minneapolis Police Department tagging cars parked on Bloomington Avenue. Hats off to the officer for removing tags when the owners came out to move their cars while she was still there. This is service above and beyond, but not unusual. No one complained about the tickets and were probably just glad to not have been towed, but the officer removed the tags and left.

_ Michael Brogan, Minneapolis.

Graphic

CARTOON

Load-Date: November 30, 2001

**SHARON HIDES HIS FAILURE WITH CLICHES OF 'TERROR';
BRUTALISED AND SUBJUGATED, PALESTINIANS HAVE LOST THE ONE
THING THAT KEPT THEM IN THEIR PLACE: FEAR**

Independent on Sunday (London)

August 12, 2001, Sunday

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Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 18

Length: 1199 words

Byline: Robert Fisk Palestinian legislator Hanan Ashrawi joins a demonstration outside; Orient House, the PLO headquarters in East Jerusalem, which was occupied by the Israelis last week REUTERS

Body

In just one paragraph last week, Ariel Sharon, the Israeli prime minister, used the word "terrorism" five times. Terror. Terrorism. Global terror. International terror. Arab terror, of course. Even the BBC was back using the Israeli lexicon, its reporter at the funerals of the Israelis murdered in last week's suicide bombing talking about "Palestinian terrorism"; it's not a word that the BBC used when an Israeli settlers group murdered a Palestinian baby and two other members of its family just over a week ago. "Terror" is now both an Israeli punctuation mark and a definition, an all-purpose escape clause and a form of delusion.

For it conceals from the Israelis as well as the world an important truth about the Palestinian-Israeli war which is only now emerging: that the Palestinians are no longer afraid. This is the fundamental lesson that the Israelis have not yet understood and which the US administration - forever hoping that Mr Sharon can "crack down" on the Palestinians hard enough to make them come to heel, but softly enough to avoid any massacres - has not grasped. Ehud Barak was promising to break the intifada last October. Ariel Sharon was elected in February promising "security" for Israel. Barak failed. And now so has Sharon.

Last week's wicked suicide bombing in Jerusalem was not just a sign of Palestinian cruelty. It was also a catastrophic failure on the part of the Israeli police and army. Throughout last week, every Arab found on his own in the area of Jaffa Street was being arrested and questioned. Just two days before the pizzeria slaughter, I saw soldiers haul a Palestinian worker to the side of Ben Jehuda Street - 200 yards from the restaurant - and only 24 hours before the bombing, I watched seven Palestinians being lined up for interrogation by Israeli border police in a side road. Yet on Thursday, a Palestinian weighed down with explosives and nails managed to walk into a cafe packed with Israeli women and children.

True, the Israelis have prevented several bombings. The Israeli murder of a Hamas member in Tulkarem just over a week ago may well have stopped a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv. But in the end, the suicide bomber always gets through. The Palestinian celebrations - the joy-shooting, the sweets, the dancing in the refugee camps in Lebanon - were grotesque, obscene. But in their terrible way, they contained a fearful message: that Israelis, however innocent, however young, can be made to suffer, just as Palestinian innocents have been made to suffer.

This may still not be apparent to the Israelis themselves. When Palestinian children were gunned down by Israeli soldiers for throwing stones - or for being in an area where stones were being thrown - Israeli spokesmen invented

SHARON HIDES HIS FAILURE WITH CLICHES OF 'TERROR'; BRUTALISED AND SUBJUGATED,
PALESTINIANS HAVE LOST THE ONE THING THAT KEPT THEM IN THEIR PLACE: FEAR

the myth of "child sacrifice". Palestinians, they would have us believe, were deliberately sending their dearly beloved sons and daughters to their deaths for that arch "terrorist" Yasser Arafat. On Friday night, Dore Gold, the Israeli government spokesman, announced that Mr Arafat's Palestinians - there apparently being no difference between the Palestinian Authority, Hamas and Islamic Jihad - were deliberately targeting Israeli children. Thus when Palestinian children died, it was the fault of Mr Arafat. When Israeli children died, it was the fault of Mr Arafat.

The truth, however, is that Israel is going through a delusional crisis. Refusing to acknowledge that their troops are occupying somebody else's land, that their Jewish settlers - the French word *colons* is more accurate, for this is a colonial exercise - are building houses on Arab land at an ever-expanding rate, that they have always refused to allow Palestinians a capital in the smallest part of Jerusalem, Israelis have convinced themselves that they are under siege.

What is really happening is that the old modalities have collapsed. For years after the 1967 war which brought the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights under Israeli occupation, Palestinians existed in a state of vegetative humiliation. They worked for their new Israeli masters, they built Jewish settlements on Palestinian land for their Israeli masters. They worked as collaborators on a massive scale. I remember, in 1976, meeting in Jerusalem two Palestinians openly employed as "policemen" by Israel. In southern Lebanon, the smallest Israeli incursion would send Palestinian guerrillas fleeing northwards towards Beirut in panic. If it was a Saturday, they would arrive, clutching their rifles, and pack themselves into Beirut's cinemas for the matinee performance, especially if the movie was a war film. Loud on rhetoric, low on courage, the Palestinians did what the Israelis wanted them to do. They were largely quiescent, humbled, obedient.

Whether Lebanon changed this - the example of Hizbollah's defeat of the Israeli army is still the subject of daily conversation in Gaza - or whether their own dispossession and defeat simply grew too much to stomach, the Palestinians slowly understood that they no longer needed to obey. Thus, after the initial killing of Palestinian stone-throwers last year, the Palestinians began shooting back. Israeli tank attacks were met by Palestinian mortar fire. Palestinian suicide bombings were met by Israeli death squads, who were met by more Palestinian suicide bombing. President Bush's favourite cliché - the "cycle of violence" - is accurate. In the old days, any Palestinian who dared to resist Israel was ruthlessly crushed. There was no "cycle"; merely repression. The language of force, the Israelis called it then. Mr Sharon believed in it.

When he practised it in Lebanon in 1982, it turned into a tragedy for Israel as well as for the Lebanese and Palestinians. But Mr Sharon didn't learn. The old man still believes in "teaching the Palestinians a lesson" - even though this involves re-teaching the same lesson to that other old man of the Lebanon war, Mr Arafat. But the lesson is disregarded. The Israeli public would like a re-occupation of the entire West Bank and Gaza - since Israel is supposedly under Palestinian "siege", they do not apparently understand that most of the West Bank and Gaza is occupied anyway - and, in the sinister words of an Israeli who escaped last week's bombing, a "sterilisation" of Palestinian territories. Senior Israeli army officers realise this would be madness.

So Mr Sharon is left astride two powerful animals, his right-wing supporters and his army, which is why his "retaliation" for Thursday's bombing involved the destruction of an empty police barracks and the seizure of the one institution in Jerusalem that might have helped restore a peace: Orient House. If Mr Arafat promised his people a nation and failed to deliver, so Mr Sharon promised his people security - and failed to deliver.

The problem is one which Israelis will eventually have to face. When a people lose their fear, they are never afraid again. You cannot re-inject a subject people with fear once they have lost it. An all-powerful Israel thus finds itself confronting a vulnerable but unsubmissive subject population. And as every belligerent knows, once your antagonist has lost his fear, the war is unwinnable.

SHARON HIDES HIS FAILURE WITH CLICHES OF 'TERROR'; BRUTALISED AND SUBJUGATED,
PALESTINIANS HAVE LOST THE ONE THING THAT KEPT THEM IN THEIR PLACE: FEAR

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Sirens, silence, violence: 5 killed as Palestinians mark 1948 anniversary

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 16, 2001 Wednesday

FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS,

Length: 487 words

Byline: BARBARA DEMICK

Dateline: RAMALLAH, West Bank

Body

From schoolgirls in candy-striped uniforms to masked paramilitary members with Kalashnikovs, a wide swath of Palestinian society took to the streets yesterday in mass demonstrations marking the 53rd anniversary of Israel's founding and the displacement of Palestinian refugees in the ensuing Arab-Israeli war.

The annual day of mourning known as "al naqba" - the catastrophe in Arabic - began at noon with sirens, the sound of the meuzin and three minutes of silence. Marchers stood quietly and motorists got out of their cars. Tens of thousands gathered in city and town squares throughout the occupied West Bank and Gaza, listening to speeches and chanting anti-Israeli slogans. Some Palestinians flashed victory signs and others pressed their right hand to their heart.

Philadelphia Inquirer; AP and The Chicago Tribune, contributed to this report

Soon, however, the women and children dispersed and the demonstrations turned into clashes, as young men marched on Israeli checkpoints.

By the end of the day, the toll was four Palestinian and one Israeli dead, which was deemed lighter than expected given current high tensions and the quantity of blood spilled. Israeli troops tightened security ahead of al naqba, which comes on eight months of violence that have killed 449 Palestinians and Israeli Arabs and 77 Jews.

In the Gaza Strip, a bodyguard for the founder of the Islamic militant group Hamas was killed by Israeli tank fire after shooting a mortar round at Israeli targets, the army and Palestinian officials said. A second bodyguard for Sheikh Ahmed Yassin was critically wounded.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat left Gaza City to attend meetings in Egypt, eliciting criticism from Israelis who said he was dodging responsibility for violence and from Palestinians who felt his place was among them.

Arafat, referring to the intifadah against Israel, said his people would not surrender. "Faith, faith, courage, courage, stand strong in the face of this increasing aggression, for the sake of freedom," Arafat said in a taped speech broadcast on Palestinian television and over loudspeakers in town squares.

Arafat also embraced the recommendation of a commission headed by former Maine senator George Mitchell that Israel freeze construction in Jewish settlements as a gesture to restore calm.

Sirens, silence, violence: 5 killed as Palestinians mark 1948 anniversary

Yesterday's mood was inflamed by the killing the day before of five Palestinian border police manning a checkpoint in Beitunia, a village between Jerusalem and Ramallah. Funerals for the police were yesterday.

Raanan Gissin, a spokesman and adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said the violence proved that the Palestinians had learned little in the half-century since

Israel was created on May 15, 1948, and immediately invaded by neighbouring Arab states.

"This is the 53rd anniversary of the so-called 'calamity,' so maybe they should stop repeating the mistakes of the past. They should learn that violence gets them nothing," Gissin said.

Graphic

Photo: MOHAMMED SABER, AP ; A masked Palestinian woman from, the Fatah movement attends the funeral of Mohammad Khaldi and, Mohammad Abu Dawood, who police killed in Rammalah on Monday. ;, Photo: EITAN HESS-ASHKENAZI, AP ; An Israeli soldier questions a, Palestinian driver at a checkpoint between Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Load-Date: May 16, 2001

End of Document

In Brief

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)
February 8, 2000 Tuesday Final Edition

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Section: CANADA;WORLD; Pg. C05; Brief

Length: 496 words

Body

CANADA

Austrian government placed 'on probation'

OTTAWA -- Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said yesterday that Canadian diplomats and officials will avoid bilateral contacts with Austria, putting that country's coalition government "on probation."

Last week, with Axworthy out of the country, Foreign Affairs officials stepped gingerly around the matter, saying only that they were watching Austria's new coalition government, which includes a hard-right faction accused of holding extremist views.

Yesterday, Axworthy met Jaime Gama, foreign minister of Portugal, which has just assumed the presidency of the European Union, and Christopher Patten, the union's commissioner for external affairs.

Spectator News Services

2 teens shot at mall in Mississauga

MISSISSAUGA -- Police are searching for four suspects after two teenagers were shot yesterday afternoon outside a mall. One teen was shot in the hand, the other was shot in the lower leg just after 3:40 p.m.

Sgt. John Betts said several witnesses saw the two male victims arguing with four others earlier in the afternoon. Betts said the teens left the mall and moments later, one pulled out a handgun and fired two to six shots.

The suspects fled from the parking lot while the victims, both 17, returned to the mall. The victims were treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

Retailers said the suspects looked familiar.

WORLD

Palestinians freeze Israeli peace talks

JERUSALEM -- The Palestinian Authority froze peace talks with the Israelis yesterday and released from prison a charismatic Islamic fundamentalist leader from Gaza who is an outspoken opponent of the peace effort and of the authority.

In Brief

Israeli and U.S. officials interpreted the release of Dr. Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, a senior Hamas official, as a provocative and intentional coincidence with the suspension of the peace negotiations. But Palestinian officials disagreed with their interpretation, saying that Rantisi, a 52-year-old pediatrician, had been held for nearly two years without charges and was due to be released.

Croats elect populist as their new president

ZAGREB, Croatia -- Populist leader Stipe Mesic, who pledged to lead Croatia away from its authoritarian past, won the country's presidential election yesterday. His opponent in the runoff ballot conceded the race hours before first results were announced.

Unofficial results showed Mesic with a 10 per cent lead in the race to succeed Franjo Tudjman, who led the country to independence in 1991.

Finland elects first woman president

HELSINKI -- The country which first gave women the right to vote in 1906 has just elected its first woman president. Finnish President Tarja Halonen says the first thing she will do will be to take a holiday with her long-time companion. Then they might get married. Over the years the left-wing activist, beloved of the trades unions and once a fan of Che Guevara, has become a mainstream Nordic socialist and an enthusiastic supporter of the European Union (EU).

Load-Date: October 17, 2002

End of Document

ARAFAT ORDERS HALT TO BLOODSHED

The Toronto Star

June 3, 2001, Sunday, Edition 1

Copyright 2001 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS

Length: 1157 words

Body

Sandro Contenta TEL AVIV - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has ordered an "immediate and unconditional" ceasefire as Israeli rage over a horrific suicide bomb attack burst on to the streets.

At least four Israeli Arabs were mobbed - and barely escaped with their lives - as thousands gathered to vent their fury and pour out their grief at the seaside site of Friday night's bombing. Eighteen people were killed, including the bomber, and 90 injured.

It was the deadliest suicide bomb attack by a Palestinian extremist in five years. Most of the dead were teenagers from the former Soviet Union - many of them young women waiting to enter a popular nightclub advertising a free "ladies' night."

In front of the club yesterday, grief-stricken Israelis set up a shrine to the 16 Israelis and one Ukrainian tourist who were slaughtered in the attack.

Large bouquets of flowers surrounded dozens of candles that people quietly lit and prayed over. On one bouquet, someone left a postcard: "Our hearts go out to all the families that have suffered and lost children, brothers and sisters."

The outrage and shock over the attack seems to have brought eight months of Palestinian-Israeli violence to a crossroads, between the slim chance for a cooling off period, and a massive escalation.

Late yesterday, Palestinian security officials said Arafat had ordered all police, security and field commanders to immediately implement a ceasefire. The orders were also sent to all "Palestinian national and Islamic factions."

"We exerted and we will now exert our utmost efforts to stop the bloodshed of our people and the Israeli people and to do all that is needed to achieve an immediate and unconditional, real and effective ceasefire," Arafat said in a televised statement.

The militant group Hamas, however, said: "As long as there is an occupation, the intifada (uprising) will continue."

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is under enormous internal pressure to end his two-week policy of restraint, and hit back hard with Israel's superior military might.

"Just wait and see," said Tel Aviv resident Perry Mroz, 55. "In 12 hours, in 24 hours, we're going to nail them good - no more games."

ARAFAT ORDERS HALT TO BLOODSHED

Mroz was standing with thousands of angry Israelis, who threw stones and laid siege to several Israeli Arabs trapped inside a mosque near the bomb site.

As Israelis expressed their outrage, Palestinians waited in fear for Israel's response. Arafat's Palestinian Authority ordered its employees to leave their offices, fearing air strikes, and in the West Bank town of Nablus, residents were urged to stay indoors.

Last month, Sharon sent F-16 war planes to bomb security sites in Palestinian- controlled towns, killing 12 Palestinians, in retaliation for a suicide bomb attack in the Israeli coastal town of Netanya.

Sharon met twice with his security cabinet yesterday. The Voice of Israel radio cited Israeli political sources saying the cabinet has given Arafat "a few more hours" to prove he's serious about a ceasefire.

"We're sick and tired of his declarations," said Sharon spokesperson Ranaan Gissin. "We're still waiting for his actions, for his steps to stop the terror and the violence and the incitement he initiated eight months ago."

In a statement yesterday, Israel's security cabinet accused Arafat and his Palestinian Authority of heading a "coalition of terror," and vowed to take "every necessary step" to protect the lives of its citizens.

The cabinet didn't say what measures it would take, but the Israeli army immediately tightened its military siege of Palestinian-controlled enclaves in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, barring residents from entering or leaving.

Arafat has firm control over gunmen in his Fatah militia, largely responsible for shooting at Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank. But he doesn't control the militant Hamas and Islamic Jihad - responsible for scores of car bombs and suicide attacks - and several other militias.

Friday's bombing brought the death toll to at least 450 Palestinians, 108 Israelis and 13 Israeli Arabs killed since a Palestinian revolt erupted last September against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Across the street from the blast site, Israeli police tried to keep a large crowd chanting "Death to Arabs" from attacking a mosque. Their anger was stoked by rumours that the suicide bomber was harboured inside the mosque before unleashing a devastating bomb packed with nails, screws and ball- bearings.

At one point, the crowd swarmed a car driven by an Arab, pounding its hood and smashing its windows. The Arab driver hit the gas, plowed through the crowd, and people dove for cover. The driver came to an abrupt halt when he hit an elderly man, who bounced off the hood and fell with his legs under the car.

The mob again attacked the car, and for a terrifying moment, death seemed certain - to save his life, the Arab driver would have to run over the elderly man. As the driver hit the gas, the elderly man somehow rolled over and the front wheel only grazed him.

As the driver sped off, the mob immediately swarmed a van driven by another Arab. He too plowed through the crowd, and an Israeli swung a large wooden club, smashing the driver's window and grazing his head. The driver screeched around a corner, hitting an Israeli on a scooter, sending him sprawling on the road.

Later, two other Arabs were beaten by the crowd and rescued by Israeli police. Police scuffled with the protesters throughout the day. In all, 11 people were injured, and several Israelis arrested.

"Is it written in the Qur'an that you must kill children?" Yossi Harari, 50, shouted at the handful of Israeli Arabs standing at the mosque's entrance, behind a walled courtyard.

Among the anger and calls for reprisals, there was also despair.

"We've been fighting for 50 years. It's never going to stop," said Haim Messery, a 44-year-old contractor. "We can go crazy and retaliate all we want, but it won't help. We hit them, they hit us, and it goes on."

ARAFAT ORDERS HALT TO BLOODSHED

There was no public statement claiming responsibility for the bombing, although Israel Radio said it was the work of Islamic Jihad.

Israel Radio reported that 12 of the dead in the nightclub blast were women and five were men. Their ages ranged from 14 to 32, and two were teenage sisters. Fifteen Israelis remained in critical or serious condition.

At a nearby hospital, the hallways were jammed with relatives of the injured, some crying uncontrollably. Alexander Rifko, 17, suffered a punctured eardrum while in the lineup of youths waiting to enter the nightclub when disaster struck.

"Bodies were piled up everywhere. There were people running; it was full of blood," said Rifko, who immigrated from the Ukraine six years ago.

"We have to respond (militarily) because they are killing children. I don't want to be a monster, but this wasn't a bus or a mall, it was a place for 16- and 18-year-old kids."

Graphic

YASSER ARAFAT RIKARD LARMA/AP

TENSION MOUNTS:

An Israeli man throws a rock towards a mosque in Tel Aviv yesterday, near the spot where 18 people died when a suicide bomber blew himself up outside a disco Friday night.

Load-Date: June 4, 2001

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NO HEADLINE

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

February 10, 2001, Saturday,

SOONER EDITION

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Section: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT,; SCORPIO

Length: 481 words

Byline: TIM MENEES

Dateline: MABELS EDDY, Fla.

Body

Florida, notorious for Dumbo and dimpled chads, now brings us the desert. The Holy Land Experience, opening next to Disney World, apparently hopes to cash in on the overflow from Space Mountain.

Many Jews are upset, believing the theme park's creator Marv Rosenthal, a Jew-turned-Baptist, is, like Peter, fishing for converts. But, the place looks so Southern-fried cornball anyone who is not Born Again will probably laugh.

TV turned up opening day. We saw a bunch of guys in robes and sandals, but there's also a Jewish market, Herod's Temple, a "Wilderness Tabernacle," and step right up and get your picture taken by the rock in front of Jesus' tomb. Then Aaron talks about the Jews wandering in the desert after his brother Moses got the Ten Commandments, ending a laser-show "Day of Atonement" with "Shalom" and reminding the audience to exit to its left.

If the HLE really wants to be authentic, it should include West Bank settlements, **Hamas** car bombs, kids hurling rocks and a good flood or two.

Other entrepreneurs have taken note. One is Millard "Mr. Used Kars" Patman, who built a hulking, phony Palace of Versailles hotel looming over the countryside outside this quiet (read boring) river hamlet. Patman explains it is for people who don't like to travel or put up with the French. Now he is planning The Pennsylvania Experience where drivers navigate horrid roads without losing mufflers, consort with politicians while trying to get rich and stay out of jail and "Eagle," with prizes for customers who can find supermarkets selling beer and wine.

In Washington, D.C., President Bush has detailed VP Dick Cheney to study plans for Potomac Land, a quasi-government theme park that will lure Gen-Xers back to voting with rides such as "flying" the Marine Corps' Osprey and "Air Force One," "The Porkbarrel," and "Smile!" where they learn the fun of government snooping. This could be a huge revenue producer, offsetting Dubya's \$ 2 trillion tax cut. Some, however, call it redundant because Washington already is one huge theme park.

Back home, Sports World could put Pittsburgh on the map and money in the Rooneys' and Kevin McClatchey's wallets. McClatchey needs it; the Rooneys would spend it on more wide receivers. Fans riding the "Steelers Curtain" -especially those who call sports radio talk shows claiming they used to play football -- could feel what it's

NO HEADLINE

like to get slammed by a CSX freight. On "Slam Dunk," customers must fend off agents, drooling adult males with gaudy jewelry and long curly hair in the back and babes named Cindy. In Baseball Land, they can tour venerable ballparks of the past, such as Forbes Field, Ebbets Field and Three Rivers Stadium.

(Editor's note: The term is "young women," not "babe." Scorpio sounds like one of those adult males with gaudy jewelry, and don't forget the baseball cap on backward.)

Max The Fax Dog Sez: How about Canine Land?

Load-Date: February 16, 2001

End of Document

Datelines

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

October 23, 1999, Saturday

Copyright 1999 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 506 words

Body

Venezuela

CARACAS -- A Venezuelan man was found alive in the Amazon jungle Friday, 10 days after the small plane in which he was flying crashed with eight people aboard. Rescuers found three others who also survived the accident, authorities said.

Canada

OTTAWA -- Sun Belt Water Inc. of California is suing Canada for up to \$10.5 billion after it was prevented from exporting fresh water from the western province of British Columbia, the Canadian foreign ministry said Friday.

Argentina

BUENOS AIRES -- An Argentine man accidentally shot and killed his mother while playing with a pen that turned out to be a disguised miniature pistol, police said Friday.

Belgium

BRUSSELS -- Four youngsters fell ill Friday after drinking Coca-Cola soft drinks in Belgium, but the U.S. giant said there was no indication its products were to blame.

Russia

MAKHACHKALA -- Russian authorities blew up a pile of old ammunition in southern Russian on Friday, unleashing a huge explosion that rocked a nearby town and prompting fears of renewed terrorist attacks, an official said.

Jordan

AMMAN -- King Adbullah said Friday Jordan was seeking to end a crisis triggered by a crackdown on the militant Palestinian group **Hamas** that has raised domestic tensions and hurt ties with the Islamist opposition.

Macedonia

SKOPJE -- Three people died in a civilian vehicle that collided with a truck belonging to the NATO-led KFOR peacekeeping force in Macedonia on Friday, a KFOR spokesman said.

Turkey

Datelines

ANKARA -- President Suleyman Demirel pledged Friday to find and punish those responsible for a bomb that killed a pro-secular newspaper columnist.

Egypt

CAIRO -- Defense Secretary William Cohen asked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Friday to consider establishing military cooperation with Israel as part of the Middle East peace process, U.S. defense officials said.

Israel

HEBRON, West Bank -- Angry Palestinians demanded the resignation of Hebron's mayor Friday, blaming him for a fire at an unlicensed lighter factory that killed 14 women workers.

