

NORTHERN ISRAELIS ASSESS DAMAGE

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Despite the announcement of a cease-fire across the Israeli-Lebanese border, skepticism prevailed in the northern region as towns and villages attempted to return to normal every day life. Residents of Nahariya, Kiryat She-mona, Metulla and a score of kibbutzim and moshavim in Upper Galilee emerged from bomb shelters and set about calculating the material losses suffered after nearly two weeks of incessant rocket and artillery fire. Six persons were killed by terrorist rocket and shell fire.

The sixth victim -- 65-year-old Ashraf Malouf -- was killed by a rocket burst in Kiryat She-mona only an hour before the cease-fire went into effect. Fourteen other residents were wounded. Malouf was buried July 26. His grieving family shouted at the gravesite, "We don't want a cease-fire. We want revenge." Housing Minister David Levy eulogized him on behalf of the government.

The cease-fire went into effect at 1:30 p.m. local time July 24. At that hour "all hos-

tile military actions between Lebanese and Israeli territory in either direction will cease," U.S. special envoy Philip Habib announced in Jerusalem, with Premier Menachem Begin standing at his side. The announcement followed a drama filled morning at the Prime Minister's Office. First Begin met with Habib who had just flown in from Saudi Arabia. Then he convened a surprise Cabinet meeting which lasted two hours. Habib returned to the Prime Minister's Office to learn from Begin that the Cabinet had approved the cease-fire.

The first senior government official to try to explain the truce to the public was Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. He said on an Israeli Radio interview that "The Cabinet was not prepared for any direct arrangements with the terrorists but we are ready for some pacification and peaceful relations on the northern border. In fact, the formulation agreed to refers to a pacification between Lebanon and Israel."

Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan said that



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the PLO accepted the cease-fire "because they had been broken or were on the point of breaking following Israel's massive blows." But according to Eitan, the PLO will take full advantage of the halt in hostilities to regroup and replenish their arms from Syria, the Soviet Union and Libya.

Gen. Avigdor Ben-

Gal, commander of the northern region summed up the situation as he saw it. "I hope this calm will continue, but my experience of this front makes me skeptical about it lasting. I regard it more of a temporary truce than a cease-fire. I presume that if the terrorists shoot at us, we will shoot back... But such a cease-fire is not

PENALTIES INCREASED FOR VANDALS

PARIS (WNS) -- French police detained a suspect in the bombing last

the way we can solve the problem of the clash between Zionism and the Palestine movement," he said.

October of the Rue Copernic synagogue in which four people were killed. Police detained a Spanish national, Ernesto Mila Rodriguez, 24, at a south Paris hotel and said he was questioned throughout the day. Police declined to link Rodriguez with the Paris synagogue bombing and said the warrancy was issued for general questioning by the French state security court. The court may hold suspects indefinitely without charging them.

Rodriguez has been named in both the Spanish and French press as one of the men who left the bomb outside the synagogue. Police have said in the past they wished to question him but did not consider him a prime suspect. A police source said Rodriguez was being questioned on statements attributed to him in an interview with the Spanish magazine, "Interview."

Rodriguez was quoted as saying the attack was carried out by an extreme faction in the French police force. He denied any involvement in the attack. He is a former biology student who was known for his extreme rightwing connections. The Spanish press has said that he moved from legal rightwing groups to forming the illegal "Adolf Hitler" commando group which claimed responsibility for bombing libraries in Madrid and Barcelona. The group then merged with the neo-Nazi National Youth Front in Spain.

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