

# Arafat, Israel expose terrorist operations

by EIR Staff

Palestinian National Authority President Yasser Arafat, in an interview with the German weekly *Der Spiegel* published on March 18, presented evidence of collusion between leaders of the Jewish terrorist underground, and the Palestinian terrorist groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad. At the same time, the Israeli government is putting pressure on the British government of John Major, to shut down the extensive Palestinian terrorist networks that are run out of London.

"I can demonstrate," Arafat said, "that Israeli and Palestinian conspirators are cooperating together, to bring the peace process to an end." When asked for more details, Arafat answered: "Avishai Raviv, leader of the Eyal Israeli underground organization, out of which came [Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin's assassin Yigal Amir, has publicly admitted to have met five times in Gaza with the leaders of Hamas and of the Islamic Jihad, in proximity of the Hotel Philistine. He also admitted that the two sides kept contacts through a liaison officer and decided to undertake common actions." Arafat added that Abu Warda, one of the persons arrested for the recent bombings in Jerusalem, "has confessed to the Palestinian officials and declared: 'It is our aim to overthrow the Peres government and bring a Likud government in power.'" Arafat said that the Palestinian National Authority will "publish everything at the right moment."

"Elements on both sides receive support from abroad," Arafat continued. "Look for instance at Avishai Raviv: He flew to the United States. How could he make it, to settle himself unnoticed in Brooklyn? Where do these people receive their money? . . . Here it works this way: Extremist organizations here receive money from Iran and the Arab countries, including some Gulf states." Arafat added, "I had warned Rabin, at a meeting in Amman, about the Eyal organization, in the presence of King Hussein of Jordan, U.S. Secretary of State Christopher, and others."

With respect to the collusion of Palestinian and Jewish terrorist elements, Arafat pointed out that Israeli extremists knew the authors of certain recent terrorist bombings before the police did. Rechavam Zeevi, head of the Molodet Jewish radical organization, "just 50 minutes after the [Ashkelon] terrorist attack, made public the names and the origin of the perpetrators. . . . The Israeli government communicated to us first at noon, and told us that the suicide-killer came from

Gaza. However, we found out that the young man who allegedly was the kamikaze/murderer was alive and still in Gaza. Only 48 hours later, Israeli officials gave us the names of two suspects who came from Hebron and were supposed to have participated in the attack. Do I not have the right to ask, why did the Israeli government need 48 hours to find out what Rechavam Zeevi seemingly already knew after 50 minutes? My conclusion is: Either he knew in advance about the attack, and kept it secret, or he himself participated in it."

## The London connection

The Israeli government is meanwhile demanding that Britain shut down the support apparatus for Hamas and Islamic Jihad in London. The London *Sunday Telegraph* on March 17, under the headline "Israelis to Put Major on Spot over Terrorists," wrote that the British government "will come under renewed pressure from Israel this week, to act against Islamic fanatics who use Britain as a base to plan and support terrorist actions. . . . U.K. officials have, so far, declined to take actions, arguing that Israel has not provided enough evidence. The Israelis intend to remedy that deficiency, by putting together a detailed dossier of Hamas's operations in Britain, which they believe have a key part in assisting the recent wave of terror attacks. They will highlight the activities of Hamas publications, and of fundraising charities that are accused of actively supporting suicide bombings and other outrages."

According to author Con Coughlin, "the latest edition, for example, of *Filisteen al-Muslima (Islamic Palestine)*, Hamas's monthly magazine published in London, calls on young Palestinians to avenge the death of a terrorist killed by a booby trap bomb in Gaza last January. 'This is your time,' says the magazine, 'the time for heroism, and to merit dying a martyr's death. This is the time for holy war, and martyrdom. You must take your place of honor in martyrdom, and not among the weak regime of Yasser Arafat.' This article was published just a few weeks before the latest suicide bombings. Israeli officials claim the magazine was able to predict the resumption of terrorist activities by Hamas, because of its close links to the organization's leadership. . . .

"The Israelis will be providing details of charities and institutions, based in London and the North, that they accuse of financing terrorism."

The *Sunday Times*'s David Leppard and Tim Kelsey focus on the "London Haven of Hamas," reporting on a number of cases of top militants who are Afghan mujahideen veterans, now active with Hamas and the terrorist Islamic Armed Group (GIA) of Algeria, among others. One of these militants, Abu Koutada, wrote the week before in *Al-Ansar*, a mouthpiece of Algerian radicals, praising "the miracle of the martyrdom of our brothers in their suicide operations in Algeria, Palestine, and Libya and everywhere." The article makes a scandal about the fact that these operatives are collecting welfare benefits in Britain, while openly espousing terrorism.