Colombia

BOGOTA -- A Colombian journalist was shot and killed after being kidnapped from his home in an area dominated by right-wing paramilitary gangs, authorities said Friday.

Greece

ATHENS -- Greek officials protested Friday a decision by Doctors Without Borders to sever ties with its Greek branch for taking part in an aid mission to Kosovo.

Burundi

BUJUMBURA -- Hutu rebels killed more than 30 people in an attack on a village northeast of Burundi's capital, the army said Friday.

Italy

ROME -- Downpours, wind gusts and snow disrupted Italy's road, rail and air traffic Friday, flooding Venice and threatening mudslides in the southern town of Sarno.

Uganda

KAMPALA -- The army has detained a Pygmy king along with two other people in western Uganda suspected of collaborating with rebels operating nearby, a private radio station reported Friday.

Austria

VIENNA -- Threats against Jews have risen sharply in Austria with recent parliamentary elections that brought a strong finish for a far-right party, a Jewish leader said Friday.

Load-Date: October 23, 1999

Israel slowly seals off Palestinians

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

June 4, 2001, Monday

Copyright 2001 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: WORLD; Pg. 1

Length: 1257 words

Byline: Cameron W. Barr Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

Dateline: TEL AVIV

Highlight: Friday's dance-club bombing in Tel Aviv is the worst such attack in at least four years.

Body

Rather than hitting back quick and hard after a suicide bombing on Friday that killed 19 young Israelis at a dance club here, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is giving Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat time to implement a cease-fire.

But Mr. Sharon is also intensifying Israel's "closure" of the Palestinian territories - a move that may aggravate Palestinian frustration and undermine attempts to calm the situation.

At press time, reports indicated he was ordering strikes against two militant Arab groups, **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad.

Sharon's relative patience, which contrasts with his heavy-handed responses to some previous attacks, may yet give peace a chance. It also keeps the media focused on the bombing instead of Israeli retaliation and eases the anxieties of world leaders who have been pressing him to maintain - and Mr. Arafat to adopt - a cease-fire.

By closing off the territories, however, Israel magnifies the misery of many Palestinians' day-to-day existence. Closure prevents people from working, from moving among villages and towns, and, in some cases, from getting to the hospital and keeping enough food in the house.

The strategy, explains Dore Gold, a senior adviser to Sharon, addresses "an immediate problem that overrides any other consideration: the vulnerability of our major cities to a bombing attack.

Notwithstanding this practical intent, Israeli analysts say the intensified closure is also designed to punish the Palestinians and take the steam off Israeli rage.

"The Israelis ought to [end] this closure and freeze settlements," counters Kadoura Fares, a political leader in the West Bank, indicating steps that might make it easier for Mr. Arafat to calm the situation. "If they don't do it," he warns, "there will an explosion [of Palestinian tensions] in the near future. This cease-fire will not continue."

Israel slowly seals off Palestinians

This most recent turn in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict began with a grim explosion. On Friday evening a suicide bomber carried out the bloodiest attack on Israelis since a string of bus bombings five years ago. The victims were mainly girls and young women waiting to enter a night club on Tel Aviv's Mediterranean seafront - the epicenter of an Israel that has so far maintained some distance from the Palestinian uprising, or intifada.

That evening and early Saturday morning Palestinians evacuated buildings and areas they anticipated might be the target of Israeli reprisal raids. The Israeli Cabinet, which hasn't met on the Jewish sabbath since the Gulf War, convened to discuss what to do.

As the ministers met, Arafat announced his intention to "exert our utmost efforts to stop the bloodshed of our people and the Israeli people and to do all that is needed to achieve an immediate and unconditional, real and effective cease-fire" on Saturday afternoon. The statement was the most unequivocal call for calm so far from Arafat, and may have stilled the Israelis' inclination to avenge the bombing. There was no formal statement or address to the nation, but Israeli officials indicated that Sharon's government would wait to assess whatever concrete steps Arafat might take.

Skepticism reigns on both sides. Mr. Gold says Arafat's statement "uses rather tortured language which may be interpreted by those listening that he has only a tactical cease-fire in mind to stave off Israeli attack."

A Palestinian activist concurs that the cease-fire "is just to absorb the anger of the Israelis," says Khader Abu Abarra, a West Bank organizer for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. "It will not be implemented, because this kind of cease-fire is diplomatic speech. The people on the ground, the [security] forces, the [Palestinian] factions are insisting that the intifada continue"

No sign of Palestinian stand-down

Thirteen representatives of Palestinian political groups, including Arafat's Fatah faction, said yesterday after a meeting in Gaza that the intifada would go on. The representatives didn't endorse militancy, but called for "popular demonstrations to underline the continuation of the intifada."

Many Palestinians, meanwhile, decry the "unilateral cease-fire" that Sharon announced two weeks ago.

Israel's copious security presence in the Palestinian territories, which mixes seige and occupation, has only worsened since the intifada began. The cease-fire has brought little or no reduction in that presence.

"If we are interested in achieving calm in this area, the Israeli occupation should withdraw," says Ismail Abu Shanab, a spokesman for Hamas, a militantly anti-Israel party whose bombers have killed dozens of Israelis. Words from Arafat, he says, will not be enough.

New conditions could allow peace

Israel slowly seals off Palestinians

Despite the hardened positions on both sides, it seems that the dance-club bombing has created what Israeli strategic analyst Joseph Alpher calls "some tiny bit of substance." The bloody attack, which brought the number of dead on the Israeli side to 108 in this intifada, creates a perverse moment in which Arafat's call for a cease-fire is more palatable to Palestinians than it might otherwise be. Palestinians families have lost so many young men - so far more than 484 people have been killed on the Palestinian side - that the Israeli losses offer a kind of shared tragedy.

Sharon's history as an arch-defender of Israeli interests also makes this moment possible. "Only a guy like Sharon," says Mr. Alpher, a one-time adviser to former Prime Minister Ehud Barak, "could come of this and say, 'we didn't retaliate because there came about the beginning of the end of violence.' "

Finally, there is the coincidence of heightened US and European involvement and the existence of a recently issued report that offers a formula for a stand-down. A heavy Israeli retaliation to the dance-club attack would likely set back international efforts to organize a cease-fire.

Mark Heller, a researcher at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies in Tel Aviv, says closure is intended to "intensify the message that this is what happens" in the wake of bombing attacks. At the same time, it offers some consolation to Israelis angered at brutal attacks. Sharon and his ministers "can't come out [of] the cabinet meeting and say 'we're doing nothing.' "

'Furies of the Israeli people'

Arafat may sense a moment to take a step toward peace, but Sharon's homefront is at least momentarily more unforgiving. As a hard-liner, Israeli voters expected him to get tough and deliver the security he promised. As a series of bombings has demonstrated, that hasn't happened.

On Saturday, hundreds of Israeli youths, mostly young men, clashed with police guarding a historic mosque near the scene of the dance-club blast.

Demanding "death to the Arabs," they threw rocks at the mosque while the police sought to protect the handful of Muslims inside with a great deal less violence and intensity than is used at Palestinian demonstrations.

"These are the furies of the Israeli people," said Itay Mashat, a deeply tanned boat skipper and diving instructor who lives in Tel Aviv. Sharon "failed big time," he added. "He really disappointed me."

Hila Palombo, a recent high school graduate who lives in nearby Jaffa, a community that includes Arabs and Israeli Jews, was dismayed by the dance-club carnage.

"We want negotiations; we want the peace process," she said. Nonetheless, even she says that Sharon must retaliate in the face of such attacks by Palestinians. "When they cross the line, we can't help it."

Israel slowly seals off Palestinians

Load-Date: June 3, 2001

End of Document

**EIGHT DIE IN BUS-STOP ATTACK;
CRASH CARNAGE: DRIVER PLOUGHS INTO CROWD OF SOLDIERS AND
CIVILIANS**

Birmingham Post

February 15, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 Midland Independent Newspapers plc

Section: Pg. 12

Length: 458 words

Byline: Claudia Parsons

Body

A Palestinian driver crashed a bus into a waiting crowd of Israeli soldiers and civilians during morning rush hour yesterday, killing eight and injuring 20 in the deadliest attack on Israelis in nearly four years.

One soldier was hurled into the air as the bus raced across the kerb at high speed. Army boots, backpacks and jackets were strewn across the pavement.

'I saw dead people with arms, heads and legs cut open. It was terrible,' said a bystander, Ayelet Cohen-Natan.

In all, seven soldiers and a woman civilian were killed. Three woman soldiers were fighting for their lives, hooked up to respirators at a nearby hospital.

Police cars chased the bus over 22 miles before opening fire and causing it to crash into a truck. The driver, a 35-year-old father of five from the Gaza Strip, was seriously injured. Khalil Abu Olbeh has worked for the Israeli bus company Egged for the past five years, driving Palestinian labourers from Gaza to Israel.

In a call to Israel radio, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the Islamic militant group **Hamas**, which has carried out similar attacks in the past.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said the attack came in response to 'Israel's military escalation which has a direct effect on the feelings of all the Palestinian people.'

Israel's outgoing prime minister, Ehud Barak, called the attack an 'abominable crime' and said he would bring the perpetrators to justice. In a first response, Israel reimposed a total closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, barring Palestinians from entering Israel, Egypt or Jordan.

Barak's successor, prime minister-elect Ariel Sharon, said that 'the most important thing is to take proper measures to restore security to the people of Israel'.

The attack was the deadliest since July 1997, when 16 Israeli shoppers and two Palestinian assailants were killed by a suicide bombing in Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market.

EIGHT DIE IN BUS-STOP ATTACK; CRASH CARNAGE: DRIVER PLOUGHS INTO CROWD OF SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS

In recent days, Israeli-Palestinian fighting has intensified, with Israel shelling Palestinian areas in response to Palestinian shooting attacks. On Tuesday, Israeli helicopter gunships killed a senior Palestinian security agent.

'The bus was moving slowly and suddenly it speeded up and drove into the soldiers,' said Cohen-Natan, the witness.

Several bodies covered by blankets and marked by numbers lay by the roadside, as paramedics led away dazed survivors, including two young women soldiers in olive uniforms. Personal belongings were strewn across the bloodstained pavement.

On the West Bank, a 24-year-old Palestinian policeman, Iyad Abu Harb, was killed by Israeli soldiers as he was driving in his car near the town of Anabta, Palestinian officials said. The army said soldiers spotted a car with five armed Palestinians and opened fire.

Graphic

Israeli medics and police carry an unidentified Palestinian out of the crashed bus he was driving in Gan Yavne, near the southern coastal Israeli town of Ashdod after he was chased by the police. An Israeli female soldier injured in the bus attack is treated by Israeli medics.

Load-Date: February 15, 2001

Foreign Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

April 13, 1998, Monday

Copyright 1998 Telegraph-Herald

Section: National/World; Pg. a 9

Length: 1144 words

Byline: Associated Press

Body

Report: U.N. ignores tip on genocide

PARIS - U.N. officers hoping to head off Rwanda's 1994 genocide wrote U.N. headquarters about leaked plans to exterminate the country's minority Tutsis, but received no orders to take action, a French newspaper reported Sunday.

The report that a top Rwandan official disclosed a plan for genocide - and that U.N. officials failed to act on it - came amid a widening French parliamentary investigation into who was to blame for the slaughter that left at least 500,000 minority Tutsis and moderate Hutus dead.

Meanwhile, Hutu rebels wounded a local official and killed his driver in an attack in central Rwanda that brought this week's death toll to more than 100, Rwanda News Agency reported Sunday. Also on Saturday, five other civilians, Tutsi survivors of the 1994 Hutu-organized genocide, were hacked to death in their homes by rebels armed with knives, machetes and hoes, the news agency reported.

Mexico police arrest 12, beat up 2 journalists

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico - Authorities escorted 12 foreigners - including three Americans - to Mexico City on Sunday, a day after they were arrested in a raid on a southern Mexican town sympathetic to area rebels. At the airport in the Chiapas state capital of Tuxtla Gutierrez, police transporting the prisoners used the butts of their rifles to beat two news photographers taking pictures of the departure.

Associated Press photographer Pascual Gorris Marcos, 27, of Spain, suffered a gash to the head, and Agence France Presse photographer Oriana Gonzalez Elicabe, 25, of Argentina, was bruised.

It was not clear whether the foreigners would be deported. They included three American men, three Spaniards, two Canadians, two Belgians and a German. The nationality of the 12th was not available.

Sudan students killed

CAIRO, Egypt - Sudanese soldiers shot and beat to death 74 student conscripts trying to flee a military camp outside the capital, Khartoum, a Sudanese opposition group said Sunday. At least 55 others drowned when their boat capsized on the Blue Nile while they were trying to escape, the National Democratic Alliance said in a statement issued from its headquarters in neighboring Eritrea.

Foreign Briefs

Iraq to party with Saddam

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Police blocked traffic, buses hauled in recruits and tens of thousands of men, women and children drilled with machine guns Sunday to prepare for Saddam Hussein's birthday party. Saddam turns 61 on April 28, and the bash for the Iraqi leader promises to be big.

Iraq traditionally has held lavish festivals to mark Saddam's birthday, despite grinding poverty blamed on the U.N. economic embargo imposed after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, which led to the Persian Gulf War.

U.N.: Iraq executes 1,500

GENEVA - Iraq is suspected of executing more than 1,500 prisoners and others over the past year, the U.N. human rights expert for Iraq said Saturday, calling on the government to end the killings. "It is highly probable that more than 1,500 summary, arbitrary or extrajudicial executions have been carried out throughout the year," Max van der Stoep said in his 22-page report to the annual session of the U.N. Human Rights Commission.

Muslims OK abortions

ALGIERS, Algeria - A panel of Muslim clerics has decided to allow Algerian women raped by Islamic militants to undergo abortions, a newspaper reported Sunday. Militants have reportedly raped an estimated 1,600 women since their insurgency began in 1992, prompting government officials to appeal to Algeria's religious authorities for an exception to the country's abortion ban.

The fighters' religious leaders reinstituted a centuries-old practice that has allowed the militants to use women as sex slaves. According to Algerian newspapers, many of the women are killed if found to be pregnant.

Taliban launches attacks

QULAI MURAT BEG, Afghanistan - In their first major offensive in months, Taliban forces backed by artillery fire and fighter jets overran four enemy enclaves north of the Afghan capital, senior Taliban officials said Sunday. Taliban forces launched the attack late Saturday, pounding opposition positions at Guldara, about 15 miles north of Kabul, commander Mullah Hezatullah said.

Artillery and rocket fire continued Sunday, as a stream of Taliban reinforcements headed north to the front lines from Kabul.

Cambodian predicts win

TRAPENG PRASET, Cambodia- The remnants of the Khmer Rouge are on the verge of military defeat, Cambodia's defense minister said Sunday, and some 8,000 defectors from the group were receiving emergency food and medicine. Tea Banh also dismissed rumors that Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader blamed for the deaths of as many as 2 million Cambodians, had been captured inside Thailand.

Thai officers said 1,000 loyalists of Khmer Rouge general Ta Mok were battling pro-government forces about 6 miles east of Anlong Veng but were short of supplies. About 8,000 people, including 400 guerrillas, who have defected from the Khmer Rouge in recent weeks have gathered to receive government supplies of food, medicine and clothes.

Fires choke oil kingdom

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei - Rising like a mirage from a smoky backdrop, the Sultan of Brunei's 1,788-room palace - the world's largest residence - was almost invisible Saturday behind a thick curtain of smog. Nearby wildfires, fueled by the worst drought in 30 years, have shrouded the oil-rich kingdom on the northern coast of Borneo island with a mix of smoke and pollution.

Foreign Briefs

The choking clouds in Brunei, one of the world's smallest and wealthiest countries, have in recent weeks shut the international airport periodically, pushed pollution up to critical levels and filled hospitals with patients complaining of asthma-like symptoms.

Vietnam minister dies

HANOI, Vietnam - Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's urbane and articulate foreign minister for 11 years during his country's post-war isolation, has died. He was 75. He died Friday at a Hanoi hospital, a government official said Sunday. There was no immediate official announcement and no cause of death was given, though Thach had suffered from heart troubles.

100 miners feared dead

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania - Heavy rains flooded mine shafts in northern Tanzania, and at least 100 miners were missing, state radio reported Sunday. Fourteen shafts, some as deep as 300 feet, were flooded following rains Thursday and Friday. The miners were digging tanzanite, a gemstone used in jewelry, in the mines about 45 miles south of Arusha.

Islamic militant detained

NABLUS, West Bank - Palestinian officials arrested a leading militant in the death of a **Hamas** bombmaker Saturday even as thousands of Palestinians rallied against Israel, calling for revenge for the slaying of Mohiyedine Sharif. Tayeb Abdel Rahim, the Palestinian Authority's secretary-general, confirmed the arrest of **Hamas** member Imad Awadallah in the death of bombmaker Sharif.

Load-Date: April 14, 1998

End of Document

Attacker inspired by bomber: Palestinian told his mother by mobile phone he was in his car on his way to carry out a suicide mission in Israel.

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

August 11, 1999, Wednesday,

Final Edition

Copyright 1999 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News; Pg. 3B

Length: 452 words

Byline: Dana Budeiri, Associated Press

Dateline: Bethlehem, West Bank

Body

Akram Alkam spent the last week of his life reading the biography of a notorious **Hamas** bombmaker, who masterminded suicide attacks that killed scores of Israelis.

Tuesday morning, the 22-year-old Palestinian furniture salesman decided to follow in his hero's footsteps.

Alkam told his mother by mobile phone he was in his car on his way to carry out a suicide attack in Israel. He then rammed his car into hitchhiking Israeli soldiers at a busy junction, injuring 11 soldiers before being shot to death by Israeli police.

Journal

"Damn the day he laid hands on that book!" said Alkam's mother, Fadwa, at the family's simple West Bank home that was filled with wailing mourners hours after the attack.

That drew a quick rebuke from her mother-in-law, Naimeh: "Don't say that, " she said sternly. "Your son died a martyr."

The book that apparently inspired the attack was a biography of Yehiyeh Ayyash, nicknamed "The Engineer" for his prowess in preparing explosives and masterminding seven suicide bombing attacks. Ayyash was assassinated in 1996 in the Gaza Strip when he answered a call on his explosives-rigged cellular phone, an operation widely attributed to Israel.

In the past, militant groups have carried out suicide attacks and drive-by shootings in an attempt to derail the implementation of peace accords between Israel and the Palestinians. But it appeared Alkam acted alone. No group has claimed responsibility for orchestrating the attack.

Alkam's mother said her son had no political affiliation, but that during the intefadeh, or the Palestinian uprising against Israel, he --- like many Palestinian youngsters --- had thrown stones at Israeli troops.

Late Tuesday, Israeli media quoted the family as disclaiming any knowledge Alkam was carrying out an attack. Israeli authorities sometimes demolish the homes of suicide bombers as a deterrent to attackers, especially if they believe the family knew of the attacker's plans or of an affiliation with a radical group.

Attacker inspired by bomber: Palestinian told his mother by mobile phone he was in his car on his way to carry out a suicide mission in Israel .

In an interview with The Associated Press, Alkam's mother tearfully recounted her final brief telephone conversation with her son as he approached the junction.

"I begged him not to do it," she said. "But he wouldn't listen." Her husband and another son rushed to the junction, but they arrived too late. Instead of preventing the attack, they had to identify Alkam's bullet-riddled body.

In Bethlehem, sitting among wailing women family members, Alkam's aunt Maysoun said Alkam had sneaked out of the house by shimmying down from a balcony on a rope.

Asked whether attacks like this one could damage the peace process, she replied bitterly: "What did he ruin? Everything is frozen, everything is negative, everything is dead."

Load-Date: August 12, 1999

End of Document

Palestinian's low-tech attack fuelled by fury

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

February 16, 2001 Friday

Late Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 9

Length: 460 words

Byline: Ross Dunn

Body

The Israelis have a mighty war machine at their disposal, but they remain vulnerable to guerilla tactics, writes Ross Dunn in Jerusalem.

The fact that a lone man was able to carry out the deadliest Palestinian attack in four years has shown Israelis that even a sophisticated army cannot protect them from unpredictable acts of violence.

The driver of the bus who killed eight Israelis, Khalil Abu Elba, 35, a father of five, is in custody and being interrogated. The Israeli security forces had regarded him as a model Palestinian, who had special clearance to transport Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip.

Even though various militant Islamic groups, including **Hamas** and Hezbollah, have taken credit for his attack, it has not been established that Elba was a member of any such organisation. His family have reportedly expressed shock at his actions, and have denied that he has ties to any militant group.

If this is so, his attack may merely symbolise the deep anger that many Palestinians feel towards Israel and their strong desire to express it.

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat on Wednesday blamed the attack on increased Israeli military activity.

"What is happening is an Israeli military escalation which is having direct repercussions on the feelings of the Palestinian people," he said.

The bus attack came a day after Israel assassinated a member of Mr Arafat's elite security unit, Force 17, in the Gaza Strip. Helicopter gunships blasted Colonel Massoud Ayyad as he was driving down a road in Gaza.

Palestinians have no such weapons at their disposal but Elba showed that his low-tech methods were equally effective.

He drove the bus at high speed towards a crowd at a bus stop, killing four **female** soldiers, three male soldiers and a civilian.

The head of the Israeli Army, Lieutenant-General Shaul Mofaz, said he expected such violence to continue if the Palestinian Authority did not take steps to halt it.

Palestinian 's low-tech attack fuelled by fury

The Israelis have not retaliated militarily immediately, perhaps because they have not ruled out the possibility that Elba was acting independently. However, they tightened their blockade of Palestinian areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. All Palestinians are banned from entering Israel, border crossings between the West Bank and Jordan and between Gaza and Egypt have been closed, Palestinian travel within the territories is restricted, a sea blockade has been imposed and the Palestinian airport in Gaza has been shut down.

Some senior Israeli officials have argued against hermetic border closures, saying they suffocate the Palestinian economy and fuel desperation and violence.

The border closures prevent about 150,000 Palestinian workers from reaching their jobs in Israel one of the main sources of income for the territories.

Graphic

ILLUS: The wife and children of Khalil Abu Elba, who drove a bus into a crowd of Israelis at a bus stop, killing eight, hold up his picture. Photo: Reuters/Suhaib Salem

Load-Date: July 24, 2007

End of Document

CRISIS AT A GLANCE:
Latest developments at home and abroad

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

December 9, 2001 Sunday,

Metro Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News;; Brief

Length: 551 words

Body

LAST WEEK U.S. air strikes continued on the Tora Bora cave complex in eastern Afghanistan where anti-Taliban fighters believe Osama bin Laden is hiding. U.S. Marines scoured the roads of southern Afghanistan for Taliban and al-Qaida leaders who might have slipped out of Kandahar as the former ruling militia abandoned its last stronghold. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the United States will not tolerate any arrangement allowing Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar to remain free and to "live in dignity" in Afghanistan. Three American soldiers were killed and 19 wounded in Afghanistan when a U.S. bomb missed its Taliban target. The bomb, carrying 2,000 pounds of explosives, landed about 100 yards from the soldiers' position north of Kandahar. Six Afghan anti-Taliban fighters also were killed. A military transport plane returned the body of CIA officer Johnny "Mike" Spann, the first known U.S. combat casualty in Afghanistan, to the United States. In their first offensive ground action, U.S. Marines attacked a Taliban convoy near Kandahar on Friday, killing seven fighters. No Marines were wounded. The parents of a California man found holed up with Taliban troops in Afghanistan said Friday that the government has not given them any word about his condition or whereabouts. Frank Lindh and Marilyn Walker said they are "desperately worried" about 20-year-old John Walker, who was taken into custody by U.S. forces after a prison uprising near Mazar-e-Sharif. Afghan leaders signed a pact Wednesday to create a temporary administration for their country.

