



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

## DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

*Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement*

Vol. XXXIV - Fiftieth Year

Friday, October 27, 1967

No. 208

### Russians Reported Heavily Strengthening Their Mediterranean Naval Forces

LONDON, Oct. 26. (JTA) — As many as 15 Soviet warships were reported today to be sailing in the direction of Port Said and Alexandria in a display of strength designed to intimidate Israel and serve as a shield for Egypt. The armada was said to include missile-firing ships and submarines. The vanguard of the fleet was due to reach Egyptian ports today.

The London Daily Express asserted today that Soviet naval strength in the Mediterranean had increased about 30% since the Six-Day War last June and estimated Soviet naval strength there at 44 ships.

(Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, head of the U.N. cease-fire observance team, reported to U.N. headquarters today that "the situation remains generally quiet" on the Israeli-Syrian sector, and that, in the Suez Canal area, this morning, unidentified jets, flying at high altitude, crossed the canal and came under Egyptian anti-aircraft fire.)

Writing in the Evening Standard, Jon Kimche said a Soviet fleet consisting of eight destroyers, 12 torpedo boats and 15 submarines had been deployed in Egyptian territorial waters between Port Said and Alexandria. The "increasing Soviet involvement in the Suez Canal situation," he said, was reflected also in the fact that a considerable number of senior Soviet staff officers are working on the Egyptian General Staff and with the air force, army and navy. Most of the 45 senior officers who arrived in Cairo with Marshal Zakharov, he said, were to remain behind to work with the Egyptians and the Russians already there. He asserted that more than 600 pilots and tank crew members had been sent to Russia for special training.

The London Daily Telegraph warned Egypt today against any further measures such as the attack on the destroyer Elath. The paper said editorially that "the most suicidal thing that could happen now would be for Egypt to use some other Russian military or aerial gimmick to hit an Israeli city that would tempt Israel to exploit her military advantage fully while she still has it."

Reports from Cairo today said that Israeli planes overflew Suez City three times, apparently on observation missions, and Egyptian anti-aircraft fire was opened against them. The Egyptians said the fires, which had raged since Tuesday in the giant refineries and tanks near the city were now under control.

### House Bill Would Authorize Loan of USA Destroyer to Israel

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26. (JTA) — A bill was introduced in the House today to authorize the United States Government to loan Israel a destroyer to replace the Elath which was sunk last week by a Soviet-made missile. The bill was offered by Rep. Richard Schweiker, Pa. Rep., a member of the House Committee on Armed Services. Rep. Schweiker announced that he was consulting with committee leadership on the legislation and hoped that it would be acted upon by the end of next week. Strong support for the move was developing among both Republicans and Democrats.

Rep. Schweiker introduced the bill to implement a proposal made yesterday by House Republican Leader Gerald Ford of Michigan. The Pennsylvania Congressman said in the House that "one of our staunchest allies in the world today and a bulwark of democracy in the Middle East, Israel, is in serious naval difficulty." He pointed out that the United States was already loaning a total of 15 naval vessels to Chile, Brazil, West Germany, Greece, Korea, Spain, and Portugal. He said a bill was adopted earlier this month to extend all these loans and provide additional ships to Korea and the Republic of China. This makes a total of 17 naval craft now under loan.

Rep. Schweiker said: "If these allies are able to use our destroyers, submarines, and destroyer escorts on a loan basis, Israel most certainly should be able to do so on the same terms."

### Wilson Declares Mideast Settlement Must Provide for Freedom of Navigation

LONDON, Oct. 26. (JTA) — Prime Minister Harold Wilson said in Parliament today that "any lasting settlement in the Middle East must provide for freedom of passage in international waterways for the ships of all nations."

The Prime Minister made his remark in reply to questions from Laborite MP Emanuel Shinwell and Conservative Sir Knox Cunningham. They had asked what the Government's position was on re-opening the Suez Canal to ships of all nations and whether it had consulted with the Commonwealth prime ministers and the President of the United States on ways of ensuring unmolested use of the Canal.

Replying to another question related to the Middle East crisis from Laborite Edward Roland, the Prime Minister said the sinking of the Israeli destroyer Elath had made a very difficult situation more so and it would not be helpful for the Government to express an opinion on this and subsequent events since its concern was to get the parties together and pave the way for a lasting peace.

