

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Jordan Cabinet Split on Policy Towards Terrorists; Heavy Opposition To Hussein

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The Jordanian Parliament met in closed session for three hours tonight in Amman and expressed loyalty to King Hussein. But speculation was still rife here as to whether Hussein's Government would survive much longer in view of a major split in the Cabinet over the King's announced policy of halting Arab terrorist raids against Israel from Jordanian territory.

The split was revealed this morning when Prime Minister Bahjat Al Talhouni denied in an Amman radio address that the Cabinet had reached any decision to act against terrorists using Jordan as their base. His denial was a direct contradiction of a statement made only yesterday by Minister of Interior Hassan Al-Kayed who warned terrorists that they would be punished if they ignored the King's orders. King Hussein declared Friday that he would "not allow anyone to supply the enemy with pretexts and justifications for aggression."

(The London Times reported in a dispatch from Amman today that Prime Minister Al Talhouni declared that "the Jordan Government, like other Arab governments, does not oppose the activities of persons working for the interests of general Arab policy and in line with it.")

Commenting on the Jordanian Prime Minister's statement, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said here this afternoon that if Jordan fails to prevent armed bands from using its territory, tensions would continue to rise affecting the well-being and security of peaceful inhabitants on both sides of the demarcation line.

The apparent Cabinet split in Amman coincided with an announcement issued by the Syrian-trained El Fatah terrorist organization in Beirut, Lebanon, this morning declaring that they will not "bow to Hussein's demands" and would continue their guerrilla operations against Israel.

Dispatches from Amman and eye-witness accounts of travellers arriving in Jerusalem from Jordan yesterday indicated that the population strongly supported King Hussein's anti-terrorist policy and in fact demonstrated against "foreign elements" who were "unconcerned with the problems of the Jordanian people." Jordanian newspapers headlined the seizure yesterday of a terrorist arms cache at the port of Aqaba and all indications were that Jordanian security forces were rounding up terrorist groups.

(This picture of anti-terrorist sentiment and activity was contradicted by the London Times' Amman correspondent. In a dispatch this morning, he said that King Hussein and members of Parliament visiting villages and refugee camps devastated in last Thursday's fighting with Israel, were greeted by demands for arms. The correspondent said that when he toured the front line areas he found most Jordanians in possession of "rifles and a few rounds of ammunition.")

## Jewish Agency Spokesman Tell Cabinet Attacks Undermining Agency Must Cease

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Prime Minister Eshkol presided at a Cabinet-Jewish Agency "coordinating committee" meeting here this afternoon at which Jewish Agency leaders demanded that certain government spokesmen and agencies stop trying to undermine the Jewish Agency's existence. They referred specifically to press reports of requests by the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture that the Jewish Agency's settlement department be liquidated and its functions transferred to the government. Settlement, along with immigration, are among the Jewish Agency's principal activities.

The upshot of the meeting was acknowledgement by the Cabinet members present that "stone-throwing against the Jewish Agency must cease." Aryeh L. Pincus, Jewish Agency chairman said that the agency cannot make the most of the re-awakening of world Jewry after last June's war if the government creates an atmosphere of distrust. The Agency-Cabinet committee will meet again Sunday afternoon.

## Goldmann Accuses Israeli Press of Seeking to Destroy Zionist Organization Image

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The Israeli press was accused by Dr. Nahum Goldmann here last night of "doing its utmost to destroy the image of the World Zionist Organization." Dr. Goldmann, who is president of the WZO, addressed an assemblage of Jewish journalists from Israel and 13 foreign countries at a dinner marking the close of the World Conference of Jewish Journalists.

In making his charge against the Israeli press, the Zionist leader referred specifically to demands that the Zionist Organization relinquish to the Israel Government the tasks of immigration and immigrant absorption. These functions are now handled by the Jewish Agency, executive arm of the WZO which, Dr. Goldmann pointed out, is a voluntary organization in contrast to the Israel Government

which is a sovereign political body. Dr. Goldmann also assailed other critics of the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

Both of those organizations largely represent diaspora Jewry, and, Dr. Goldmann noted, it was in the area of future relations between Israel and Jews abroad that he felt the greatest anxiety. "One cannot come to diaspora Jewry and say only, 'give,' " Dr. Goldmann said. "Diaspora Jewry must have a say and not just listen."