AJCAnti-Taliban commander Hamid Karzai and his Cabinet, including two women, are to take power Dec. 22. The Bush administration froze financial assets and closed the offices of the Texas-based Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development. FBI investigators accused foundation leaders of being Hamas members and said the charity was a fund-raising organ for terrorist activities. The American Civil Liberties Union and other civil rights and human rights groups filed suit alleging that the Justice Department is violating federal law by withholding information on about 1,000 people picked up by police since Sept. 11. President Bush, on the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, compares that day of infamy to Sept. 11. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said he warned the United States that "something would happen" 12 days before Sept. 11, but did not reveal how he learned of a possible terror attack. Hundreds of workers at the ruins of the World Trade Center took a break Friday night to watch the lighting of a 30-foot Christmas tree and sing Christmas carols. Tours of the U.S. Capitol resumed Saturday, for the first time since October. A British journalist was badly beaten by a crowd Saturday in Pakistan near the Afghanistan border. President Bush, visiting a Red Cross warehouse in Windsor, Md., on Saturday, gave a presidential send-off to the first shipment of relief supplies for Afghanistan's children, paid for by the dimes, quarters and dollar bills he asked American children to contribute. THIS WEEK A key bridge between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan will reopen this week, allowing humanitarian aid through for the first time since 1996. Without immediate aid, millions face disease and starvation.

CRISIS AT A GLANCE; Latest developments at home and abroad

Load-Date: December 9, 2001

End of Document

Car bomb kills two

Evening Times (Glasgow)

November 2, 2000

Copyright 2000 Scottish Media Newspapers Limited

Section: Pg. 6

Length: 512 words

Body

AT LEAST two people died today when a car bomb exploded in Jerusalem, just as an Israeli-Palestinian truce was to be announced.

The car, which was being chased by an Israeli police van, turned into a side street and exploded near the outdoor Mahane Yehuda market.

One witness said he heard a powerful blast. "When I looked down the street, there was a big fire and people were hurt," he said.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, pictured, were to have announced a truce, but their statements were postponed before the bombing, without explanation.

The ceasefire was to have ended 36 days of fighting that has killed more than 160 people.

There was no immediately claim of responsibility for the car bomb. However, the Palestinian militant groups **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad said they would carry out new terror attacks in Israel.

Elite force in mutiny

A battle has broken out between elite forces and the army at Fiji's main military barracks.

Two soldiers were killed and up to 10 injured as the army's Counter Revolutionary Warfare unit mutinied.

CRW members, holding hostage a number of officers, are demanding negotiations with military chiefs. Their demands at this stage are unknown.

New Zealand's deputy high commissioner in Fiji, Roger Ball, said the situation was "contained".

Poll boost for Bush

George W Bush (left) is ahead of Al Gore in the race for the White House, according to four of the latest polls.

Surveys for ABC and CNN have the Republican ahead by three points, MSNBC by five and Voter.Com by seven.

Gore was campaigning today in Republican-leaning Florida, and Bush in Democratic-supporting Minnesota.

2 hurt in bomb blast

Car bomb kills two

A car bomb exploded early today in Barcelona, Spain, slightly injuring two people.

The bomb, which was heard two miles away, went off close to a Hilton hotel, injuring a street sweeper and a security guard at a nearby store.

An anonymous caller to a Barcelona newspaper had telephoned a warning and claimed responsibility on behalf of the Basque separatist group ETA.

Spanish authorities blame ETA for 19 deaths this year.

Brit victims named

THE two British women feared to have died in the Singapore Airlines jumbo jet crash in Taiwan were named today.

Florida-based Margaret Rabley (62), originally from Gwent, South Wales, and Hong Kong-based Tak Wing Loo (27), are unaccounted for after the plane crashed back on to the runway and burst into flames in a typhoon at Taipei airport. A total of 79 died.

Paul Blanchon (38), of Stokesley, Yorkshire and a US-based Briton, Steve Courteney (45), survived.

Yugoslavia in UN

Yugoslavia's new democratic government has joined the United Nations - after eight years of ostracism under leader Slobodan Milosevic.

The 189-member General Assembly overwhelmingly approved Yugoslavia's inclusion and hailed Belgrade's democratic transition and the newly-elected president, Vojislav Kostunica.

"This indeed is a historic day for the United Nations, and for the Balkans - for all of Europe, indeed for all of the world," said US Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

Load-Date: February 16, 2001

War against terrorism: A week in review

Charleston Gazette (West Virginia)

December 09, 2001, Sunday

Copyright 2001 Charleston Newspapers

Section: News; Pg. P06A

Length: 581 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

s U.S. Marines scour the roads of southern Afghanistan for Taliban and al-Qaida leaders who might have slipped out of Kandahar as the former ruling militia abandon its last stronghold.

s Three American soldiers are killed and 19 wounded in Afghanistan when a U.S. bomb misses its Taliban target. The bomb, carrying 2,000 pounds of explosives, lands about 100 yards from the soldiers' position north of Kandahar. Six Afghan anti-Taliban fighters also die.

s A military transport plane returns the body of CIA officer Johnny "Mike" Spann, the first known U.S. combat casualty in Afghanistan, to the United States.

s Jon Steele, vice president of the Postal Service's Northeast Area Operations, says trace amounts of anthrax were found at a postal facility that sorts mail for the town where a 94-year woman mysteriously died of the disease last month.

s The parents of a California man found holed up with Taliban troops in Afghanistan say the government has not given them any word about his condition or whereabouts. Frank Lindh and Marilyn Walker say they are "desperately worried" about 20-year-old John Walker, who was taken into custody by U.S. forces after a prison uprising near Mazar-e-Sharif.

s The Bush administration freezes financial assets, closes offices of Texas-based Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development. FBI investigators accuse Holy Land leaders of being Hamas members and say the charity was a fund-raising organ for terrorist activities.

s Herbert Villalobos, 35, pleads guilty to helping two Sept. 11 hijackers illegally obtain Virginia identification cards.

s Afghan leaders sign a pact to create a temporary administration for their war-ravaged nation. Anti-Taliban commander Hamid Karzai and his Cabinet, including two women, are to take power Dec. 22.

s Pierre-Richard Prosper, ambassador-at-large for war crimes, tells a Senate hearing only non-Americans charged with war crimes relating to international terror can be brought before a military tribunal under the order issued by the president.

s The American Civil Liberties Union and other civil rights and human rights groups file suit alleging that the Justice Department is violating federal law by withholding information about about 1,000 people picked up by police since Sept. 11.

War against terrorism: A week in review

s Relatives of the Sept. 11 terrorist victims lobby congressional leaders to support approval of broad tax breaks to victims' families.

s Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld says the United States will not tolerate any arrangement allowing Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar to remain free and to "live in dignity" in Afghanistan.

s In their first offensive ground action, American Marines attack a Taliban convoy near Kandahar, killing seven fighters, a Marines spokesman in southern Afghanistan says. No Marines are injured.

s President Bush, on the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, compares that day of infamy to the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings.

s Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak says he warned the United States that "something would happen" 12 days before Sept. 11 but did not reveal how he learned of a possible terror attack.

s U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and Uzbek president Islam Karimov announce that a key bridge between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan will reopen in about a week, allowing humanitarian aid through for the first time since 1996.

s The U.S. continues airstrikes on the Tora Bora cave complex in eastern Afghanistan where anti-Taliban fighters believe Osama bin Laden is hiding.

Load-Date: December 10, 2001

TWO BLASTS ROCK ISRAEL AS SUMMIT IS CALLED OFF

The Philadelphia Inquirer

DECEMBER 29, 2000 Friday SF EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A01

Length: 1207 words

Byline: Barbara Demick, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

Fresh violence undercut efforts to resuscitate the nearly moribund Israeli-Palestinian peace talks yesterday, as a bomb explosion on a Tel Aviv bus and a roadside blast on the border with the Gaza Strip left two Israelis dead and more than a dozen people wounded.

The explosions came shortly after Israel announced it would not participate in what was supposed to be a breakthrough summit in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, and after Palestinians rebuffed President Clinton's outline for a final peace accord.

In the Gaza blast, two Israelis were killed as they tried to detonate a roadside bomb near the border crossing point called Sufa. Details were sketchy, but it appears they were working on one bomb when another one exploded, possibly triggered by a mobile telephone. Two other people were reportedly injured at the scene.

In Tel Aviv, no one was killed in the bus bombing, but it had a powerful psychological impact because it was detonated in the heart of the city, evoking chilling memories of a wave of suicide and bus bombings in 1996.

Israeli police said two pipe bombs were planted on the back of commuter bus No. 51, which had just left the central bus station on its way to the suburb of Petakh Tikva. Thirteen people were injured in the lunchtime explosions, most of them slightly, except for a female soldier who was seriously burned.

Other bombings in recent weeks have killed four Israelis, two in Jerusalem, and two in the coastal city of Hadera, but this was the first attack inside Tel Aviv in the latest violence.

"I was driving near the train station when suddenly there was a great explosion," bus driver Yigal Reichmann told reporters. "I looked in the mirror . . . and saw seats on fire. There was confusion and everyone started screaming, crying for help."

President Clinton said yesterday that the blasts would not undermine his efforts to clinch a peace treaty before leaving office Jan. 20.

TWO BLASTS ROCK ISRAEL AS SUMMIT IS CALLED OFF

"This latest violence only reminds people what the alternative to peace is," Clinton said, speaking from Washington. Despite the setback, he described Israelis and Palestinians as "closer than they have ever been before" to reaching a settlement.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak issued a statement saying that "this criminal attack will not affect our determination to bring about genuine security by ending the conflict."

Nevertheless, Barak has to be acutely aware that a wave of suicide bombings in 1996 was the undoing of the last Israeli government identified as wholly committed to the peace process with the Palestinians.

Barak faces hard-liner Ariel Sharon in elections Feb. 6 and desperately needs a peace agreement to put before voters who are largely disheartened by three months of violence.

OPTIMISM, THEN A SETBACK

But day by day, the prospects look more remote, the deadline closer at hand. Each burst of optimism is followed by a fresh setback. Barak had planned to meet yesterday with Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Sharm el-Sheikh, but he decided not to go at the last minute because of Palestinian opposition to the Clinton plan. Arafat and Mubarak ended up meeting alone in Cairo instead.

Arafat told reporters in Gaza that his talk with Mubarak had been "useful and constructive" and that the Palestinian leadership would continue studying the U.S. proposals along with an Arab summit follow-up committee.

"We are speaking about all the issues with our Arab brothers," Arafat said.

Clinton has drawn up a detailed outline of a peace agreement that calls for Israel to cede 95 percent of the West Bank and Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem, including the Temple Mount, a site holy to Jews as well as Muslims. In return, Palestinians are to give up the dream that as many as 3.7 million refugees can return to homes that were left during Israel's 1948 war of independence.

Barak's cabinet cautiously endorsed the Clinton proposal early yesterday, but the Palestinians have stalled, requesting further clarification.

"We want absolute clarity, specific details and specific maps on these issues. . . . Obscurity, in my opinion, is not good for our efforts to reach a successful peace," Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said.

'STILL HOPING'

The White House had hoped to coax Arafat and Barak to Washington for a summit as early as Monday, but that now looks unlikely.

"They're still hoping something can happen next week, but they're not planning," said an American diplomat. The diplomat, who did not wish to be identified, said the State Department believed that Arafat's reticence was a negotiating tactic to get the package sweetened.

"They are looking for opportunities to get more, but this only gives a chance for domestic opposition to build on both sides. If they want a deal they have got to move quickly."

The tense situation ratcheted up yesterday when Barak imposed heightened travel restrictions and ordered the army to cordon off the West Bank. Many Palestinian-ruled towns had been closed after violence erupted in September, but movement had been allowed in and out of some areas.

Throughout Israel, opposition to Clinton's proposal appeared to be rising, especially to the emotional proposition of giving up Jerusalem's Temple Mount - where Muslim shrines are built atop the ruins of the destroyed Jewish temple. Religious Jews believe that the messiah will return to rebuild the temple on that site.

TWO BLASTS ROCK ISRAEL AS SUMMIT IS CALLED OFF

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert yesterday staged something of a sit-in, moving his offices from City Hall to a yeshiva overlooking the Temple Mount and Western Wall. He said he would remain there for one week.

"Our deep connection with Jerusalem did not start with the Clinton administration. . . . It started with King David 3,000 years ago, and it will continue," Olmert told a news conference.

Also at the Western Wall yesterday, a man defaced the shrine. According to police, a tourist from Los Angeles threw two bottles of red paint at the site.

At the yeshiva where Olmert set up shop, hundreds of ultra-Orthodox Jews crowded into the makeshift offices, nailing a mezuzah, a traditional Jewish symbol of good luck, on the doorway, singing and clapping. They vowed to fight to protect the Temple Mount. Their passionate demonstration was a foretaste of the opposition Barak could face if he reaches a deal along the lines of the Clinton proposal.

"We will never give back the Temple Mount. Never. We prefer to die rather than to give it away," said Israel Lederman, 64, a retired religious-studies teacher.

Meanwhile, Palestinian leaders warned that Olmert's move into the Old City could reignite the violence that was triggered Sept. 28, after opposition leader Ariel Sharon toured the Temple Mount.

"People are angry. There could be more violence," said Razi Saadi, 37, an Old City shopkeeper.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombings, although **Hamas**, the radical Islamic group, applauded the violence.

It said Israel would suffer such attacks as long as the Palestinian uprising, or intifadeh, goes on.

"For us it doesn't matter who is responsible . . . as long as he is part of this intifadeh," **Hamas** spokesman Ismail Abu Shanab said.

Barbara Demick's e-mail address is foreign@phillynews.com

* This article contains information from Inquirer wire services.

Graphic

PHOTO

Load-Date: February 5, 2002

They should return the favor

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

October 30, 2001, Tuesday, 0 South Pinellas Edition

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Section: EDITORIAL; EDITORIAL; Pg. 10A; EDITORIAL

Length: 545 words

Body

U.S. efforts to maintain Arab support for the war against terrorism have been complicated by the escalating violence between Israel and the Palestinians. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat both claim to be supportive of the U.S. campaign. They need to show their support, and their statesmanship, by pulling back from a crisis that threatens to erupt into all-out war.

MIDEAST

Israel's partial military pullback from areas of the Palestinian-controlled West Bank is a step in the right direction. The Israelis should withdraw from the four other recently occupied cities under a credible security arrangement that requires Arafat to do everything in his power to stop the attacks on Israelis and arrest the militants who wage war from the Palestinian side.

The violence of recent weeks threatens to unravel the tepid support that moderate Arab states are giving to the U.S. war on terrorism. At least 22 Palestinians and seven Israelis have been killed in a cycle of raids and reprisals that followed the Oct. 17 murder of Israeli Tourism Minister Rehavam Zeevi. Raiding the Palestinian villages was a brute display by Sharon, but Arafat was all too willing to play along and allow more of his people to die for the Palestinian cause. These two need to be made aware that this deadly game of tit-for-tat weakens American public support for U.S. involvement in the Mideast.

Arafat has a responsibility to arrest the killers of Zeevi, but that is just a start. It's time for him to prove his own legitimacy to lead a Palestinian state. Arafat's refusal to keep Islamic radicals in jail and the complicity of his corrupt administration in fomenting anti-Israeli violence provide Sharon with political cover to act in the name of self-defense. According to reports, the two terrorists who shot four Israeli women dead Sunday were members of Arafat's own security forces. So much for Arafat's tiresome claim he cannot control the radicals.

Israel's partial withdrawal was a result of the pressure the Bush administration brought to bear at a critical time. Sharon defied for days a call by President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell for Israel to withdraw under a security arrangement that now appears to be taking shape. As important as an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement is to long-term U.S. interests, Washington's immediate goal should be to foster a partnership in the war against terrorism with moderate Arab states.

There is no better recruiting tool for al-Qaida or Hamas than the sight of Israeli forces asserting military control over Palestinian territory. Sharon has picked a bad time to test American allegiance, just as Arafat has picked the wrong issue to test American resolve. Arafat and Sharon face a similar threat from the same Islamic radicals that have brought a deadly dimension of the Middle East war to American soil. Palestinian and Israeli leaders should be

They should return the favor

working with the United States to lower tensions, revive a dialogue and isolate the radicals on both sides of their conflict.

Washington has worked hard in recent years to spare more people in the Middle East from the type of atrocity that befell thousands of Americans Sept. 11. It's time we expect the Israelis and Palestinians to return the favor.

Graphic

PHOTO, (2); Yasser Arafat; Ariel Sharon

Load-Date: October 31, 2001

End of Document

GLOBAL NEWS

Wales on Sunday

November 25, 2001, Sunday

Copyright 2001 Western Mail and Echo Ltd

Section: NEWS; Pg. 30

Length: 555 words

Body

CHINA: A five-year-old boy was beaten to death by his father in northern China after he failed to count to 100 as demanded, a newspaper reported yesterday. The father was charged with murder.

SOUTH KOREA: A former South Korean soldier captured during the 1950-53 Korean War has returned home after fleeing the North. The 67-year-old man recently arrived in South Korea with 18 North Koreans who had fled hunger and other hardships in the communist North.

USA: A man shouting "freedom and liberty for all" set himself on fire in a US suburban shopping centre and hurled flaming objects at shoppers before he was subdued and hospitalised in a critical condition, officials and witnesses said.

USA: A train carrying 150 passengers crashed into a tractor in California, killing the tractor's 65-year-old driver and injuring 12 rail passengers.

VENEZUELA: President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela said he was considering imposing a state of emergency on the country as social tension increases in the oil-rich but poverty-stricken nation.

BRAZIL: A week of torrential rains has killed 12 people and forced over 5,000 from their homes in central eastern Brazil, according to civil defence officials.

JAPAN: A Japanese fishing vessel sunk by a US submarine is due to be moved to its final resting place off Hawaii over the weekend, a Navy spokeswoman said.

NEPAL: At least 24 policemen were killed and dozens injured when Maoist guerillas in Nepal attacked police stations and government installations across the Himalyan kingdom, ending four months of ceasefire, state-run Radio Nepal said.

USA: Character actor Michael St Clair, who had parts in films including Thoroughly Modern Millie, My Fair Lady and Von Ryan's Express, has died after suffering a stroke at the wheel of his car.

MEXICO: A giant Christmas tree on a busy Mexico City boulevard caught fire and burned to the ground. The fire appeared to have been caused by a short circuit, the state-run Notimex news agency reported.

AUSTRALIA: A Sydney funeral firm cremated a man who was supposed to be buried and placed the body of a centenarian woman inside his coffin instead, a newspaper reported yesterday.

GLOBAL NEWS

PALESTINE: A leader of the Islamic militant Hamas group and two other activists have been killed in an Israeli helicopter missile attack on a van in the West Bank, Palestinians and Israel army radio said.

SPAIN: Two policemen were shot dead in an attack blamed on the Basque separatist group Eta after a man and a woman walked up to the officers as they directed traffic in Beasain near San Sebastian and at least one attacker opened fire.

JAMAICA: Briton Karella McDonald, 23, of Brixton, south London, has been jailed for two years in Jamaica after admitting drug charges. She pleaded guilty to possession of, dealing in and attempting to export illegal drugs.

USA: Mary Kay Ash, whose pink Cadillacs and eponymous cosmetics company made her one of the most famous women in American business, has died at her home in Dallas. She was 83.

USA: A Pennsylvania man has been charged with attempted murder after allegedly shooting a rifle at a petrol station worker whom police said was targeted because he is Middle Eastern.

TURKEY: Heavy snow cut off 700 villages in eastern Turkey yesterday, as temperatures dropped to minus 34degreesC (minus 29degreesF) - the lowest in 20 years.

Load-Date: November 30, 2001

Taleban readies suicide squads

The New Zealand Herald

November 9, 2001 Friday

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Section: NEWS; World

Length: 572 words

Byline: By PETER POPHAM

Body

ISLAMABAD - The Taleban is preparing to confront Allied ground troops in Afghanistan with a kamikaze-style suicide squad, say sources in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, near the Afghan border.

Afghan as well as Arab fighters are being trained to carry out suicide attacks, says Hamid Nawaz, a Pakistani journalist with sources close to the Taleban.

The squad of fidayeen fighters - meaning those who are about to sacrifice themselves - is being readied for action once the Allies have committed forces to a ground war.

Members of the fidayeen squad have been spotted in several Taleban-controlled areas.

The mastermind behind the unit is a shadowy Arab, originally from Morocco, with family connections to leaders of the Palestinian organisation Al Fatah.

He has persuaded Taleban leaders, who have never previously favoured suicide operations, that the times demand them.

The last suicide mission inside Afghanistan was carried out on September 9, two days before the attacks on New York and Washington, but it was not the work of Afghans.

Two Arabs posing as journalists blew up themselves and Northern Alliance leader Ahmad Shah Masood by means of a bomb hidden in their video camera.

It emerged this week that they had hoped to wipe out the entire Northern Alliance leadership, but failed to persuade them to sit for a group photograph.

The September 11 suicide attacks by terrorists believed to be operating on instructions from Osama bin Laden were also carried out by Arabs - most of them Saudis.

The new squad has a distinctive look. Its members carry Russian AK-83 or German HK MP5 assault rifles rather than the Taleban's standard issue AK-47s.

They also wear strips on their chests embroidered with verses from the Koran.

Taleban readies suicide squads

No Afghans have been involved in suicide operations because the Hanafi school of Islam, to which most Taleban members subscribe, forbids it. The rival Hanbali school believes such attacks are permissible in emergencies, hence the **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad fighters who blow themselves up in Israeli pizza parlours and discotheques, and the Kashmiri fidayeen squads who fight their way into Indian Army installations in Kashmir and wreak as much havoc as they can before they are shot dead.

The overwhelming military might of the United States and its allies seems to have persuaded the Taleban to permit suicide attacks.

The leaders of the September 11 attacks appear to have followed the pattern of Japan's Second World War kamikaze pilots, who steeled themselves for death with the help of strong drink and barbiturates, and allowed young **women** to throw themselves upon them on the eve of operations.

The Allies may draw heart from the fact that the Japanese only adopted kamikaze tactics in January 1945, when defeat stared them in the face.

But it adds one more menace for ground troops to overcome in the world's most daunting battlefield.

- <http://www.independent.co.uk> INDEPENDENT

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<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?reportID=61063> Terror in America - the Sept 11 attacks

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?storyID=223386&thesection=Story&thesubsection=&reportID=61564>
Links: War against terrorism

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?storyID=223389&thesection=news&thesubsection=world> *Timeline:*
Major events since the Sept 11 attacks

Load-Date: December 18, 2002

MIDDLE EAST PEACE RHETORIC: PALESTINIANS GIVE U.S. ENVOYS ULTIMATUM

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

November 22, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 The Columbian Publishing Co.

Section: World/Nation; Pg. a12

Length: 505 words

Byline: MARK LAVIE, Associated Press writer

Body

JERUSALEM -- Palestinians demanded Wednesday that U.S. envoys heading to the Mideast next week force Israel to implement an agreed truce without delay.

Also Wednesday, Israeli forces entered a West Bank village and snatched two suspected militants, a 24-year-old Palestinian policeman and his brother, a 19-year-old university student, Palestinian officials said. The younger brother was once held by Israel on suspicion of belonging to the militant ***Hamas***, the officials said.

The Israeli military said two Palestinians "suspected of hostile terrorist actions" were arrested.

Israeli forces held back from pulling out of the West Bank town of Jenin more than a month after moving into Palestinian territory, saying they had warning of militants planning attacks in Israel.

Since Israeli forces moved into six towns last month, the United States has repeatedly called on Israel to pull out and keep its troops away from Palestinian areas.

Signaling a new U.S. push to stop Mideast violence before it scuttles efforts to build a broad coalition to fight international terrorism, Secretary of State Colin Powell appointed retired General Anthony Zinni as his Mideast envoy, and said he would stay in the region to work out a truce.

Zinni and Assistant Secretary of State William Burns are expected to arrive in the region at the beginning of next week.

Several agreements have been reached during more than 14 months of Palestinian-Israeli fighting but have not been carried out. Each side blames the other for continuing violence.

In May, CIA Director George Tenet hammered out a truce accord that called on Palestinians to stop violence, arrest militants and confiscate illegal weapons, while Israel was to lift roadblocks and travel restrictions and pull its forces back to positions held before the uprising began.

However, Israel is demanding seven days with no violence before implementing the accord.

Receiving an honorary doctorate from Ben Gurion University in Beersheva Wednesday, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said, "We will insist on complete, complete calm, with no threats and no attacks against Israeli citizens, before negotiations."

