

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Goldmann Urges New Zionist Approach at Opening of 27th Congress in Israel

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA)--The 27th World Zionist Congress, at its opening session here tonight, was told by Dr. Nahum Goldmann that "Zionism will have to learn a new intellectual and spiritual language if it wants to appeal to 20th century young minds." Dr. Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, and President Zalman Shazar of Israel delivered the opening addresses before some 3,000 delegates to the Congress and their guests from all over the world in a hall decorated with Zionist banners dating from the flag designed by Theodor Herzl in 1897.

Dr. Goldmann's theme was that 70 years after the first Zionist Congress in Basle, the focus of the movement is not the creation of a Jewish national homeland but assembling the Jewish people in the Jewish State founded 20 years ago. This, he said, is the fundamental task--the Zionist movement will stand or fall on what happens with aliyah (immigration). "This will become the great historical test for the survival of Zionism." It is a crucial test, Dr. Goldmann continued, because "many progressive and left-wing elements, not to mention the Communists, are today anti-Zionist. Young Jews and other youths who do not feel any loyalty to their own countries can, only with difficulty, be brought to the quest for self-realization as Jews. Zionism will have to learn a new intellectual and spiritual language if it wants to appeal to the 20th Century young minds. All the discussions on who should handle immigration or absorption do not even begin to touch the real problem involved in aliyah which are the consequences of the revolutionary character of our period," Dr. Goldmann said.

### Cabinet Establishes Ministry To Handle Immigrant Absorption

The Zionist leader's reference was to debates and arguments during the months preceding the Congress' opening about the future role of the Jewish Agency in immigration and the absorption of newcomers. Only today, the Cabinet announced that it had decided to establish an absorption ministry to handle that aspect of aliyah. A Government spokesman said that the Government and the Jewish Agency would work out jointly the area in which the new Cabinet ministry will function. Jewish Agency leaders have insisted on a formula whereby the Agency would retain responsibility for the initial stages of absorption which, they said, could not be divorced from the process of immigration. The latter would remain a Jewish Agency task. The question to be worked out jointly with the Government is where to draw the line between initial and later absorption.

Immigration and absorption are the principal items on the Congress agenda, along with a proposal to drastically re-organize and streamline the Jewish Agency so that it can more efficiently handle its tasks. One aspect of the program is reduction of the number of departments in Israel to nine and in the United States to five with a resultant reduction in the number of members of the Executive. One veteran member, Mrs. Rose Halprin, of New York, who is chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, has already asked to be relieved of her post, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from reliable quarters today. A possible successor, sponsored by the World Confederation of General Zionists, is Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, president of Hadassah, a post held by Mrs. Halprin before she joined the Jewish Agency Executive more than 20 years ago.

Another question expected to be hotly debated at the Congress is a proposal to abolish the office of president of the World Zionist Organization in favor of a form of collective leadership. Dr. Goldmann announced some months ago that he does not intend to stand for re-election. Some factions, at pre-Congress party caucuses, spoke of drafting Dr. Goldmann. The Labor Zionists resolved not to ask Dr. Goldmann to run again and expressed a preference for a WZO without a presidential office. Shimon Peres, a leader of the Israel Labor Party, suggested four possible successors to Dr. Goldmann--Gen. Chaim Herzog, who was director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Prof. Amos de Shalit, head of the Weizmann Institute of Science, Philip Klutznik, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, and Joseph Schwartz, executive vice president of the Israel Bond Organization in the U.S.

### Herut Party Makes Bid For Control Of Aliyah Department

Control of the Jewish Agency's aliyah department will apparently be a crucial post in view of the emphasis expected to be placed on immigration during the years ahead. The rightist Herut party, a member of the national coalition Government, is making a bid for that post. Herut leader Joseph Klarman said at a party caucus that the other parties that had hitherto managed the aliyah department failed to bring Jews from the free world to Israel. "We have experience in this field and we would like to try. We would demand the post of aliyah department head for our party," he said. Mr. Klarman said he believed further that aliyah should be separated from absorption, even in its initial phases, and that two departments should be set up for the tasks. An opposite view was taken by Mrs. Rose Halprin, who said at a meeting of General Zionists in Tel Aviv last night that there can be no division between absorption and immigration. "A family arriving at Lydda or Haifa cannot be let loose to find its own way under Government guidance and supervision but has to be accompanied on another stretch of its way by the Jewish Agency bodies which organized its aliyah."

The General Zionists, who caucused in ZOA House in Tel Aviv for several days preceding the Congress opening, was told by its leader, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, last night that the main functions of

Zionists today are to support Israel in the arena of international diplomacy and to promote aliyah. He rejected any idea of limiting the designation "Zionist" to only those people who actually immigrate to Israel. Leon Dultzin said that many of the demands made by the General Zionists years ago are now being implemented by the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency. Among these are inducements and concessions to immigrants and individual treatment of newcomers.

