

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Coalition Protests Lead Eshkol To Promise Delay In Vote On Absorption Ministry

JERUSALEM, June 16 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, yielding to sharp protests among some of his Government coalition partners, told the Cabinet today that a vote on his proposal to set up a new Ministry of Absorption would be delayed until the next Cabinet meeting and possibly later. Under his plan, Labor Minister Yigal Allon would be appointed Deputy Prime Minister as head of the new ministry. Josef Almogi, a former leader of the dissident Rafi faction in Premier Eshkol's dominant Israel Labor Party, would succeed Gen. Allon as Labor Minister.

Mr. Eshkol stressed that the proposed new ministry would be a separate unit and not part of the Prime Minister's office. Then he said that, at the request of several ministers, a discussion and a vote on the proposals would be postponed. The Labor Party's leadership bureau overwhelmingly approved the proposals last Friday but some former Rafi members stayed away from the bureau meeting, contending that the bureau lacked the competence to deal with such matters. They argued also that under the agreement creating the Labor Party, each of the former constituents had the right to name its own representatives to executive bodies of the Government.

The Independent Liberal Party and Poalei Agudat Israel Party indicated over the weekend that they would not oppose the Premier's plan but the Gahal (Herut-Liberal) faction and the National Religious Party indicated they were opposed to any ministerial changes before the general election scheduled for 1969.

### Plan Opposed By Herut, Allon Clarifies Role Of Office

The central committee of the Herut Party met and lashed out against the plan because Mr. Eshkol had not consulted members of his coalition, but Herut's leaders decided not to act pending the return of Herut leader Menachem Beigin from a current visit to the United States on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal's current campaign. It was reported here that, when Mr. Beigin was informed of Mr. Eshkol's proposal, he decided to cut short his U.S. tour to discuss the issue with the Premier. However, UJA leaders in the U.S. sent a cable to Mr. Eshkol asking him to give every possible assurance that no vote would be taken on his proposal so that Mr. Beigin could continue his "extraordinarily successful" tour. The Premier, it was reported, then cabled the Herut leader assuring him no decision on the new ministry would be taken until he returned and asked him to continue the tour. However, the Herut leader apparently had decided to reduce his visit by at least a few days for an early return to Israel.

Gen. Allon meanwhile, told the 27th World Zionist Congress tonight that the new absorption office would be both an executive and coordinating factor but that its creation would not relieve other governmental offices of their obligations in immigrant absorption and integration. He said special emphasis would be placed in the new ministry on integration efforts through landmanschaften and other forms of immigrant associations. Speaking at a Congress plenary session, Gen. Allon said that for the new type of immigration Israel expects from the Western world, new approaches were needed. He told the delegates that while Israel could not assure Western immigrants of the standard of living to which they were accustomed, Israel could assure a "proper living standard materially" but even much higher cultural and social living standards. "In any case," he said, "I don't think American Jews would come to Israel to seek the American way of living or the American living standard." He said that assurance of Jewish continuity, social challenges, Jewish freedom, heroism and culture were some of the aspects of the new life Israel was proposing to prospective immigrants from the West.

### Former Rafi Members Form Unit To Promote Dayan As Premier

TEL AVIV, June 16 (JTA)--A number of former members of the dissident Rafi faction in Premier Levi Eshkol's dominant Israel Labor Party have announced formation of a committee which will seek to make Gen. Moshe Dayan, Israel's Defense Minister, the Premier.

A sectional public opinion poll in an undisclosed section of Israel was reported to show that Gen. Dayan was favored over Mr. Eshkol for the Premier's post by a ratio of 48 to 31. In other pairings, Gen. Dayan was favored for the Premiership over Labor Minister Yigal Allon, 62 to 12, Mr. Eshkol over Mr. Allon, 46 to 31, and Mr. Eshkol over Herut Party leader Menachem Beigin by 59 to 21. The results were based on findings from 1,200 questionnaires.