MIDDLE EAST PEACE RHETORIC: PALESTINIANS GIVE U.S. ENVOYS ULTIMATUM

An aide, Raanan Gissin, said the seven-day condition remains intact.

Powell called Sharon on Wednesday, Sharon's office said.

The White House later announced that Sharon would begin a working visit Dec. 3.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the United States must veto the Israeli demand and enforce the Tenet plan and an earlier program for restarting peace talks as a package.

"I challenge Mr. Sharon to find any part in this record that calls for a seven day period of quiet," Erekat said.

Gissin said Israel and the United States had agreed to the weeklong test period as part of the Tenet plan, followed by a six-week cooling-off period as part of the program proposed by an international commission headed by former Sen. George Mitchell.

U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, have said that they do not accept the weeklong hiatus but have not pressed Israel publicly on the issue.

Graphic

*Palestinian women sit outside of their tents in front of a previously damaged building in the Khan Yunis refugee camp, southern Gaza strip, Wednesday.

Load-Date: November 25, 2001

End of Document

TALIBAN TRAINING SUICIDE SQUADS TO CONFRONT INVASION OF GROUND TROOPS

The Independent (London)

November 8, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 Independent Print Ltd

Section: TITLE PAGE; Pg. 1

Length: 520 words

Byline: Peter Popham In Islamabad

Body

THE TALIBAN are preparing to confront Allied ground troops in Afghanistan with a kamikaze-style suicide squad, according to sources in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, close to the Afghan border.

The special unit includes Afghan as well as Arab fighters, and is being trained to carry out suicide attacks, according to Hamid Nawaz, a Pakistani journalist with sources close to the Taliban regime.

The special squad of fedayeen fighters - meaning those who are about to sacrifice themselves - is being readied for action once the Allies have committed forces to a ground war.

The fedayeen squad is already in existence and its members have been spotted in several Taliban-controlled areas. The mastermind behind it is a shadowy Arab, Moroccan in origin, with family connections to leaders of the Palestinian organisation Al Fatah. He has persuaded Taliban leaders, who have never previously countenanced suicide operations, that the times demand them.

The last suicide operation inside Afghanistan was carried out on 9 September, two days before the attacks on America, but it was not the work of Afghans. Two Arabs posing as journalists assassinated Ahmed Shah Masood, the legendary leader of the Northern Alliance, by means of a bomb hidden in their video camera. The assassins also died in the blast. It emerged this week that they had been hoping to wipe out the entire Northern Alliance leadership, but failed to persuade them to sit for a group photograph.

The 11 September suicide attacks on America by terrorists believed to be operating on instructions from Osama bin Laden were also carried out by Arabs - the majority from Saudi Arabia.

The new squad has a distinctive look. Its members carry Russian AK-83 or German HK-MP5 assault rifles rather than the Taliban's standard issue AK-45s, and wear strips on their chests embroidered with verses from the Koran. Their vehicles also have distinctive livery, though exactly what remains secret.

No Afghans have been involved in suicide operations before because the Hanafi school of Islam, to which most Taliban subscribe, forbids it. The rival Hanbali school believes such attacks are permissible in emergencies, hence the **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad fighters who blow themselves up in Israeli pizza parlours and discotheques, and the Kashmiri fedayeen squads which fight their way into Indian army installations in the Himalayan territory and wreak as much havoc as they can before they are shot dead. The overwhelming military might of the US and its allies seem to have persuaded the Taliban to revise their opinions and permit suicide attacks.

TALIBAN TRAINING SUICIDE SQUADS TO CONFRONT INVASION OF GROUND TROOPS

The leaders of the 11 September attacks seem to have followed the pattern of Japan's Second World War kamikaze pilots who steeled themselves for certain death with the help of strong drink and barbiturates and allowed young women to throw themselves upon them on the eve of operations.

The Allies may draw heart from this: the Japanese only adopted kamikaze tactics in January 1945, when defeat stared them in the face. But it adds one more dire menace for ground troops to overcome in the world's most daunting battlefield.

Load-Date: November 8, 2001

End of Document

Mideast an excuse to attack America

The Cairns Post/The Cairns Sun (Australia)

October 26, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Pg. 10

Length: 496 words

Body

IN reply to John Fitzpatrick (20-10-01): Osama bin Laden hates America first and foremost. He bombs their embassies, warships, cities and civilians. Not Israel's.

If his main objective was only to change Mideast policies, why does he not just join the Hamas, the Hizbollah, the PFLP etc, and commit terrorism upon Israel? The Palestinians are just an excuse for him to attack the US.

No one is off to war for Israel. Prime Minister Howard sent our boys off to join American allied forces in Afghanistan to indeed fight for justice and to end terror.

Granted Israel is somewhat of a "war machine", but she did not ask Egypt, Syria or Jordan to invade her (1967 and 1973). When such a tiny nation has neighbours whose policy is to "push the Jews into the sea", what choice have you got?

Generations of Israelis have said: "Hopefully before my child is 18 there will be peace here in Israel." Let me assure you, Mr Fitzpatrick, that the desire for peace is alive and well, but alas elusive for Israel.

Leeanne Perez, Kavieng St, Trinity Beach.

Trade hit

RE the editorial on free trade (22-10-01): China's population is 1.27 billion, not 1.5 billion.

Also, most people are now very sceptical about so-called free trade and globalisation. Farms and industries are disappearing as a direct result of the globalist idea of removing tariffs and subsidies.

The reality is that we in Australia did not vote for globalisation, nor did people in any other country. Globalisation is an idea concocted by a bunch of academics living in rarified air, with no connection to reality.

The United Nations got behind the idea, as in theory, at least, it seemed a good way for the world to share its assets and production. Since the insidious, deceitful application of globalisation upon the world, the super rich have become richer, and the poor have become poorer. Like it or not, good intentions or not, the proof is in the pudding. It doesn't work.

Bob Morrison, Alkoo Close, Bayview Heights.

'Grotty'

Mideast an excuse to attack America

NORMALLY Douglas Mayor Mike Berwick is on the ball, and is probably the most forward-thinking mayor in Queensland.

The one thing he cannot be proud of is the state of the public toilet block on the Esplanade park adjacent to the markets on Sunday. They have the title of "the dirtiest dunnies in Queensland".

They are grotty and grubby. The door on one toilet has been broken for months. I believe the women's side is no better.

George Stafford, Barron Beh, via Cairns.

Police job

AFTER two armed hold-ups and one suspected murder in Cairns, it is time the police put down the speed cameras, got out of the bushes and did what we are really paying them for - arrest criminals and make people feel safe to walk down the street or work in a shop.

Cassie Eivers, Lae St, Trinity Beach.

Trees lost

THE anguish over "clothes optional" people at Buchan Point beach pales into insignificance when compared with the "terrorist" who has been progressively killing off many large trees.

L. J. Harris, Bruce Highway, Woree.

Load-Date: October 26, 2001

End of Document

Leicester teacher Kerrigan Rudon on human rights

Leicester Mercury

November 3, 2001

LMerc

Reach PLC

Section: Pg.13

Length: 530 words

Byline: by JClay

Body

Repression only entrenches the hatreds further

We tend to take civil liberties pretty much for granted in Britain. We regard free speech, freedom of movement and the other freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as our birthright.

Unfortunately that isn't the case for all nations and all people in the world today.

The UDHR was established in 1948 in the aftermath of the Second World War. 1948 was also the year in which the state of Israel was created.

The birth of Israel was accomplished through conflict and bloodshed and resulted in a catastrophe for the Palestinian people.

Sadly, more than 50 years on, that same state of Israel is at the eye of a storm that swirls around the issue of human rights.

The recognition of Israel in 1949 was given on the understanding that Israel itself recognised the right of the Palestinians to an independent state.

That has never happened. Indeed in 1967, in total breach of international law, Israel occupied large areas of Egypt, Jordan and Syria on the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and the Golan Heights.

Despite United Nations resolutions demanding the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland, as well as demanding Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, there has been no compliance.

Israel has built its own settlements, bulldozed Palestinian houses and olive groves, introduced restrictions on movement and employment of the Palestinian population and forced thousands into refugee camps.

In 1982, over 2,000 Palestinian men, women and children were massacred in the Shatilla and Shabra refugee camps in Lebanon.

Yet curiously, the world has been largely silent for 34 years. No-one threatens Israel with the sort of military might that punished Saddam Hussain for his invasion of Kuwait.

Leicester teacher Kerrigan Rudon on human rights

Israel can defy international law, ignore human rights and get away with it.

There is a price for this, though. Ordinary Israeli citizens ought, just like Palestinians, to be free to travel and enjoy life, but they are not. Car bombs and suicide bombers mean that every bus stop and every night out is a risk.

Fighting this with more repression is no solution. It only entrenches the hatreds. There is no violent solution for Palestinians or Israelis.

So, in practice, a peaceful solution is the only way forward.

This seems so obvious, yet has been impossible so far to achieve.

Israel should withdraw from the illegally occupied territories and restore all land to its rightful owners, allow the return of refugees displaced by the occupation and give Arabs living in Israel full civil rights.

All this is spelt out in the Declaration of Human Rights.

For their part, Palestinians and the Arab states will have to recognise the right of Israel to exist, free from threat and guarantee equal treatment for Jews living in a Palestinian state.

A declaration to this effect should finally put an end to this seemingly interminable conflict, where state terrorism employed by the Israeli military is met by the terrorism of **Hamas** and other armed groups.

This will require courage and integrity by both the Israeli and Palestinian people, in order that a new and lasting peace be built. It must be worth a try.

Load-Date: November 6, 2001

End of Document

PALESTINIAN RAGE ERUPTS AS PRAYERS COME TO AN END

The Toronto Star

October 7, 2000, Saturday, Edition 1

Copyright 2000 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS

Length: 1258 words

Byline: Sandro Contenta

Body

Imam's plea ignored and nine more shot dead in new round of bloodshed

Israeli police carry off a colleague wounded in clashes in Jerusalem's Old City yesterday.

A Palestinian woman clutching stones shouts anti-Israeli slogans during clashes with Israeli police at Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque compound.

will confirm to the world that Jerusalem with all its sacred places will remain Arab.'

JERUSALEM - It was announced as a day of rage, and the rage poured out.

It showed no sign of subsiding yesterday as nine Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli forces in clashes throughout the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, bringing the death toll in nine days of violence to at least 77, almost all Arabs.

The rage exploded immediately after some 8,000 Muslim worshippers ended Friday prayers on the compound of the disputed holy site in the walled Old City, revered by Muslims as the Haram al-Sharif, and worshipped by Jews as the Temple Mount.

The spiritual calm of the prayers on Islam's third-holiest site was suddenly replaced by angry religious chants as some 200 Arab youths raced to the site's Dung Gate to throw a barrage of stones over the wall.

Their aim was to strike Jews praying below at the Western Wall, one of the retaining walls to the 14-hectare compound above, but Israeli police had evacuated the Jewish holy site.

Stationed in the winding alleyways of the Old City below, Israeli police initially held back, but finally opened fire with tear gas, rubber-coated metal bullets, and what sounded like live ammunition, killing two Palestinians. One of them was 12-year-old Mohammad Judeh, who was shot in the head.

Protesters threw a Molotov cocktail into an Israeli police station near the compound exit where Judeh died. Police had to shoot off the lock on the door to rescue their colleagues trapped inside with thick smoke and flames.

PALESTINIAN RAGE ERUPTS AS PRAYERS COME TO AN END

Police eventually entered and cleared the compound after youths hoisted a Palestinian flag above Al Aqsa mosque - a direct challenge to the sovereignty Israel claims over the site after capturing it in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The "day of rage" had been called by radical Palestinian factions that are playing a more prominent role in the violence - factions Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat does not control.

In a massive demonstration in the Gaza Strip, members of the military wing of the militant **Hamas** group fired into the air, and men dressed in white gowns and white hoods presented themselves as ready to launch suicide bomb attacks against Israel.

At the holy site in the Old City, security officials working for Arafat's representatives in East Jerusalem tried in vain to stop the youths from provoking a fight with Israeli police.

The youths disregarded a plea in the imam's sermon to avoid clashes, and from numerous worshippers who warned that the stone-throwing would only invite Israeli police to enter the compound.

"Please go back - I beg you, I beg you," shouted Abu Jamal, 69, running to and fro, hitting two sticks together to get the stone-throwers' attention.

Jamal planted himself directly in front of Abu Ahmed, who held a stone behind his back.

"This only gives them an excuse to start shooting. This won't end today, it will go on until judgment day," said Jamal, dressed in a white robe.

Ahmed then kissed Jamal twice on the forehead, and dropped the rock. But he urged his comrades to fight on.

"He's just an old man who does not want to see blood. This is a holy place, and we must defend it," said Ahmed, 39, a cook from the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Chanting "there is only one God and Muhammad is his Prophet," the youths climbed the ramparts above Lion's Gate at the compound's north end. Those below smashed large rocks on the stone floor to make smaller ones, and **women** piled them into garbage cans that were hoisted to rock-throwers above.

Usra Khaled, who was busy filling garbage cans with stones, strongly denounced Arafat's efforts to strike a ceasefire with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

"Arafat must stop talking peace and not let the intifadah die," said Khaled, using the Arabic word for uprising. "He should pronounce an Islamic jihad (holy war). I am with the Islamic Jihad (group) and with **Hamas**, not with Arafat." Khaled said her son was killed by Israeli police five years ago.

Nearby, another woman was piling rocks on prayer carpets. "These are the stones that will liberate Palestine," she said. "This is a holy place and this is a holy war."

A group of young men then demanded to know where one journalist came from. When the reporter said he was American, they denounced U.S. President Bill Clinton and surrounded the reporter.

He was violently swarmed by dozens of people. When a Canadian reporter tried to intervene, he was thrown to the ground and attacked before breaking free. The American was rescued by ambulance attendants who managed to extract him from the angry mob.

The Palestinian territories were closed before sunrise yesterday and will remain sealed until sundown Monday, the end of Yom Kippur, a day of fasting and atonement and the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. Israel often closes the territories during major holidays, but it did so early this time in response to the latest violence.

In Beirut yesterday, the spiritual leader of Hezbollah called for a holy war against Israel, Reuters reported.

PALESTINIAN RAGE ERUPTS AS PRAYERS COME TO AN END

"The war for Jerusalem has erupted and Palestinian determination will confirm to the world that Jerusalem with all its sacred places will remain Arab," Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah said.

In Toronto, some 200 people gathered opposite the U.S consulate on University Ave. yesterday to protest Israeli aggression. There were also pro-Palestinian demonstrations in Hamilton, Waterloo and Ottawa.

In Jordan's largest Palestinian refugee camp, at least one demonstrator was killed and six wounded in shooting during a protest against this week's killing of Arabs by Israeli forces.

Yesterday had begun peacefully in Jerusalem, as worshippers gathered to commemorate the deaths of five Palestinians during a clash with hundreds of Israeli police Sept. 29.

The clashes were triggered the day before, after a visit to the site by hawkish Likud leader Ariel Sharon, seen by Palestinians as a provocative bid to assert Israeli sovereignty over the disputed holy place.

Unlike a week ago, Israeli police had initially made themselves scarce, a tactic the Jerusalem police commander credited with reducing the number of casualties.

"The concept of being wise rather than being strong proved itself today. If we had gone on to Temple Mount, it would have ended in bloodshed," said Yair Yitzhaki.

Palestinians interpreted the fact that Israeli police didn't patrol the compound's entrances as a symbolic victory.

"This is a victory, and the great victory is still to come. It is a war for Al Aqsa (mosque) and a war for Palestine," said lawyer Mustafa Khalil, 42.

Among worshippers at Al Aqsa, where Muslims believe the Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven, were Faisal Hussein, Arafat's representative in East Jerusalem, and Raed Salah, head of the hardline Islamic Movement.

Worshippers spilled out from the mosque on to the compound, and knelt to pray under cypress and olive trees. They listened to Imam Youssef Snehneh denounce Sharon's visit, the Israeli government that approved it, and Arab governments for doing no more to protect the holy site than street demonstrations and complaints to the United Nations.

Snehneh then called for restraint against Israeli police. Some of the worshippers did not listen.

Load-Date: October 7, 2000

Death and destruction in Islam's name

Hobart Mercury (Australia)

September 19, 2001, Wednesday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Length: 583 words

Body

The atrocities in New York have again thrown the spotlight on the Islamic faith.

THE terror attacks in New York and Washington have given new urgency to a debate among Islamic scholars about whether their religion sanctions suicide bombings.

Some clerics unreservedly support them -- others are flatly opposed. In between are those who justify suicide bombings by Palestinian groups under Israeli rule, but condemn the attacks in the United States.

AP

The Palestinian militants say their attacks in Israel are part of "jihad", an Arabic word that literally means to struggle for the cause of religion.

For a Muslim, the struggle involves striving to be a better person, donating money to the poor, fulfilling obligations towards the faith, and, finally, engaging in combat in defence of Islam.

Lacking a sophisticated arsenal, the Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups have turned suicide bombings into a powerful weapon in the latest Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Abdul-Moti Bayoumi, of the Islamic Research Centre at Cairo's al-Azhar University, mainstream Islam's top seat of learning, says for jihad to be legal, it must fulfill several conditions.

Among them: a Muslim should not provoke the aggression; a Muslim should only fight the one who fights him; and children, women, and the elderly should be spared.

"There is no terrorism in jihad or a threat to civilians," Bayoumi said.

Based on that interpretation, Bayoumi said the suicide attacks in the US weren't justified and therefore considered by Islam as "terror acts".

But he said the attacks against Israelis are acceptable because Palestinians don't have the hi-tech weapons like Israel's.

If it was a fair fight, he said, "then you will not find anyone who would carry out suicide missions".

The grand mufti of Saudi Arabia, Sheik Abdulaziz al-Sheik, sharply disagrees. He declared in April it is "strictly forbidden in Islam" and that "the one who blows himself up in the midst of the enemies is also performing an act contrary to Islamic teachings".

Suicide bombers, the theologian added, should be buried without Islamic ritual and away from other Muslims.

Death and destruction in Islam's name

The opposite view is taken by Sheik Youssef al-Qaradawi, an Egyptian clergyman respected among the world's 1.2 billion Muslims.

While condemning the attacks in the US, he said rulings against suicide bombings were issued by "people who are alien to Sharia [Islamic laws] and religion".

Sheik Ikrema Sabri, Jerusalem's top Muslim cleric and an appointee of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, took a similar line -- bombings in Israel yes, elsewhere no.

"The issue is decided," Sabri has said in an interview. "Muslims believe in the Day of Judgment and that dying as a martyr has its reward -- going to heaven -- and that a martyr is alive in the eyes of God."

As'ad AbuKhalil, associate professor of political science at California State University at Stanislaus, said suicide attacks, in Israel or the US, have nothing to do with religion.

"What is happening today is irrelevant to the concept of jihad," AbuKhalil said. "What is more relevant is the political conditions that are creating an environment of militancy throughout the Muslim and Arab world, such as poverty . . . and the Arab-Israeli conflict."

The bombers "have to be seen as extremist lunatic fringes, as crazy as those crazies in America who go to the post office and shoot people at random," he added.

"No average, pious Muslim, even if he or she is promised all sorts of delight in heaven, will do something crazy."

Load-Date: November 12, 2001

CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM: MIDDLE EAST: FIVE ISRAELIS KILLED AS PALESTINIANS HIT BACK

The Independent (London)

October 29, 2001, Monday

Copyright 2001 Independent Print Ltd

Section: NEWS; Pg. 6

Length: 491 words

Byline: Phil Reeves And Kylie Morris In Jerusalem The body of a gunman who fired on people waiting at a bus stop in; Hadera yesterday Eitan Hess-Ashkenazi/AP

Body

FIVE ISRAELIS were shot dead yesterday as Palestinian guerrillas delivered their bloody response to the prolonged military raids into West Bank towns launched by Israel's Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon.

The two drive-by shootings - one of which killed four women - are certain to place Mr Sharon under even more intense domestic pressure to take further retaliatory measures against the Palestinians, and to extend the "incursions" in which the Israeli army has killed more than 45 people.

They came as the US - which made another plaintive call for calm in the Middle East conflict - was waiting for Mr Sharon to pull Israel's tanks and troops out of Bethlehem and the neighbouring town of Beit Jala under a US-mediated agreement. Israel has already delayed the withdrawal once on the grounds that Palestinians in the area had not stopped shooting.

Both the attacks were inside Israel, and appear to have been meant as a signal to Mr Sharon that his efforts at stepping up security, including the recent creation of a 20-mile long military "no-go zone" along the West Bank's north-western border, have failed.

The bloodiest was in the Mediterranean town of Hadera, 35 miles north of Tel Aviv, which stands at one of Israel's narrowest points.

At about 2.30pm, two Palestinians drove into the palm-lined centre and opened fire on a group of people at a bus stop. By the time, the shooting was over, four women lay dead, and - according to hospital officials - 28 people were injured, three critically. The gunmen were shot dead by plain-clothes police.

The killings were claimed by Islamic Jihad, an intensely hardline group which - unlike the larger and more popular Hamas - has been deaf to calls from Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority to present a united front and support a ceasefire. A videotape released by the group revealed that the two gunmen, both in their early twenties, came from a refugee camp in Jenin, one of the six Palestinian-run towns invaded recently by the Israeli army after the assassination by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine of Israel's ultra-nationalist Tourism Minister, Rechavam Zeevi, on 17 October. The videotape showed the two gunmen standing in front of a picture of a 10-year-old girl from Jenin who was shot dead by the Israeli army on the day of Mr Zeevi's killing.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM: MIDDLE EAST: FIVE ISRAELIS KILLED AS PALESTINIANS HIT BACK

About three hours earlier, four miles from Hadera, an Israeli army sergeant, aged 22, was shot in the head by two gunmen as he sat in his car. The al-Aqsa Brigade, an affiliate of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility.

After the shootings, the Israeli government called off a planned security meeting with Palestinian officials, meant to discuss a military withdrawal from Bethlehem - which was meant to be the first step before a broader retreat from the six Palestinian towns.

Mr Arafat said he was committed to the month-old ceasefire and that a search had begun for the culprits in the latest killings.

Load-Date: October 29, 2001

End of Document

Disguised gunman kills Israelis

The Australian

October 5, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 7

Length: 559 words

Body

* A correspondent in Jerusalem

THE Middle East was plunged into greater chaos last night as a suspected Palestinian gunman disguised as an Israeli soldier killed two Israelis and wounded five others in northern Israel, rocking an already fragile ceasefire.

The gunman riddled with bullets a bus station in the town of Afula. The gunman was then shot dead by Israeli police.

AFP

Two of the injured Israelis were in a serious condition.

A meeting last night to salvage an ailing week-old truce, hammered out by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, ended "without any results", Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat said.

Israeli police threw up tight security cordons throughout Jerusalem as thousands of Israelis and Jewish visitors were expected to turn out in the disputed Old City for a holiday march aimed at reaffirming Israeli claims to the city.

The police withdrew permission at the last minute for ultra-nationalist Jews to stage a symbolic ceremony to lay a cornerstone for a new temple near the Old City.

The remains of the Jewish temple -- destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD -- lie under the al-Aqsa mosque compound, the third-holiest site in Islam.

A similar ceremony in July inflamed Arab tempers and sparked Palestinian stone-throwing on Jewish worshippers at the Wailing Wall, the last remains of the destroyed temple.

Police were only allowing Muslims aged over 40 and with an Israeli identity card to enter the mosque compound to pray.

An Israeli couple was shot and the husband seriously injured by Palestinian gunmen in east Jerusalem overnight on a road where another Israeli man was killed two weeks earlier in a drive-by shooting.

And at another site sacred to both Jews and Muslims -- the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron -- hundreds of Jewish pilgrims were to gather for prayers and festivities, despite a Palestinian shooting attack that wounded two Israeli women on Wednesday.

Disguised gunman kills Israelis

Gunmen in a Palestinian district overlooking the tomb opened fire on a crowd of people celebrating the Feast of the Tabernacles, sparking panic as worshippers dived for cover and Israeli troops returned fire.

