

*Peirspictiochtai Ar An Saol*

**World War III  
October to November of 1983  
Photograph Essay**



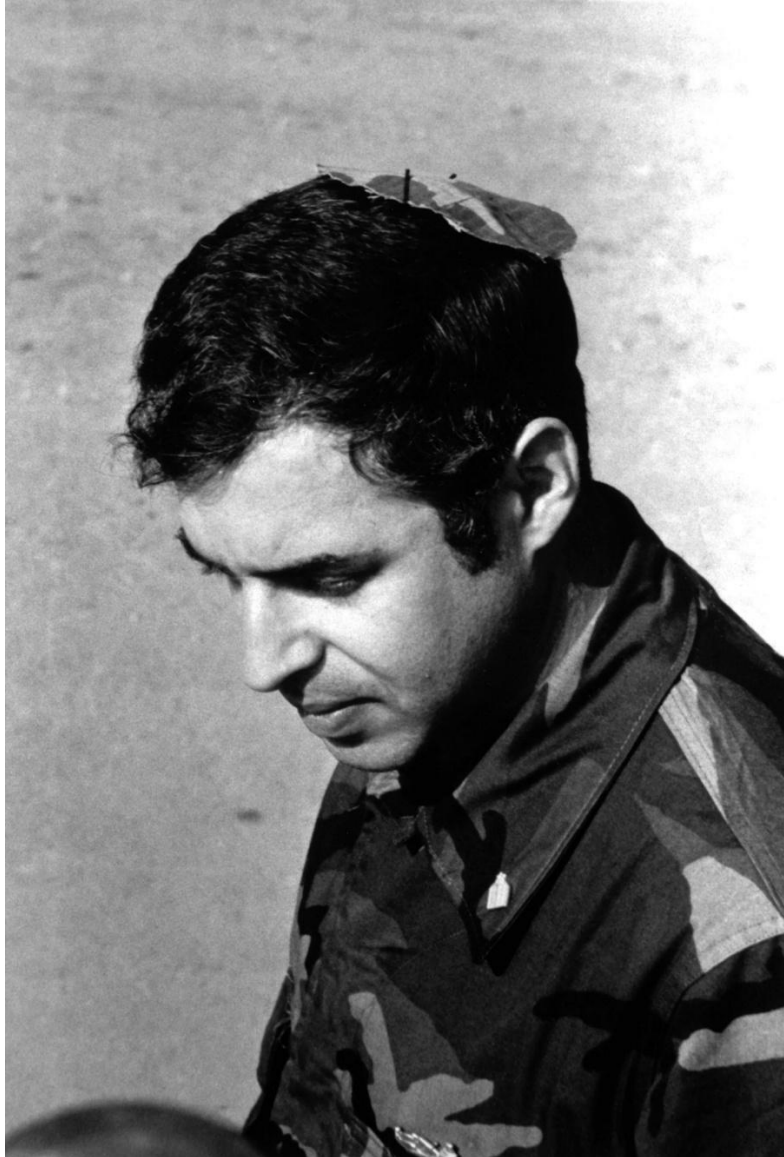
Smoke billowed from the explosion that collapsed the barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. The barracks had housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by the United States Marine Corps and provided courtesy of the United States Department of Defense, October 23, 1983.)



The aftermath of the bombings of the barracks in Beirut that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Randy Gaddo and provided courtesy of the United States Department of Defense, October 23, 1983.)



Rabbi Arnold Rosnicoff was the assistant fleet chaplain for the United States Sixth Fleet. He and the Roman Catholic chaplain attached to the United States Marine Corps were among the first to reach the site of the bombing of the American barracks in Beirut that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon. The United States National Archives and Records Administration stated that “When his yarmulke was lost, the Marines cut a piece of cloth from a camouflage uniform to take its place.” There are more details on this act of compassion, but those additional details were not able to be confirmed at the time of this essay.

(The photograph was produced by the United States military and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 23, 1983.)



Members of the 2nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron of the United States Air Force transferred a wounded United States Marine to a bus after his arrival at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine had traveled from Beirut, Lebanon, where terrorist bombings destroyed the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Technical Sergeant Charles Diggs and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 23, 1983.)



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(The photograph was produced by Technical Sergeant Charles Diggs and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 23, 1983.)



Members of the 2nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron of the United States Air Force carried a wounded United States Marine on a litter to a bus that transferred him from the Rhein-Main Air Base to the Wiesbaden Air Force Regional Medical Center, both located in Germany. The Marine had been injured in the terrorist bombings that destroyed the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

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Volunteers from the 435th Tactical Airlift Wing of the United States Air Force put on disposable surgical gowns as they prepared for the arrival of casualties at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The United States Marines were arriving from Beirut, Lebanon, where terrorist bombings destroyed the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



Members of the Aerial Port and Security Squadron of the 435th Tactical Airlift Wing of the United States Air Force offloaded transfer cases from a C-141 Starlifter aircraft at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The transfer cases contained the bodies of United States Marines who were killed when terrorists bombed the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



A United States Marine being wheeled on a gurney at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine was killed in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



A dental identification was performed on a United States Marine casualty at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine was killed in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



United States Army Staff Sergeant Choites weighed a transfer case containing the body of a United States Marine at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine had been killed in Beirut, Lebanon, when terrorists bombed the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



Doctors conferred over the identification of a United States Marine casualty inside a processing center at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine was killed in Beirut, Lebanon, as the result of terrorist bombings at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



A deceased United States Marine was in a transfer case at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The processing center here performed X-rays and autopsies of the individuals, including this Marine, who were killed in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



These transfer cases contained United States Marines who had been individually identified at the processing center at the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marines had been killed in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Airman First Class Mark Bucher and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



General Paul Kelley, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, awarded the Purple Heart to a United States Marine at the Wiesbaden Air Force Regional Medical Center in Germany. The Marine was injured in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

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General Paul Kelley, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, visited with a United States Marine at the Wiesbaden Air Force Regional Medical Center in Germany. The Marine was injured in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

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An Air Force nurse checked the vital signs of a United States Marine aboard a C-141 Starlifter aircraft prior to takeoff from the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine was among those flown back to the United States. He had been injured in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Robert Keffer and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



An Air Force nurse checked the blood pressure of a United States Marine aboard a C-141 Starlifter aircraft prior to takeoff from the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marine was among those flown back to the United States. He had been injured in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Robert Keffer and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



Wounded United States Marines were secured aboard a C-141 Starlifter aircraft prior to takeoff from the Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. The Marines were flown back to the United States. They had been injured in Beirut, Lebanon, as a result of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks that housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Robert Keffer and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, October 24, 1983.)



Debris that remained from the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. The barracks had housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Gunnery Sergeant Lucas and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, November 15, 1983.)



An aerial view of the site of the terrorist bomb attacks at the barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. The barracks had housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Gunnery Sergeant Lucas and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, November 15, 1983.)



A Marine stood guard at the site of the barracks that had been destroyed in Beirut, Lebanon. He is armed with an M-47 Dragon anti-tank weapon. The barracks had housed members of the Multinational Force in Lebanon, including members of the United States military.

(The photograph was produced by Gunnery Sergeant Lucas and provided courtesy of The United States National Archives and Records Administration, November 15, 1983.)

*Peirspictiochtai Ar A Saol* – Gaelic – Irish – for “Perspectives On Life” is a column focused on aspects of accountability and responsibility as well as ways people look at life.

Contact Richard McDonough at [PeirspictiochtaiArAnSaol@protonmail.com](mailto:PeirspictiochtaiArAnSaol@protonmail.com).

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