



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXIV - 50th year

Monday, February 20, 1967

No. 35

## ARAB VIOLENCE RENEWED ON ISRAELI BORDERS NEAR SYRIA AND JORDAN

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Arab violence was renewed inside Israel territory near both the Syrian and Jordanian borders this weekend, leaving one Syrian soldier dead. The incidents followed last week's indefinite postponement of army further meetings of the extraordinary session of the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

The Syrian soldier was killed in an exchange of fire with an Israeli pilot in the Hule area last night, after the patrol spotted the uniformed Syrian crossing into Israel from the Syrian position of Darbashiye. The armed infiltrator opened fire on the patrol when he was challenged by the Israelis some 500 yards inside Israel territory. The patrol returned the fire and killed the Syrian with a hand grenade. The Syrian was armed with a Soviet-made automatic rifle.

Unlike previous instances when the Syrians suffered casualties, Syrian officials today agreed to take back the body of the dead soldier. Israel has lodged a complaint over the incident with the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

In another incident, near Arad in the Negev, today, an explosive charge placed under a water pipeline leading to a Jewish National Fund experimental plantation building blew up, but without doing any damage. Footprints of two persons were found leading to the nearby Jordanian border.

The terrorists identified themselves by leaving two leaflets, one in Hebrew and one in Arabic, marked with the names, "Palestine Liberation Movement" and "Al Asifa" (the military arm of Ahmed Shukairy's Palestine Liberation Organization).

## ISRAELI EDITORS GIVEN PRISON TERMS FOR SECURITY ISSUE 'FABRICATION'

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- The Prime Minister's office and the Foreign Ministry declared here today that there was not "the slightest truth" in alleged security revelations printed last December by the sensational, Israel weekly magazine, Bul ("Stamp,") whose editors have since been tried in secret and sentenced to one-year prison terms.

The statement, by the official spokesmen for the Prime Minister's and Foreign Minister's offices, reiterated a statement on the subject made by Israel's Consul-General in New York, Michael Arnon. Mr. Arnon had declared, after news of the arrest and conviction of the two Bul editors had been revealed by today's New York Times, that the stories published by Bul were "a completely groundless fabrication."

The men involved are Shmuel Mor, editor of Bul, and Maxim Gillon, an assistant editor. They were arrested on December 11, the day their articles were published, violating regulations which require editors in Israel to submit for pre-publication clearance any material "affecting the security of the state." The issue of Bul was ordered confiscated, and nearly all copies of the magazine had been confiscated.

Today's evening newspapers featured the story as reported by The New York Times, spreading the story among Israelis who knew nothing of the affair, since nothing on the case had been published heretofore in the Israeli press, although certain political and press circles were aware of the case.

(The New York Times article reported that the offending issue of Bul had featured on its cover the question: "Israelis in the Ben Barka affair?" That matter referred to the unresolved question about the abduction in Paris in October, 1965, of Mehdi Ben Barka, the Moroccan nationalist politician. However, according to the Times, the story inside the magazine "gave no definite answer" to the Ben Barka question.)

Israeli circles pointed out today that the two men had admitted during their trial that they had based themselves on "gross, security-tied rumors" and had expressed repentance for their acts. In spite of these assurances, the public interest in the case was substantial and a number of opposition party member of the Knesset (Parliament) may ask the responsible member of the Cabinet for additional details.

## Arnon Explains Action Against Editors of Israeli Magazine

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Michael Arnon, Israel's Consul-General here, in answer to an inquiry on the Bul magazine editors' case by The New York Times, stated as follows: "The stories published in the Bul magazine represent a completely groundless

fabrication. Bul is well-known in Israel as a sensational publication. It is relevant to note that one of the editors concerned has a previous conviction for espionage.

"In view of sustained Arab hostility and belligerence, a limited censorship exists in Israel on matters affecting the country's threatened security.

"The two editors were put on trial, in which they admitted they had published stories which directly or by inference affect security matters. They also admitted that they had published fabricated and groundless rumors, including unfounded allusions to the Ben Bar-ka affair. The accused asked for clemency and were sentenced to one year each." Mr. Arnon said he did not know which of the editors had been previously convicted of espionage.

#### TEL AVIV RALLY OPENS ISRAELI OBSERVANCE OF SOVIET JEWRY WEEK

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- An overflow crowd of Israeli Jews packed Mann Auditorium to express their deep concern over the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union. Five thousand persons came to the opening event in Soviet Jewry Week, sponsored by the Israeli executive of the World Jewish Congress.

A resolution was approved asking Soviet authorities to grant Russian Jewry elementary rights of freedom of religion, culture, community life and permission to join members of their families in Israel.

Mrs. Golda Meir, secretary-general of Mapai and Israel's first ambassador to the Soviet Union, concluded a description of the plight of Russian Jews with a statement of her conviction that "in spite of everything, they will come to join us."

A number of hecklers, identified as Communist Party members, tried to shout down the speakers, but were silenced by the crowd. Later police escorted some of the hecklers from the hall. Other meetings and rallies will be held during the rest of Soviet Jewry Week throughout Israel.