### Israel Government Angered By 'Le Monde' Editorial On Slayer of Sen. Kennedy

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA)--The Israel Government is angered over an editorial which appeared in the Paris newspaper Le Monde last week and seemed to excuse Sirhan Sirhan, the Arab accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, because as "one of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who had been forced to leave their homes and find refuge in a strange land" he was incensed by the late Senator's friendly attitude toward Israel. Foreign Minister Abba Eban said yesterday that the Le Monde editorial was the "most shocking literature of incitement." Replying to questions at a press conference, Mr. Eban said that the basis of the Le Monde editorial is "appalling." The paper claimed that the Kennedy murder by a Palestinian nationalist had a "symbolic value" one year after Israel's victory and 20 years after its establishment.

Israeli intelligence and police authorities were reported Friday to be preparing a dossier for the F.B.I. following a request by the United States Embassy in Tel Aviv for any information available about the accused assassin of Sen. Kennedy. The dossier may include information on possible El Fatah involvement in the assassination. Sirhan was born in East Jerusalem in 1944 when Palestine was under British Mandate rule and moved to the U.S. with his family in 1957. His father still lives in the West Bank town of Al Tabiyeh.

(Christian Science Monitor correspondent John K. Cooley reported from Amman yesterday that El Fatah terrorists have been collecting funds from the Arab community in Los Angeles where there is "much sympathy and support" for their cause. The information was contained in several personal letters received by Jordanians from Los Angeles, Mr. Cooley wrote. He also quoted the Algiers bureau of El Fatah as having said about the Kennedy assassination that "all hypotheses about the identity of the criminal are only Machiavellian maneuvers. The murderer can only be an instrument of world Zionism, of capitalism, of the CIA, aimed at the most abject political goals."

(In London the Guardian reported from Beirut yesterday that Arabs are torn between human and political considerations in the assassination of Sen. Kennedy. They are distressed by the tragedy, and the fact the accused assassin is an Arab has caused serious embarrassment on high Government levels, the Guardian said. But the Arabs also feel that "it should be taken as an indication of the depth of feeling against American policies in the Middle East." There is a general feeling that America is less likely than ever "to take a just and honest view of the Arab-Israel conflict," the paper said. The Guardian dispatch however quoted Lebanese workman as saying "if this Palestinian (Sirhan) wanted to help his country why didn't he go back and join the El Fatah?" That, said the Guardian, is probably as good a summary as any of Arab feeling).

Robert Kennedy Yarhi was the name given the infant son of Saadya Yarhi who was born in the Beersheba hospital maternity ward on Thursday, the day Sen. Kennedy died. American Ambassador Walworth Barbour has been invited to the child's circumcision ceremony.

### Latin American Jews Express Sorrow Over Kennedy's Death

BUENOS AIRES, June 9 (JTA)--Messages expressing the shock and grief of Latin American Jews over the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy were sent to the United States Embassy here by the DAIA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry, and the South American Executive of the World Jewish Congress. The DAIA message said in part, "If the U.S. lost an exceptionally gifted personality, the free world has lost one of its outstanding figures. We join our voices to all of those who feel horror at this crime perpetrated by a senseless hand of those preaching hatred and violence and the promoters of blind fanaticism."

### JNF, B'nai Zion Will Plant Trees In Kennedy's Memory

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund announced today plans to create a forest of 500,000 trees in Israel in memory of the slain Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Herman L. Weisman JNF president, said the forest would be planted in the John F. Kennedy Peace Forest area in the Judean mountains south of Jerusalem. B'nai Zion will plant a grove of 1,000 trees in memory of Sen. Kennedy in the John F. Kennedy Peace Forest, president Raymond M. Patt announced.

TEL AVIV, June 9 (JTA)--A mining incident in which two Israeli soldiers were injured and two instances of attempted sabotage in Jerusalem were reported by a military spokesman today as Arabs in East Jerusalem and several West Bank towns created minor disturbances in connection with the first anniversary of last June's Six-Day War. The mining occurred this morning when a military vehicle hit an explosive planted on a road near the Nahal (para-military unit) settlement of Elal. Another anti-vehicle mine was found and dismantled yesterday on a track east of the Jordan Valley settlement of Shaar Hagolan. In Jerusalem last night, an explosive charge went off near a stone fence in the vicinity of the railroad station dislodging three stones but doing no other damage. Earlier a 15-year-old boy was reported to have picked up a bomb device containing about a half kilogram of gelegnite without knowing what it was. The youngster removed the pencil-shaped timer and discarded the explosive charge. Later the timing device exploded slightly injuring his face.