A request from Conservative MP Neil Martin for assurances that there would be no financial aid to Egypt until British ships stranded in the Great Bitter Lake at the southern end of the Suez Canal are released was referred by the Prime Minister to the Foreign Secretary.

Steps taken by the Government to bring about a Middle East settlement were outlined by Minister of State G. Roberts in a written reply to questions by Conservative MP Knox Cunningham. He said that the Government has been "in close and constant touch" with other interested governments, that it had continued to urge an early meeting of the Security Council to adopt a "balanced resolution" calling for the appointment of a U.N. representative to the Middle East and that the representatives of the Foreign Secretary have had personal consultations with the U.N. Secretary-General and with the representatives of many nations in New York.

### Security Council Members Press for Agreement on Wider Mideast Resolution

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 26. (JTA) — Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, permanent representative of the United States in the United Nations, cancelled a scheduled appearance before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee on Viet Nam in order to participate in further consultations on the Middle East here today.

The ten non-permanent members of the Security Council met today in an attempt to work out a draft resolution covering the wider aspects of the Middle East problem and authorizing the appointment of a special representative of the Secretary-General to be dispatched to the Middle East.

It is expected that the Security Council will meet again early next week to take up such a draft resolution. Several members have been pressing for a meeting before the end of October while Senjin Tsuruoka of Japan still serves as president of the Council. As of November 1, the president will be Ambassador M.L. Keita of Mali, who has consistently sided with the Arabs.

Secretary-General Thant was consulting with his aides today and with Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, head of the U.N. cease-fire observers in the Middle East, on proposed increases in the U.N. force of observers in the Suez area and the deployment of patrol craft and helicopters to provide them with a greater range of mobility on land, sea and air.

Several delegations, among them the Israeli, took note of the fact that Soviet representative Nikolai T. Fedorenko last night used the term "political solution" for the second time while discussing the Middle East.

### Three Israeli Universities Move Forward on Plant Expansion

JERUSALEM, Oct. 26. (JTA) — The swift growth of higher education in Israel was very much in evidence today as three major universities moved ahead with expansion projects with the blessings of the Prime Minister and members of his cabinet.

Tel Aviv University laid the cornerstone of its ten-story medical school building and will lay another cornerstone Sunday for its new Peretz Naftali social science faculty building. Haifa University, Israel's youngest, dedicated its first building yesterday and Bar Ilan University will dedicate its Gustav Wurzel Library on Sunday.

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and Minister of Education Zalman Aranne attended the Haifa dedication. Mr. Eshkol declared that higher education should not be used to serve the selfish ends of those possessing it but should serve the country and the people.

Speaking at the site of the new medical school in Tel Aviv, Health Minister Israel Barzilai said "it is unfortunate that we meet to rejoice in such a ceremony while the victims of the destroyer Elath have been laid to their eternal rest. But the nation must remember that the country's very strength comes from its ability to forge ahead and lay the groundwork for moral and spiritual development of a new generation."

### New 76,000-Ton Bulk Carrier For Israeli Line to be Launched Next Week

LONDON, Oct. 26. (JTA) — The first of four 76,000 deadweight ton bulk carriers ordered by Cargo Ships El Yam, Ltd. of Haifa will be launched November 1 at the yards of the Furness Shipbuilding Co. The new vessel will be christened Har Adir. Cargo Ships El Yam is the largest privately owned shipping company in Israel and operates a fleet of bulk carriers, tankers and refrigerator ships in worldwide trade.

### Oldest Synagogue in Old City of Jerusalem is Rededicated

JERUSALEM, Oct. 26. (JTA) — The Synagogue of Hamandides in East Jerusalem, believed to be the oldest Jewish house of worship in the Old City, was rededicated yesterday in ceremonies attended by President Zalman Shazar. The synagogue is 700 years old.

Israeli police dispersed a group of youths who had tried to conduct public prayers on Temple Mount. The prayers had been held in defiance of a ban by the Israeli Chief Rabbinate.

## More Afro-Asian States Object to Term 'Anti-Semitism' in Anti-Bias Draft

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 26. (JTA) — Objections continued to mount today against inclusion of the term "anti-Semitism" in the draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious discrimination, now before the General Assembly's Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs.