## Israeli Soldier Killed During Two Days Of Exchanges With Egyptians At Suez Canal

TEL AVIV, June 16 (JTA)--An Israeli soldier was fatally wounded yesterday in a second day of exchanges between Israeli and Egyptian units across the Suez Canal during a weekend in which fighting also occurred on the Lebanese border and the Israeli-Jordanian cease-fire line. The soldier was wounded in shooting exchanges near Ismailia. Another soldier was injured during a two and a half hour artillery and mortar duel across the Canal at Port Tewfik.

Jordanians opened fire on Israeli positions today in the Allenby Bridge area which lasted 45 minutes but ended with no Israeli casualties. Two Israeli soldiers were injured this morning when their halftack hit a mine in the Gaza Strip area. On Friday night, the Manara settlement was shelled

by mortars from the Lebanese frontier but no damages were reported. Lebanon sent a letter to the Security Council charging that Israeli troops penetrated Lebanese territory and attacked the village of Messel Djabel, destroying ten houses and injuring four persons.

Two Arab saboteurs were killed after they tried to blow up a small bridge on the Arad road to Eilat. An Israeli Army patrol heard the blast and pursued the infiltrators, killing two of them in a brief fight. Twenty suspected El Fatah members were arrested in a surprise raid by Israeli security forces at Kabatiyah, a village in the Jenin area on the West Bank. The Israelis also blew up a terrorist's house in a village south of Nablus.

### **Dr. Goldmann Disallows Draft As WZO President; Sultanik Proposes Alternative**

JERUSALEM, June 16 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann said today that he would not allow himself to be drafted for another term as president of the World Zionist Organization, and a belief emerged among delegates to the 27th World Zionist Congress that he meant it. The question of Dr. Goldmann's re-election has been an issue since the Congress opened on June 9.

Talk began to turn to the future of the WZO presidential post. Kalman Sultanik, executive vice-president of the Confederation of General Zionists, submitted a proposal under which the Congress would empower the next World Zionist Actions Committee meeting to choose a president after a commission representing all Zionist parties would be elected by the current Congress to name suitable candidates. He said the Confederation opposed leaving the presidency vacant but he added that in the little remaining time of the current Congress, he did not feel that candidates could be selected and discussed with the thoroughness befitting such a high office. A spokesman for the General Zionist Union said Dr. Goldmann's apparent final decision was regretted but that the post should be filled and that there were candidates. He did not mention names, but it is known that the Union favors Dr. Emanuel Neumann, American General Zionist leader. The leftist Mapam merely expressed regret, while the Revisionists expressed satisfaction over the fact that their initial anti-Goldmann stand was now backed by Labor Zionists.

In declaring his non-candidacy, Dr. Goldmann told the Congress steering committee that he had several reasons for that apparently final decision. He said he wanted time to create a world Jewish representative body, to work on behalf of Soviet Jewry and for "Israel's place in the Middle East." He said the WZO presidency hampered his freedom of expression and action.

### World Organization Of Jewish Students Given Voting Rights

The Congress' steering committee decided to grant the World Organization of Jewish Students right of full voting in all Congress deliberations and the right to vote for officers and to run for office. The action gave the students more rights than were granted to youth organizations and aliyah groups whose members were given the right to vote but not on personal matters such as nominations and members of the Jewish Agency Executive. Student representatives expressed gratification for the decision but indicated they were not yet agreed on acceptance or a rejection of their second demand, calling for creation of a special department for students by the Executive.

Max Fischer of Detroit, Mich., honorary national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, told the Congress that the UJA had brought into action Jewish communal leaders who now lead whole communities. Rabbi Herbert Friedman, UJA executive vice-president, said the upsurge of Jewish feeling during the Six-Day War last year must be succeeded by a continuing effort to assure Israel's security.

A special session of the Congress on various campaigns for Israel throughout the world heard Finance Minister Pinhas Saphir describe the UJA as the main supplier of funds from abroad "which enabled us to absorb our immigrants." He said the Israel Bond drive had "enabled us to start economic projects which, though they do not bring in short-term fruits, will in the long run, return the capital invested."

