

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Soviet Union To Seek Middle East Solution at Forthcoming General Assembly Session

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 22 (JTA)--The Soviet Union served notice today that it expected a full discussion of the Arab-Israel dispute when the United Nations General Assembly resumes sessions on Wednesday. There are three items on the Assembly agenda — the non-proliferation treaty, Southwest Africa and the Middle East dispute — and the Russians had been expected to seek to have the session concentrate on ratification of the non-proliferation treaty. Some sources ascribed to the visit to Moscow of Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad the apparent change in the Soviet plans.

The Soviet delegation said today that Vassily V. Kuznetsov, First Deputy Foreign Minister, had arrived to head the Soviet delegation. The Soviet announcement pointed out that "one important issue on the agenda of the General Assembly is the situation in the Middle East." It said that "the Soviet delegation, together with the delegations of other states, will bend its efforts with a view to speedy liquidation of the consequences of Israel aggression against Arab states and securing a political settlement in the Middle East."

The Soviet announcement followed visits earlier in the day by Mohammed el-Kony, head of the Egyptian delegation and other delegation heads, to the president of the General Assembly, Corneliu Manescu, the Rumanian Foreign Minister. Ambassador Yosef Tekoah is to see M. Manescu on Wednesday morning.

## Thant To Send Special Envoy To Study Situation of Civilians in Middle East

The United Nations disclosed tonight that Secretary-General U Thant will soon designate a special representative in the Middle East to investigate the condition of the civilian populations in the areas affected by the Arab-Israeli war. The envoy, whose appointment will be in accordance with the humanitarian resolution adopted by the General Assembly last year, will investigate the treatment of the Jewish minorities in the Arab countries as well as the treatment of the Arab population in the areas occupied by Israel in the Six-Day War.

This will be the second such mission set up by the United Nations. Last year, Mr. Thant named Neils Gussing, a Swedish diplomat, to make such a study for the UN. Egypt refused to let the envoy study the treatment of the Jews there. The Syrian authorities gave him heavily escorted tours through the Jewish quarter of Damascus but no opportunity for first-hand investigation.

Diplomatic circles attached significance to the fact that the announcement of the new mission was made virtually on the eve of the opening of the United Nations General Assembly although Mr. Thant was in Teheran today for the international conference on human rights.

Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the UN's special envoy in the Middle East, flew from his Nicosia headquarters to Teheran today to see Mr. Thant and to report to him on the current status of his peace-seeking mission. He was to return to Cyprus tonight and fly on to Jerusalem tomorrow for another meeting with Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban and other Israeli officials.

## Eban Says Israel Is Ready To Negotiate Permanent Boundaries With Arab States

PARIS, April 22 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban of Israel indicated in an interview published here today that Israel is prepared to negotiate permanent boundaries with its Arab neighbors and certain questions relating to Jerusalem, such as free access to the holy places by all faiths. In the interview, which appeared in the Paris weekly, L'Express, Mr. Eban said that the first step toward thawing out the Middle East crisis is the establishment of "secure and recognized" borders. These, he said, would not be identical with the boundaries that existed in May, 1967 nor would they conform with the present cease-fire lines.

The Israeli foreign minister insisted that King Hussein, of Jordan could halt terrorist activities against Israel from Jordanian soil because he had the backing of his army. Mr. Eban noted that despite its aggressively anti-Israel position, Syria did not permit terrorist activities from its soil, nor did Egypt. He said, however, that Israel prefers the Hussein regime to one that might be closely aligned with Soviet Russia. He said that Israelis are confident about the future because, as time goes by, the Arabs will come to consider Israel a permanent element in the Middle East. Peace is the final objective sought by all, he said, and once that is achieved, cooperation will be brought about by the common interests of all nations in the region.

## Horowitz Urges Reduced Government Spending, Curbs on Credit to Prevent Inflation

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA)--The Governor of the Bank of Israel warned the Government today of incipient inflation and signs that price stability in Israel might be endangered following last year's policy of economic slow-down. David Horowitz reported at a Cabinet meeting that the cost of living index rose by 3.5 percent between September, 1967 and March, 1968. There was no increase during the corresponding period of the previous year.

Israel law requires the Governor of the Bank of Israel to report to the Cabinet whenever there is an increase of 15 percent or more in the currency in circulation or credit outstanding. Mr. Horowitz reported today that the increase was 15.5 percent during the nine months ending on Jan. 31, 1968. He recommended a curb on public spending for development and a ban on the acceptance of credit abroad by non-governmental bodies.