The representative of Kenya, Mrs. T. Kiti, opposed the reference to any particular kind of religious intolerance. She was supported by Mr. C. O'Leary of Eire who said that the convention should possess a universal character. The Tunisian representative, S. Guermazi, alleged that anti-Semitism "was strictly a European phenomenon that has largely radical implications" and said that the countries where it occurred "could sign a convention between themselves to deal with it."

The Saudi Arabian delegate, C. Allagany, supported an Israeli suggestion that the term "anti-Judaism" be substituted for anti-Semitism and contended that "the true anti-Semitic practices today were directed against Moslem and Christian Arabs." Mrs. L. Ider, of Mongolia, proposed that the convention be re-titled "International Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination on Grounds of Religion or Belief."

## Austrian Nazi Sues Wiesenthal Over Charges Published in Book

BONN, Oct. 26. (JTA) — Erich Rajakovic, an Austrian war criminal and former SS leader, has filed suit in Munich to compel the deletion of certain passages from Simon Wiesenthal's book, "The Murderers Are Among Us," which deals with notorious Nazis who went unpunished after World War II. Wiesenthal's book discloses that despite his war criminal background, Rajakovic served as representative of Soviet, East German, Polish, Hungarian and Czechoslovakian business firms in Italy ten years ago.

## N.Y. Times Reports Soviet Jewish Community Has Almost Ceased to Exist

NEW YORK, Oct. 26. (JTA) — Soviet Jewry has practically ceased to exist as a unity in the 50th year of the Russian Revolution and any hopes for the next 50 years for the rebirth of a viable Russian Jewish community must be grounded more on faith than on reality, the New York Times will report in its edition tomorrow.

The status of Soviet Jewry is described in one of a series of articles being published by the Times on all aspects of Soviet life and policy in connection with the 50th anniversary. The article was written by Peter Grose, a Times correspondent in Moscow.

The article stresses the impact of Soviet anti-Jewish policy in terms of a fundamental difference between the older, religiously-oriented Soviet Jewry and the younger "Sovietized" Jew. The older generation of Jews, remembering purges and Stalinist oppression, has no intention of risking new troubles. The younger generation, which has complaints but not over anti-religious phases of Soviet policy, is less inclined to let Communist Party "dogmatism" on Jewish issues go unchecked, Grose reported.

Soviet pressures for assimilation, strictures on worship, limitations on teaching children about God, plus traditional anti-Semitism — which is officially frowned on — have dealt "a savage blow" to the Jewish community of the Soviet Union.

Soviet communists, Grose reported, are on the defensive about the Jews and "they have much to be defensive about," the correspondent wrote but, he added, world concern is misplaced. The picture of a community of some 3,000,000 Jews, living in daily misery and fearing for their lives, is wrong, and one can meet Soviet Jews every day whose reactions to overseas campaigns on behalf of Soviet Jewry range from "total bewilderment to sincere anger," he reported. What has been persecuted through 50 years is the Jewish heritage, religious practices and culture but these do not pose an issue for the younger generation of Jews. The "happy Jew," Gorse reported, is to be found among those who have been "Sovietized." Russians who are Soviet citizens first and Jews second, who are confident that the prevailing post-Stalin atmosphere of public life will bar serious manifestations of anti-Semitism, because that phenomenon is "tainted with Stalinism."

The fact is, the correspondent wrote, there has developed a new interest in Jewry among the younger generation, with curiosity manifested among Soviet Jews and Gentiles about what being a Jew means. This has been accompanied by a kind of revival of Yiddish culture, though the official Yiddish theater in Moscow, destroyed by Stalin, remains destroyed.

## Twenty-One Senators Urge Russia to End Discrimination Against Jews

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26. (JTA) — Twenty-one United States Senators took the floor today to urge the Soviet Union to cease discrimination against Russian Jewry. The speeches coincided with Simchat Torah, the holiday celebrating the five books of Moses. When young people have flocked to the remaining synagogues in Russia to demonstrate their identity as Jews.

The Senators, representing both parties, condemned Russia's refusal to allow Jews the same rights as other religious groups and nationalities. They pointed out that Soviet Jews are not permitted outside contacts and are refused permission to leave the country.

