

Las Vegas Israelite

**Hostage Identities A Mystery**

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described the children as Hebrew-speaking. The names of the adults were released. A thorough check of the Israel Interior Ministry's computer index of identity cards failed to match any of the names with Israeli citizens. Israelis must have ID cards to obtain passports. A preliminary check of visitors and tourists failed to come up with the names. The Ports Authority and the various marinas in Israel confirmed that the Silco had not called at an Israeli port, though it might have been en route to Israel when seized. Khaled said at his news conference that the episode was "a slap for the Zionized king of Amman," a reference to King Hussein of Jordan, and for the "Zionized leaders" participating in the Arab summit conference now taking place in Amman.

**Timed To Coincide With Summit**

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that the seizure of the yacht was clearly timed to coincide with the Arab summit and planned to draw attention to the Abu Nidal faction. He said that if it was hijacked, as claimed, it was not in Israeli territorial waters, which the terrorists dare not approach for fear of Israel's navy. Nevertheless, the time has come for the world to realize there are terrorist organizations trying

to sabotage even the slightest positive movement in the Middle East, Rabin said. He said Israel is in contact with the governments of France and Belgium, whose nationals were said to be among the hijacked passengers. The names released by the Abu Nidal spokesman are Fernand Houtekins, 40; Emmanuel Houtekins, 42; Valerie Emmanuel Houtekins, 16; Laurent Emmanuel Houtekins, 17; Godlieve Kets; and Jacqueline Valente, 30, described as a French national. In Paris, French authorities said they had no information about any of the passengers. But the Belgian Interior Ministry confirmed that Emmanuel Houtekins; his wife, Godlieve, 48, born Kets -- possibly Katz -- and their children, Valerie and Laurent, are Belgian citizens, but are believed to live in Lyon, France. French officials said the four Belgians are not registered in Lyon or anywhere else in France. They have not been able to trace a French woman named Valente. French naval authorities said the Silco is not registered in France, but is on record as having put into Cannes in the summer of 1985. Port officials in Cannes said a vessel named Silco was

registered there three years ago, but not under the registration number and ownership quoted by the Abu Nidal group.

**Red Cross Has Received No Requests**

In Geneva, Michelle Mercier, a spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that neither Israel nor any other government has asked the ICRC to intervene on behalf of the hijacked passengers. The ICRC acts only on the requests of the parties involved, she explained. The JTA approached the ICRC because Abu Nidal's spokesman said that ICRC delegates would be given permission to visit the passengers, apparently being held hostage. So far the hijackers have made no demands for their release and return of the yacht.

The Abu Nidal gang has a heinous record of perpetrating assassinations, kidnappings and terrorist attacks, mainly outside the Middle East. It was responsible for the attempted murder of the Israeli ambassador to Britain, Shlomo Argov, on a London street in 1982, the massacre at the Istanbul synagogue last year, the assassination of PLO moderate Issam Sartawi in Lisbon and the simultaneous machine-gun and grenade attacks on passengers at the Rome and Vienna airports two years ago.

The fact that it dare hold a news conference in Beirut was seen in Israel as an indication that the organization has become stronger. Hitherto, it has acted clandestinely.

**Teens' Vandalism Trial Postponed**

WATERBURY, Conn. (JTA) — The trial of 12 teenagers charged with vandalizing two Jewish cemeteries here has been postponed at the request of their attorney, The Connecticut Jewish Ledger reports. The 12 -- including three 15-year-old girls -- were arrested last month. As Chief Inspector of Detectives John Griffin described the alleged crime, the teens, after a drinking party, entered the Brass City and Waterbury Hebrew Sick Benefit cemeteries by rolling back the surrounding chain-link fence. They allegedly sprayed paint on and overturned nearly 90 gravestones, causing damage that, Griffin said, could run into many thousands of dollars. Griffin said that it was not anti-Semitism that motivated the teens, but rather the influence of alcohol.

**University Steed Moves To Head Of Class**

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Society held in Rishon le-Zion. The winner's cup was awarded by General Hayin Bar-Lev, Israel's Minister of Police, and head of the Israel Arabian Horse Society. Prized for their grace and superb performance, the Arabian horse was bred and traded in Israel since King Solomon's time. But by the end of World War I, their number had diminished due to cross-breeding and exportation, and by 1950 had virtually disappeared from the modern state of Israel. The late Herbert Cashvan, a distinguished horseman from Virginia Beach, VA, dreamed of reintroducing Arabian horses into Israel. Six years ago, the Cashvan Center for Animal Health and Improvement was established at Ben-Gurion University. In a research program headed by Dr. Allan Degen, purebred, registered Arabian horses are imported from the United States and the offspring are selected in accordance with descriptions found in biblical records. The King Solomon Stables is a unit of the Center with fully equipped stud farm and paddock facilities. There are now an estimated 400 purebred Arabian horses in the country as a whole, due to the efforts of Herbert Cashvan, Dr. Degen and a small group of horse enthusiasts. They have become a valuable export and are much in demand by knowledgeable horsemen throughout the world.

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