### **Eban Asserts That Israel Seeks Contacts, Negotiations With Arabs Via Many Channels**

JERUSALEM, June 16 (JTA)--Israel is engaged in a search for contacts and negotiations with the Arab states through many channels, including the mission of special United Nations peace emissary Dr. Gennar V. Jarring. Foreign Minister Abba Eban told the 27th World Zionist Congress yesterday. He reiterated Israel's position of seeking to replace the present cease-fire agreements by peace agreements freely negotiated and contractually confirmed. He said any other arrangement, such as Big Power guarantees, could not be a substitute for a formal peace treaty, adding that the doctrine of Israeli "withdrawal without peace" had been defeated. Mr. Eban said today that there was no Cabinet plan as yet for peace frontiers between Israel and her neighbors. He clarified press reports on his news conference last week in which he had said that consultations on the subject had taken place.

### **Israel Satisfied Two West German Firms Have Not Yielded To Arab Boycott**

JERUSALEM, June 16 (JTA)--The Thyssen and Mannesman industrial firms of West Germany have satisfied the Israeli Embassy in Bonn that they have not yielded to the Arab boycott and will continue to provide components for Israel's 160-mile-long Eilat-Ashkelon oil pipeline, an Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman said today. The Arab boycott office in Beirut announced a month ago that the two West German firms had agreed to abide by the boycott and would cancel trade ties with Israel. The Foreign Ministry spokesman here declared that the two companies had given a joint statement to the Israel Embassy that they were ready for trade with anyone, in the East or West, Israel and the Arab countries, and that they would carry out existing contracts.

## London Newspaper Reports Gen. Moczar Leading Renewed Purge Against Polish Jews

LONDON, June 16 (JTA)--Polish Interior Minister Gen. Mieczlaw Moczar, who heads the Secret Police, is leading a renewed purge of Polish Jews, reporter Neal Ascherson said today in the Sunday Observer. "Deep bewilderment and shock among veteran Communists of Jewish extraction are reported by visitors returning to East Berlin from Warsaw," he said. "While many are still trying to put a brave face on things, others are on the edge of a nervous breakdown," he reported.

Ascherson reported that one Communist whose parents were both gassed at Auschwitz and who was politically persecuted in the West, recently lost his job as a journalist. He refused the offer of a passport valid only for Israel.

## Arab Propaganda Stepped Up In West Germany; Israel Attacked In Programs

BONN, June 16 (JTA)--Arab propaganda has been stepped up in recent days in West Germany. The German-Jordan Society here conducted a "Jordan Week" during which former Jordan Foreign Minister Anton Atallah made a speech describing Israel as a "bloodthirsty wolf surrounded by sheep" and asserting that Jews living in Palestine prior to establishment of the Jewish State opposed the Bal-four Declaration because they lived happily with the Arabs there. A film was shown depicting women and children, allegedly Israeli napalm victims, in a hospital. In Aachen, Arab students held a "Palestine Week" at the technical high school and distributed anti-Israel propaganda.

In a related development, East Germany has decided, as a result of the recent visit there of Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad, to maintain regular contact between the two countries. In an East Berlin newspaper interview, Mr. Riad said the Egyptian people would never forget "valuable aid" which the German Democratic Republic rendered to the Arab states during and after last June's war. He asserted that West Germany had played a role in Israel's "aggression."

## Two Auschwitz Inmates Sentenced To Life Imprisonment For Multiple Murders

FRANKFURT, June 16 (JTA)--Life sentences -- a rarity in West German court trials -- were imposed here today, in the third trial of Auschwitz death camp personnel, on two camp inmates, Bernhard Bonitz, 61, and Josef Windek, 64. Both had been charged with multiple murders. Both said they would appeal.

