

ISRAEL

7 Wounded in Clashes

TA1210174488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Seven people were wounded in clashes with security forces in the territories today. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that four rioters in Judaea and Samaria—two in the village of Maythalun, near Janin; one in Nablus; and one in the village of Yattah—were wounded by soldiers' fire. Arab sources say the number of wounded is higher.

Three rioters were wounded in the Gaza Strip: two in the Al-Shati' refugee camp and one in Khan Yunus. The Al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood in Gaza is still under the curfew imposed after hand grenades were thrown at IDF patrols yesterday.

Trade Deficit Lowest in 7 Months

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in English 12 Oct p 9

[Report by Shlomo Ma'oz]

[Excerpt] The trade deficit continued to fall sharply last month to \$173 million, its lowest level in seven months, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

In August-September, the deficit dropped by a seasonally-adjusted 23 percent, compared with June-July. This improvement was achieved thanks to a 7-percent fall in imports and stable exports. Since the beginning of the year, the average monthly deficit has stood at \$230m., 15 percent lower than the monthly average in the second half of 1987.

Net imports during the first nine months of the year amounted to \$9.1 billion, up 9.5 percent from the \$8.3 b. registered during the same period last year. Net exports stood at \$6.9 billion, as compared with \$6 billion, representing an increase of 15.5 percent.

Net exports in September came to \$621 million, with industrial goods excluding diamonds accounting for 63 percent. Exports, in seasonably adjusted terms, during the last two months remained unchanged from their June-July level. [passage omitted]

Labor Ministry Figures Show Unemployment Increase

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[Report by Jeff Black]

[Excerpt] Unemployment jumped 0.6 percent in June-July this year, according to the latest Labour Ministry figures. For the second quarter of the year, the unemployment rate stood at 5.9 percent, but for the months June-July, this figure reached 6.5 percent.

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But the report, drawn up by the ministry's Manpower Planning Authority, cautioned that the figure for July is so far only preliminary and is based on a smaller quantity of data than normally used.

The report also claimed that unemployment was steadily rising, but an examination of Bank of Israel figures shows that unemployment, over 1987 and the first half of this year, has not changed significantly, except for sudden increase to 6.6 percent in the third quarter of 1987 from 6.0 percent. In the final quarter of that year, the rate fell to 5.6 percent and then moved up to 5.9 percent for the first half of this year. [passage omitted]

4.5 Percent COLA Payment on 1 November

TA1310063588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] The Histadrut and employers representatives signed an agreement this morning on a one-time 4.5-percent cost-of-living [COLA] payment on 1 November. The agreement was signed after all-night negotiations. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch notes that negotiations on a 1-year COLA agreement will resume after the Knesset elections.

Police Seize Drugs, Suspected Smugglers Detained

TA0710155988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Galilee District Police confiscated 9 kg of cocaine and 1.5 tons of hashish in two separate operations. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar has learned that about a week ago policemen stopped a Subaru car at a roadblock set up between Karmi'el and Rosh Pina. Cocaine was found during a search. The two passengers, bedouin of the Negev 'Arab al-'Azazmah tribe, were detained.

Today policemen stopped a suspicious looking car at a roadblock erected between 'Akko and the greater Haifa area. Hashish packed in hundreds of soles was found in the search. The driver of the car, a drug dealer from central Israel, was detained for interrogation.

Heroin Smugglers Detained

TA1010095188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Four people suspected of drug smuggling were detained by a Tel Aviv court on the eve of the Sabbath. Our correspondent Mikha'el Huller reports that, following a long intelligence operation, the police found in Tel Aviv post office a package mailed from Amsterdam containing 1 kg of pure heroin. The four suspects detained yesterday are Mordekhay and Yosef Sharv from Tel Aviv and Elat, and Ester and Shlomit Moria from Elot and Tel Aviv. Another suspect, a resident of Giv'atayim, will be brought to court tomorrow.