## Smolar Retires as JTA Editor; Bienstock Assumes Editorial Direction

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- The retirement of Boris Smolar after 43 years with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the last 26 of them as Editor-in-Chief of the world-wide news service, was announced today by Robert H. Arnow, JTA president. Mr. Smolar, who is 70, will continue to write his popular column distributed by JTA to the American Jewish press and will carry the title, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus.

Victor M. Bienstock, who was JTA editor in 1933-35 and has been its general manager and director of operations since 1951, has assumed the editorial direction of the agency.

Mr. Arnow also announced the appointment of John Kayston as Business Manager of the JTA. Mr. Kayston, who joined the JTA organization in 1936, has been responsible for JTA administrative affairs, circulation and production for many years. He will continue these activities in his expanded new capacity. Mr. Arnow said that Jack Seigel, Director of Development, would also assume added responsibilities in the financial area.

Mr. Smolar studied journalism at Northwestern University, in Chicago and was on the staff of the Chicago Daily Forward until he joined the JTA in 1924. He later became chief European correspondent for JTA and covered most of the world's major news stories involving the Jewish people over a period of nearly two decades.

He was one of the JTA team which provided the world press with its major coverage of the 1929 Palestine riots. He covered pogroms in Poland and Rumania. His dispatches from Moscow to the JTA and the New York World during a critical period in the evolution of the Soviet Revolution did much to inform the world as to the fate of Russia's Jews. Perhaps his longest and most arduous assignment was to report the growth of the Nazi movement in Germany which ultimately led to Hitler's accession to power. He was expelled from Hitler Germany in 1937. He remained on European assignment after the outbreak of the war until 1941 when he returned to New York and assumed the editorship of JTA.

Mr. Bienstock, a native of Hartford, Conn., came to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after serving on the New York World, the New York Herald Tribune and the London Morning Post. He resigned as an editor of the Herald Tribune News Service in 1933 to join the JTA staff as editor of the news service and managing editor of the Jewish Daily Bulletin. He went to Europe in 1935, with headquarters in London, as chief of foreign service, to reorganize its operations and direct its news service.

In 1940, he became chief of the foreign service of the Overseas News Agency with headquarters in London and served as war correspondent in the Middle East and European theaters. He became foreign editor of ONA in 1945 and general manager of JTA in 1951.

## Workmen's Circle, Labor Zionists Oppose Proposed New Charter for New York

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- Two Jewish organizations registered vehement opposition to the proposed new New York State Constitution and urged their membership today to vote against it in the November 7 referendum. The organizations -- the Workmen's Circle and the Labor Zionist Organization of America -- stated that the main reason for their opposition was repeal of Article XI, Section 3, the so-called Blaine Amendment, which would open the way for State aid to non-public schools.

The Workmen's Circle, the world's largest Jewish labor fraternal order, declared in a statement today that the American system of separation of church and state "is traduced by the proposed state charter." It charged that the clause repealing the Blaine Amendment was "an obvious conspiracy to destroy the public school system." The statement was signed by Israel Breslow, president and Benjamin A. Gebiner, executive secretary.

The LZOA statement, signed by Dr. Leo Diesendruck, chairman of its Community Action Committee, warned of the divisive effect of religious rivalry for public educational funds.

## Ephim M. Jeshurun, Labor Leader, Forward Official, Dies at 82

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Ephim H. Jeshurun, Jewish labor leader and member of the Jewish Daily Forward Association, who had twice been president of the Workmen's Circle. He died yesterday at 82 after a long illness.

Coming to the United States from Vilna when he was 22, Mr. Jeshurun immediately became active in the Workmen's Circle. He wrote extensively for the Yiddish press and edited the works of many leading Yiddish writers. He was named financial manager of the Forward in 1921 and was a founder of the Jewish Labor Committee, ORT, the United Hias Service and the Yiddish Pen Club.

## JWB Awards Four Fellowships for Women in Graduate Social Work

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board announced today the granting of four scholarships totaling \$4,700 to women attending graduate schools of social work. The scholarships, named in honor of Miriam R. Ephraim, retired former director of the JWB's national program services, are intended to help overcome the shortage of fellowships for women preparing for Jewish community and YM-YWHA service. The recipients are Ann Dresner, of Bangor, Me., Vivian Becker, of Brooklyn, Belle Likover, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and Joan Neufeld, of New York City.