

# The Cleveland Jewish News

The Weekly Newspaper for the Jewish Community of Greater Cleveland

Vol. 16, No. 21 72 Pages - 2 Sections

Friday, September 8, 1972 Elul 29, 5732

CLEVELAND, OHIO

15¢ Per Copy, \$6 Per Year

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## MUNICH, ISRAEL, CLEVELAND: TRAGEDY



David Berger (middle rear) is shown in this 1965 photo made in the offices of The Jewish News depicting Cleveland athletes who were on their way to the 7th Maccabiah in Israel. Others in the photo are Marty Eisner (left rear), shotputter; Otto Decker (right rear) soccer fullback; Gene Weiss (left seated) wrestling coach; Ed Preisler (middle seated) golfer and Drew Algase (seated on desk), wrestler.

### Sense of Loss Expressed At Death of David Berger

The Cleveland Jewish community reacted with a sense of personal loss this week to the tragedy in Munich, as Cleveland David M. Berger was killed along with 10 other teammates in the massacre of the Israel Olympic team.

Max M. Friedman, a long-time friend of the Berger family, spent many hours keeping vigil with family members while the tragic events were unfolding. Friedman is general chairman of the Cleveland Committee for State of Israel Bonds.

He told of his acquaintance with Dr. Benjamin Berger, father of the slain athlete, for 35 years. The two were students together at Ohio State University.

Said Friedman, "Since he was a teenager, David Berger's ambition was to make



the Olympics. He began training as a weight lifter as a child of 10 or 12. It seems to me doubly tragic that at a moment when he had attained his life-long ambition, he should have been cut down in his prime."

#### Could Happen Again

Added Friedman, "What bothers me most is that I am afraid the same kind of thing may well happen again without any nation lifting its voice against the perpetrators of the horrible act." One way in which this otherwise senseless tragedy might serve a purpose would be if the nations of the world were to get together at last to see to it that this would be the last such act. "But I am afraid they won't get together this time, as they have failed to do in the past," Friedman said.

Said Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, "We have a supreme right to grieve and to protest as a community, but we must guard against generalizing our anguish into indiscriminate condemnation. God forbid that we should even by implication approve of Jewish expressions of rage."

"The calls for violent reprisal that have

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### Berger Funeral To Be Today At Fairmount Temple

Related Stories on Pages 14, 28, 31 and 33

The body of David M. Berger, who died this week at the hands of terrorist assassins in Munich, Germany, was flown back to Cleveland Thursday for funeral services to be held today (Fri.) at 11 a.m. at the Fairmount Temple. Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld will officiate.

Arrangements for bringing back the body of Berger were made with the cooperation of U.S. government authorities through the offices of U.S. Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D-22.)

Mark Talisman, administrative assistant to the congressman, reported that his office had been in direct communication with President Nixon, who had been apprised of all developments in the effort to secure the young American's remains for return to Cleveland before the High Holidays begin tonight (Fri.)

David M. Berger, 28, was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Berger, 29000 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Heights. For the past three years he had lived in Israel. He participated as a middleweight-class weight lifter in the Israel Olympic Team. He was one of the 11 men caught in the deadly interplay of hostages by the Black September group of Arab terrorists on Tuesday.

Berger had first travelled to Israel as a member of the U.S. team in the 7th Maccabiah Games in 1965. The Cleveland Jewish News at that time carried a photo of him with the team of Clevelanders who were participating.

He again participated in the Maccabiah in 1969, when he won a gold medal in the middleweight class weightlifting competition.

Berger was a graduate of Tulane University and of the Columbia University Law School. He had graduated from Shaker Heights High School and was a National Collegiate middleweight champion in weight lifting.

The Cleveland community reacted with expressions of sym-

pathy and outrage as the events unfolded to their tragic conclusion. The Berger family was deluged with expressions of condolence from family and friends as they waited out the tense drama helpless before their television set.