## Non-Jewish Czechoslovakian Youths Demonstrate For Recognition of Israel

LONDON, June 9 (JTA)--Non-Jewish Czech youths staged a pro-Israel demonstration in downtown Prague Friday without official interference, it was reported here today. The youngsters urged passersby to sign petitions demanding the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel. Many people signed and there was no intervention by police, according to the report.

(In Tel Aviv, the Czech writer Ladislav Mnacko predicted that it would be a matter of only a few months until the new regime in Prague moved to renew diplomatic relations with Israel which were severed in the aftermath of last June's Arab-Israel war. Mr. Mnacko came to Israel last year in self-imposed exile because of his Government's hostile attitude toward Israel. After the liberalization in Czechoslovakia he went back to Prague but returned here last week on a visit. Mr. Mnacko said that the new regime has much to do and its relations with Israel have not been given first priority.)

A three-year diary of events in the Jewish ghetto of Olomuntz in Moravia during World War II will be published in Prague shortly in the original Hebrew in which it was written and in Czech translation. The diary, consisting of three pocket-size books filled with entries in a tiny Hebrew script, was discovered by workers rebuilding a house on the site of the Theresienstadt concentration camp. It was packed in a leather case and was in good condition when curators at the Jewish Museum here deciphered the writing and identified the diary as the property of Egon Redlif of Olomuntz.

It was also reported here that a document was discovered in the Czech national archives that revealed the existence in 1942 of Jewish resistance groups in Czechoslovakia which sabotaged German war-production plants. Every member of the group was caught in an act of sabotage and was executed by the Gestapo, according to the document.

## Premier of Quebec Raps Efforts to Compel Jews to Express Support of Separatism

MONTREAL, June 9 (JTA)--Premier Daniel Johnson of Quebec was quoted today as denouncing attempts by Quebec separatist leaders to compel the Jews of the province to declare themselves in favor of separatism. Mr. Johnson, in an article in the first edition of a new monthly magazine, *Nouveau Monde*, aimed at French-speaking Jewish readers, was asked to comment on reports that Quebec Jews were being warned that unless they came out for separatism, their property would be nationalized when the separatists came to power.

The premier expressed the hope that no one would be tempted to surrender to such "odious and infantile blackmail." He said "there is too much wisdom and good sense in the Quebec population for them ever to place their confidence in radical or extremist movements." Of about 125,000 Jews in Quebec, an estimated 20,000 are French-speaking, most of them from North Africa.

## Prosecution Demands Life At Hard Labor For Defendant In Grodno Ghetto Trial

COLOGNE, June 9 (JTA)--The prosecution in the Grodno war crimes trial has demanded life imprisonment at hard labor for Kurt Wieser, one of two defendants who is charged with the murder of 86 Jews in one of Grodno's two ghettos during World War Two. No sentence has been demanded yet for the second defendant, Kurt Erelis. The prosecutor argued that the accused has shown no signs of emotion or remorse as evidence revealed details of the murder of some 25,000 Jews in Grodno.

## Publish Account of Role of Jewish Partisans In Soviet Union During World War Two

LONDON, June 9 (JTA)--An account of Jewish partisan fighters in the Soviet Union during World War II has just been published here in Hebrew by Archion Haavodah with the cooperation of the Yad Vashem, the martyrs' memorial and archives in Jerusalem. The volume, edited by Benjamin West, a Hebrew writer and authority on Soviet Jewry, is entitled "They Were Many" and was developed from Russian and Yiddish sources. The bulk of the volume was translated from the Russian document "Partisan Brotherhood," which was prepared in Moscow in October, 1948 by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee but never published in Russia.

## India Issues Postage Stamp Marking 400th Anniversary of Cochin Synagogue

COCHIN, South India, June 9 (JTA)--The Indian Government has issued a postage stamp and first day cover marking the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Cochin synagogue in the Indian state of Kerala. The Jewish community of Cochin, which dates its origin 2,000 years ago, has largely emigrated to Israel. Only several hundred Jews remain. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported last month that the community leaders asked the Indian Government for permission to move the Torah scrolls and ritual items from the old synagogue to Israel so that the Cochin Jews can remain a cohesive community in their new home.

## Newly-Formed Jewish-Arab Friendship Association Holds First Meeting in Paris

PARIS, June 9 (JTA)--A newly formed association for Jewish-Arab friendship held its first meeting here today. Its founder is Mrs. Clara Malraux, a writer and former wife of Andre Malraux, the French Minister of Culture. Its purpose is to effect a reconciliation between Arabs and Jews born in Arab countries.