Security was extremely tight last night in the West Bank town, where about 400 Jewish settlers live in the centre surrounded by some 120,000 Palestinians, with a heavy Israeli army presence between the two.

The festivities come after the ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians was torn to shreds by Palestinian extremists attacking a Jewish settlement and leaving two Israelis dead.

The assailants, from the hardline Islamist group **Hamas**, were also killed by Israeli forces late on Tuesday.

The Israeli security cabinet immediately dropped its orders to the army for a restrained response to violence and sent tanks into Palestinian-controlled territory around Gaza City, killing six Palestinians and destroying or damaging eight security buildings.

Israel had also suspended on Wednesday a joint security meeting in Gaza, part of a series of sessions designed to address problems arising from the implementation of the ceasefire.

Washington wants to calm tensions in the region, which have cost 850 lives in the past year, to allow it to draw wary Arab and Muslim nations into its coalition against the network of Islamist Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect for the attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

Load-Date: October 5, 2001

Israeli PM lashes out at U.S. after shooting

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

October 5, 2001 Friday

Final EDITION

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Section: NEWS,

Length: 503 words

Byline: MATTHEW KALMAN

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon issued a stark warning yesterday that Israel would not allow itself to be sacrificed by the United States and Western democracies to "appease" Arab terror, just as they abandoned Czechoslovakia to the Nazis in 1938.

Sharon was speaking hours after a Palestinian gunman disguised as an Israeli soldier went on a rampage in a bus station in northern Israel, murdering three people and wounding seven more before he was shot dead.

The attack, coming amid U.S.-led attempts to form a coalition with much of the Arab world to respond to the events of Sept. 11, was the latest breach of a ceasefire agreement reached by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres last week.

Southam News

A young Israeli couple was killed in a Gaza settlement on Tuesday night and another couple narrowly escaped death in a drive-by shooting in Jerusalem on Wednesday, the same day as two women were wounded by gunfire in Hebron.

A car bomb exploded in Jerusalem on Monday and Palestinian shooting, bomb and mortar attacks have continued unabated despite Arafat's assurances.

"Don't try to appease the Arabs at our expense," Sharon said. "We cannot accept that. Israel will not be Czechoslovakia. Israel will fight terror. There is no difference between good terror and bad terror. Just as there is no difference between good murder and bad murder."

In 1938, the West was so desperate to appease Nazi Germany that it allowed Hitler to violate agreements and overrun Czechoslovakia.

Dore Gold, a key adviser to the Israeli premier, said Sharon was responding to American-led efforts to build an international coalition against terror that had left Israel dangerously exposed to increased terror attacks because Washington wished to woo moderate Arab states into the coalition.

Some Israeli analysts warned that Arafat now felt free to violate any ceasefire because he was the key to the entry of moderate Arab states into the coalition, leaving Israeli citizens even more vulnerable to attack.

Israeli PM lashes out at U.S. after shooting

Sharon said Israel's efforts to reach a ceasefire had been repeatedly undermined.

And in what appeared to be a warning of tougher military action against Palestinian forces, Sharon said that from now on Israel "will rely only on ourselves."

"I call on the Western democracies, first and foremost the leader of the free world, the U.S. - do not repeat the dreadful mistake of 1938, when enlightened democracies in Europe decided to sacrifice Czechoslovakia for the sake of a temporary and convenient solution," Sharon said.

Israeli opposition leader Yossi Sarid denounced Sharon's comments as "pathetic and dangerous," but others said the dangers are real.

"There is a very serious problem emerging," Gold said. "Hezbollah and Hamas can escalate violence against Israel with the expectation that Israel's freedom of manoeuvre to respond will be constrained because of international coalition considerations. That is a recipe for escalation in the Middle East."

Graphic

Photo: RICK BOWMER, AP ; An ultra-Orthodox Jewish man, crouches as he pulls along a young boy during a shooting yesterday, at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron.

Load-Date: October 5, 2001

REPRESSIVE REGIMES:
BACKGROUNDER: THE UNITED STATES AND ISLAM

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
September 26, 2001 Wednesday,
Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News;

Length: 560 words

Body

EGYPT Population: 70 million (largest in the Arab world) Muslims: 94 percent Per Capita Income: \$1,490

Constitutionally a social democracy, Egypt has been governed since 1978 by the National Democratic Party, which has a commanding majority in the popularly elected People's Assembly and the partially elected Shura, or consultative council.

In practice, the government is controlled by President Hosni Mubarak, who has the authority to hire and fire the Cabinet and the country's 26 provincial governors. Mubarak has governed since 1981, when his predecessor and political mentor, Anwar Sadat, was assassinated by Islamic fundamentalists in response to the peace accord Sadat signed with Israel.

AJC

Mubarak uses a state security apparatus that practices human rights abuses to suppress opposition, through harassment, detention and torture. He was re-elected, unopposed, to a fourth six-year term in 1999. Egypt gets about \$2 billion a year in U.S. aid, mostly military.

IRAN Population: 66 million Muslims: 99 percent Per Capita Income: \$1,630

A theocratic republic, Iran is governed by a popularly elected president (now Mohammad Khatami), a Council of Ministers that he names, with approval from a 290-seat, popularly elected legislature, the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

While the human rights situation in Iran has improved in recent years, the United States lists Iran as one of seven state sponsors of terrorism for its alleged support of Hezbollah and ***Hamas***, which have conducted anti-Israeli attacks. Iran is also accused of trying to acquire a nuclear weapon. And its relations with the United States have been minimal since the 1979 takeover of the American Embassy in Tehran by Iranian revolutionaries.

IRAQ Population: 23 million Muslims: 97 percent Per Capita Income: below \$2,500

An authoritarian, one-party state, Iraq is ruled by President Saddam Hussein, who has used one of the world's harshest state security systems to imprison, torture and kill his political opponents since 1979. Iraq is thought to

REPRESSIVE REGIMES; BACKGROUNDER: THE UNITED STATES AND ISLAM

have executed some 3,000 people over the past four years. It is on the State Department's list of active terrorist-sponsoring states.

KUWAIT Population: 2 million Muslim: 85 percent Per Capita Income: \$15,000

A hereditary emirate, the area making up modern Kuwait has been ruled by princes from the al-Sabah family for more than 200 years. It has an elected National Assembly with limited powers that can be overridden by the ruling family. It has been allowed to perform legislative functions, though, since 1992. Elections poll only 14.5 percent of the population --- males over the age of 21. Women may not vote.

SAUDI ARABIA Population: 23 million Muslims: 100 percent Per Capita Income: \$6,900

A monarchy with no elected representative institutions, Saudi Arabia is ruled by King Fahd Bin Abd al-Aziz al-Saud. Host to some 5,000 U.S. troops, Saudi Arabia has security authorities that impose strict Shari'a (Islamic law) that stress corporal punishment from public flogging to and execution by stoning, beheading or firing squad. Last year alone, authorities acknowledged 120 executions for offenses including murder, rape and drug charges. Being alone in the company of an unrelated person of the opposite sex is punishable by flogging.

Sources: The U.S. State Department; The Central Intelligence Agency; The World Bank; Human Rights Watch.

Load-Date: November 3, 2001

End of Document

Peace that left a public behind

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

October 3, 2000, Tuesday

Copyright 2000 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: WORLD; Pg. 1

Length: 1213 words

Byline: By Cameron W. BarrStaff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Highlight: The escalating Palestinian-Israeli violence highlights the Arabs' resentments at accepting US-backed compromises.

Body

After five days of the worst Arab-Israeli violence in half a decade, the underlying source of the Palestinians' frustration is coming into focus: the peace deal that Israelis and Americans have implored them to accept.

The continuing unrest in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, say Palestinian and Israeli analysts, shows that many Palestinians would prefer to live without a deal than live with the one now under discussion.

Israeli right-wing leader Ariel Sharon's visit to Jerusalem's Old City last Thursday did indeed provoke some Palestinians. And as some Israeli observers have said, the visit may well have been a convenient justification for some "controlled violence" that would pressure the Israeli government in the peace talks. But orchestrated or spontaneous, the fire underneath the riots and shooting battles is a growing frustration with the deal that the peace process has yielded.

Standing in the midst of a tumultuous Gaza City demonstration, a Palestinian psychiatrist and human rights activist named Eyad Serraj speaks loudly into his cellphone to make himself heard. "The people are very frustrated and very angry," he says, "because of disillusionment with the peace process first of all, and the Sharon visit, and the cold-blooded killing of innocent people, especially young people."

As of late yesterday afternoon, 37 people had died in the disturbances that have followed Sharon's visit to the sacred compound that Jews call the Temple Mount and Muslims call the Noble Sanctuary. Last week one Israeli soldier also was killed in a bomb attack in Gaza, and another died after he was shot by a Palestinian counterpart.

The youngest victim was a toddler killed when her family's car was raked with gunfire near the West Bank village of Qusra, east of Nablus, on Sunday night. The shooting follows that of 12-year-old Mohammed al-Durra, whose death in a Palestinian-Israeli firefight in Gaza on Saturday was filmed and broadcast around the world, and may further anger Palestinians already upset about the severity of the Israeli response.

Peace that left a public behind

But apart from violence begetting new violence, the driving force behind the conflict is the peace process and how many Palestinians feel it has produced little.

"The fundamental demand of the people was to be respected, and they don't feel respected in the sense that their rights are not being regained," says Dr. Serraj. First among these rights is the "right of return" - the Palestinian demand that they be allowed to return to homes from which they fled or were forced to flee during the Arab-Israeli conflicts of 1948 and 1967.

Israel is willing to acknowledge this right, but only to a limited degree that would vastly disappoint Palestinian expectations. In other areas, according to the popular understanding of the peace deal that was discussed in earnest at Camp David in July and that has been fitfully pursued ever since, Palestinians feel that they are not getting what they should.

Israeli negotiators have apparently discussed returning as much as 90 percent of the West Bank to Palestinian control, reserving the remainder to accommodate Israeli settlements. That is unacceptable to Rima Tarazi, the president of the General Union of Palestinian Women, who says that "with settlements there can be no peace."

And the future of Jerusalem, which both Israelis and Palestinians want as their capital, is perhaps the core of the issue, at least symbolically. Again, Israelis have indicated a willingness to cede some parts of East Jerusalem and the walled Old City - seized in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war - to the Palestinian authority, but nowhere near all of it.

Sharing Jerusalem

At best, as US officials have indicated, the city will have to be shared. Fair as that might sound, Palestinians feel they have done their duty by recognizing Israel's right to exist on its 1948 borders - a gesture that effectively signed away their rights to 78 percent of the land they once considered theirs and which Ms. Tarazi labels the "final compromise, the final concession."

Now that they are left with their 22 percent, according to the thinking of many Palestinians, it is time for Israel to return to its 1967 borders, which would mean handing back all of East Jerusalem and the Old City. That would honor UN Security Council resolution 242, which demands Israel's withdrawal from lands seized by force in 1967 and which is the basis for the peace process.

UN Resolution 242

"We are negotiating to implement 242, not negotiating 242," says Faisal Hussein, the Palestinian Authority's minister for Jerusalem affairs.

The peace process has been frustrating in economic terms as well. Although things have begun to improve recently, most Palestinians' ability to make a living wage has declined during the 1990s, mainly as a result of Israeli security measures.

That is one reason why the Palestinian leadership may be stoking the current unrest or doing little to stop it. Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat and his advisers risk alienating their people by stifling the popular anger, and they may well benefit from the discomfort the violence causes the Israelis.

Peace that left a public behind

"At least we can say they are not discouraging it," says Sala Abdel Shafi, a Gaza City economist. "The leadership is aware that the people are frustrated. It is a really delicate situation, but I don't think they are really interested in putting an end to it."

But once again, because of the violence, economic activity has all but stopped in Gaza. "The shops are half-closed, there are demonstrations everywhere, the checkpoints are closed so no goods are coming in or going out," says Mr. Abdel Shafi.

Last week he was in Bulgaria, touting the virtues of investing in the emerging state of Palestine. During one of his meetings on Friday, CNN was airing coverage of the riots and demonstrations in Gaza and the West Bank. "You can imagine what they are going to think," he says of would-be investors in a Palestinian state.

Mr. Arafat is doubtlessly also aware that the nature of his leadership has also given his people reason to complain. Meir Litvak, an expert on Palestinian politics at Tel Aviv University, says there is no doubt that there is growing discontent among Palestinians over the course of the peace process.

But that is for two reasons, he adds. "One is that they are not satisfied with what Israel is willing to offer, and the other thing is that the Palestinian Authority has been weakened because it is corrupt and inefficient. And its corruption is seen as a reason for its lack of determination vis--vis Israel."

Pictures worth lots of words

It is perhaps for this reason that Palestinians demonstrating in recent days have held aloft both Arafat's picture and portraits of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, leader of the militantly anti-Israeli **Hamas** movement. Indeed, **Hamas** officials have sounded elated since the weekend.

And within Israel, the more conservative elements of the political spectrum, those who never expected the peace process to succeed, may also be finding some satisfaction in the turn of events.

As Mr. Litvak somberly notes, "Extremists on both sides can celebrate."

- Staff writer Nicole Gaouette contributed to this story in Jerusalem.

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Load-Date: October 2, 2000

Pleasure and pain - TYRANNY OF TERROR - THE TERRORISTS

The Weekend Australian
September 15, 2001, Saturday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: FEATURES; Pg. 30

Length: 561 words

Byline: Catherine Taylor

Body

Rejoicing over American misery masks a deeper fear in the Middle East, as Catherine Taylor discovers

IN the narrow stone alleyways of Jerusalem's Old City and along the dusty, potholed streets outside, small groups of Palestinians greet news of the terrorist attacks in the US with jubilation.

"Congratulations, congratulations," shouts a shop owner, handing out sweets. Others honk their horns; children dance and wave Palestinian flags. Elderly women, wearing Islamic headscarves, cry out with euphoria.

Similar scenes are played out in Palestinian refugee camps across the West Bank and Lebanon.

Khassem, 27, a waiter in an East Jerusalem restaurant who has seen friends killed weekly during the intifada, draws close and drops his voice to a whisper: "This is a good thing and America had it coming. They have supported Israel for 50 years while we suffer. Now Americans know what it is like to lose your family."

The anti-American mood is bolstered by news that Israeli Defence Force tanks, bought using US-sponsored aid, are preparing to invade the West Bank town of Jenin. The ensuing gun battle leaves 11 Palestinians dead.

"There is a struggle going on between my heart and my head," says another man. "My heart tells me innocent people have died in America and it's a terrible tragedy. But in my head I believe it is a good thing because the American state is standing against us with Israel."

But euphoria in the streets was short-lived and represented a small minority of Palestinian public opinion. Most people were horrified by the American tragedy.

"This is terrible. It is very, very sad," says a Palestinian bus driver.

"Their tragedy is our tragedy," says another.

The day after the attacks, the US consulate in Arab East Jerusalem closed, and flowers and placards of support covered the footpath.

Palestinian political factions, from the radical Hamas to Yasser Arafat's Fatah party, were quick to condemn the attack.

Pleasure and pain - TYRANNY OF TERROR - THE TERRORISTS

Palestinians are concerned terrorism in the US will encourage even greater support for Israel's aggressive suppression of their struggle for statehood. There are already signs those fears are real. On Thursday, Israeli tanks entered Jericho.

Harsher treatment of Palestinians in the wake of the US attacks has found support among Israelis. "Now the Americans won't judge us. Now they'll get it -- these terrorists, all of them, aren't human beings," Shuki Barkan, a Jewish student, told a Jerusalem paper.

Analysts are concerned a link has been established in American minds between terrorism, Arab culture and Islam.

"Part of it is the need for the US to find a new enemy after the fall of the Soviet Union," says Saleh Abdel Jawad, from Ramallah's Bir Zeit University.

This thinking is an explosive issue among Palestinians and Jawad says anti-US feeling across the Middle East has grown stronger with Israel's policy of assassinating Palestinian leaders, which many view as having US approval.

"There is a sense that Washington is wielding its power without any limit and this has created a sentiment of hatred towards the US," Jawad says. "It is the same sentiment that is activated by US strikes against Iraq. Innocent children and families are hurt by these policies, and the US won't acknowledge that.

"The US has created an extreme strength and ... a lot of enemies. Someone has clearly decided that the US has gone too far."

Load-Date: November 27, 2001

End of Document

**Israel demolishes more buildings in Palestinian areas;
Yesterday, 14 houses under construction were torn down. Ten structures
were removed today. Peace hopes are dimming.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

JULY 10, 2001 Tuesday CITY-D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A02

Length: 562 words

Byline: Greg Myre ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

Israeli tanks and bulldozers destroyed 10 buildings in Gaza early today, entering the Palestinian territory for the first time since a cease-fire went into effect last month, Palestinian security officials said.

The incursion came hours after 14 Palestinian homes on the edge of Jerusalem were leveled, one of the largest such operations in years.

The actions further shook the June 13 truce, which had led to a drop in violence but never fully took hold. Earlier, Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat had pledged again to stop attacks, but then a suicide bomber struck in Gaza.

A heavy exchange of fire accompanied the operation in the Rafah refugee camp early today. Hospital doctors said five Palestinians were wounded.

Using mosque loudspeakers, leaders called people out to defend the camp, and Palestinians opened fire on the Israeli forces. The Israelis withdrew after several hours, the officials said.

The camp, next to the border with Egypt, has been the source of daily grenade attacks on an Israeli army base nearby.

Nighttime raids in Gaza were frequent before the cease-fire, negotiated by CIA Director George Tenet. Maj. Gen. Abdel Razek Majaidie, the Palestinian security chief, called the Israeli operation a "dangerous violation of the cease-fire."

Yesterday, bulldozers leveled 14 houses being built in the Palestinian refugee camp of Shuafat, on the northern edge of Jerusalem.

Israel demolishes more buildings in Palestinian areas; Yesterday, 14 houses under construction were torn down. Ten structures were removed today. Peace hopes ar....

Some women screamed and others threw stones at Israeli police who pushed back the angry crowd. One Palestinian woman, dressed in black, sat cross-legged on the dusty ground near her home in a desperate attempt to block the path of a bulldozer. She continued shouting, kicking and weeping until relatives moved her out of harm's way.

The houses were in various stages of construction, and no one was living in them.

The Israelis said the buildings had no permits; Palestinians contended that it is nearly impossible to obtain them. Hundreds crowded around the bulldozers, trying to prevent them from destroying the structures.

Also yesterday, Hamas militants filmed a suicide bomber blowing up a truck in Gaza. The film showed the truck disappearing in a cloud of smoke. It did not explode near Israeli positions, and only the driver died.

The Israelis said they had given the Palestinians information about the bomber before the attack. "The Palestinian police didn't do anything about it when they should have prevented it," Israeli Cabinet Secretary Gideon Saar said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told a political party meeting that on Saturday night, Arafat called his leadership together and pledged to make a serious effort to prevent attacks, informing both Israel and the United States of the decision. Palestinian officials, requesting anonymity, said he spoke of making arrests and keeping militants out of Israel.

In a phone call late yesterday to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called for "constant international pressure . . . to bring about the end of Palestinian terror, violence and incitement," Sharon's office said.

Sharon is insisting on seven days of total calm before starting a process that is to lead to renewal of peace negotiations. U.S. diplomats say a "100 percent effort" by Arafat to stop the violence would be enough, but State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said yesterday: "Frankly, we're still looking for that."

Load-Date: October 31, 2001

**CHAPEL IN SCHOOL REOPENS;
BUT ACLU QUESTIONING LEGALITY**

Richmond Times Dispatch (Virginia)

April 29, 2001 Sunday City Edition

Copyright 2001 Richmond Newspapers, Inc.

Section: GENERAL; Pg. A-12; Faith & Values

Length: 577 words

Byline: From Associated Press Reports

Body

CUMBERLAND, Ky. - Residents have reopened a high school chapel, raising the ire of civil liberties groups who say it blurs the constitutional separation of church and state.

The Cumberland High School chapel was closed this month after the American Civil Liberties Union questioned its constitutionality. It reopened last week under pressure from local residents.

"Why don't the Christians have as much right as the ACLU does? We're people, too," said Judy Disney, whose husband, Don, conceived the chapel.

The Disneys say the room is for students who need a place to relax, read, pray or sit quietly. The chapel, built in a janitorial closet, is called a "quiet room" by school officials and contains pews, a pulpit and an altar.

Southern Baptist faith now claims 16 million

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Membership in the Southern Baptist Convention, the nation's largest Protestant denomination, climbed to a record level in 2000, reaching nearly 16 million despite internal controversies over the church's heightened conservatism and fundamentalist views.

Membership is up despite controversy that erupted last summer at the denomination's annual meeting, where delegates approved a reworked "Baptist Faith and Message," the church's doctrinal platform.

The revisions included provisions discouraging women from serving as pastors and encouraging them to be subservient to their husbands. The document also added new wording condemning homosexuality and abortion.

<CmSince then, the revised platform has drawn protest and fund-cutting from Baptist churches across the country and resulted in the defection of one of the organization's most prominent members, former President Carter.>

School suspends priest in book controversy

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - A Jesuit theological school has placed a priest on leave because the Vatican says several parts of his award-winning book might contradict church teachings.<Cm The school says he is "clarifying" the book.

>

CHAPEL IN SCHOOL REOPENS; BUT ACLU QUESTIONING LEGALITY

The Rev. Roger Haight's book, "Jesus Symbol of God," explores the possibility of non-Christians getting to heaven without Jesus. He argues that Jesus is the path to salvation for Christians, but, that for non-Christians, God may work in other ways.

The Vatican's position is that salvation comes only through Jesus. who is an unseen savior for non-Christians.>

The book, which won first prize in theology from the Catholic Press Association and was a selection of the Catholic Book Club, failed an investigation by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Pope John Paul II's main guardian and enforcer of orthodoxy.

The Rev. Robert E. Manning, president of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology, said the graduate school put Haight on leave because of the Vatican's decision.

Saudi cleric denounces extremists' violent acts

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia's top religious cleric said suicide bombings and hijackings are contrary to Islamic teachings, and those who carry them out are "nonbelievers."

"Any act of self-killing or suicide is strictly forbidden in Islam," Sheik Abdulaziz al-Sheik, Saudi Arabia's Grand Mufti, told The Associated Press.

"These acts are clearly not Islamic, and whoever chooses to commit them is a nonbeliever," said al-Sheik, whose words are highly regarded among the Sunni branch of Islam.

Muslim extremists praise suicide bombings against perceived enemies such as Israel and the United States. A recent suicide attack in central Israel killed the assailant from the militant **Hamas** group and an Israeli doctor.

Load-Date: May 1, 2001

Israeli wedding disaster kills 22

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

May 26, 2001 Saturday

Late Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 15

Length: 522 words

Byline: Ross Dunn, Herald Correspondent, in Jerusalem and agencies

Body

Israeli army rescuers were yesterday searching for dozens of people feared still trapped beneath a banquet hall that collapsed during a wedding party on Thursday night, killing at least 22 and injuring more than 350.

The death toll in what is being described as Israel's worst building disaster was expected to climb overnight, with officials saying the rescue operation could take at least three days.

Among those injured was the bride, who was standing in the centre of a circle of dancers celebrating the event when suddenly the floor fell apart.

Assi and Keron Dor had just become husband and wife, the traditional blessings of a Jewish wedding pronounced, when the rejoicing began and tragedy immediately followed.

Hundreds of guests fell storeys, as the ceilings of the lower levels buckled and crashed to the ground at the Versailles Hall in Talpiot, an industrial and commercial suburb of Jerusalem.

"We were dancing and [suddenly] three storeys collapsed," Mr Zion Dor, father of the groom, said.

A gaping hole could be seen in the middle of the wedding hall, as rescue workers dug amid shattered concrete and twisted steel.

Mr Yossi Maman said: "We heard a huge boom and saw that the three floors of the banquet hall had utterly collapsed, on top of the other. We saw men, women, children and babies lying on top of each other."

Mrs Malka Ben-Yehzekel and her family were near a wall.

"The entire floor collapsed. The table at which we were sitting dropped along with it," she said. "My daughter and I were left approximately two tiles away from where the floor collapsed and we found ourselves over an abyss."