#### Signs of Mourning

In downtown Cleveland on Wednesday, flags were flown at half-staff as the community expressed its sorrow. Gov. John Gilligan and Mayor Ralph Perk had ordered state and city buildings to display the half-staff flags as a sign of mourning.

The Israel Aliyah Center announced that a special memorial volume is being prepared to be sent to Israel as an expression of sympathy. Any persons wishing to sign the volume may do so today (Fri.) and continuing Monday through Friday of next week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The offices of the Aliyah Center are located at 13947 Cedar Rd., Room 202.

On Wednesday afternoon, college students held a memorial service at the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation on the campus of Case Western Reserve University. Rabbi Alexander Graubart, Hillel rabbi, officiated.

Temple Emanu El held a memorial service Wednesday night.

A memorial meeting sponsored by the Community Relations Board of the City of Cleveland will be held at noon Monday in the Rotunda of Cleveland City Hall.

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld of Fairmount Temple is to be the

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Candlelight time 7:30

Sabbath ends 8:21

## Israel Warns Those Who Aid Arab Terrorists

Via JTA Telex

JERUSALEM--Israel has warned that it would step up its actions against Arab terrorists and that "those who aid them" would be held responsible for their actions.

The warning came in an official statement issued following a special session of the Cabinet Wednesday morning devoted to the aftermath of the massacre of 11 members of the Israeli Olympic squad by Arab terrorists in Munich.

The Cabinet decided on a state funeral for the victims. Premier Golda Meir expressed her appreciation for the West German decision to employ force against the terrorists, five of whom were killed or killed themselves in a shoot-out at the Furstenfeldbruck military airport outside Munich early Wednesday morning.

#### Condemn Murder

The Cabinet statement condemned the murder of the Israelis and said that

it proved for the world to see the real nature of Arab terrorism. It stated that the Israel Government joined the families of the victims in their mourning.

"Israel will continue its self-defense activities," the statement said, "and its striving for peace without being deterred by terror and extortion. Israel will persevere in its struggle against the terrorist organizations and will not exempt those who aid them from responsibility for the acts of the terrorists."

The statement continued, "The Israel Government will appeal to governments and political bodies and demand the adoption of effective measures against cells and units of the terrorist organizations with the aim of paralyzing them and extirpating their bases."

The statement then referred to Premier Meir's support of the German use of force against the terrorists. The

statement said the Cabinet had decided on a "concentration of information" concerning both German and Israeli security precautions. Before the attack and concerning the steps taken during the attack. This appeared to mean that an unofficial inquiry will be held with the Germans. The "relevant authorities" were asked to report back to the next cabinet meeting which is scheduled for the Tuesday after Rosh Hashana.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon meanwhile has ordered the Israeli Olympic team home.

#### Names of Victims

The names of the 11 victims were published Wednesday. The two Israelis slain during the terrorists pre-dawn raid on the Israeli compound at Olympic village early Tuesday morning were identified as Moshe Weinberg and Joseph Romano. Romano was erroneously listed earlier as one of the hostages. Weinberg, 33, was a wrest-

ling coach, a resident of Haifa and father of a three-week-old infant. He had been wrestling coach of the Hapoel sports organization.

Romano, 32, was a weight lifter, a member of the Hapoel sports club and the father of three daughters. He was a decorator by profession.

The squad members slain at the airport were: Eliezer Halkin, 24, a wrestler who came to Israel from Russia two years ago; Mark Slavin, 18, a wrestler and a recent immigrant from Russia; Zeev Friedman, 28, Israel's champion weight lifter in the bantamweight division; David Berger, 28, from Cleveland, who won the Israeli weight lifting championship in the heavyweight division. He was a lawyer by profession. His brother and sister were spectators at the Munich games.

Others were Kehar Shour, 53, coach of the Israeli sharpshooters (rifle) team, father of a married daughter.