## 15 Percent of British Jewish Community Over 65; Up From 1961, 1931 Surveys

LONDON, June 9 (JTA)--Fifteen percent of the Jewish community of Great Britain is over 65 years of age as compared with 11 percent in 1961 and seven percent in 1931, according to the Jewish Welfare Board, which surveyed the community.

## Arrival Date For Soviet Jewish Delegation Uncertain; Had Been Due Tomorrow

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA)--The arrival date of a two-man delegation of Russian Jews, scheduled for tomorrow, is now in doubt, according to the American Council for Judaism, sponsor of the visit. The Council hopes to receive word today about the arrival of Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow's Choral Synagogue, and Cantor David Stiskin, of Leningrad. According to the most recent information received by the Council, they were to come tomorrow, but arrangements have still not been clarified, a Council spokesman said.

Bill Gottlieb, public relations director of the Council, an anti-Zionist organization, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he and George Bagrash, acting executive director of the Council, had been told by Rabbi Levin during a telephone call Friday that he was ready to make the trip. "Don't worry, I'm coming," Rabbi Levin said, according to Gottlieb.

(The passport division of the State Department said in Washington yesterday afternoon that the U.S. Embassy in Washington had not received applications for visas for the two Russian Jews at that time. The Department reportedly has given the Embassy permission to issue the visa immediately upon receipt of the proper applications, a source said.

(Mr. Gottlieb said that the Council meanwhile was proceeding with plans for a public meeting with Rabbi Levin in Town Hall here June 13. He also said that the Council, which has been widely attacked for sponsorship of the visit, has received several threatening telephone calls in connection with it. Physical violence was threatened by one anonymous caller. Other callers said there would be anti-Council pickets and demonstrations.

## B'nai B'rith Posts \$5,000 Reward in Case of Meridian, Miss. Synagogue Bombing

WASHINGTON, June 9 (JTA)--B'nai B'rith has offered a reward of \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons "criminally involved" in the May 27 bombing of a synagogue in Meridian, Miss., and earlier attacks on churches there. The offer was made by Dr. William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, in a telegram to Mayor Al Key of Meridian. Dr. Wexler wired that the reward money would be made available through the mayor's office "within 24 hours of the conviction of the guilty party." Other rewards totalling \$45,000 have been offered by the city and private groups.

Temple Beth Israel, a Reform synagogue, was the target of night bombers who caused considerable damage to the religious school. The nearby sanctuary and assembly buildings escaped serious damage. F.B.I. sources indicated that the blast was caused by several sticks of dynamite fashioned into a home-made bomb. It blew out a wall of the building, which was empty at the time, and broke windows in nearby homes.

Rabbi Milton I. Schlager, religious leader of Beth Israel, is a member of the "Committee of Conscience" formed several months ago to deal with the problem of night bombings of houses of worship, which included five Negro churches. At Friday night services before the bombing of Beth Israel, a collection was taken up on behalf of the victimized Negro congregations. Rabbi Schlager told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the time that 10 classrooms and the synagogue library were damaged by the bomb. In his telegram to Mayor Key, Dr. Wexler deplored the "cowardly acts of terror and violence" which, he said, were "so debasing to American concepts of civilized human decency."

## Communal Workers Parley Hears Plea For Special Relationship Between Jews, Negroes

DETROIT, June 9 (JTA)--A plea for a special relationship between American Jews and Negroes, based on "a common purpose" of "teaching America at long last what community and pluralism are all about," was made here last night to 700 Jewish communal workers by a Massachusetts Institute of Technology political scientist. Dr. Leonard J. Fein, speaking at the opening session of the 79th annual meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service, said he was not optimistic about the capacity of America to accommodate "the new militancy" of Negroes and other non-white minorities. He added, however, that if such an accommodation were achieved, it would be because Americans had learned to live with difference and that with such success, "we Jews will be among its unintended beneficiaries." The session began with a moment of standing tribute by the delegates to the memory of the assassinated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy for whom a memorial service was held this afternoon.

Dr. Fein also asserted that American Jews historically had felt they gained acceptance by stressing they were not "different" from their neighbors, while Negroes had recently turned from a similar denial of group identity to an assertion of identity. In stressing their "non-difference" the political scientist said, American Jews "missed an opportunity to force society to come to grips with real differences."

He reported that some of his Jewish academic colleagues, who had thought they were free from "parochial commitment," felt genuinely involved during the Six-Day war last June. He urged the Jewish community to be more assertive and less concerned about its public relations image. He urged re-emphasis on institutions and agencies of the Jewish community and concern with things Jewish and "our links with the State of Israel."

He said that the question for Jews concerning the Negro struggle for equality was not whether to speak out but rather what to say. He added that for Jews to suppose America would not contain a Jewish community that dares to assert itself is to sell the United States short and "to ignore the lesson of last June."