A forecast that the unemployment total in Israel will drop to 13,000 by the end of the year, less than one-third the rate of March 1967 was made here by Hanoch Lev-Kochav, director-general of the Labor Ministry. He told a press conference today that new industrial enterprises would create employment for some 24,000 job-seekers this year, mainly veterans and immigrants.

Mr. Lev-Kochav said that a sharp drop in unemployment had taken place during the past year. The unemployment figure for March of this year was 18,000, he said, compared to 45,000 in March, 1967. Most of the jobless persons were provided with relief work. He also said that the employment in Judea and Samaria on the West Bank improved this year under Israeli rule.

### **Israel Increases Sales To United States; Cuts Trading Deficit By \$38 Million**

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA)--Israel sold more and bought less in the United States in 1967 than it did in 1966, it was announced here today. The country's exports to the U.S. amounted to \$89.9 million last year compared to \$77.4 million the previous year while imports from America totalled \$195.6 million in 1967 against \$221.6 million in 1966. Israel's unfavorable trade balance with the United States thus was decreased by \$38 million.

The figures were disclosed in connection with today's announcement by U.S. Ambassador Walworth Barbour that 53 American manufacturers will exhibit their products at the Tel Aviv International Trade Fair that opens here on June 4. The Ambassador said, at an Embassy press conference, that \$1.6 million in orders for American products was expected as a result of his country's participation in the Trade Fair. The figure was a projection based on orders arising from the last trade fair here in 1966.

Most of the American equipment and goods for display at the Fair will be landed at Haifa on May 8 by the nuclear-powered cargo ship Savannah which will be making her first call at an Israel port. The exhibit items fall into three categories and were selected to meet the requirements of the Israeli market and this country's economic development plans, Ambassador Barbour said. They include an electronic beam welder for ferrous and non-ferrous metals, computer-controlled machine tools and food processing and packaging equipment. Many of the exhibits will be on display for the first time outside of the U.S.A. Executives and top technical personnel of the participating manufacturers will be on hand for seminars and training sessions on the operation of the American equipment and to conduct negotiations for orders.

### **Fencing, Electronic Devices, Reduce Arab Infiltrations Into Israel Territory**

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA)--The fencing of sections of the Israel-Jordan cease-fire line in addition to the installation of electronic alarm devices, has significantly reduced the penetration of marauders into Israel and Israel-held territory, it was learned from informed quarters here today.

Terrorist incursions against Israel have been in three different phases since last June's war according to these quarters. The first wave consisted of bands who took refuge in caves and used the caves as their base of operations, drawing supplies from nearby villages. The second wave was made up of small units which found shelter in the larger cities but were soon ousted by the populace. The third, and present wave consists of hit-and-run terrorists who lay mines and who fire on Israeli patrols and settlements from across the demarcation line.

Jordanians fired mortar shells at Kfar Ruppin in the Beisan Valley last night and engaged in an hour-long exchange of fire with Israeli units in the Damiyah Bridge area in the Jordan Valley, a military spokesman reported today. The shelling of Kfar Ruppin halted as soon as Israeli forces returned the fire. No casualties were reported in either incident.

### **Jewish Settlers in Hebron Denied Housing for Permanent Settlement**

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA)--The West Bank military government rejected today an attempt by a group of Orthodox Jews to establish a permanent settlement in Hebron, a West Bank city, by announcing no residences would be leased to the group. The decision was in line with Government policy not to permit Jewish settlement on the West Bank except by units of Nahal, the para-military youth organization, and these only by special permission.

The group of 70 Jews from religious settlements moved into Hebron Hotel to celebrate Passover and later announced their intention of remaining in Hebron, one of Israel's four holy cities to the Orthodox. Labor Minister Yigal Allon and Minister-without-Portfolio Menachem Begin had voiced support of the plans of the Orthodox Jews in Hebron.

### **Israel Assembles Transportation For Independence Day Parade Spectators**

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA)--Special transportation from all parts of Israel is being arranged to carry Israelis and tourists to the viewing stands in Jerusalem for the Independence Day military parade that is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. local time on May 2, government authorities announced today. The parade, marking Israel's 20th anniversary, will start in East Jerusalem.

### Australian Premier To Attend Israel Independence Celebrations in Melbourne

MELBOURNE, April 22 (JTA)--Australia's Prime Minister, J. G. Gorton, will attend the Sydney Jewish community's celebration of the 20th anniversary of Israel's independence at Town Hall here on April 28, it was announced today. He will be accompanied by W. J. Aston, Speaker of Parliament. The occasion will be the first public function attended by Prime Minister Gorton since his election. He said he was "looking forward with a great deal of pleasure and anticipation to meeting the Jewish community of New South Wales."