One man said: "We fell one floor, and then the next floor collapsed. And the next. And I'm trying to hold my son's hand all the time. We dropped all the way down. We were in the ruins."

With the country on high alert amid continuing political violence, police quickly dismissed the notion of a terrorist attack.

Israeli wedding disaster kills 22

The Palestinian Authority instructed a department to offer to help Israeli rescue operations.

Israeli officials said the building had probably collapsed because of an engineering problem.

The Mayor, Mr Ehud Olmert, said an initial investigation of the building file disclosed findings that troubled him "very much".

The owner of the three-storey hall, built in 1986, was questioned by police, who confirmed there had recently been renovation work at the site which included the removal of four columns.

The incident came as Israeli-Palestinian violence flared again, despite calls for a ceasefire. Yesterday a suicide truck bomber blew himself up near an Israeli army outpost in the Gaza Strip, and Israeli forces retaliated by shelling a Palestinian police station. The militant Islamic group **Hamas** said the truck driver was trying to "avenge Israeli crimes".

Another bomb killed two to three people in the central Israeli city of Hadera yesterday and wounded about 20, police said. One or more of those killed could be bombers, they said.

On Thursday, a 20-year-old deaf Palestinian was shot dead as he stood outside his home in the Gaza Strip, unaware of a gun battle raging around him.

Impossible to ignore Page 33

Graphic

THREE ILLUS: Above: the bride is carried to an ambulance; left and right: rescue workers look for victims and survivors in the ruins of the building. Main photo: AP/Jerome Delay

Load-Date: July 24, 2007

Violence overshadows diplomatic efforts

The Cambridge Reporter

April 24, 2001 Tuesday

Copyright 2001 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: CANADA/WORLD; Pg. A9

Length: 513 words

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was killed by a gunshot to the head during a funeral in the Gaza Strip, and Israel endured its third bomb attack in two days as violence yesterday eclipsed diplomatic efforts to end the Mideast bloodshed.

Several separate political initiatives were under way in a bid to halt, or at least limit, the seven months of fighting.

At a meeting late yesterday between Israeli and Palestinian security officials, it was decided to work for a reduction of violence, according to an Israeli military statement, which said Israel would ease restrictions on the Palestinians when conditions allow.

AP

In the southern Gaza Strip, more than 1,000 Palestinians, some wearing green police fatigues, joined the funeral procession of a Palestinian policeman who died of injuries sustained during an Israeli rocket attack last week.

As the body was being lowered into the ground at the Khan Yunis cemetery, next to a Jewish settlement, several dozen Palestinian gunmen fired 21 shots into the air as a sign of respect, said Eyad Saadoni, a math teacher. The Israeli military said the shots were directed at the settlement, drawing return fire.

Bursts of gunfire came from the direction of the nearby settlement which is protected by an Israeli army post about 500 metres away, said Saadoni and other witnesses.

Palestinian mourners scattered in panic, with women and children running barefoot through the sandy streets, many seeking shelter in abandoned buildings.

"Some were trying to take cover," Saadoni said. "Some of them were kneeling next to the grave. Others covered their heads with their hands. Then I saw the wounded child collapse."

A 12-year-old Palestinian boy, Muhanad Muhareb, was shot just above the left eye and died, and 11 Palestinians were wounded, including one who was in critical condition, according to doctors at Khan Yunis Hospital.

Meanwhile, a car bomb exploded yesterday, lightly injuring four people in the working-class town of Or Yehuda, east of Tel Aviv.

In a telephone call to The Associated Press, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a radical Palestinian faction.

Violence overshadows diplomatic efforts

A day earlier, a Palestinian militant detonated a bomb near a bus in the town of Kfar Saba, near Tel Aviv, killing himself and an Israeli doctor and wounding 50 people.

The Islamic militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility and identified the bomber as 18-year-old Imad Zubadi.

At his home in the West Bank town of Nablus, Zubadi's mother said her son was scheduled to take his final high school exams in a few days, but she was proud he had become a "martyr."

In a second blast Sunday, a bomb hidden in a bag near an intersection in the Israeli port city of Haifa exploded, lightly injuring three policemen.

After the meeting of security commanders, Palestinian participants briefed Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. While the meeting was going on at his house north of Tel Aviv, U.S. ambassador Martin Indyk met Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem, according to an Israeli official who requested anonymity.

Graphic

AP; Israeli police officers examine the wreckage of a car after a pipe bomb exploded in the working-class town of Or Yehuda, near Tel Aviv yesterday. Four people were slightly injured in the incident.

Load-Date: December 2, 2002

SOCCKER DIPLOMACY

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

June 23, 1998, Tuesday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

Copyright 1998 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: EDITORIAL, Pg. B6

Length: 467 words

Body

IRAN

Iran may have defeated the United States in soccer, but both sides may be victorious in this round of soccer diplomacy. Like the ping-pong democracy that presaged the United States' opening to China, the game was an occasion to help reconcile old, bitter enemies.

On the field, Iranian players gave flowers to their American counterparts. Home in Tehran, ordinary Iranians celebrated their team's win with blaring American rock music and veils thrown to the winds. Among all the chants and cheers, one was distinctly absent. Reporters on the scene say they didn't once hear the familiar, all-purpose "Death to the Great Satan."

The popular response of the Iranians validates the Americans' cautious, and welcome, diplomatic opening. It's no accident that U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright used her speech at an Asia Society dinner in Washington last week to announce a subtle warming in U.S. policy toward Iran. Her speech represented this country's first comprehensive statement on Iran since President Mohammad Khatami was elected with a resounding 70 percent of the vote, and she catalogued the welcome changes in Iran since Mr. Khatami's election.

Iran, she says, has signaled that it will accept whatever peace agreement is reached between the Israelis and the Palestinians. It has begun to fight the war against drugs, at least within its own borders, more vigorously. It also has treated compassionately the 2 million refugees from Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet, while Mr. Khatami may have renounced terrorism rhetorically, it's not clear that Iran has done so in practice. Because of that, terrorism remains, and must remain, an issue on the bilateral agenda.

In case anyone missed the point, President Bill Clinton called for a "genuine reconciliation" with Iran the day after Ms. Albright's speech. For the United States, a thaw in relations with Iran would be good news in a region brimming with bad: notably, the breakdown in the Middle East peace process and the subcontinent's nuclear testing. Iran could be a force for stability - if it cut its backing of Hamas and its own ambitions for a nuclear device.

It's a tall order, and the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's spiritual leader, never misses an opportunity to say, in so many words, that Iran hasn't changed, and won't. His comments on the soccer team's victory offered up business as usual, little different from the Iranian news service's icy dismissal of Ms. Albright's speech.

Ayatollah Khamenei may be powerful, but he is Iran's past. Iran's future was on the streets of Tehran Sunday night. The youth and the women - they are the ones who overwhelmingly elected President Khatami, they are the ones who barely remember, if at all, the hostage crisis and they are the ones to whom the United States should direct its message.

SOCCKER DIPLOMACY

Load-Date: June 23, 1998

End of Document

**SEAN LANGAN (RIGHT) TELLS ALEX MITCHELL ABOUT "ISLAMIC
EXTREMISM" - INSIDE TELEVISION: INTERVIEW - ANTENNA EDITED BY
ALEX MITCHELL; 'I'M MORE SCARED WALKING LATE AT NIGHT IN
SHEPHERDS BUSH THAN IN THE MIDDLE EAST'**

The Express

February 27, 2001

Copyright 2001 EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

Section: TV; Pg. 61

Length: 467 words

Byline: ALEX MITCHELL

Body

The last time Sean Langan made a programme for the BBC he ended up with a gun pointed at his head. It was a video diary about the four Western journalists who were kidnapped in Kashmir. "The terrorists from Afghanistan were saying: 'We're going to kill this guy'", he remembers, smiling, "but I thought they were saying 'How's your mother?'"

They didn't, and the whole experience left him with a fascination with Islam and the BBC rather fascinated with him. The result is this week's Langan Behind The Lines, a nightly trek which follows him over two years from Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq to Gaza and aims to get behind the stereotypes the West associates with Islam and the countries of the Middle East. "The idea is that I'm on the same learning curve as the person watching it," he says. "It's not Panorama."

Last night you may have seen the 36-year-old Londoner play "egg" with the Taliban; tonight, you can watch him visit a secret school for girls, set up in defiance of the Taliban law banning **women** from an education. Later this week, he drops into the youthful, sophisticated Iranian capital Tehran, where he turns down a young woman's request to dance to Michael Jackson's Billie Jean in the park.

He grimaces, embarrassed. "My only excuse is that off camera 50 people were looking at me and it is banned and there were secret police everywhere."

There's a big difference between Taliban-ruled Afghanistan (which, although brutal has, Langan says, staged fewer executions than Texas under George W Bush) and Iraq, until recently a secular state. As there is between the feisty **female** artist he meets in Tehran and the founder of the Islamic group **Hamas** in Gaza. But Langan came away with some strong general impressions of the region, particularly its disappointment in the West over Iraqi sanctions.

"People in every town I visited said they felt let down because they'd always aspired to Western values - freedom and democracy. Now it's a black joke that we're bombing them."

His conclusion - "It is not Islam that we have to fear, but our ignorance" - comes after a journey in which he, too, becomes aware of his preconceptions. "I think Islam is a really maligned religion. I was shocked about how little we

SEAN LANGAN (RIGHT) TELLS ALEX MITCHELL ABOUT "ISLAMIC EXTREMISM" - INSIDE TELEVISION:
INTERVIEW - ANTENNA EDITED BY ALEX MITCHELL; 'I'M MORE SCARED WALKING LAT....

know about it. In the West we associate it with extremism and more secular countries like Saudi Arabia as moderate. But Iran is far more moderate than Saudi as far as women's rights are concerned."

As for the people, he found no cowed, cowering shadows, but "a real strength of family warmth - and community. I'm more scared walking late at night in Shepherds Bush than in the Middle East. I came away with a sense of what we are missing. When I said that in the West we put our parents in old people's homes they didn't believe me." Langan Behind The Lines, tonight, BBC2, 11.20pm

Load-Date: February 27, 2001

End of Document

PALESTINIAN HEADQUARTERS HIT BY ROCKETS

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

March 29, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 The Columbian Publishing Co.

Section: World/Nation; Pg. a5

Length: 528 words

Byline: IBRAHIM BARZAK, Associated Press writer

Body

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip -- Israeli helicopters rocketed headquarters of Force 17, Yasser Arafat's elite guard, in Gaza and the West Bank town of Ramallah on Wednesday, retaliating for a wave of bombings, including a suicide attack that killed two Israeli teen-agers.

Red flares lit up the night sky over Ramallah, where two people were killed in the assault, and flames leaped from burning buildings and cars as firefighters tried to put out multiple blazes.

Doctors in Ramallah said the dead included a member of Force 17 and a **female** civilian. Overall, more than two dozen Palestinians were injured in Ramallah and Gaza, several critically, doctors said.

The attacks on Palestinian government buildings were the first since last fall and further eroded the fabric and foundation of the peace agreements that granted the Palestinians autonomy and self-government.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has repeatedly accused Force 17 of involvement in attacks against Israeli civilians.

"The purpose is to strike directly at those responsible for terrorism," the Israeli military said in a statement. The military said it hit the Force 17 headquarters in Ramallah, and four Force 17 targets around Gaza City and Deir al-Balah in the southern Gaza Strip including a training camp and an arms depot.

The buildings under attack all in areas governed by Arafat's Palestinian Authority under peace agreements had been evacuated after the Israeli military warned the Palestinians to leave.

In Gaza City, the low-flying Israeli gunships blasted a Force 17 building that had been used as a weapons arsenal and is only 100 yards from Arafat's house.

The Palestinians said the building had been empty for some time, but **women** and children screamed as they fled nearby buildings. The smell of gunpowder hung in the salty sea air after the attack.

Arafat was in Amman, Jordan, where Arab leaders wrapped up a two-day summit earlier Wednesday with pledges of financial aid to the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority.

In a summit statement, Arab leaders voiced "their continued commitment to a comprehensive, permanent and just peace in the Middle East," but also assailed Israel in language that recalled other Arab wars with the Jewish state.

PALESTINIAN HEADQUARTERS HIT BY ROCKETS

At the United Nations, in its first U.N. veto since 1997, the United States heeded a call from Israel and killed a resolution backing a U.N. observer force to help protect Palestinians.

Senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat called the Israeli attacks "a response to the Arab summit" and noted that it followed the U.S. veto of a resolution for a force that the Palestinians had requested.

Erekat described Wednesday's attacks as "premeditated Israeli aggression which will escalate drastically."

The nighttime assault came hours after a suicide bomber detonated nail-filled explosives strapped to his body near a group of Jewish seminary students waiting at the roadside near the West Bank, killing two. The previous day, militants carried out back-to-back attacks, including a suicide attack that injured two dozen people.

The Palestinian militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for both suicide bombings and said more bombers were ready to strike.

Graphic

ADEL HANA/The Associated Press *Damage extensive: A Palestinian officer inspects the police training camp and arms depot of Yasser Arafat's Force 17 personal guard in Jabalia, north of Gaza City, Wednesday, after Israeli helicopters rocketed the facility.

Load-Date: March 29, 2001

VIOLENCE FLARES IN MIDEAST AS PERES HOLDS TALKS IN U.S.

The Toronto Star

May 2, 2001, Wednesday, Edition 1

Copyright 2001 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS

Length: 504 words

Body

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) - A Jewish settler was slain yesterday in an ambush on the same road his father was murdered on in January.

Also yesterday, Palestinians suffered two more deaths even as they buried five people, including a young brother and sister.

The violence came as Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres held talks in the United States about an Arab plan to stop the fighting, now in its eighth month.

The Egyptian-Jordanian proposal calls for a month-long truce, followed by a resumption of peace negotiations. However, Israel wants a ceasefire to last two or three months before restarting negotiations.

Peres said yesterday he will ask Secretary of State Colin Powell for help. He said his talks with Powell, scheduled for today, would focus on "how to achieve an effective ceasefire. Without American involvement, it cannot work."

Jewish settler Assaf Hershkovitz, 31, was killed when his van was hit by 27 bullets and overturned on a stretch of West Bank road that Palestinian gunmen have repeatedly targeted outside Ramallah.

Hershkovitz's father Arie was killed in an almost identical shooting in January, just 5 kilometres from where his son died.

The Islamic militant group ***Hamas*** claimed responsibility for yesterday's killing, saying it was revenge for the Palestinians killed in two bomb blasts Monday.

Assaf Hershkovitz was wearing a bulletproof vest but was hit in the neck, his wife Hila said.

She told her children, ages 3 and 5, that their father "was not coming home again. My (five-year-old) son asked if he was killed. He knew straightaway."

In further violence, two Palestinians were killed - a policeman shot in a firefight with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip refugee camp of Rafah, and a suspected informer for Israel ambushed by a masked assailant in the West Bank town of Qalqilya.

In Ramallah, several thousand chanting Palestinians marched through the streets to mourn the deaths of a Palestinian activist and two children killed when a two-storey apartment building was levelled Monday night.

VIOLENCE FLARES IN MIDEAST AS PERES HOLDS TALKS IN U.S.

The blast was several hundred metres from the West Bank headquarters of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

Four-year-old Malak Barakat and her seven-year-old brother Shahid died along with Hassan al Qady, a leading member in Arafat's Fatah movement.

Abeer Barakat, 25, the children's mother, was wounded along with her five- year-old daughter Wahed.

Barakat said she was doing the laundry when her home collapsed. "I called out to my children but only heard Wahed's voice," she said from her hospital bed. "I was trapped on the ground and heard her crying."

At yesterday's funeral procession, children carried posters of the dead. ***Women*** wept. Men shouted, "Revenge for the martyrs," while members of the Palestinian security forces fired their automatic rifles into the air.

Shortly after the funeral, Palestinian militants and the Israeli army waged a heavy gun battle at the edge of Ramallah, and Israeli troops fired tank shells to disperse Palestinian gunmen. No injuries were reported.

Graphic

AP PHOTO

A SHATTERED FAMILY:

Wahed Barakat, 5, and her mother Abeer lie in a West Bank hospital yesterday recovering from a blast that killed Wahed's brother and sister.

Load-Date: May 2, 2001

End of Document

Sharon widens lead over Barak as CIA tries to contain violence

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

January 6, 2001 Saturday Final Edition

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Section: News; Pg. A4; News

Length: 531 words

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

JERUSALEM (AP) -- Opposition leader Ariel Sharon, who says he will not honour any peace deal signed before Israel's Feb. 6 election, has dramatically widened his lead over Prime Minister Ehud Barak, polls indicated Friday.

With the race tied only a month ago, Sharon now commands 50 per cent of voter support, while Barak's backing has dropped to as low as 22 per cent.

In his most extensive TV interview of the campaign, the hardline Sharon, who is trying to attract centrist voters, suggested he would invite Barak's Labour party into his government. The ex-general also said he would make peace with the Palestinians on his terms, without painful concessions, but was short on detail.

Associated Press

CIA chief George Tenet, meanwhile, was due in the region this weekend as part of a U.S. push to contain Israeli-Palestinian fighting and prepare for what would be the final round of peace talks in U.S. President Bill Clinton's term.

Israel has said it would resume negotiations only if Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat tried hard to reduce violence. Tenet is to meet Sunday in Cairo with senior Israeli and Palestinian security officials.

In scattered confrontations Friday, a Palestinian man was shot and killed by Israeli soldiers when he scaled a fence close to an Israeli army position in the Gaza Strip, the army said.

Near the Jewish settlement of Beit Hagai in the West Bank, Palestinians fired on an army position. Soldiers' return fire struck two Palestinian women, killing one of them, Palestinian security officials said. In the town of Ramallah, several Palestinians shot at Israeli troops trying to disperse 300 stone-throwers. Soldiers fired back, wounding 12 demonstrators.

The relatively small number of incidents marked a sharp drop from recent Fridays. In more than three months of fighting, clashes often started after Friday noon prayers, the highlight of the Muslim religious week. Nearly 360 people have been killed since late September, the vast majority Palestinians.

If the lull persists, talks could resume next week, though the venue and duration were uncertain. Earlier this week, Clinton proposed 10 to 12 days of intense negotiations, according to Palestinian officials.

Israel hedged, instead sending its chief negotiator, Gilead Sher, to Washington for briefings on two Clinton-Arafat meetings this week. Israeli officials in Washington said Sher was to deliver to the White House a six-page response to Clinton's framework for a peace accord.

Sharon widens lead over Barak as CIA tries to contain violence

The Palestinians said they wouldn't decide on sending a team to talks until they learn the outcome of the Israeli-U.S. contacts. Clinton is expected to brief Arafat this weekend.

Israeli and Palestinian officials have said they don't believe a treaty can be forged before Clinton leaves the White House on Jan. 20. Both sides now expect, at best, a U.S. paper that would sum up positions, or a presidential statement.

In his outline, Clinton proposed that the Palestinians all but forgo the "right of return" of nearly four million Palestinian refugees to former homes in Israel. In return, Palestinians would be given sovereignty over a key Jerusalem shrine revered by Muslims and Jews.

Graphic

Photo: Hasser Ishtayeh, Associated Press; Palestinian supporters of the Islamic group **Hamas** burn photographs of President Bill Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

**'Shoot-to-kill' policy exposed;
Israeli army embarrassed at revelation**

Windsor Star (Ontario)

December 22, 2000 Friday Final Edition

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Section: World; Pg. B2; News

Length: 520 words

Byline: Sam Kiley The London Times

Dateline: Jerusalem

Body

The Israeli military establishment operates a shoot-to-kill policy against Palestinian guerrillas, an army intelligence general said Thursday.

The admission embarrassed the armed forces and officials were quick to distance themselves from the radio statement made by the unnamed general. The officer said the forces were hunting down and killing "known terrorists."

The London Times

The preferred method in carrying out the extra-judicial killings, he said, was through sniping.

In the past month, more than a dozen Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops and policemen employing sophisticated techniques. These have included a booby-trapped mobile telephone and a bomb planted in the headrest of a car driven by a member of an Islamic guerrilla group.

At least four civilians were also killed in what the army calls "pro-active operations." Two of them, middle-aged women, were blown up by a rocket fired from a helicopter in Bethlehem. Overall, about 340 Palestinians, many of them children, have died since the outbreak of violence three months ago.

Israel has made no secret of the assaults and has been quick to publicize operations once they have been carried out. The attacks have also sown fear among armed Palestinian activists, who have complained to Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority that they need protection, sources in the governing body said.

But following the general's statement, military officials refused to discuss it amid dismay at the blunt nature of the broadcast. Officials, however, confirmed Israel's policy of killing its most dangerous enemies.

One military spokesman said: "We have a policy of attacking those who have attacked our military or our civilians. There is no secret about that. We have been doing it for years. We don't wait for them to attack us again."

The general's disclosure came hours before the death of two Palestinians in Gaza Thursday. Rashid Barhoun, 26, a member of Hamas, was shot in the back while fleeing from a gunbattle with Israeli troops at the Rafah crossing into Egypt. Ahed Mreish, 18, was killed near Karni, where there was no fighting. An Israeli military spokesman denied any involvement in his death.

'Shoot-to-kill' policy exposed; Israeli army embarrassed at revelation

With killings continuing unabated in the occupied territories, Palestinian and Israeli negotiators were upbeat Thursday after three days of talks in Washington.

"We are close to achieving recognition of Palestinian sovereignty over Arab East Jerusalem, including the holy sites," said Yasser Abed Rabbo, chief Palestinian envoy in the talks at Bolling Air Force Base.

"But there remain many details we have to discuss, such as the area of Jerusalem and how to link its neighbourhoods, as well as the Jewish settlement presence. All these issues are difficult and require great effort. Failing to agree on them would obstruct a deal."

Shlomo Ben-Ami, the Israeli Foreign Minister, described the talks as productive and said the talks could lead to an agreement if they continued in the same positive spirit.

President Bill Clinton has set a deadline of Jan. 10, 10 days before he leaves office, for both sides to strike a deal.

Graphic

Palestinian Christian and Muslim children from Bethlehem rally for peace with placards in Manger Square, in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, Thursday. In the background the Church of the Nativity, traditionally believed to be the birthplace of Jesus. Associated Press photo: Michel Euler

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

Palestinian activist gunned down by Israeli soldiers; 'Political assassination' marks the fourth killing of a West Bank leader in as many weeks

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

December 13, 2000 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2000 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: FRONT; Pg. A06; News

Length: 483 words

Dateline: BETHLEHEM

Body

BETHLEHEM -- Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian activist yesterday, witnesses said, in the fourth slaying of a West Bank leader in about a month.

All are considered political assassinations by the Palestinians.

The Israeli military refused to comment on the killing of Yousef Abu Swayeh, 27, nor would it confirm that he was even on its wanted list.

Kitchener Waterloo Record

But Deputy Defence Minister Ephraim Sneh told Israel radio earlier in the day that the only way to stop Palestinian attacks on Israelis is to "strike at those who are leading the shooting cells and their deputies."

The killing in the West Bank town of Bethlehem came as Prime Minister Ehud Barak, beginning his re-election campaign, said he hoped conditions would soon be right for resuming peace negotiations with the Palestinians. First, he said, violence must be substantially reduced.

Facing extreme criticism for the fighting, Barak resigned this weekend and new elections are scheduled for Feb. 6.

The violence, which has left more than 310 people dead, and Barak's response to it, are at the centre of the campaign.

Though no large-scale riots or confrontations were reported yesterday, three Israelis were wounded in two shooting incidents, and the military said it defused several bombs.

In recent weeks, the pattern of the Palestinian uprising, which started Sept. 28, has moved away from riots and toward shooting attacks and roadside bombings in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

An activist in the Fatah movement of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Abu Swayeh was gunned down in front of his home in a village near Bethlehem, witnesses said, demanding anonymity.

They said Israeli soldiers fired at him from a road under Israeli control and hit him with 17 bullets.

At least three other regional Palestinian leaders have been killed since the current unrest began.

Palestinian activist gunned down by Israeli soldiers; 'Political assassination' marks the fourth killing of a West Bank leader in as many weeks

Israel took responsibility for two of the killings.

On Nov. 9, not far from where Abu Swayeh died, Israeli helicopters fired at a car carrying the local Fatah commander, Hussein Abayat, killing him and two women bystanders.