The prosecution asserted that they were "professional criminals" who had been assigned especially to Auschwitz. Windek also was given a concurrent additional sentence of 15 years at hard labor. Windek collapsed when his sentence was pronounced.

## Father Of Sen. Kennedy's Alleged Assassin Gets Israeli OK To Visit United States

LONDON, June 16 (JTA)--The London Daily Telegraph's Jerusalem correspondent reported this weekend that Bishara Salameh Sirhan, father of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the Jordanian accused of assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy, has received a permit from Israeli authorities to leave his West Bank village to travel to the United States for his son's trial.

(In Washington, it was reported that Arab attorneys are seeking State Department help in coming to the U.S. to defend Mr. Sirhan. Two lawyers in Beirut, Lebanon, have offered to fly to Los Angeles to aid in the defense. Moussa Prince asked for facilities to go to Los Angeles to "clarify the circumstances which surrounded Sen. Kennedy's assassination." He wrote the U.S. Embassy in Beirut that he should be informed on developments in the case because "the Arab people have the right to know the real motives that made Sirhan do what he did." Mr. Prince would be accompanied by his assistant, Abdel Hamid el-Ahdab. They have cabled an offer of aid to Wilbur Littlefield, Mr. Sirhan's court-appointed public defender, in Los Angeles.)

## BBC Panel Supports Israel Position In Middle East; Berger Backs Arab Case

LONDON, June 16 (JTA)--A 30-man panel on BBC television rejected yesterday the Arab case in the Middle East which was presented by speakers who included Rabbi Elmer Berger, executive vice-president of the anti-Zionist American Council for Judaism. The vote against the proposition that the Arab case was stronger than the Israel case was 20 to seven with three abstentions.

The Arab position was spearheaded by Labor MP Christopher Mayhew in an hour-long debate. His witnesses were Rabbi Berger, members of an Arab refugee family, the Arab League delegate here, and former Jerusalem mayor, Rouhi el-Khatib. Jo Grimmond, a former leader of the Liberal Party, led the presentation of Israel's case, calling on three British speakers and Moshe Pearlman, former director of the Israel Information Services as supporters.

## Greater Montreal Protestant School Board Will Provide Funds For Jewish Day Schools

MONTREAL, June 16 (JTA)--The Government of Quebec has approved agreements between eight Jewish day schools and the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal which call for the payment by the school board of \$300 per child attending Jewish day schools to cover the general studies program. The costs of the Hebrew program will be borne by parents and the community.

Mr. C.W. Dickson, representing the Quebec Minister of Education, made the announcement at a public meeting attended by over 1,000 Jewish parents which was sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress to report on progress of the negotiations which had been conducted with the school board for several months. Mr. Monroe Abbey, president of Congress, expressed the gratification of the Jewish community with the decision, which will affect approximately 3,500 Jewish school children in the Montreal area.

## Council Says Russian Rabbi and Cantor Will Appear At Hunter College Wednesday

NEW YORK, June 16 (JTA)--Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow's Choral Synagogue and Cantor David Stiskin of Leningrad will appear at a public meeting here Wednesday at Hunter College under sponsorship of the American Council of Judaism, a Council spokesman said today. They were expected in New York tomorrow after stopping off in Montreal where their Moscow flight will land, and will be accompanied from Canada by Bill Gottlieb, the Council's public relations director, he said. George Bagrash, acting executive director of the anti-Zionist Council, reported that Rabbi Levin said he was bringing a film on Jewish life in Russia and photographs of the same subject. The Council expects to display the latter at Hunter's Assembly Hall, Park Ave. and East 69th St., where the public meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. Richard Korn, the Council's president, will be program chairman. At least 1,500 persons are expected -- the number of tickets handed out by the Council for a Town Hall meeting of the delegation which was called off last week when the June 10 arrival date was changed.