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# Cleveland Jewish News

Published every Friday by  
THE CLEVELAND JEWISH PUBLICATION COMPANY  
a non-profit corporation  
13910 Cedar Road, Cleveland, Ohio, 44118. Phone 371-0800

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## No Rule by Fear

"How long, O Lord" is a plea that has come down through generations of Jewish suffering.

Will there never be an end? Must there always be a new tragedy to replace the fading memory of an earlier one?

Surely this is the thought that must be going through the minds of Jews the world over as we are witness to yet another act of brutal terrorism by Arab extremists.

The murder of innocent members of the Israeli delegation at the Olympics in Munich was not the first, nor undoubtedly will it be the last act of viciousness by reckless and fanatic extremists. They shall not succeed, however, in causing a proud Israeli nation to live in daily fear or to withdraw from normal contact with the outside world. Nor will they succeed in keeping Jews and others from around the world from continuing to come in ever greater numbers to visit the Land and people of Israel.

Jews have faith in each other and in their Maker that no terrorists' bullets or hand grenades can shatter.

## David Berger

When a tragedy occurs to the Jewish people, it is as if we are all bound together in a continuous thread extending around the world. We all feel the pain in our hearts.

But the pain is even greater when that tragedy strikes close to home.

Thus it is that we mourn the death of David Berger, son of Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Berger of Shaker Heights, in the massacre that occurred at Munich Tuesday night.

David was only 28 years old. He had gone to Israel just three years ago, and already had made his mark to the extent that he was chosen to represent Israel as a weightlifter in the Olympics.

In his death he joins the many thousands of Jewish martyrs throughout the ages who have been put to death for no other reason than that they were Jews -- representatives of the entire Jewish community of all ages.

We extend our condolences to the Berger family. David Berger and all the other fine and brave sons of Israel have died so that the rest of us may live.

May his memory be for a blessing.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

### Hopes Tragedy Can Lead To A Better World

It's a sad requiem that has confronted Israel and the world this day at the Olympic Village in Munich Germany. Eleven Jewish Olympic athletes and coaches have been slaughtered by madmen, who did not respect the laws of civilized society and God's law.

Anarchy has been avoided by the refusal to give in to the outrageous conduct of these guerrillas, but at such a sad price. If only Egypt had agreed sooner to negotiate directly with Israel on their differences, this provocation might have been avoided.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the families of the departed. They have become immortal. Our hope is that this tragedy will lead us to a better world, when all men "shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more and none shall make them afraid."

May the New Year have better in store for mankind.

HARRY A. BLACHMAN  
Lakewood

"Peace, peace, to him that is far off, and to him that is near."

## ART: At Prayer

On Rosh Hashana, all the windows to prayer are open. Moshe Spero, a student at the Telshe Yeshiva in Wickliffe, here depicts the line from the Rosh Hashana prayerbook: "Repentance, Prayer and Charity remove the harshness of the decree."



## Only in Israel

### The Top Names Of Past Year

By Carl Alpert

#### HAIFA

It's our annual custom. Each year, on the eve of Rosh Hashana, we review the events of the past year and select the 10 top names which first made headlines in Israel during these 12 months.

Once listed in previous years, a name may not again reappear. Some of these became famous; some were notorious, but all tasted the spotlight in turn.



Here they are, in alphabetical order:

**HAIM BAR-LEV**, army chief of staff, whose leap from uniform into the post of minister of commerce and industry stirred some doubts and raised many eyebrows as to the propriety of the sudden transition. Since then, he has made good in his new civilian position.

**MORDECHAI FRIEDMAN**, general manager of the Netivei Neft oil company in the Sinai. He was exonerated of accusations of personal misbehavior and mismanagement of his company, but the committee investigation was a fireworks display and circus combined.

**GIORA GODIK**, Israel's leading impresario and producer of

the country's biggest stage spectacles and musicals, disappeared suddenly, leaving behind him a mountain of debts. Major responsibility for his collapse was ascribed to unwise market investments of his money.

**MRS. GITA LEVY**, attractive Jerusalem mother of three, was beneficiary of a nationwide collection of funds to enable her to leave for Switzerland and undergo an operation for what was said to be a rare kind of tumor. Later reports claimed the operation could have been performed in Israel.