Dr. Goldmann warned that while "signing a peace treaty with the Arabs is very important, a formal peace does not guarantee a true peace unless there is also psychological peace between the two sides." He stressed the need to find the means of coexistence between the Arabs and Israel and suggested that the Six-Day War might have contributed to that end by demonstrating to the Arab intelligentsia that Israel cannot be overpowered by military force.

Dr. Goldmann said he did not anticipate mass immigration to Israel from the United States and other Western countries "under present conditions." He said he hoped that sooner there will be mass immigration from Russia.

Israel and nine other countries will be represented on the executive of the World Union of Jewish Journalists, a new organization established by the journalists' conference here. The foreign countries are the United States, England, France, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, South Africa, Australia and Canada. The U.S. members will be the American Jewish Press Association and the Peretz Verain representing Yiddish journalists.

### West Bank Family Reunion Plan Resumes Without Red Cross Participation

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The family reunion plan to allow refugees who fled from the West Bank during the Six-Day War to return home was resumed yesterday for the first time in three weeks without supervision by the International Red Cross. Two Red Cross supervisors had been wounded during a clash on the Allenby Bridge between Israeli and Jordanian soldiers. Following the incident, the Red Cross announced that it would not resume supervision of the bridge crossings because safety of its personnel had not been assured by both sides. Israel then proceeded alone and contacted Jordanian authorities directly to arrange for resumption of the reunion plan.

Sixty persons crossed the bridge into Israel yesterday and regular crossings are expected to take place on Mondays and Thursdays as was done prior to the clash. Three truckloads of grain, the first officially sanctioned imports from Jordan into Israel-occupied territory, arrived on the West Bank yesterday. Israel has permitted merchants in Judaea and Samaria to import goods from Jordan subject to normal Israeli customs duties.

### West Bank Arab Judges Refuse to Permit Israeli Lawyers to Appear in Their Court

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Two West Bank Arab judges who were appointed to the bench by the Israeli military government, have barred Israeli lawyers from appearing in the courts of Hebron and Bethlehem, it was reported today. The lawyers may appeal to a higher court, but the military government is not interfering. The judges contend that their action was based on the military government's decree that Jordanian laws are valid only on the West Bank, except those specifically rescinded. Under Jordanian law, Israeli lawyers cannot appear in court.

### Treasury Pays Beisan Valley Settlements for Damage Suffered in Fighting

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Israel's Treasury has made its first payment to settlements in the Jordan Valley to cover damage inflicted by Jordanian artillery during last week's clashes, it was announced today. Under Israeli law, frontier settlements are entitled to full indemnification from the Government for damage suffered as a result of enemy action. The damage is estimated at more than \$100,000.

### Chief Rabbinate Bars Archaeological Digging Near Wailing Wall

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A request by a noted Israeli archaeologist to excavate near the site of the south wall of the Temple in Old Jerusalem was turned down by the Chief Rabbinate today. Prof. B. Mazer, a former president of the Hebrew University, was told that he couldn't dig because he might inadvertently enter the "Holy of Holies" where only High Priests were allowed in Biblical times. All Jewish religious sites in Israel are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Rabbinate.

### New Ambassador of Israel Pays First Call on Secretary of State

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, president of Hadassah, injured in a bus accident last night near Tel-Aviv, was immediately taken to Hadassah Hospital here where she is being treated for a broken collarbone. Mrs. Jacobson, reportedly the only person injured, hit a handrail when she was thrown from her front seat on the bus. She was enroute home from a tour of the Golan Heights when the accident occurred.

### Mrs. Jacobson Hospitalized After Bus Accident Near Tel Aviv

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin of Israel paid his first call on Secretary of State Dean Rusk today and was welcomed by Mr. Rusk on behalf of the United States Government. The meeting was described as a courtesy call in keeping with diplomatic formalities.

### Italian Witness Tells Court War Crimes Defendant Rounded Up Jews in Milan Area

MILAN, Feb. 20 (JTA)--An eye-witness to the Nazi deportation of Italian Jews today identified a defendant in a West German war crimes trial as the SS captain who led a detachment of soldiers to seize Jews from their homes in a Milan suburb during World War II.