In the Gaza Strip on Nov. 23, Israeli forces opened fire on a car, killing a senior Fatah commander, Jamal Abdel Razek, and several of his aides.

Also on Nov. 23, a Hamas bombmaker, Ibrahim Bani Odeh, was killed in an explosion in his car. Israel denied it was involved, but a Palestinian court passed a death sentence against a Palestinian it ruled aided Israel in carrying out the assassination.

In Cairo, the chairman of an international inquiry committee appointed by U.S. President Bill Clinton said the group will gather evidence on the ground to determine the causes of the violence between Israel and the Palestinians.

"We'll receive information from the widest possible range of sources and we will make the appropriate judgment at the appropriate time on what is necessary," said former U.S. senator George Mitchell.

Graphic

Associated Press; Gunmen stand watch during the funeral procession for a fellow Palestinian, killed by Israeli troops, in this file photo.

Load-Date: October 10, 2002

*Playing with fire in Iraq;
Family will suffer from this decision*

DAILY MAIL (London)

February 18, 1998

Copyright 1998 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

Section: Pg. 8

Length: 511 words

Body

STEP by step in a deadly war of words the Iraq crisis is ratcheted up.

Robin Cook told the Commons yesterday that any retaliation by Saddam Hussein involving chemical or biological weapons would be met with a 'proportionate' response.

The Foreign Secretary's chill warning came as the Palestinian terrorist group **Hamas** threatened to attack targets in Israel if Britain or America bombed Iraq.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has already hinted that he would use nuclear weapons if Iraq employed weapons of mass destruction against his country.

Even allowing for the inevitable brinkmanship, it is becoming increasingly apparent that if diplomacy fails and the bombing starts it will be impossible to tell where the situation will end.

What if Saddam simply absorbs punishment and still refuses to accept 'total compliance' with the UN resolutions? What would Britain and America do if he is killed or removed and Iraq falls apart, triggering conflict in the north between Turkey, Syria and Iran over the future of the Kurdish region?

Or if Iran invades Iraq to 'liberate' Shia Muslims in the south of the country?

What action would Britain and America take if the choice was between bloody chaos and a sullen Iraq policed indefinitely by allied soldiers?

Saddam Hussein is an evil man whose removal would be a blessing. But, as we have argued, the allies must have a convincing strategy and endgame in place before embarking on what was always intended to be limited military action. Otherwise they are playing with fire.

FROM the European Court comes a decision which demonstrates the mess which can ensue when the line between marriage and cohabitation is blurred.

South West Trains was found not guilty of sex discrimination when it refused to grant concessionary travel to the lesbian partner of employee, Lisa Grant. This was because the company imposed identical restrictions on male homosexual couples.

Playing with fire in Iraq ; Family will suffer from this decision

The court, however, found that the company systematically discriminated against homosexual couples both male and **female** on grounds of sexual orientation, but ruled that that in itself was not unlawful.

The case was only brought because the company had extended the perk, originally available only to married couples, and offered it to heterosexual couples. It was inevitable that homosexual couples (male or **female**) would demand similar treatment.

The court's ruling against Miss Grant will increase demands from 'gay' pressure groups for legislation to outlaw discrimination against homosexuals.

Inevitably there will be calls to legalise same-sex marriages and to force the Armed Services to accept self-proclaimed homosexuals.

It is irrefutable that homosexuals, like other people, should be allowed to live their private lives without shame or discrimination.

It is equally irrefutable that if bringing up children in a state of marriage is not accorded the special status that such a commitment assumes, then the family will suffer and society will almost certainly be the poorer.

Load-Date: February 19, 1998

Shoot-to-kill policy is exposed in Israel

The Times (London)

December 22, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Overseas news

Length: 588 words

Byline: Sam Kiley in Jerusalem

Body

THE Israeli military establishment operates a shoot-to-kill policy against Palestinian guerrillas, an army intelligence general said yesterday.

The admission embarrassed the armed forces, and officials were quick to distance themselves from the radio statement made by the unnamed general. The officer said the forces were hunting down and killing "known terrorists". The preferred method in carrying out the extra-judicial killings, he said, was through sniping.

In the past month more than a dozen Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops and policemen employing sophisticated techniques. These have included a booby-trapped mobile telephone and a bomb planted in the headrest of a car driven by a member of an Islamic guerrilla group.

At least another four civilians were also killed in what the Israeli army calls "pro-active operations".

Two of them, middle-aged women, were blown up by a rocket fired from a helicopter in Bethlehem. Overall, about 340 Palestinians, many of them children, have died since the outbreak of violence three months ago.

Israel has made no secret of the assaults and has been quick to publicise operations once they have been carried out. The attacks have also sown fear among armed Palestinian activists, who have complained to Yassir Arafat's Palestinian Authority that they need protection, sources in the governing body said.

Military officials refused to discuss the general's statement yesterday. Officials, however, confirmed Israel's policy of killing its most dangerous enemies. One military spokesman said: "We have a policy of attacking those who have attacked our military or our civilians. There is no secret about that. We have been doing it for years. We don't wait for them to attack us again."

The general's disclosure came hours before the death of two Palestinians in Gaza yesterday. Rashid Barhoun, 26, a member of Hamas, was shot in the back while fleeing from a gunbattle with Israeli troops at the Rafah crossing into Egypt. Ahed Mreish, 18, was killed near Karni, where there was no fighting. An Israeli military spokesman denied any involvement in his death.

A 30-year-old Israeli man was shot dead yesterday by a Palestinian north of Jerusalem in the West Bank. The victim, whose identity was not given, died when the Palestinian fired from a vehicle on a busy road linking Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. With killings continuing unabated in the occupied territories, Palestinian and Israeli negotiators were upbeat yesterday after three days of talks in Washington.

Shoot-to-kill policy is exposed in Israel

"We are close to achieving recognition of Palestinian sovereignty over Arab East Jerusalem, including the holy sites," Yassir Abed Rabbo, chief Palestinian envoy in the talks at Bolling Air Force Base near Washington, said.

Shlomo Ben-Ami, the Israeli Foreign Minister, described the talks as productive and said that there could be an agreement if they continued in the same positive spirit.

President Clinton has set a deadline of January 10, ten days before he leaves office, for both sides to strike a deal that could lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Israel's left-wing Meretz party voted not to back Shimon Peres's candidacy for Prime Minister in the February 6 election, destroying his chances. Mr Peres, 77, architect of Israel's seven-year-old peace drive with the Palestinians, said he would not oppose the decision: "That is the result and that is that. I will continue to work towards peace."

THE TIMES ONLINE

www.thetimes.co.uk

Middle East crisis: Times background and reports

Load-Date: December 22, 2000

ANOTHER MISTAKEN BOMBING PUTS ISRAELI MILITARY'S REPUTATION ON LINE

The Independent (London)

November 24, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 Independent Print Ltd

Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 14

Length: 536 words

Byline: Phil Reeves In Jerusalem

Body

THE TIMING was desperately unfortunate. Yesterday morning, a fighter jet from the Israeli Air Force dropped a bomb on the West Bank city of Nablus. By mistake. True, it was a training bomb, empty of explosives. But the blunder was serious enough for the Israeli armed forces to rush out a statement "expressing sorrow" and to offer to help Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority clear up.

All this, only a day after Israel's Prime Minister, Ehud Barak, had blamed the Palestinian Authority for being indirectly responsible for a car bombing in the Israeli coastal town of Hadera, which killed two. And only three days ago - not for the first time - Apache helicopters from the Israeli air force were firing rockets at the Gaza offices of the authority.

The strange contradictions of this grim low-level war grow by the day. Just the night before yesterday's embarrassing error, the streets of Jerusalem filled with tens of thousands of right-wing Israelis, infuriated by the Hadera bomb and demanding that the army use more force.

Israel's entire dilemma is complicated by doubts over the competence of the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) to deal with the urban guerrilla war now developing out of what began as a popular intifada. No one beyond the most wildly extreme elements in Israel wants to see the military make a mistake by slaughtering a large number of Palestinian civilians in one attack.

International pressure on Israel has mounted sharply in the past few days and, feeling isolated and abandoned, Israel wants to avoid mistakes; meanwhile, its armed forces have moved to what it - alarmingly - calls "pro-active" operations, a euphemism for killing people on the basis that you suspect them of planning to kill you, a policy known in Britain in Baroness Thatcher's years as shoot-to-kill.

A "pro-active operation" was almost certainly behind the death yesterday of Ibrahim Bani Odeh, an alleged activist in the Islamic militant group Hamas, who was found dead in his car in Nablus. Reports said he had been released from jail only 24 hours before.

For the IDF, one mistake has followed another in the uprising.

Three Israeli soldiers, and a reserve colonel, have managed to get captured by Hizbollah guerrillas in Lebanon. And if the Palestinian mob that butchered two Israeli soldiers in Ramallah on 12 October acted in a barbaric way, the soldiers had made a breathtaking mistake by wandering into an autonomous Palestinian area.

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Even after the lynchings, an Israeli military bus managed to stray into an Arab area. And what Israel clearly intended as a clinical helicopter strike to take out a Palestinian guerrilla in Bethlehem was horribly marred by the casual killing of two middle-aged Arab women, who happened to be passing by.

This is not the heroic stuff on which the Israeli army's reputation as a brilliantly efficient force was built. At heart, Ehud Barak, Israel's most decorated soldier, is a commando; in uniform he was part of a group that specialised in undercover assassinations. But his enemies now are guerrilla fighters and a complex, popular uprising not directed by one single leader, but by several, almost certainly at odds with one another. The military manuals offer no quick fix.

Graphic

Soldiers firing tear gas at Palestinian stone-throwers in Hebron yesterday Nayef Hashlamounh/Reuters

Load-Date: November 24, 2000

End of Document

ISRAEL'S NEW 'HIT' POLICY

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

December 22, 2000, Friday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2000 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,

Length: 532 words

Byline: DEBORAH SONTAG, THE NEW YORK TIMES

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

Senior Israeli officials have acknowledged a new tactic of hunting down and killing Palestinian militants whom Israel holds responsible for planning attacks on or attacking its citizens.

Israel Radio and the Haaretz newspaper have both quoted senior military officials on a "liquidations" policy that has provoked an outcry among Palestinian officials, who call it "state terrorism." While Israeli officials never denied that they were tracking down and killing armed operatives -mostly by sniper fire -- they are now beginning to acknowledge this publicly, explicitly and even proudly.

Carmit Guy, an Israel Radio interviewer, yesterday asked Ephraim Sneh, the deputy defense minister, about "our eliminations."

"When we say that we will punish the murderers, and we will prevent terror attacks, we really mean it," Sneh said. "The good thing is that we have succeeded in getting to, in an exact, pinpoint and clean manner, people who have launched terror attacks, murdered Israelis and are planning even more murderous attacks."

Guy said, "But they then accuse us."

"So let them accuse all they want," Sneh said. "You can't beat terror at symposiums at the university."

"The most effective and just way to deal with terror is the elimination or incarceration of the people who lead these organizations."

The Israeli army unveiled this approach quite openly in early November, but then proceeded quietly.

In November, it assassinated a paramilitary commander in Beit Sahour, a hilly, white-washed Christian town near Bethlehem. During peak daylight, Israeli helicopter gunships dropped missiles on his car as he left a site from which Palestinian gunmen frequently fired on an Israeli army post.

The missiles killed the commander, Hussein Obaiyat, and two middle-aged women passersby.

The army took credit for the killing, which it referred to as a "surgical strike" in contrast to the shelling of security force headquarters and other Palestinian government offices.

ISRAEL 'S NEW 'HIT' POLICY

At the time, several senior government officials were beginning to question Israel's retaliatory bombardments as counterproductive displays of force.

The changing nature of the conflict also called for different tactics, they said. The uprising began with large, daily clashes between Palestinian rioters --sometimes directed and abetted by gunmen -- and Israeli soldiers.

But it mutated into something more akin to a Lebanon-style guerrilla war, in which Palestinian gunmen mounted shooting attacks and planted roadside bombs, often at night.

Last week, Israeli soldiers shot dead three Palestinian militants in three consecutive days -- one from the **Hamas** organization, one from the Islamic Jihad and one from Arafat's Fatah organization. All died instantly in a hail of gunfire -- one in front of his shop and two in front of their homes.

An Israel Radio report yesterday cited a senior Israeli officer who called the policy "very effective" in thwarting attacks and damaging the operational ability of Palestinians.

Using their one public case, army officials have pointed to what they consider the positive aftermath of the Obaiyat assassination; the shooting from Beit Sahour onto the Israeli army outpost has dwindled to almost nothing.

Graphic

PHOTO, Photo: Camay Sungu/Associated Press: Shoppers line up to make purchases yesterday at a downtown Munich butcher shop that sells only products made from turkey. Germans are reacting to the mad cow disease outbreak by choosing alternate meats instead of purchasing beef or sausages made with beef.

Load-Date: December 22, 2000

End of Document

ARAB TARGETS ISRAELI SOLDIERS

The Toronto Star

August 11, 1999, Wednesday, Edition 1

Copyright 1999 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS

Length: 519 words

Body

A tarp covers the body of a Palestinian man as police inspect the wreckage of the car he drove into hitchhiking soldiers in Israel yesterday.

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Israel's new government and the Palestinian Authority took careful steps to avoid a confrontation yesterday after a Palestinian attacked a group of soldiers in central Israel.

Eleven soldiers were injured when a man twice drove his car into the group at an intersection about midway between Jerusalem and Gaza. He died in a hail of Israeli gunfire that caused his vehicle to crash into a truck.

"The executor of this terror attack is a criminal with extremist motives," Prime Minister Ehud Barak said. "His action will strengthen our determination to do whatever it takes to put an end to terror and to do it in co-operation with the Palestinian Authority."

Echoing Barak, Palestinian cabinet minister Jamil Tarifi said: "We strongly condemn any attack and we believe that acts of violence do not help build trust between the sides."

But a senior Palestinian security official said the driver was a car thief and drug addict from the West Bank town of Bethlehem. The official, who asked not to be identified, said he did not believe the attack stemmed from nationalistic motives.

A statement from Barak's office said he told his cabinet that he "took a grave view" of the incident.

In a departure from the practice of the previous right-wing government of Benjamin Netanyahu after such attacks, the terse statement did not point an accusing finger at the Palestinian Authority for not doing enough to curb anti-Israel terror attacks.

'The executor of this terror attack is a criminal with extremist motives.' An Israeli army spokesperson said an "Arab terrorist" driving a red Fiat Uno car plowed into a group of soldiers as they walked across Nachshon junction to catch a bus near the town of Beit Shemesh between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

ARAB TARGETS ISRAELI SOLDIERS

"The vehicle hit two women soldiers and kept on going. The other soldiers did not fire because they thought it was a hit-and-run accident," the spokesperson said.

"But police cruisers and a police helicopter were called in and a chase ensued. Ten minutes later, the car returned, travelling at a crazy speed. The helicopter radioed police officers at the junction to stand ready . . . (and) shots were fired at the vehicle.

"The car hit more soldiers in the group but also slammed into a semi-trailer truck. Fearing the vehicle was a car bomb, the armed personnel fired at the terrorist and killed him," the spokesperson said.

Palestinian attacks inside Israel had tailed off in the last two years.

This was because Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had cracked down on the militant Islamic group Hamas following a series of suicide bombings in 1996.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for yesterday's attack.

Also yesterday, an Israeli man was moderately wounded when shots were fired at his car near the Mevo Dotan settlement in the West Bank, security sources said.

An army spokesperson said he was checking the report. Soldiers sealed off the area with roadblocks, the sources said.

Load-Date: August 13, 1999

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Graphic

Soldiers firing tear gas at Palestinian stone-throwers in Hebron yesterday Nayef Hashlamounh/Reuters

Load-Date: November 23, 2000

End of Document

ISRAEL

The Toronto Star

August 27, 2000, Sunday, Edition 1

Copyright 2000 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: WAB

Length: 549 words

Body

Hundreds of Israeli troops raided an Islamic militant stronghold in the West Bank yesterday and an Arabic TV station quoted witnesses as saying three Israeli soldiers were killed. Nine Israeli soldiers and several Palestinians were injured in the fighting in the village of Assira Ashamalieh, home to Mahmoud Abu Hanoud, the top Hamas fugitive in the West Bank.

Sierra Leone Twelve British soldiers missing in Sierra Leone have been taken hostage by renegade Sierra Leonean soldiers, diplomatic and military sources said yesterday. The captors, who call themselves the West Side Boys, still claim allegiance to the military junta that ruled in 1997-98.

Nigeria Calling Nigeria "a pivot point on which all Africa's future turns," U.S. President Bill Clinton appealed to the leaders of this oil-rich nation yesterday to set aside political acrimony so their citizens could lift themselves from poverty and isolation. He spoke in Abuja at the start of a three-day visit to Africa.

Egypt Eighteen cats stood vigil for a week over the body of their master and attacked officers who came to remove his corpse, police in Cairo said yesterday. The cats, "scratching ferociously," resisted for two hours before officers could remove the body of Bahgat Mostafa Said, 63.

United States A two-year, 12-nation operation led to the seizure of \$1 billion (U.S.) worth of cocaine bound for Europe and Florida, dealing a "crippling blow" to a major Colombian drug smuggling network, U.S. officials said yesterday in Washington. Five freighters carrying the cocaine were seized following the capture of

ISRAEL

Colombian drug kingpin Ivan De La Vega, 48, by police in Venezuela.

Bahamas Former prime minister Lynden Pindling, leader of the Bahamas for 25 years, died yesterday of prostate cancer. He was 70. Pindling became premier in 1967 when the islands were still a British colony, and led the Bahamas to independence in 1973.

Spain Moving at a snail's pace, a mollusc named Gomer emerged victorious yesterday in a race that required him to drag 30 times his weight. Gomer was the swiftest of 50 snails to tow a tin of pickled peppers in the race in the northern Spanish village of Tricio. Gomer covered 25 centimetres in the allotted seven minutes.

Somalia Men, women and children danced and sang in the streets of Mogadishu and around the country yesterday as Somalis celebrated the election of their first president in almost a decade. Hours after Abdiqasim Salad Hassan won presidential elections, people took to the streets, businesses shut down and restaurants offered free meals in a spontaneous national holiday.

Algeria Wrestling to end a civil insurgency that has killed thousands of people, Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika faced a new challenge yesterday when cabinet members of his eight-month-old government collectively resigned for reasons that were not immediately clear. He charged close aide Ali Benfliis, who served as justice minister in the early 1990s, with forming a new government.

Yugoslavia A former Serbian president who confessed to "creating a Frankenstein monster" by bringing Slobodan Milosevic, the Yugoslav leader, to power has disappeared in Belgrade after he was apparently abducted during his regular morning run. Ivan Stambolic, 64, disappeared Friday.

From Star wire services

Load-Date: August 27, 2000

Soldier talks terrorism with Northwestern U. students

University Wire

April 15, 1999

Copyright 1999 Daily Northwestern via U-Wire

Length: 494 words

Byline: By Garrett Ordower, Daily Northwestern

Dateline: Evanston, Ill.

Body

The 20-year-old with thick, black-rimmed glasses and spiked hair looked similar to other students indulging in kosher Chinese food Wednesday afternoon in the basement of the new Fiedler Hillel House.

With the exception of those army fatigues and his Israeli accent.

Sgt. Yaron Carni of the Israeli Defense Forces arrived in the United States three days ago to educate America on subjects such as terrorism, Jewish conversion and other issues about Israel and the Middle East. Northwestern U.

Originally from Hertzelia, a town outside Tel Aviv, Carni will spend three weeks in the United States on this tour of duty. He will visit Washington, D.C., New York and Florida to address student groups and the American Zionist Conference.

To the group of about 20 NU he spoke about terrorism.

"We (Israel) don't have many natural resources or anything else that makes life easier -- financially or otherwise," Carni said. "So why would people want this area so badly?"

The answer came from the crowd: religion.

Carni examined the current situation with the four states that border Israel: Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Syria.

He praised King Hussein of Jordan.

"He always tried for peace. It was very difficult for him given a lot of Arab culture," Carni said. "Even to his last day when he was sick with cancer he was trying to achieve peace."

He described an instance in which Hussein traveled disguised as a woman to warn Golda Meir of an impending attack by Egypt and Syria.

But Carni had something less than praise for Syria and Lebanon.

"What we have in Lebanon is a 'banana republic,' a puppet government," he said. "Every action is dictated by Syria and Iran. Everyday we fight guerrilla warfare in Lebanon."

Soldier talks terrorism with Northwestern U. students

He continued his speech by detailing the founding, leaders, goals, terrorist acts, structures and stances on the peace process of Hizballa, Islamic Jihad and **Hamas**.

Since the signing of the Oslo accords five years ago, he said, terrorism has not decreased. Ninety-two separate attacks have left 279 Israeli men, **women** and children dead since Oslo.

"This is the goal of these terrorists: to stop the peace process," he said.

A life full of achievements and impressive performance in his first year and a half in the Israeli Defense Forces gained him a prestigious spot on the Sar-El -- the national organization for volunteers in Israel. The Volunteers For Israel in Skokie, local recruiters for the Sar-El, brought Carni to Hillel.

"Yaron is our age and the goal of having him speak is to create a stronger connection between Northwestern and Israel," said Isaac Feder,, a Speech freshman. "We also want to get people to go to Israel or back to Israel."

Carni had an ulterior motive to his visit. In addition to educating, he hoped to recruit.

"Primarily the goal (of the visit) is to bring people to the program, to show that there is a way of donating that is not financial," he said.

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End of Document

JUDAISM SUFFERS THE UNHOLY ACTS OF A 'HOLY MAN'

Daily News (New York)

August 10, 2000, Thursday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2000 Daily News, L.P.

Section: EDITORIAL;; COLUMN,OPINION

Length: 550 words

Byline: BY RICHARD CHESNOFF

Body

IT'S NOT often I agree with Yasser Arafat's chief spokesman. But when the Palestinian information minister condemned recent remarks by Israeli Rabbi Ovadia Yosef as "racist and idiotic," I had to concur - sadly and angrily.

Yosef is the spiritual boss of Shas, the extremist Israeli religious party. Sermonizing to his faithful in Jerusalem last Sabbath, the 79-year-old Yosef characterized Palestinians as "snakes" and condemned Prime Minister Ehud Barak as "brainless" for trying to make peace with them.

Yosef went on to describe the 6 million Jews slaughtered by the Nazis as "reincarnations of the souls of sinners who transgressed and did all sorts of things which should not be done." These Holocaust victims - men, women and children - had been "incarnated in order to atone," he declared. They had been murdered, he concluded in a shocking statement, "to make amends."

We could write off the rabbi's outrageous remarks as the mumbo jumbo of an extremist religious loony, or just the sad ramblings of a senile old man. But Yosef, whom one irreverent Israeli journalist once dubbed "Captain Marvel" because of his penchant for theatrically embroidered robes, is the most politically powerful religious figure in Israel. And it is Yosef's Shas Party that Barak is trying to seduce back into his shaky coalition government.

The rabbi's remarks unleashed a predictable storm of protest, and Yosef began back-pedaling faster than a biker going down the Mount of Olives. But in a nation where religious passions can ignite the sort of fires of hate that led to the murder of Yitzhak Rabin and provoke terrorism on both sides, this sort of talk from a "holy man" is outrageous and unforgivable.

Ominously enough, Yosef's 20-year-old grandson was arrested earlier this year on charges of stockpiling weapons for an anti-Arab organization.

Of course, Yosef is not the only religious kook in our midst. The Muslim mufti of Jerusalem told us the Holocaust "never took place," and the Gaza Strip leader of Hamas considers Jews "children of dogs and monkeys." In India, Hindu and Moslem "holy men" are exhorting the faithful to murder. And on any given day, leaders of the extreme Christian right in America are preaching racial and religious hatred.

Does that mean that all religious leaders have to be extremist? The answer is clearly NO! We have our own examples of great and tolerant religious leaders - the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Heschel, just to name two. Clearly, individuals can lead deeply religious lives without trashing others. Just this week we've seen the Democrats nominate one such man as a vice presidential candidate: Sen. Joseph Lieberman.

