

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Israel Weighs Priorities for Peace Talks as Jarring Plans Cyprus Parleys

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban told the Knesset (Parliament) here today that the Israel Government will weigh the various subjects to be taken up at peace talks with the Arab states and work out a system of priorities based on what is best "for a peace-loving, progressive sovereign state that has a role in Jewish life and culture." He said that some of the subjects are contradictory, but when peace talks appear imminent, the Government will reach a consensus on the relative importance of security, culture and economics in its talks with the Arabs.

The Foreign Minister, speaking at the opening of a debate on his Ministry's budget, reiterated Israel's insistence on direct talks with the Arabs leading to a peace treaty. Israel will not consider anything less, he said and added that it was up to the Arabs to show their willingness to make peace by sitting down to talks with Israel. Only an agreement by the two sides on new, permanent boundaries can resolve the current deadlock, he said.

(The Associated Press reported from Jerusalem today that Eban announced Israel's agreement to "a form of negotiations" with the Arab states -- a form used by the Arabs in the past and consistent with a precedent -- which indicated that peace talks would be similar to the Israel-Arab armistice negotiations of 1949. The AP quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman to the effect that Israel has agreed to direct talks with the Arabs on condition that the U.N. envoy, Ambassador Gunnar Jarring, act as chairman. Jarring is known to favor Cyprus, where he maintains his headquarters, as the site for such talks.

(The Christian Science Monitor reported from Jerusalem today that Israel had consented to send representatives to Ambassador Jarring's Cyprus headquarters and cited "more cooperative" Egyptian and Jordanian attitudes toward Mr. Jarring. The U.N. envoy who has shuttled between his headquarters the the Israeli and Arab capitals, believes that one of his meetings with the parties concerned could be held usefully on Cyprus. He left open the question of whether Israel and Arab delegates would meet face to face there or would talk, at least in the first phase, through him as an intermediary, the Monitor said.

### Ambassador Jarring Due at United Nations Wednesday to Discuss Developments

(It was announced in the United Nations today that Ambassador Jarring will arrive there on Wednesday to confer with Secretary General U Thant. According to a U.N. spokesman Mr. Thant said his discussion with Dr. Jarring will cover "possible next steps and the prospects for entering upon a new stage in the discussions with the parties" to the Middle East dispute.

(Ambassador Josef Tekoah of Israel met with Mr. Thant this afternoon at the Secretary-General's invitation. It is understood that Mr. Thant informed the envoy officially of Ambassador Jarring's pending arrival for consultations on developments in the Middle East.)

In the course of his address to the Knesset, Mr. Eban noted that the Middle East has lost much of its former importance in world affairs. It is no longer a cross road of the colonial powers on their way to and from their overseas possessions, he said. He observed that even without political domination by the European powers, Middle East oil continues to flow to the West and alternative routes to the Suez Canal have been found, since Egypt closed the canal last June. These developments, according to Mr. Eban, mean that the Middle Eastern countries must shoulder the responsibility for their own fate and come to terms, without relying on the world powers to solve their problems.

Mr. Eban told the Knesset that there is no longer a shadow of a doubt that Nasser took his aggressive action against Israel just prior to last June's war on the basis of rumors that he picked up from Soviet sources that Israel was massing troops on the Syrian border. The Soviets are still inciting their Arab friends against Israel and they are so doing them a great disservice, Mr. Eban said.

### Envoy Warns Israel Is Facing 'Most Decisive' Moment In Its History Since 1948

BOSTON, Feb. 26 (JTA)--The State of Israel today is facing the most decisive period in its history since the war of liberation in 1948, Ambassador Josef Tekoah, head of the Israeli mission to the United Nations, told an audience here last night in the Boston War Memorial.

Addressing 5,000 persons participating in a Jewish Brotherhood Night, the envoy noted that in the 1948 war, "we regained independence and sovereignty for the land of Israel. Today we are engaged in a struggle which will determine Israel's shape, its boundaries and its relationships with the Arab world."

He added that "this is the time that will determine whether we shall, at long last, live in peace or whether our lot will continue to be that of war."

The Israeli diplomat said that the road to peace was long and full of pitfalls and warned that "before we can attain peace, we may have to face war again."

### Ambassador Rabin To Meet President Johnson Within Few Days on First Visit

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin of Israel will meet with President Lyndon B. Johnson for the first time in the next few days, it was learned today from official sources. The Ambassador's visit to the White House will be in the nature of a diplomatic courtesy call designated by protocol. It is expected, however, that matters of current interest may be discussed because of the recent important talks involving the President and Prime Minister Levi Eshkol of Israel.

