Israeli Jew Stabbed In Old City On Way To Pray At Western Wall

JERUSALEM (JTA) - A Jewish immigrant on his way to pray at the Western Wall was stabbed by two young Arabs recently in the Old City.

The victim, Avraham Feld, 35, sustained only slight injuries. He was reported to be in good condition at the Hadassah University Hospital in Ein Kerem, and it was possible he would be released by evening.

Police closed the Old City gates for about an hour after the incident. An undisclosed number of Arabs were arrested for questioning.

Feld, a former New Yorker who settled in Israel more than 10 years ago, is married and has several children.

He said he was attacked between the Jewish and Moslem guarters of the Old City at about 11 a.m. by two youths, one 16 and the other 20 years old.

The weapon was a screwdriver, which inflicted light injuries in his chest just under the shoulder. Feld was able to walk to the nearest police station.

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where he gave a description of his assailants. He received first-aid treatment and then was hospitalized.

"I don't know why I was attacked," Feld said, but he alluded to the intifada, or Palestinian uprising in the administered territories.

He said one of the Arabs had a knife, but he beat them off before it could be used.

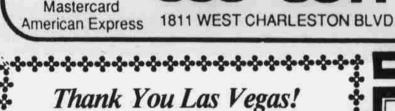
Police, meanwhile, are investigating an explosion that injured eight members of an Arab family in Hebron, six of them children.

According to the police, a bomb was brought into the home of the Abu-Sneineh family by one of their children, who found it in the street.

Palestinians claimed that Israel Defense Force Soldiers tossed the explosive into the house. But the IDF said there were no soldiers in Hebron at the time.

Tourism to Israel from the United States and Canada continues to rise and now stands at 7 percent higher for the first nine months of 1989 over the same period last year, it was reported recently by Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, chairman of the National Committee for Tourism to Israel.





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