#### Leader of Jewish Communists in Israel Supports State's Independence

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Moshe Sneh, Israeli Communist leader and editor of the Communist daily newspaper, Kol Ha'am, has expressed support for Israel's national independence.

Addressing a weekend mass meeting marking the paper's 20th anniversary, Mr. Sneh said: "Communism is inseparable from national independence, and a threat against Israel's independence is a threat against the Israel Communist Party." Following the party's split two years ago into separate Jewish and Arab sections, the paper and its editor now represent the Jewish wing of the party.

#### Soviet Union Frees Israeli Previously Given 4-Year Prison Term

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- An Israeli who had been sentenced to four years' imprisonment by a Soviet court, last December, has been released and is now in a Western country, it was reported here today. The Israeli, Josef Givon-Guttmann, described as a "mysterious adventurer of Swiss origin," was charged with spreading anti-Soviet propaganda, smuggling, and trading in pornographic material. News of Givon-Guttmann's release was contained in a letter to a friend here.

#### FIRES DESTROY FILES OF KERUT PARTY IN TEL AVIV; ARSON SUSPECTED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Police here were investigating today two mysterious fires that destroyed the archives of the Kerut Party, including a recently completed index of membership.

The first fire broke out Friday night at Jabotinsky House, the party headquarters, where two rooms were ablaze, and was soon brought under control by Tel Aviv firemen. Twelve hours later, a second fire broke out on a floor in a different wing of the newly-built, 12-story building. Police experts are investigating the possibility of arson.

Kerut officials said today that the party is now left with no membership list and is unable to proceed with scheduled arrangements of elections to party posts. The officials said it would take six months to reassemble such a list.

#### ABBA EBAN TO MEET PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON IN LONDON TODAY

LONDON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban will meet with Prime Minister Harold Wilson here tomorrow but will not be bound by any prearranged agenda, since there are reportedly "no particularly acute problems between the two sides" at this time.

Mr. Eban, who is in London to address the Jewish Palestine Appeal dinner on Tuesday night, said he will take the opportunity of his meeting with Mr. Wilson to discuss the world situation, the Middle East, the Common Market and "whatever else may crop up."

CONGRESSMEN CONDEMN SUPPORT OF PRC-ARAB, ANTI-ISRAEL GROUP BY CIA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Congressmen William Fitts Ryan and Benjamin Rosenthal, both New York Democrats, this weekend condemned the support of an anti-Israel organization by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The Congressmen cited authoritative reports to the effect that the CIA has financed the American Friends of the Middle East, a pro-Arab, anti-Israel propaganda front. They called for an investigation by President Johnson.

Mr. Ryan and Mr. Rosenthal said "the CIA undermines the Administration policy of friendship toward Israel by secretly funding the AFME." They cited AFME's attacks on Israel and propaganda issued by Elmo Hutchison, AFME's former Middle East director. They pointed out that AFME helps finance and guides an organization it created, the Organization of Arab Students. The group spreads anti-Israel and sometimes anti-Jewish propaganda at over 100 American colleges and universities by Arab students. The Arab student activity is supported by the Arab League in Cairo, which sends out the propaganda lines to be followed. The CIA apparently financed the anti-Israel propaganda in an effort to woo young Arabs away from Communism.

The two Congressmen said: "The CIA's covert domestic activities are totally inconsistent with the most basic principles of democratic government. We cannot afford to allow a Government agency to act against the best interests of the nation." They suggest that the Administration immediately terminate CIA meddling on the domestic scene, and urged "a watchdog committee composed of seven members of the Senate and seven members of the House to oversee CIA operations."

AFME took credit publicly for organizing the Arab students. On a number of occasions, AFME petitioned Congress to take anti-Israel positions. AFME also opposed measures designed to relieve the plight of Soviet Jewry. Among the leaders of AFME have been such former State Department officials as Harold B. Minor, who served in the State Department's Near Eastern division.

Charges were made in 1963 in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that \$4,000,000 was paid by the United States Government to finance AFME. The testimony was offered by Bushrod Howard, Jr., a representative of the royalist Yemen Government. The State Department denied the charges. It emerged later that AFME's expenditures, in excess of \$1,000,000 a year for a number of years, were subsidized through various conduits by the CIA.

Most of the AFME funds were spent to bring Arab students to the United States, whose main activity turned out to be anti-Israel propaganda. Instead of waging an anti-Communist campaign, such students generally threatened that the Near East would go Communist unless the United States repudiated Israel.

ANOTHER JEWISH MEMBER OF A NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARD IS ATTACKED

WEST ORANGE, N.J., Feb. 19. (JTA) -- A second incident in a New Jersey town, involving a public denunciation of a Jewish board of education member, was disclosed here this weekend.

Frank P. Combs, a Protestant member of the West Orange Board of Education, publicly attacked the appointment by Mayor Louis Falcone of Abe I. Charnak to succeed Mr. Combs. At a board meeting last January 9, Mr. Combs said that "unfortunately, Mayor Falcone appointed a person of the Jewish faith in my place, leaving a substantial portion of the community consisting of those of the Protestant faith, without representation on the Board."