Gen. Rabin met today with Lucius D. Battle, Assistant Secretary of State of Near Eastern Affairs, in keeping with a series of meetings designed to make personal contact with key officials. The new envoy has been invited to address the National Press Club next week.

### El Fatah Bands Shift Bases From Jordanian Hills to Golan Heights Area

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26 (JTA)--A freshly planted anti-vehicle mine was found and dismantled early today in the neighborhood of Tirat Zvi in the Beisan Valley, a military spokesman disclosed. He said it was obvious that the mine was laid shortly before its discovery because the road where it was found is in constant use.

Security sources noted today that Syrian trained El Fatah terrorist gangs, hitherto stationed in Jordanian villages in the Shuneh area and in the Gilead Hills have shifted their base to Syrian villages on the Golan Heights, just east of the Israel-Syria demarcation line. The villagers, unable to keep the El Fatah bands out, have begun to leave their homes in fear of Israeli reprisals, should the terrorists strike from their villages. The Jordanian authorities do not prevent the El Fatah from crossing into Syria and in fact appear glad to get rid of them, the sources said.

### Government Approves New Nahal Settlement Near Dead Sea Site of Beit Haavara

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Prime Minister Eshkol announced tonight that the Government has given the green light for the establishment of a Nahal strongpoint near the Dead Sea, near the site of the former Kibbutz Beit Haarava which was destroyed by the Jordanians during Israel's war for independence in 1948. Nahal is a para-military youth organization which works the land and establishes frontier outposts under the aegis of the Israel Army. Mr. Eshkol told the Knesset that the new strongpoint will be called Nahal Kallia. It is one of 17 approved by the Government out of 24 applications by Nahal groups.

### Jerusalem Zionist Assembly in Vigorous Debate Over Immigration Question

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Zionist leaders from Israel and abroad rolled up their sleeves and plunged into a vigorous, frequently heated debate here this afternoon on problems confronting the World Zionist Organization and Israel. The problems were many. But invariably they centered on one issue: the ways and means to stimulate large scale aliyah (immigration) to Israel, particularly from the affluent Jewish communities of the Western world.

The scene was the first meeting of a three day consultative assembly of the World Zionist Organization which opened last night with speeches by Prime Minister Eshkol, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, and Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency.

Mr. Eshkol, in his speech last night, sought to allay the fears expressed by some Zionist leaders that plans are afoot to liquidate the Jewish Agency and transfer its functions to the Israel Government. Mr. Eshkol said there was no need to take alarm "at a speech here or a newspaper article there" advocating such a course. But, he said, the Jewish Agency must overhaul its machinery and become more efficient.

Israel's Labor Minister, Yigal Allon, agreed with Prime Minister Eshkol that the Jewish Agency requires some degree of reorganization. He said that the areas in which it cooperates with the Government must be more clearly defined and strengthened. Mr. Allon is chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Immigration and Absorption.

Today's session heard from Itzhak Ben Aharon, leader of the Achdut Avodah faction and a former Minister of Transport; Moshe Kol, Minister of Tourism, and the veteran American Zionist leaders, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and Dr. Israel Goldstein, the latter a resident of Israel for many years.

Dr. Neumann, a member of the Jewish Agency Executive in New York, said that American Jews never saw themselves as "contractors" to deliver a half million Jews to Israel. To them, he said, the "ingathering of the exiles" applied to Jews in countries where they suffered persecution or other stresses. The spiritual need for aliyah, he said, is an historical process, not a matter that is solvable by laws or by changes of leadership.

Dr. Goldstein, president of Keren Hayesod, the fund-raising arm of the Zionist movement, said a new Zionist program must make it clear that Zionism requires a personal commitment to aliyah. He favored proposals to establish a "magshimit," an elite movement of Zionists who pledge themselves to settle in Israel.

Rabbi Hershel Schacter, of New York, president of the Mizrahi organization and of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, claimed that if Israel had adhered more to traditional Judaism it might have attracted more immigrants despite marginal difficulties.

## Four Powers Bid Human Rights Commission Tell Israel To Take Back Refugees

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 26 (JTA)--Four delegations — those of Yugoslavia, India, Pakistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo — introduced a resolution in the Human Rights Commission Monday calling on the Commission to affirm "the right of inhabitants displaced or deported since the outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East to return to their own country."