**GIORA NEUMANN**, 18-year-old youth, who refused to be inducted into the Israeli army, refused to swear allegiance and refused to do non-military service while in uniform - on the political grounds that Israel maintained an aggressive army of occupation.

**KOZO OKAMOTO**, surviving member of the Japanese suicide squad, who faced an Israel military court after he and his colleagues had killed or wounded more than a hundred people at what has come to be known as the Lod Massacre. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

**BISHOP JOSEPH RAYA**, head of the Greek Catholic Church in Israel, spearheaded an aggressive public campaign to permit

the Arab residents of Berem and Ikrit to return to their border villages from which they had been barred for 24 years for security reasons.

**YAACOV SHIMSHON SHAPIRO** resigned under fire from his post as minister of justice when he became victim of the political crossfire which followed the so-called "whitewash" in the Netivei Neft investigation and the granting of fantastically high fees to all the lawyers involved in the probe.

**YITZHAK SHUBINSKY**, dynamic businessman, founder and general manager of the Autocars company, claimed that his company was forced into bankruptcy as a result of a ganging-up on him by commercial and political elements.

**ISRAEL YESHAYAHU** was the subject of acrimonious debate as he made the move from the politically active post as secretary of the Israel Labor Party to the presumably non-partisan position as speaker of the Knesset.

And for those who think they have a good memory, what do you remember of the following, who were the top 10 names of last year: Ephraim Elrom, Grisha Feigen, Alfred Frauenknecht, Miriam and Hanoeh Langer, Meyer Lansky, Saadia Marciano, Shmuel Rosenwasser, Esther Shahamurov, Joseph Sisco and Abdul-Aziz Zuabi.

## Community Forum

### Greater Love Needed

#### At Rosh Hashana Time

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast." Let us all fervently pray that mankind's hope for a lasting peace throughout the world will at least become a reality with the coming New Year.

Let us all resolve that through spiritual guidance we may be imbued with a greater spirit of understanding and friendship.

In this world of envy and hate, let us all resolve, each and every one of us, to be a contributing factor in helping to promote a greater spirit of brotherhood and love among all our friends and neighbors.

Remember this Hebrew quotation: "V'haftoh L'ray-echoh-komocha." "Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself." Thus, will we in a measure, be adding to our own spiritual and physical well-being. Then indeed will the greeting, "L'Shonah Tovah Tikasevu," have a real meaning.

MAURICE LEVY  
Cleveland Heights

## Holiday Quiz Box

BY RABBI SAMUEL J. FOX

### Why Round Challas For Rosh Hashana?

**QUESTION:** Why is it that the Challas which are used for bread on Rosh Hashana are traditionally round in shape?

**ANSWER:** Some contend that this is so because "roundness" signifies eternity since the circle has no beginning nor does it have an end. This symbol of eternity alludes to the Almighty who is proclaimed all-powerful and eternal judge on Rosh Hashana. Others contend that the roundness of the Challas symbolizes the shape of a crown. It is on Rosh Hashana that the absolute sovereignty of the Almighty is stressed as the theme. Thus the roundness of the Challas symbolizes the crown of Kingship attributed to the Almighty.

100 notes from the Shofar on Rosh Hashana?

**ANSWER:** The notes of the Shofar represent man's most intimate and primitive plea for help. They are compared to the cries, shrieks and wails of a mother who is full of anxiety for the welfare of her child. Some contend that the 100 notes correspond to the 100 shrieks of the Mother of Sisera who realized her son was killed in battle. Others say it corresponds to the 100 cries issued by Sarah when she learned that her son Isaac was taken away to be sacrificed. Still others claim that the 100 cries are like the hundred cries sounded by the expectant mother in childbirth who bears her child in pain. So does man give birth to his own future in pain and anxiety.

**QUESTION:** Why does Jewish tradition require that one hear