The witness, Mrs. Emma Pepere, identified the defendant, Hans Kruger, from a photograph of 32 German soldiers and officials shown to her by a section of the Osnabreuck Court which is taking evidence here. Mrs. Pepere, daughter of a former university professor, is not Jewish. She told the judges that Kruger led his detachment to a Jewish villa in the suburb of Arona and that the German soldiers started to drag her away although she protested that she was not Jewish. Kruger believed her and ordered her release. She said that she saw a Jewish acquaintance, Mr. Cantoni, being taken away in a German truck. He appealed to her for help but she could do nothing, Mrs. Pepere told the court.

### Free Democratic Leader Says President Luebke Must Answer Nazism Charges

BONN, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A leader of the opposition Free Democratic Party has attributed riots and demonstrations by German youngsters in part to President Heinrich Luebke's failure to answer charges that he worked for the Nazis during World War II.

Willy Weyer, Minister of the Interior of North Rhine-Westphalia, told a Free Democratic Party congress that if Dr. Luebke took no legal action against charges that he helped build concentration camps during the war, the accusations would be repeated and suspicion would be aroused that they were true. The charges against President Luebke have appeared in West German and American magazines and have also come from sources in East Berlin. On the advice of the Government Dr. Luebke has declined to file suit for slander.

### Soviet Union 'Indicted' at Georgetown Mock Trial for Treatment of Jews

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The Soviet Union was charged today with "deliberate cultural genocide" against the Russian Jewish community at the so-called "Court of World Public Opinion" now holding a "trial" of international Communism at Georgetown University here under auspices of anti-Communist groups. The witness was Dr. Joseph Dunner, professor of political science and international law at Yeshiva University in New York.

Dr. Dunner described measures taken to destroy Jewish life in Russia. When asked by the tribunal if there were any other countries that persecuted the Jews, he replied: "The Arab countries." He said the treatment of Jews in Spain could not be considered "persecution" although Catholicism is recognized as the official state religion.

Dr. Dunner charged that the USSR prohibits the printing of the Hebrew Bible and will not allow the unrestricted teaching of Judaism and Jewish history. He said there are now only four rabbis in all of Russia for a Jewish population of between 3 and 4 million.

The mock trial at which Dr. Dunner testified caused controversy here by some who complained that extreme right-wing elements were among sponsors and witnesses. Georgetown University later issued a statement explaining that while proceedings were held at the university, the Catholic institution neither endorsed nor approved the "trial."

### Expert Sees No Likelihood of Change in Soviet Policy on Russian Jews

NEW-YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A Columbia University expert predicted here today that the Soviet Government would continue to "muddle through" with its present policy toward Russian Jews of oscillating narrowly between improved and repressive local conditions. That policy was described as reflecting a basic contradiction between the Soviet Government's wish to assimilate its Jews and its insistence on identifying them ethnically in all its dealings with them, a "self-defeating" effort.

The analysis was made by Zvi Gitelman of Columbia University, a member of the research institute on Communist affairs in the university's school of international affairs. His views were reported in a special issue of Problems of Communism, published by the United States Information Agency, devoted to nationalities and nationalism in the Soviet Union.

The current policy, he added, singles out the Jews as a special national group with potential subversive interests allegedly nurtured by foreign Jewish forces, unacceptable loyalty to Israel, and a religion which, if revived and strengthened, would be antipathetic to Soviet nationalism. Mr. Gitelman, who is also an associate in the Government department of Columbia University, is currently studying the work of the Jewish sections of the Soviet Communist Party from 1917 to 1940.

Noting that the Soviet Government has allowed most of its non-territorial minorities, such as the Germans, to have such cultural facilities as schools, newspapers and social organizations, he added that such privileges have generally been denied to Soviet Jews. By repressing Jewish activities, he declared, the Soviet Government in effect gives the Jews a rallying point and strengthens the Jewish cultural and ethnic fiber. He added that if and when there is a change, it will probably be determined by "the nature and direction of the political evolution of the USSR." At present, when fundamental decisions as to the future of the Soviet system "are being postponed," the party is pursuing "the same kind of temporizing policy in regard to Jewish culture and the Jewish people as it is in other areas," he declared. The policy of "muddling through" may be no more than inconvenient for the regime but "it is tragic for the nearly 3,000,000 Jewish citizens of the USSR."

### Lazarus Phillips Named to Canadian Senate; Will Be Second Jew in Upper House

OTTAWA, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Lazarus Phillips, a Montreal buyer, today became the second Jew appointed to the Canadian Senate. He was named by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson in what was probably his last appointment before retiring as leader of the Liberal Party. The first Jew to be named to the Senate was David A. Croll, in 1955.