JUDAISM SUFFERS THE UNHOLY ACTS OF A 'HOLY MAN'

Maybe, like me, you don't agree with all his policies all the time. But one thing is clear, Lieberman, a fervently Orthodox Jew, has found a way to successfully coordinate the age-old traditions of his people with modern life and to invoke Judaism's basic tenets of justice and compassion for the benefit of all people.

Maybe when Yosef gets out from under the flood of protests that have come his way, he could take a few lessons in Torah ethics from Lieberman. Two other things should happen: Shas should send Captain Marvel out to pasture, and Barak should announce that until it does, he won't include the party in his government.

Load-Date: August 10, 2000

End of Document

Illinois Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

September 30, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000, Telegraph-Herald

Section: Pg. a9

Length: 527 words

Byline: ASSOCIATED PRESS

Body

 State seeks to strip nursing home license

 SPRINGFIELD - Illinois public health officials are trying to revoke the operating license of an East Peoria nursing home accused of failing to protect residents from sexual abuse by a staff member.

Fondulac Woods Health Care Center is contesting the action. No hearing date has been set.

State Department of Public Health officials say they began investigating after hearing several complaints about the 98-bed facility. They say an employee was caught lying on top of a 93-year-old **female** resident and later admitted he kissed and had other inappropriate contact with the woman and another resident.

 Judge won't drop charges in fund-raising case

 CHICAGO - A judge refused to drop charges Friday against a man who will not testify before a federal grand jury investigating fund-raising by **Hamas**, the militant Palestinian group.

Sharif Alwan, 31, refused to testify even after he was granted immunity from prosecution.

U.S. District Judge Ruben Castillo said there were no grounds for dismissing the charges and that the trial must go forward on Oct. 16.

Defense attorney Stanley Hill said his client, a permanent U.S. resident, was picked up in 1995 while visiting the West Bank and held for two years by Israeli authorities. Hill said Alwan made a confession under torture.

 Firefighter charged with arson says he meant well

 EAST ST. LOUIS - A firefighter charged with arson has told authorities he set the fires to sharpen his skills and rid his community of ugly buildings.

Antuan M. McClenton, 28, of Alorton, was charged Thursday with setting fires that gutted two abandoned houses in Alorton and Centreville. Bond was set at \$ 250,000.

Authorities have been investigating a series of arson fires in the area for the past eight months. Some 95 arson fires have gutted structures there since Jan. 1.

 Ryan returns money to former strip club owner

Illinois Briefs

 CHICAGO - Gov. George Ryan is returning a \$ 2,000 campaign donation from a former strip club owner targeted by Republicans for his heavy Democratic fund raising.

Jim Levin, who owned The Doll House in Chicago in 1993, gave \$ 2,000 to the GOP governor's campaign in 1998.

Republicans have criticized Vice President Al Gore and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton for accepting donations from Levin.

 Wandering emu dies

 CARBONDALE - Motorists along U.S. 51 near this southern Illinois city might have been startled this week to see an emu - which looks a lot like an ostrich - darting across the highway.

The Jackson County Sheriff's Department received calls about a loose emu Wednesday and Thursday.

Lloyd Nelson, a Jackson County animal-control officer, tried to subdue the bird by throwing a towel over its head.

Instead, the bird used its powerful claws to shred the towel. But during the struggle, it dropped dead - apparently from stress, said Nelson.

who by Thursday afternoon was carrying severed emu claws around the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

He said he wanted to make the point the birds can be dangerous.

"They could eviscerate someone with the strength of those nails," said Nelson, who also has a freezer full of newly butchered emu meat.

Load-Date: October 17, 2000

End of Document

Letters

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

December 14, 2001 Friday

Late Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; Letters; Pg. 11

Length: 1292 words

Body

Verdict is moot when there is no crime

As far as is known, David Hicks of Adelaide has committed no crime under Australian laws, so our Foreign Minister should do everything to help him.

There is no evidence that he went to Kosovo or Afghanistan for money, so he is not a mercenary. As Australia and Afghanistan have not declared war on each other, Mr Hicks cannot be guilty of treason. He may be "guilty" of holding currently unpopular views but unlike most of us who have such views, Mr Hicks has the courage of his convictions and did something about it.

Mr Hicks has not tried to destroy democracy as Bush, Blair, Sharon and now Germany have done. He should not be punished.

Adrian Chan,

Ashfield, December 13.

If an Australian citizen were charged with and found guilty of treason for fighting for a (bad) terrorist organisation for the control of Afghanistan, would his sentence be increased or reduced for his services to a (good) terrorist organisation fighting for the control of Kosovo?

Tim Christiansen,

Dorrigo, December 13.

I am just a bit bewildered about the young man from Adelaide, apparently fighting with the Taliban. Are we at war with Afghanistan? With the Taliban? Are we "at war" at all? I thought the United States declared its "jihad" against Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda as an anti-terrorist effort. How far will this US-led action go?

While holding no brief for this young man, I do wonder if the rights of people are being lost in the general hysteria.

G. Healey,

Petersham, December 13.

Goodies and baddies

Letters

Bryan Conyer cannot see the distinction between militants, as in Hamas, and terrorists, as in al-Qaeda (Letters, December 13). Hasn't he figured it out yet? Terrorists fight the good guys. Freedom fighters fight the bad guys. Militants fight everybody else.

Jeremy Richards,

Manly, December 13.

Bryan Conyer states that Hamas suicide bombers are no more justified than the al-Qaeda suicide bombers they are all terrorists. Am I to infer from this that the Jewish militants, because they attack with the latest in US military hardware (they don't need suicide bombers), have some sort of legitimacy, that they are not terrorists?

I don't care who wins or loses the Middle East conflict, so possibly I can be more objective about it.

Geoff Whiteman,

Laurieton, December 13.

Rush to arms

Now that we know of the US plans to expand its war against anyone who interferes with its global empire maybe we could drop the use of the slogans like "war on terror" that disguise the real nature of the conflict. I think "war on poor people who argue with us" might better describe the situation.

Graham Parton,

Bungendore, December 13.

Shame on you, George Bush. An expensive missile system would not have prevented the September 11 incident. The cost of this missile program could achieve far greater benefits for world peace if redirected to address some of the growing inequities between the West and Middle East.

Please think again.

Elizabeth Comino,

Croydon, December 13.

Special indeed

Perhaps now would be an opportune time to recognise the contributions of the sub-group of teachers who care for our children with disabilities. I'm sure Peter FitzSimons would have included them in his accolade (Herald, December 11) if he'd experienced their peculiar dedication.

My "big" boy graduated from Karonga SSP yesterday, after 15 years at this esteemed establishment. During his time there, the teaching staff (and I include aides and therapists) have given him every opportunity to excel academically and socially. At 18, he can write his name and recognise company logos. He can walk, say some words, and is toilet-trained (well, mostly).

Imagine spending your working life cleaning up bodily fluids while you set academic goals for your students. Imagine changing nappies, spoon feeding, tube feeding, medicating, giving CPR, as a part of your daily job description.

Imagine the joy of seeing your students' smiles, their hard-earned first steps, their excited faces as they feel what it's like to "dance" in their wheelchairs. Special education teachers' rewards are given daily by their pupils and grateful parents. Is this enough?

Letters

Jenny Rollo,

Putney, December 13.

Benefits count too

Leonie Lamont's article ("Some in the union boys' club still don't get the point", Herald, December 11) perceptively identifies problems for women in feminised occupations, like librarianship.

The decision by the Administrative Decisions Tribunal to uphold a discrimination complaint by five courageous Wollongong librarians is confirmation that getting industrial awards and agreements right is only half the pay equity story. Real wage justice goes much further.

In this case, the employer flatly refused to accept the obvious unfairness of rating people equal in work value terms but then distorting their relativities by granting valuable additional benefits to some but not to others. The tribunal has held that this action was unlawful.

The NSW Pay Equity Inquiry recently found that librarians are seriously undervalued at work. A major test case to lift their award wages is about to conclude in the Industrial Relations Commission.

Librarians and others in feminised occupations will not achieve full wage justice, however, if employers do not base equal pay comparisons on all work-related benefits, that is on total remuneration. The law requires nothing less.

Phil Teece,

Australian Library and

Information Association,

Deakin (ACT), December 13.

Balancing act

Eva Cox (Herald, December 13) is wrong in criticising Barry Maley's excellent opinion piece in Wednesday's Herald titled "Children pay the price of gender feminism war".

Gender feminism is indeed scary, but it is not so much the "straw-woman" that scares the blokes, as it is the straw-mum.

Her straw-woman scarecrow analogy seems so much more appropriate in the context of The Wizard of Oz. Blaming men for all that can go wrong is passe. The blokes are happy for their feminist sisters and daughters to have equal opportunity, and, of course, to take equal share in responsibility both in the workplace and at home.

Bob Trifunovic,

Mascot, December 13.

Smack on target

I could not agree with Miranda Devine more (Herald, December 13). I was raised with the wooden spoon like many people my age and I think I bloody well deserved it most of the time. My parents did a fine job of bringing me and my siblings up. A swift tap on the bottom with an open hand can be quite effective, especially when dealing with a unruly two-year-old. Most parents would admit to using this method at least once.

Siobhan Cox,

Manly Vale, December 13.

Letters

Give me a smack any day, the handprint will disappear overnight. But the damage caused by mental cruelty sets like concrete in the psyche.

Anne Stewart,

Bowral, December 13.

Trifling matters

Mary Saphin (Letters, December 13) may be surprised to hear that an 18-year-old friend of our family is positively addicted to my wife's trifle, as are our 17-year-old sons. Trifle aficionados deplore the trendy use of coconut and almonds in this staple dessert, as well as the Italianate misnomer "suppa inglese" so beloved of Italian establishments.

Greg Rice,

Melba (ACT), December 13.

I would like to advise Mary Saphin that yes, many people in Sydney are having tripe and onions. The Tripe Club of NSW meets regularly to lunch on the delicacies of tripe and onions, and other tripe dishes.

Just this week, more than 100 members lunched on two courses of tripe, including tripe lyonnaise, at the Union Club of Sydney. We have a rapidly growing membership of 200, and it is becoming difficult to find facilities to handle our numbers.

If Mary, or other readers, would like to have tripe and onions next, send an email to tripeclub@intsciences.com.au

John Bowring,

Tripe Club of NSW,

Westleigh, December 13.

Load-Date: July 24, 2007

Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 27, 2000 Saturday Final Edition

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Section: Canada & World; Pg. A6; News

Length: 481 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Dateline: Bint Jbeil, Lebanon

Body

Hezbollah's triumphant leader warned Israel Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

AP

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea -- that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil, safe and happy and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of Hezbollah guerrillas killed in the fighting.

Draped from the podium was Hezbollah's logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "Hezbollah will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. Hezbollah's yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colourful headscarves of women and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising Hezbollah. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "Hezbollah is the victor." Others chanted: "Hezbollah is brave, moving forward."

Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere."

"In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments, at a minimum, to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

Graphic

Lebanese children make a "V" victory sign as Hezbollah supporters wave flags of the movement at the Fatma gate in the northeastern Israeli border town of Metulla Friday. Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas and Israeli troops are patrolling the Israel-Lebanese border as changes to fortify the fence are being taken after the last Israeli soldier left southern Lebanon Thursday, ending 18 years of Israeli occupation. Associated Press photo: Elizabeth Dalziel

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

End of Document

Arafat's battle starts now: Palestinian leader begins high-stakes process to implement peace accord

The Ottawa Citizen

October 29, 1998, Thursday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; Pg. G8

Length: 493 words

Byline: LAURA KING; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dateline: RAFAH, Gaza Strip

Body

Yasser Arafat came home to a hero's welcome yesterday, with cheering crowds lining his motorcade's route, a snappy honor-guard salute and a special song of tribute played over and over on official Palestinian radio.

Now it's time for him to truly face the music.

Mr. Arafat, who waited nearly a week after the signing of the new peace accord in Washington to return to the Palestinian lands, is embarking on a high-stakes, high-risk effort to turn the pact's provisions into reality.

If he succeeds, even the interim measures envisioned under the accord could go a long way toward easing pent-up Palestinian fury.

That's especially true in the Gaza Strip, where many of those who turned out to see Mr. Arafat arrive were almost giddy over the prospect of a working international airport, a seaport and a so-called "safe passage" that would allow them to travel to the West Bank -- all part of the new agreement.

"That's what peace would mean to me -- being able to come and go as if we lived in a normal country," said 55-year-old schoolmaster Suleiman Hasan.

Mr. Arafat's route from the Egyptian frontier to his Gaza City headquarters took him the length of Gaza, past ramshackle refugee camps and red-roofed Jewish settlements in the distance. All along the way, people gathered at the roadside to wave and cheer as he passed.

Village elders sat waiting in rows, young men smoked water pipes and sipped coffee, and veiled women paused to look, balancing big bundles on their heads.

While potential Palestinian gains from the accord are great, so are the pitfalls. If the two sides fall to squabbling over implementing the accord, despair could quickly reach critical proportions in poor, crowded, angry Gaza.

Hamas, the radical Islamic group that opposes any peace with Israel, has a stronger following here than elsewhere.

Arafat's battle starts now: Palestinian leader begins high-stakes process to implement peace accord

Already, there were potential snags. After Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu indefinitely postponed a cabinet meeting to approve the accord, the Clinton administration urged both sides to start moving next week to implement the agreement.

As he has been since the accord's signing, Mr. Arafat was careful to characterize it as a step toward Palestinian statehood -- while at the same time reserving the option of a unilateral statehood declaration if the agreement fails.

"No doubt," he said quickly when asked whether Palestinians are closer now to their goal of statehood.

For the Palestinians, internal divisions are likely to intensify as some of the pact's thornier provisions are put into force. Particularly difficult will be steps like seizing illegal weaponry, cutting the size of Palestinian security forces and halting incitement against Israel.

Watchers -- especially the young -- said they hoped for the best from the accord.

"We want to go to the university, have good jobs -- we need peace to do these things," said Saeb Kandril, an earnest 16-year-old student.

Load-Date: October 30, 1998

NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times

April 18, 1998, Saturday, Late Edition - Final

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Distribution: Metropolitan Desk

Section: Section A;; Section A; Page 2; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Column 3;; Summary

Length: 1278 words

Body

INTERNATIONAL A3-6

Pol Pot to Be Cremated Without an Autopsy

The Khmer Rouge rushed the body of Pol Pot toward cremation without an autopsy that could have determined whether he died of a heart attack, as they had announced. A1

A team of Thai military officers poked at the corpse of Pol Pot, snipped a lock of hair, took fingerprints and photographed teeth to prove that the dead man was indeed the former Khmer Rouge leader. A5

The Clinton Administration took steps toward a trial of Khmer Rouge officials, commissioning experts to prepare indictments of key Khmer Rouge figures for gross human rights abuses, officials said. A5

Clinton Praises and Prods Chile

President Clinton, speaking to a joint meeting of the Chilean Congress, praised Chile for its restoration of democracy, but he also said that freedom required more than elections and open markets. A3

Killings of Women in Juarez

The Killings of more than 70 women in Juarez, Mexico, have put a spotlight on the victimization of female workers in a city that runs on their \$3-a-day labor and brought to notice the growing influence of a fledgling women's movement that has been galvanized by the sexual attacks. A3

A Warning From Rafsanjani

Former President Hashemi Rafsanjani, left, one of Iran's most influential leaders, warned that corruption charges against the Mayor of Teheran had poisoned the political environment. But Mr. Rafsanjani also said that Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, had averted further turmoil by ordering the Mayor's release from prison this week. A4

Russian Turmoil Deepens

NEWS SUMMARY

President Boris N. Yeltsin left for a visit to Japan, leaving the Government in the hands of a Prime Minister-designate who was dealt his second defeat in Parliament's lower house. The nominee, Sergei V. Kiriyenko, was rejected for a second time in a defeat that was even more lopsided than the first one a week ago. A4

Afghans Agree on Cease-Fire

Afghanistan's warring factions responded to prodding by Washington's representative to the United Nations by agreeing to a cease-fire, an exchange of prisoners and face-to-face talks. A4

Pakistan Frees Drug Agent

The Government of Pakistan has freed a Pakistani employee of the Drug Enforcement Administration who was jailed after helping obtain the arrests of two Pakistani air force pilots who smuggled heroin into the United States. A4

Israel and American Aid

Israel's newfound economic success through its embrace of high-profit, high-technology industries is leading many Israelis and Americans to question why the nation still needs so much foreign aid from the United States. A6

NATIONAL A7-9, A14

Gingrich Says Tobacco Bill Is Too Liberal for House

Speaker Newt Gingrich said that the tobacco bill proposed by his fellow Republican, Senator John McCain of Arizona, was too liberal and had virtually no chance of passage in the House. Mr. McCain said that he would not consider dropping his bill, especially in light of its recent approval by the Senate Commerce Committee, of which he is chairman, by a vote of 19 to 1. A1

Sex-Harassment Law

Lawyers who deal with sexual harassment issues said that whether Paula Corbin Jones succeeds in her efforts to reinstate her lawsuit against President Clinton may depend on a different case that will be argued in less than a week before the United States Supreme Court. On Wednesday, the Justices will be asked to decide if a Chicago businesswoman may claim sexual harassment after she was subjected to sexual advances by a supervisor, although she suffered no adverse job consequences after she refused to comply. A9

Petition Drive in the House

Supporters of an effort to revive a campaign finance bill in the House said they needed 17 more representatives to sign a special discharge petition and meet the requirement for 218 signatures. The petition, a rarely used House procedural device, would force debate and votes on several bills to overhaul the nation's campaign finance laws, including measures that Republican leaders kept off the House floor three weeks ago. A8

Mayors Criticize Inquiry

Two prominent groups of mayors criticized a decision by the Housing Department's chief investigator to examine the public housing programs of three cities that are led by black mayors. A14

Publisher Won't Run

The publisher of The Miami Herald, David Lawrence Jr., declared in an editorial that he would not run for governor of Florida. A group of Democrats sought to persuade him to run against the sole Republican candidate, Jeb Bush. A14

NEWS SUMMARY

Shuttle Columbia Launched

The space shuttle Columbia soared into orbit from the Kennedy Space Center carrying seven crew members and more than 2,000 mammals, fish and insects for neurological research. A9

Kevorkian Leaves 2 Bodies

Dr. Jack Kevorkian dropped off the bodies of two elderly people at separate hospitals on Thursday, hospital officials said. Both people died from poisoning by intravenous injections, an Oakland County medical examiner's spokesman said. Hours before the bodies were dropped off, Dr. Kevorkian's lawyer, Geoffrey Fieger, formally announced an intention to run for governor of Michigan. The bodies were the third and fourth that Dr. Kevorkian has delivered to hospitals in a week. He has now admitted to helping 105 people commit suicide, a process he calls patholysis, or "ending suffering." (Reuters)

NEW YORK/REGION B1-6

Two Men Are Jailed In U.S. Inquiry of Hamas

Federal judges in Manhattan have jailed two men for refusing to testify before a grand jury investigating fund-raising by the militant Islamic group Hamas, one of the men and a lawyer for the other said. B1

Finance Measure Stalled

A measure to prohibit candidates in New York City from accepting campaign contributions from corporations has bogged down. B1

Street Artists Lose in Court

A Parks Department plan to limit the number of artists allowed to sell their wares in front of the Metropolitan Museum of Art does not restrict free speech, a judge ruled. B3

Bus Ridership Climbing

Ridership on the city's 220 bus routes increased to almost 1.6 million in February from 1.3 million in February 1997, or about 20 percent. B3

Internet Pornography Charges

Three Queens residents were charged with using the Internet to send photographs of young children engaged in sexual acts. B4

SPORTS C1-8

First Round of N.F.L Draft

The N.F.L. draft begins today at Madison Square Garden. The Indianapolis Colts and the San Diego Chargers have the first picks. C1

ARTS & IDEAS B7-18

OBITUARIES D16

NEWS SUMMARY

Felicie Young Cormier

Marie-Louise Febronie Meilleur

Rivals for the designation of oldest living person, they were 118 and 117, respectively, when they died within two days of each other this week. D16

BUSINESS DAY D1-15

Trade Deficit Widens

American exports to Japan plummeted in February, helping to push the trade deficit to its widest gap in a decade. A1

Canadian Banks to Merge

Two of Canada's largest banks, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Toronto-Dominion, said they would merge. D1

G.M. Earnings Worry Analysts

General Motors worried Wall Street by reporting first-quarter earnings that suggested underlying weaknesses in the company's prospects. D1

Marriott Recasting Itself

Host Marriott said it would convert into a real estate investment trust and buy 13 luxury hotels from the Blackstone Group. It will also spin off its 31 retirement communities. D1

Business Digest D1

EDITORIAL A12-13

Editorials: Running scared; drugs that kill instead of cure; too little cooperation from Iraq; history's likeness in black and white.

Columns: Frank Rich, Thomas L. Friedman.

Bridge B16

Weather B17

Crossword B12

Graphic

Photos

NEWS SUMMARY

Load-Date: April 18, 1998

End of Document

Cyclists are OK

Northern Times

December 7, 2001, Friday

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Length: 632 words

Body

AS a cyclist for 30 years, I agree that defiance of standard rules is annoying and dangerous (November 30). I disagree that cyclists are demanding more and more rights on our roads, as Robyn Kirk asserts.

Let me quote the Queensland Transport Department: "Cyclists are legitimate road users sharing the same rights as larger vehicles and deserving the same respect and courtesy."

It is sad that the education of all road users is at a cost. Road rules covering all aspects are obtainable at the counter of Transport Department outlets. This small outlay, \$8.95, beats the ignorance of motorists who care to read it that they have obligations to cyclists and vice-versa.

It falls on the teachers of our society to introduce a system which educates first before a licence is issued or a bicycle given without instruction.

Vehicle drivers appear dangerous to cyclists, as many are unaware that they are the rule breakers as well.

G Wynn, Caboolture.

Solution needed

IMAGINE if all the abandoned families in Australia took Dan McSweeney's advice (Times November 23) and gave up welfare to return full-time to the workforce.

About 15 per cent of families in Australia are headed by one parent, 89 per cent of these parents are female and 52 per cent are unemployed (ABS 1999).

With no mother or father around, how do they receive guidance or emotional support? What would happen to these neglected children?

The social consequences of thousands of neglected children would create enormous emotional and financial damage, far outweighing the cost of interim welfare needed by sole parents of young children.

It is so easy to preach and moralise on other people's choices, behaviours and mistakes. Far more beneficial if Dan could offer some compassionate and practical advice that allows children to be raised in a nurturing environment by the remaining parent who has committed to the rearing of their children, even if the other parent is working full-time and contributing nothing.

Cyclists are OK

I challenge every reader who is "sick of" welfare handouts to provide one practical and positive solution that increases families' financial independence without sacrificing a child's need for a home, a family, and parental presence.

R Robertson, Deception Bay.

Role for Interpol

NO doubt Osama bin Laden will be brought to justice. Unfortunately, there are many other terrorists, many of whom will be willing to follow in his footsteps.

Moreover, most countries have terrorists within their society. One need only think of Ireland (IRA), Spain (ETA), Sri Lanka (Tamil Tigers) and others, to realise that terrorism runs deep within many societies.

And, who has not heard of the Ku Klux Klan?

So . . . when the USA and NATO have finished with bin Laden, is this not an ideal time to expand the role of Interpol, to spearhead the fight against the criminals and gangsters who make up these terrorist organisations?

For that's what terrorists are: common criminals and murderers.

Osama bin Laden is, by all accounts, a mass murderer and should be treated as such, regardless of his motivations and political inclinations.

By expanding Interpol -- or by creating a new international organisation -- all terrorists could be hunted down and brought to account more easily than at present.

What is the alternative now looming? A very messy, loose co-operative of super-powers and no-powers, each with its own agenda, all trying to eliminate terrorism -- or so they think.

The real problem is this: there is no clearly acceptable definition for what constitutes a "terrorist organisation". Ask any member of the IRA, or Hezbollah, or ETA, or **Hamas** or Tamil Tigers, or Mujaheddin or . . .

Could it be that one country's freedom fighters is another country's terrorists? That's a frightening situation.

Roger Burke, Caboolture.

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