The resolution also would have the Human Rights Commission affirm that "the government concerned (Israel) has the obligation to take the necessary measures in order to facilitate the return of those inhabitants to their own country without delay."

The four-power anti-Israeli resolution received immediate support from the Ukrainian delegate. The Congo representative said his country had co-sponsored the resolution "purely on humanitarian grounds." The representative of India, who introduced the draft resolution, said its sponsors had been motivated by "purely humanitarian considerations." She said the draft was an indication of concern over the state of tension in West Asia (Middle East) and represented a "timely reminder to the Israeli authorities to act with humanity."

## Fulbright Draws Parallel Between Pueblo Incident and Attack on U.S.S. Liberty

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 26 (JTA)--Sen. J.W. Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in a series of weekend speeches in Arkansas urging restraint by the Government in the affair of the U.S.S. Pueblo, recalled the Administration's failure to take strong measures against Israel over the accidental attack on the U.S.S. Liberty, another spy ship.

In appearances at Pine Bluff, Hot Springs and Searcy, Sen. Fulbright reminded audiences that "our friends," the Israelis, "shot a similar ship of ours almost out of the water at great loss of life." But, said the Foreign Relations chairman, "we didn't threaten them with atom bombs. I understand it is agreed informally to sell them more planes."

## Johnson Sends Greetings to Jewish War Veterans Convocation and Israeli Leaders

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (JTA)--President Johnson has noted the forthcoming convocation of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA in Israel in a message to National Commander Samuel Samuels and asked that his greetings be conveyed to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and other Israeli leaders. The Jewish veterans meeting in Israel is the first in which the national executive committee of the organization will meet outside the United States.

President Johnson told Mr. Samuels: "On the eve of your departure for the long-planned Jewish War Veterans convocation in Israel, I want to express my warmest greetings to your national and state officers and to our many mutual friends in the Government of Israel who only recently were our guests in this country."

## Leading German Weekly Tells President Luebke to Resign Over Nazism Charges

BONN, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Stern Magazine called, in its current issue, on Heinrich Luebke, president of West Germany's Federal Republic, to "perform one worthy service to this country, by resigning." Mr. Luebke, who was imprisoned by the Nazis for 20 months in 1933, has never denied that he was employed by a Berlin construction firm during the war but he has not answered Communist allegations that he was involved in building barracks to house concentration camp victims.

Mr. Luebke was expected to meet with Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger today to discuss possible "political repercussions" here and abroad.

## Russians Report Find in Georgia of Tenth Century Pentateuch Manuscript

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 26 (JTA)--The Soviet Weekly, an English-language tabloid distributed here by the Soviet Mission to the United Nations, has reported that a 10th century manuscript of "the ancient Hebrew Pentateuch" will be published by the Georgian Academy of Science along with a detailed history of the manuscript. The text is being prepared by Georgi Tsereteli whom the Weekly describes as a "well-known Georgian Hebrew scholar."

"For a long time, the manuscript was kept in West Georgia in a synagogue in the village of Lailashi whose population speaks Hebrew," the paper said. "Six sheets of the original were missing. These have now been found in the possession of Rabbi Moshe Khakhiashvili in another West Georgian town, Oni. The Pentateuch is written on parchment. Tsereteli dates it as tenth century. He believes it was preserved in Georgia thanks to the existence of a large Jewish colony there as early as the fourth century," said the Soviet Weekly. The tabloid is published for circulation in Great Britain. Its material comes from the Novosti Press Agency in Moscow, the Soviet overseas propaganda agency.

## Poetry of H. Leivick Published in Paris in French Translation

PARIS, Feb. 26 (JTA)--A French translation of the poetry of H. Leivick (Leivick Halper) Yiddish poet and dramatist, has just been published here by the Gallimard Publishing House. The volume contains an introduction by the painter, Marc Chagall, who said it was "remarkable that a poet of Leivick's stature has remained unknown to French readers until now." The translation is by Isaac Pougatch and J. Friedman. Leivick was born in Russia and settled in the United States in 1913. His best-known work was his drama, Der Golem. He expressed his feelings over the fate of the Jews in World War II in a volume of poems titled, "In Treblinka Bin Ich Nit Geven."