Mr. Charnak became the third Jewish member on the five-member board of West Orange, which is five miles west of Newark. The two other board members are Catholic. West Orange is 40 percent Jewish, 35 percent Catholic and 25 percent Protestant.

The incident recalled a controversy earlier this month in Wayne Township, where the Board vice-president, a Protestant named Newton Miller, called for the defeat of two candidates because they were Jewish and, as such, might spend too much for education. Mr. Miller also said Jewish members would endanger "what is left of Christ in our Christmas celebrations." In an election on February 14, the voters defeated the two Jewish candidates.

However, Mr. Combs said the situation in West Orange was "quite different" from that of Wayne. "We have always had representation of all groups," he added. "I represented the Protestants for five years. This was not intended as criticism of the Jewish people." He called the appointment of Mr. Charnak an "injustice" and then added: "Let it be clearly understood that I in no way intend to comment or reflect on the capabilities or religion of the gentleman who has been appointed."

Noting that the appointment would make Jewish members "a clear majority," Mr. Combs told the meeting: "Whether these three act in unison or not, at all times they will be held responsible, rightly or wrongly, by the entire non-Jewish segment of the community for everything that is not to their liking."

J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, AWARD WINNING NUCLEAR PHYSICIST, DEAD AT 62

PRINCETON, N.J., Feb. 19. (JTA) -- J. Robert Oppenheimer, the American Jewish physicist who was officially credited with being the "father of the atomic bomb," died at his home here last night at the age of 62. He had been ailing since early last year with cancer of the throat.

Dr. Oppenheimer received the Presidential citation and a Medal of Merit for his role in the development of the atomic bomb which, in the words of the wartime Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, was "largely due to his genius and the inspiration and leadership he has given to his colleagues."

In 1954, he was stripped of his security clearance by the Atomic Energy Commission because of his alleged association with Communists. The same agency, however, nine years later awarded Dr. Oppenheimer the \$50,000 Fermi award for "his outstanding contributions to theoretical physics and his scientific and administrative leadership." President Johnson himself presented the award to Dr. Oppenheimer.

Born in New York City, the son of a textile merchant who emigrated from Germany, Dr. Oppenheimer in later life attributed his active interest in social affairs to "a continuing smoldering fury about the treatment of Jews in Germany." He later helped rescue a number of relatives from the Nazi holocaust, and bring them to the United States. He served as professor of physics at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton since 1947.

Dr. Oppenheimer was actively associated with the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot, Israel from its inception. He dedicated the Weizmann Institute of Nuclear Science in 1958; was an honorary Fellow of the Weizmann Institute, and a member of its board of governors.

MICHAEL A. STAVITSKY, NOTED JEWISH LEADER, DIES AT 72; FUNERAL TODAY

EAST ORANGE, N.J., Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Temple B'nai Abraham, Newark, for Michael A. Stavitsky, 72, nationally-known leader of Jewish philanthropic, educational and social welfare endeavors, who died Friday at the New York Hospital in White Plains.

His most recent post was that of national chairman for the High Holy Days for the Israel bond drive. Among other national positions, Mr. Stavitsky had been president of the American Association for Jewish Education and executive committee member of the World Federation of Young Men's Hebrew Associations and Jewish Community Centers; national field secretary of the YM-YWHA; national director of field work of the National Jewish Welfare Board; a member of the national sponsors of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine; and vice-president of the United Synagogue Council of America.

Mr. Stavitsky was born in Russia, attended New York University and Columbia University, and served as a second lieutenant in World War I. In Essex County, N.J., he was three times the general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. In 1955, he received the Frank L. Weil Award of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

MICHAEL ZAGAYSKI, COLLECTOR OF JUDAICA, DEAD IN FLORIDA, AGED 74

NEW YORK, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here Tuesday for Michael Zagayski of New York, a leading collector of Jewish ceremonial objects and works of art, who died in Palm Beach, Fla., yesterday, at the age of 74. Mr. Zagayski's Judaica was frequently exhibited at the Jewish Museum here, and many of the objects had been purchased for permanent display. A major part of his collection was sold to a leading private gallery in 1964 for \$347,680.

Mr. Zagayski began collecting as a youth in Poland and had accumulated an impressive number of valuable items which were looted by the invading Nazis, in 1939, when he was attending a Jewish Agency meeting in Geneva. Only a year later he began a new collection.

A leader in Poland's prewar cement and oil industries, Mr. Zagayski came to the United States during World War II to serve as a vice-consul of the Polish Government in Exile. Later he became a U.S. citizen.

RABBI BERL ARONOVITZ, EDUCATOR, AUTHOR DIES AT THE AGE OF 73

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 19. (JTA) -- Rabbi Berl Aronovitz, former dean of the Hebrew Theological College of Chicago, died here Thursday at the age of 73. He was born in Vilna and was a descendant of the famous Gaon of Vilna. Rabbi Aronovitz served as dean of the Chicago college for 25 years, before his retirement six years ago. He was the author of works on the Bible and Hebrew grammar.