Mr. Bagrash said he was not sure how long the delegation would remain in the United States. Reports have varied from one week to 25 days. He said that the Council is sponsoring only the one meeting, but that it was likely that other Jewish organizations would seek to meet with the two religious Jews. Rabbi Levin and Cantor Stiskin received visas from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow last Thursday. He said that he planned "to tell the truth" about the policy of the Soviet Union toward its Jewish population. The 74-year-old rabbi has always denied accusations that the Soviet Union persecutes its Jewish minority.

## Jewish Groups, Others, Express Support For Poor Peoples' Campaign, Mobilization

NEW YORK, June 16 (JTA)--The Poor Peoples Campaign and the National Solidarity Day demonstration next Wednesday in Washington have been endorsed by a variety of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, labor and civic groups representing five million New York residents. The participating organizations said in a joint statement they were chartering hundreds of buses to take members to the Wednesday demonstration.

Expressing support for the campaign and the demonstration were, among others, Rev. William S. Van Meter of the Protestant Council of New York City; Father Edward Dugan of the Catholic Archdiocese of New York; Rabbi Henry Siegan, executive vice-president of the Synagogue Council of America; and Richard Cohen, assistant executive director of the American Jewish Congress.

They offered their endorsements at a news conference at which Rev. Wyatt Walker, special assistant on urban affairs to Gov. Rockefeller and New York coordinator of the mobilization in support of the campaign, said he was "deeply encouraged" by the pledges of support and participation. Rev. Walker declared that there would be no acts of civil disobedience "or independent protest activities" on Wednesday. At least one Jewish organization, the Jewish Labor Committee, withdrew from support of the campaign last week.

## Educator Criticizes Jewish Agencies' Timing In Recruitment Of Manpower

DETROIT, June 16 (JTA)--A prominent Jewish educator has sharply criticized Jewish communal agencies for directing their manpower recruitment efforts to the "wrong places at the wrong time" and for appearing as corporations in size and behavior pattern, thereby repelling the "best potential workers in communal fields." Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, in an address at the concluding session of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Workers, attributed to these failings the present manpower crisis in the Jewish communal field. Dr. Shapiro pointed out that vocational guidance in public schools is introduced at an early age level "when children and adolescents are forming their vocational decisions and aspirations." Jewish recruitment for communal personnel, however, is only pursued at college level and beyond, he said. The starting age for vocational influence, he maintained, should be in such institutions as the Jewish schools, synagogue, and community centers. Mrs. Martha K. Selig, of New York City, was elected president of the National Conference, succeeding Sidney Z. Vincent of Cleveland.

## B'nai Zion Convention Hears Plea For American Volunteer Service In Israel

MONTICELLO, N.Y., June 16 (JTA)--The coordinator of Sherut La'am, the Israeli version of the United States Peace Corps, called here for an intensive educational effort to help persuade American Jews to volunteer for service in Israel by clarifying to them "Israel's superb accomplishments, despite harassment, threats and intimidation from the Arab-Soviet axis." The proposal was made at the 59th annual convention of B'nai Zion by Dr. Aryeh Neshet, who is also staff member of the Afro-Asian Institute in Israel. He also urged young American Jews to volunteer professional and technical skills for a year's service to Israel.

The fraternal order's delegates also heard a message from Vice-President Hubert Humphrey in which he affirmed "America's commitment to the sovereignty and well-being of Israel and the peace and stability of the Middle East, indeed the world." Raymond M. Patt, re-elected B'nai Zion president, told the several hundred delegates that "Israel needs our support now more than ever and, as American citizens, we have a right and obligation to make our voices heard throughout the land." Herman Quittman, re-elected B'nai Zion national secretary, said that a "substantial" increase in new members during the past year had raised total membership to 25,000 and that the order has \$14 million in fraternal insurance in effect.

The delegates approved a resolution criticizing Congressional enactment of a weak gun control law and urging the legislators to heed President Johnson's plea for more effective interstate control to "help directly in reducing crime and violence." The delegates were told that a half-million dollars had been raised by the planned B'nai Zion America-Israel Friendship House in New York, a \$1 million project to be a national headquarters for B'nai Zion.