### Title to 25 Mirage Jets Transferred to Israel As Embargo Is Continued

PARIS, April 22 (JTA)--Twenty-five of the 50 Mirage-V jet planes ordered by Israel have been transferred to Israeli ownership but are being held in storage in France pending the lifting of the French Government's embargo on military planes for Israel, it was reported here today. The technical "delivery" of the jets was arranged by agreement between Israeli military representatives and the Dassault Co., manufacturers of the supersonic aircraft. The agreement stipulated that as each plane was completed to Israeli specifications, it would be transferred to Israeli ownership.

Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville, however, informed the parliamentary committee on foreign affairs, that the embargo on military planes to belligerents in last June's Middle East war will be maintained. He confirmed that Iraq had ordered 54 Mirage jets and would receive them within two or three years. Israel made final payment on April 15, the due date, for the 50 Mirage-V jets it ordered from France two years ago. Sources here and abroad noted that Israel was now in a position to bring legal action against France for non-delivery of the planes.

### Saudi Arabian Ruler Chief Obstacle to Hussein's Proposed New Arab Summit Meeting

LONDON, April 22 (JTA)--King Faisal, of Saudi Arabia, is shaping up as the main stumbling block to the efforts of Jordan's King Hussein to get all Arab heads of state to agree on a coordinated policy toward Israel and is holding out for the failure of the Jarring mission before he will make any commitments, London newspapers reported today.

The Times, in a dispatch from Beirut, said that Faisal is obsessed with the Communist threat but unmoved by the plight of Jordan. He is anxious to see the mission of U.N. peace envoy Gunnar Jarring terminated "lest it legitimize the surrender of Islam's holy places in Jerusalem." According to The Times, Faisal told a recent visitor that Russia would never permit an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory even if a withdrawal were negotiated.

The London Daily Telegraph reported that King Hussein tried to persuade Faisal to drop his objections to an Arab summit conference during the "meeting of kings" at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, with King Faisal and King Hassan, of Morocco. "Faisal has said that he is not prepared to attend a summit conference until the Jarring mission is declared a failure," the Telegraph said. Hussein, meanwhile, is trying to get the Arab states to accept joint responsibility for the activities of Arab guerrillas against Israel.

### Polish Discrimination Against Jewish Journalists May Bar Warsaw As Site For Talks

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 22 (JTA)--Continuing efforts by the Communist countries to have Warsaw selected as the site of Vietnam peace talks were serious weakened by the disclosure today of official Polish discrimination against so-called "Zionist" newspapermen. The United States Government has insisted that whatever site is selected, it must be accessible to all journalists, regardless of nationality, race or religion.

Information received here from Warsaw indicated that Poland is no longer issuing visas to foreign journalists suspected of being Israelis or "Zionists," the Polish euphemism for "Jews." A Polish Embassy spokesman said he had "no indication" from Warsaw on whether "Zionist" journalists from abroad would be welcomed to cover any Vietnam talks. U.S. State Department officials who have been following the current anti-Jewish campaign in Poland said that they were "aware of a possible problem arising from Poland's discrimination against Jews."

North Vietnam has insisted that peace talks be held either in Poland or Cambodia. Poland appeared the more likely because the United States maintains an embassy in Warsaw with the necessary communications facilities. But Washington, apart from stipulating that the locale of the talks be open to the world press, would prefer a neutral site.

### Warsaw Daily Says Israel Treats Arab Population As Nazis Treated Jews

LONDON, April 22 (JTA)--The Polish Government sponsored newspaper "Sztandar Mlodych" accused Israel today of treating its Arab population the way Jews were treated by the Nazis under Hitler, it was reported here today. The newspaper, which has been in the forefront of Poland's officially inspired anti-Israel, anti-Jewish campaign claimed that "Palestinian Arabs today have to wear special badges, like the Nazis ordered the Jewish population to wear in Germany."

### Argentine Right-Wing Catholics Pray for Hussein's Victory Over Jewish Enemy

BUENOS AIRES, April 22 (JTA)--A rightist Catholic group, "Unitas Argentina," placed wall posters here today which appealed for a victory by King Hussein of Jordan "over our enemies" and for the strengthening of his forces to "liberate the holy places from infidel hands." The posters showed a photograph of the King with Pope Paul. The text on the posters read: "Homage and gratitude to his majesty, King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine, protector of holy places in this day when the whole of Christianity celebrates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, killed and betrayed by a whole people."