Mr. Phillips, a native of Montreal, is a director of the Royal Bank of Canada, the Montreal Trust Co. and other firms. He is an honorary vice-president of the Canadian Jewish Congress and has been active in Jewish community life in Canada. Mr. Phillips is 72 and is expected to serve in the Senate until he reaches the mandatory retirement age of 75.

### Canadian University Faculty Agrees to Dismissal of Anti-Israel Propagandist

TORONTO, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The executive of Waterloo Lutheran University's faculty committee has agreed to the dismissal of a political science assistant professor, George Hagggar, who has been a vociferous anti-Israel propagandist on and off the campus.

Students and faculty had originally protested against the University's announcement that it would not renew its contract with Hagggar who was president of the Canadian Arab community. The University administration explained, however, that Hagggar was not being dismissed for exercising his right to freedom of speech but because of his bitter and continuing personal attacks on the University hierarchy and fellow faculty members.

### Gen. Yariv Says Israel Must Hold Occupied Territories Until Peace Settlement

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--General Aharon Yariv, Israel's military intelligence chief, said tonight that in the absence of a settlement with the Arabs that would assure his country's peace and security, Israel must stick to its resolve to hold on to captured Arab territories.

He spoke at the Americana Hotel to 800 guests attending a United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York campaign dinner where he represented General Moshe Dayan who was to have been the guest of honor before the present crisis along the Jordan River ceasefire line forced the Minister of Defense to postpone a planned visit to the United States.

Gen. Yariv accepted on behalf of Gen. Dayan a gift from the New York Jewish community presented by Albert Parker, UJA president. Selected because of Gen. Dayan's interest in the archaeology of the Near East, the gift is an artifact of the pre-Columbian Olmec civilization of Mexico. The accompanying inscription reads: "a terra cotta seal of the New World wrought in the era of the Maccabees presented to Moshe Dayan, in tribute to his leadership in the struggle for Jewish survival."

Tonight's dinner was the first major fund raising event of the 1968 drive in New York City, Westchester and Long Island on behalf of the Israel Emergency Fund and the general UJA campaign. Gen. Yariv, analyzing the results of the Six-Day War last June, said that Israel's military victory had not yet resulted in peace. He expressed the belief that Israel's people face a long and tortuous road and the effort to achieve peace and security will demand their full resources. He praised the work of the UJA agencies and called for more support from the American Jewish community.

### Sullivan County Nursing Home To Be First With Kosher Facilities

GROSSINGERS, N.Y., Feb. 20 (JTA)--A \$3 million, 100-bed county nursing home will have a special 25-bed wing to serve Jewish patients kosher food, the Sullivan County Social Service Commissioner, Robert Travis, said today. He said the separate wing, with its separate kitchens for kosher food preparation, would be the first of its kind in any such non-urban public nursing home in the nation.

He said that assistance in planning the special facility had been provided by Mrs. Jennie Grossinger, owner of Grossingers Hotel, and Abe Friedman, hotel dining room manager, who both will be consultants for the facility. Until now, such dietary needs of existing nursing home facilities in Sullivan County have been provided mainly through donations from the kosher kitchens of the Grossinger Hotel.

Mr. Travis, who also is national chairman of the Council of Welfare Directors, said he intended to approach other social service district officials throughout the country to recommend similar facilities for Jewish patients.

### Minneapolis and Rishon-Le-Zion To Have Summer Teen-Agers Exchange

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A work-study program involving an exchange of at least six youths between Rishon Le-Zion in Israel and here has been announced by Josiah E. Brill, Jr., president of the Jewish Community Center. An adult leader from each community will also participate in the nine-week project this summer. Cost of the program to Minneapolis participants has been set at \$1,200, which covers transportation to and board in Israel and a stop in Europe enroute home.

### Eliezer Lewin-Epstein, Israeli Industrialist, ORT Leader, Dead at 70

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Word was received here by the American ORT Federation of the death in Switzerland on Feb. 17 of Eliezer Lewin-Epstein, 70, chairman of ORT Israel and a leading industrialist. Mr. Lewin-Epstein, one of the founders of ORT in Israel, was head of the country's largest printing houses and was chairman of the Israel Institute of Productivity. He fought in the Israel War of Liberation in 1948 with the rank of colonel. He emigrated from Warsaw to settle in Palestine in 1924.