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# They saw guns and knew it was real

**Editor's note:** By Shoshana, a freelance writer for the Observer & Eccentric, recently returned from a vacation in Israel where he had an opportunity to interview the crews who were emergency rescuers on the Air France flight hijacked last month in Uganda.

By HY BRENNEMAN

Uzi and Sarah Davidson had just fastened their seat belts for take off from Athens on the next leg of their Air France flight from Tel-Aviv to Los Angeles when a woman's shout announced that a hijacking was taking place.

She embarked the warning in English with a German accent and some passengers didn't take her seriously. When they saw several men with guns follow the woman hurriedly, however, everybody realized it was for real.

The plane would not be headed for Paris. Men were armed and screaming. Women cried. Children, unaware of the consequences, shivered from the shock.

"Our two sons, 13 and 17, knew that the final result of this fiasco may be the death

**Another casualty was a 19-year-old Moroccan Jew who also failed to fall to the floor. He was somewhat dark-skinned, the couple said, and Israeli soldiers killed him thinking he was one of the Arab hijackers.**

of all of us, but they tried very hard to play the role of men. The 19-year-old who also failed to fall to the floor. He was somewhat dark-skinned, the couple said, and Israeli soldiers killed him thinking he was one of the Arab hijackers.

"I recalled the separations which took place under the Nazis," said Sarah. "I have often wondered why there was no resistance in some concentration camps in World War II and if I found the answer. Obviously, like us, they thought that those people will not do a thing like that to other people," she said.

"One of the hostages," Sarah continued, "told me that he survived a number of concentration camps and assured us that he always with the rest of us, would overcome this time. I too, ironically, he was shot and killed when he failed to drop to the floor during the raid."

**ANOTHER CASUALTY** was a 19-year-

old Moroccan Jew who also failed to fall to the floor. He was somewhat dark-skinned, the couple said, and Israeli soldiers killed him thinking he was one of the Arab hijackers.

At one point, Sarah Davidson asked the German hijacker: "Do you want to do to us what the Germans did to our people?" The man replied that, as a member of the German Brigade-Meinhard Group in Germany, he could not return to his country so he was helping the revolutions of others.

"But, what about our people? Aren't we suffering?" she asked.

"Yes, too, have your share of problems," was his reply. "But there will come the day when all people will live in peace." There, the conversation was ended by the approach of another hijacker.

On the fifth day of the ordeal at Entebbe, Davidson suddenly heard gunshots outside the airport terminal where they were held up. "I thought maybe the Ugandan soldiers were exercising outside the building. Before people tried to second guess, the German terrorist tried to make them think that our conversation had made him think about taking our lives."

"HE'S SOON GONNA" outside, where he became a target for the Israeli commandos. When an Israeli soldier ran inside and told us in Hebrew to duck on the floor, we couldn't believe it. But, who else would have come to our rescue?" said Davidson.

"I looked up from the floor and saw the most beautiful young Israeli soldier with a machine gun and a pack of ammunition. He half smiled at me and asked 'How are things in your part of the room?'"

"The next thing we heard was an Israeli with a bulldog who calmly urged us to put on some clothing, pick up our belongings and go outside the building. Don't worry about the shooting," he said. "We will get you out of here." And they did," Davidson said.

Three Hercules military planes were on the runway about 300 feet away, with engines running. Hostages crowded into

Jeeps, others in underwear and bare feet ran the distance to the planes.

**THE ISRAELIS** killed all of the hijackers and a number of Ugandan troops. They blew up about ten of Uganda's Soviet supplied MIG fighter jets in an effort to forestall pursuit.

When the plane finally took off, everyone was quiet. They were thinking about the three Israeli casualties.

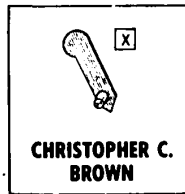
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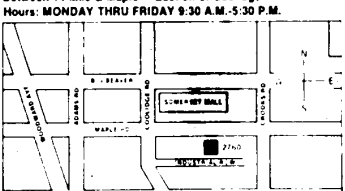
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**Memorial service honors Munich dead**

By KEF BUCHANAN

When the 21st Olympiad opened, the International Olympic Committee refused to sanction an official memorial service for the eleven Israeli athletes who were murdered at the Munich Olympics in 1972. Though the IOC refused to observe a moment of silence as part of the opening ceremonies, a memorial service was held later in Montreal apart from the games.

Sunday, July 25, the Detroit Zionist Federation sponsored its own community memorial program at Congregation B'nai David in Southfield.

Each of the 11 athletes was remembered in a candlelighting ceremony in which various community leaders participated with others including Ghanya Blum, the aunt of slain athlete Marc Stern.

As a flame was dedicated to each athlete, each was remembered for his achievements, for having died young and for leaving wife and children. These men were: David Berger, Yosef GurZevand, Eliezer Haffin, Amizur Shapiro, Moshe Weinberg, Yosef Romano, Marc Stern, Kahat Schor, Yaacov Springer, Zev Friedman and Andre Spitzer.

Others who honored the 11 Israelis were Rabbi James J. Gordon of Young Israel at Oak Woods, Cantors Louis Klein of Congregation B'nai Moshe and Harold Orbach of Temple Israel.

Herb Brown, head coach of the Detroit Pistons basketball team, spoke of his experiences as former coach of the Israeli basketball team. Brown said that Israelis are "tremendous sports fans" and are conscious of good physical conditioning.

Brown explained that people in Israel go about their daily lives "as though nothing is wrong. They try to minimize these problems. There is a tremendous respect and compassion for police and veterans, for those who have served." Brown said.

In recognition of those who had served, Cantor Solomon Mendelson of Long Beach, N.Y., made a personal statement on the Munich tragedy in an original multi-media presentation: "And the Band Played On."

The film featured pictures of the Israeli athletes in a poignant collage which contrasted their tragedy with the continuation of the 1972 Olympic games.

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