**Museum Head Says East European Countries Ignored Bid for Works of Martyrs**

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA)--Requests to museums and galleries in East European, Communist-controlled countries for the works of Jewish artists who perished in the Nazi holocaust for showing in Israel went unanswered, Dr. Chaim Gamzu, director of the Helena Rubenstein Pavilion said today. The work of these artists was to be part of a major display this week at the pavilion marking a memorial for Jewish artist martyrs of the Nazi era. Dr. Gamzu said that the pavilion had obtained the works of 128 Jewish artists throughout the Western world for the showing.

**Angered Sydney Jews Break Up Australian Nazi Party Rally**

SYDNEY, April 22 (JTA)--Supporters of the Australian Nazi Party clashed with local Jews last night in a melee that broke up a public meeting held by the Nazis to "explain their policies." Police reinforcements were called in and arrested six persons who were to appear in court today on charges of assault and using indecent language.

A jeering crowd of about 400 was on hand as the local Nazis hoisted a swastika flag. A spectator grabbed one of the jack-booted Nazis and punched him in the face touching off a general brawl. The man who was punched was identified as Eric Wenberg, leader of the Australian Nazi Party. He received a similar beating two weeks ago when he tried to hold a meeting in a park here. Police had to extricate him and his followers from the crowd.

**Petach Tikvah Girl, 16, Wins Israel's Bible Contest Championship**

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA)--A 16-year-old Petach Tikvah girl beat out male competition to win Israel's national Bible quiz here last night. She is Rivka Goldberg, a sixth-term student at a religious high school, who captured the title of "Bible Bride of 1968" for her knowledge of the Bible. Miss Goldberg will represent Israel in the international Bible contest, along with her two runners-up, Shabtai Askenazi and Aryeh Katz.

**Latin American Jewish Women Open Workshop Sessions in Buenos Aires**

BUEENOS AIRES, April 22 (JTA)--The International Council of Jewish Women opened its second annual Latin American workshop here today with a discussion on the role of Jewish women in Latin American communities." Attending the four-day workshop are Mrs. Ronald Brown of Cleveland, president and Mrs. Susanna Frank of Sao Paulo and Dr. Rosa Herczeg of Buenos Aires, vice-presidents. Delegates from Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay and observers from Venezuela and Peru are attending the conference which is co-sponsored by the Argentine Council of Jewish Women. Some 600,000 women in 21 countries are affiliated with the social service organization.

**Philadelphia Council Opposes Pennsylvania Bill To Aid Parochial Schools**

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 22 (JTA)--The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia urged the Pennsylvania House of Representatives today to reject proposed state legislation providing aid to parochial schools because it would be "a step in a dangerous direction which may eventually cause the collapse of separation of church and state." The warning was sounded by Marvyn Gould, member of the Board representing the Philadelphia JCRC, in testimony before the House Committee on Basic Education here.

Mr. Gould said that the concept of an "Authority," provided by the proposed legislation, to "purchase" education from private and parochial schools does not change the essential fact that tax revenues will be paid directly to parochial educational institutions, making such legislation "unconstitutional and unwise."

The Philadelphia JCRC's stand in effect, endorsed the position taken last week by the Pennsylvania Jewish Community Relations Conference, a state-wide organization that coordinates the community relations activities of nine Pennsylvania Jewish communities. Mr. Gould told the House Committee that "Jews know from their entire historical experience, which spans scores of lands and thousands of years, that religious liberty is an early victim of state-sponsored religious activity."

**American Jewish Committee Urges Speedy Enactment of New Federal Housing Law**

NEW YORK, April 22 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee endorsed the proposed Housing and Redevelopment Act of 1968 and urged Congress today "to expand the Act as far as possible, so that the national commitment of 1937 -- to replace slums with adequate housing -- can finally be fulfilled." It declared that "Federal legislation has fallen short of the official government estimates of need," and asserted that "we can no longer afford the turmoil created by continual frustration. Unless we develop programs to meet actual needs, it is as though we plan in advance to fail."

The statement expressed disappointment that the Act provides for only 300,000 additional new housing units annually -- rather than the 600,000 recommended by the Kerner Commission, but noted that "many of the Act's new administrative and program provisions do offer possibilities for a fuller and fairer approach to the solution of our housing problems than we have ever had before."

The statement pointed out omissions in three of the Act's key provisions and said the Act should use language similar to that found in the Model Cities legislation, calling for "maximum opportunities" for employment of ghetto residents in construction.