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American Christian killed by terrorists, Messianic friend wounded

Sunday, December 19, 2010 | Ryan Jones

Arab terrorists attacked and killed a visiting American Christian woman and badly wounded her UK-born Messianic Jewish friend in a forested area south of Jerusalem on Saturday.

Kay Wilson is a leading tour guide with Shoresh Tours, which operates under the auspices of the CMJ global ministry from the Christ Church complex in Jerusalem's Old City. Kristine Luken came to Israel with a Shoresh tour three years ago. From there she became involved in CMJ's US branch, and then went on to become administrative secretary at the UK branch.

The two friends decided to take a weekend hike through a forest between the southern Jerusalem suburb of Tzur Hadassah and the nearby town of Beit Shemesh. Along the way they were approached by two young Arab men who asked for water. Wilson told Ynet that she responded in Hebrew that they did not have any extra water, but that she did not feel good about the situation.

Wilson told Luken that they needed to get out of there, but it was too late. As the two women began to walk away and look at their map, the Arab men attacked. "It all happened so fast," said Wilson. "Suddenly they attacked us, and one pulled out a long knife, like a bread knife."

Wilson said that as the terrorists tied her hands she was scared, but recalled that Luken became hysterical. And that's when the stabbing began.

"One of them turned me around and saw that I was wearing a Star

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of David necklace,” said Wilson. “He took it off of me like a gentleman and then stabbed me 12 times.”

Wilson realized the knife had not hit her heart, and so pretended she was dead. As she laid on the ground, Wilson could hear her friend being stabbed, but could do nothing to help her.

When she was sure the two men had gone, Wilson made a dash for the nearby highway. After walking a short distance, a group of people at a children’s playground spotted her and called the police.

An overnight search was launched to find Luken, whose had apparently been dragged away by the attackers. There was widespread fear that Luken had been kidnapped. Her body was found on Sunday morning a few hundred yards from the site of the stabbing.

Wilson is recovering in stable condition at Jerusalem’s Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital.

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