## Israeli Diplomat Faces 'Harsh Realities' in Meeting With Negro Militants

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA)--An Israeli diplomat's confrontation with Black Power militants and the harsh realities he discovered about their attitudes toward Israel and American Jews — which they identify as one and the same — were described by Paul Jacobs in the current issue of the Jesuit weekly, *Commonweal*. The diplomat was Ephraim Evron, Minister of Israel to the United States. He accepted an invitation by Mr. Jacobs, his close friend and a writer on the problems of Negro ghettos in America, to visit Black nationalists in their own territory, the Watts section of Los Angeles. Mr. Evron's purpose, according to the writer, was to find out why so many black nationalists in the U.S. had identified with the Arabs during last June's Middle East war.

The scene of the confrontation was the headquarters of 'Operation Bootstrap,' a self-financed Negro vocational training center and business enterprise in Watts. Almost as soon as he arrived, Mr. Evron was told by Tommy Jacquette, a young Negro militant: "You know them trees you got planted all over Israel from Jews here in Los Angeles, well, they should have our names on them, not the Jews' names. The money from them trees comes out of my back, out of the back of every black brother in the ghetto!"

Only one or two of the large gathering of Negroes who clustered around Mr. Evron "had any initial interest in Israeli accomplishments except for a grudging admiration about Israel's military accomplishments," Mr. Jacobs wrote. But they were bitter and vociferous in their denunciation of the role played by Jewish businessmen in the Negro ghetto.

"Two major themes emerged from the heated discussion," Mr. Jacobs wrote. "The alleged exploitative role of some American Jews inside the ghettos and the Negroes' identification of the Arabs as supporters of the colored peoples of the world...It was clear that most of the people in the room knew little or nothing of the reality of Israel: vis-a-vis most Negroes, the Israelis are the victims of their own propaganda and that of their ardent American Jewish supporters. Instead of knowing that Israel is a complex country, with powerful internal strains and conflicts, American Negroes see it only as a simplified extension of middle-class Jewish Fairfax Avenue and upper class Beverly Hills. And they are convinced also that the American Jews exercise decisive influence over Israel's internal and external policies."

During the four hours of talk the Negro militants "discussed the failure of liberal Jews in America to understand what it is that American Negroes want and used advertisements taken out by the Zionists identifying the war against the Arabs as one against Communism as an example of Israel's close identification with the United States and the Western powers," Mr. Jacobs wrote. Later "the group was smaller and their questions were less hostile and focussed more on specifics about Israel. Obviously their interest in Israel had become piqued by what Eppie (Evron) said. 'How can some of us get over to Israel? We'd like to see those kibbutzes you're talking about. Maybe we could start something like that here.'"

When Mr. Evron asked the Negroes what they want, he was told: "Self respect, self defense and self determination." "As I listened to the members of the group shouting at each other, it was apparent that today the notion of integration is rejected by all these militants, even though they do not know precisely what separatism and self-determination mean, in political terms," Mr. Jacobs wrote.

## Equal Opportunity Commission Chief Says Industry Gives Only 'Paper Compliance'

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Clifford L. Alexander, chairman of the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, criticized industry's contribution to minority employment in white collar jobs as "paper compliance, paper pledges and future intentions." Mr. Alexander's views are contained in an article in the current issue of *Rights*, published by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

"For Negroes and Puerto Ricans the problem exists at every level and in every job category; for Jews and for women of all races and ethnic groups the problem is limited primarily to executive positions, from which all these groups are effectively excluded," Mr. Alexander wrote.

## Walter Lurie Named Director of Program Reassessment for NCRAC

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Dr. Walter A. Lurie has resigned as executive director of the Large City Budgeting Conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds to become director of program reassessment of the National Community Relations Advisory Council. He will assume his new duties on March 1. Dr. Lurie had been program analyst of the NCRAC from 1946 to 1965 before joining the LCBC.

Isaiah M. Minkoff, executive director of NCRAC, also announced appointment of Dr. Jerry Hochbaum as consultative counsel to communities. Dr. Lurie, he said, in addition to reassessment of program goals and approaches, will have responsibility for liaison with agencies on other fields of communal service.

## Joseph Meyerhoff Assumes Presidency of PEC Israel Economic Corporation

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (JTA)--Joseph Meyerhoff of Baltimore, chairman of the board of directors and executive committee of PEC Israel Economic Corporation, has been named president of the corporation following the resignation of John Furman. Mr. Furman's resignation is effective Feb. 29. Mr. Meyerhoff accepted the office on a temporary basis pending appointment of a new full-time president. Harold L. Seligman, vice-president of PEC, a resident of Tel Aviv, will be in charge of the PEC Israel office.