

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Algeria Warns It May Take 'Counter-Measures' Over Pilots' Boycott

LONDON, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Algeria warned today that it would take counter-measures against foreign airlines and their pilots who observed the air boycott called for by the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA). The nature of the counter-measures was not specified. But reports from several Arab capitals indicated that the Arab world was ready to back up Algeria. One report spoke of a counter-boycott against foreign airlines and other transportation services.

The boycott of flights to and from Algeria was taken as a measure of last resort when the international pilots' group failed in its efforts to negotiate the release of the El Al Israel jet airliner hijacked by Palestinian terrorists on July 23 and held ever since by Algeria along with 12 Israeli passengers and crewmen. The pilots' organization made it clear that it regarded the issue not as political but as one involving a menace to the safety of air travel.

Algeria's announcement that it would retaliate was reported today by the Algerian News Agency. It was also reported that the Algerian representatives of the three principal foreign airlines serving that country - Air France, Alitalia and Swissair - were summoned to the civilian aviation department of the Algerian Transport Ministry and informed of the Government's stand. The Algerian Government meanwhile reiterated that it would not release the crew of the hijacked airliner until it had completed its "investigation" of the affair. It gave no indication when that would be. Air Algerie, the Algerian national airline, announced last night that all of its flights were operating normally.

### French Airline Pilots Union Says 'Political Aspects' Won't Deter Boycott

Air France, with 32 flights a week between French and Algerian cities, is the airline most affected by the boycott. But Jacques Landragin, secretary of the French National Union of Airline Pilots, announced today that French pilots would adhere to it. He made the announcement after meeting with Capt. Jan Bartelski, IFALPA's president and Pierre Donatien, managing director of Air France. "We are persuaded that there is nothing more to be done," M. Landragin said. "We are taking action and refuse to accept the intervention of political questions in our professional problems." The reference was to the possible repercussion the boycott could have on Franco-Algerian relations. French pilots employed by Air Algerie were reportedly being allowed to decide on an individual basis whether to participate in the boycott. They comprise a majority of the pilots of Algerian airliners. Air Algerie is partially owned by Air France.

A report from Beirut today said the Arab governments are consulting on the boycott crisis. One local newspaper called for "implacable reprisals." It quoted Lebanon's Prime Minister, Abdullah Yafi as saying that the country would back any move by Algeria. A similar pledge was reportedly given by Jordan's Transport Minister, Amin Younes Hussaini. An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Cairo has contact the Arab League with a view to organizing a common front against foreign airlines that boycotted Algeria. The International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions in Cairo threatened to boycott any airline that participated in the IFALPA action against Algeria and said it would extend its counter-boycott to other transportation services - obviously shipping - of the countries involved.

The Guardian commented today that the IFALPA action was taken for professional rather than political reasons. It quoted Capt. Bartelski who said "we are not doing this because Israel is involved but because hijacking has become a sport and we must stop it. Sooner or later hijacking will result in the crash of a plane and we cannot let that happen," he warned.

(Christian Science Monitor correspondent John K. Cooley said in a dispatch from Beirut today that the boycott "raises the possibility of a new Western-Arab confrontation that would be costly to both sides" and "deepens the difficulties of both French President deGaulle and Algerian President Boumedienne." He said if deGaulle approves French participation in the boycott "the general might lose much of the luster he still retains as a friend of the Arabs" and French Saharan oil interests could suffer. As for Boumedienne, who is under Arab pressure on the plane issue, "his possible return of the plane, which was under negotiation in Rome seems ever less likely now since it would involve a double loss of face toward the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab world," Mr. Cooley said.)

## Israelis Meet Italian Officials Over Alitalia Continuing Algeria Flights

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Israeli representatives conferred with Italian officials in Rome today following the announcement by Alitalia, the government-owned Italian national airline, that it would not participate in the boycott of Algeria called by the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations. Spokesmen for the Italian airline indicated that they still had hopes for some sort of settlement with Algeria over the hijacked El Al airliner and its crew without having to apply the boycott weapon. Other sources said that Alitalia was probably acting out of commercial interests. A representative of the company went to Algiers today. Alitalia operates two flights a week to Algeria and is one of the three principal foreign airlines serving that country.

However, it is Air France, with 32 flights a week that handles 90 percent of Algeria's foreign air traffic. Adherence to the boycott by French pilots therefore is considered to be of the greatest importance.

## UN Sources Report Apparent Hardening In Algerian Stand On Israeli Plane

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 15 (JTA)--Informed sources reported here today there has been an apparent hardening of Algeria's position on release of the hijacked Israeli airliner and its 12 detained Israeli passengers and crew members. That evaluation was understood to stem from two meetings Secretary-General U Thant held yesterday with Tewfik Bouattoura, the Algerian envoy, and one with Yosef Tekoah, the Israel Ambassador, on the issue. The Secretary-General was also reported to have renewed his efforts to obtain release of the airliner and the Israelis.

(It was reported from Algiers today that Algerian Foreign Minister Abdel Azziz Bouteflika released the text of a letter to Mr. Thant, in which the Foreign Minister said that Algeria was still seeking "a satisfactory solution" to the problem but that "nothing will sway" Algeria from continuing out its "investigation" of the circumstances of the hijacking last July 23. It was also reported that President Boumedienne met with his Cabinet to discuss the situation in the light of the boycott by the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations against Algeria for its continued detention of the plane and passengers.)

## Latest Cairo 'Peace' Proposals Termed Propaganda By UN Israel Envoy

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 15 (JTA)--Reports from Cairo that Egyptian diplomats were offering proposals to end 20 years of Arab self-proclaimed belligerency toward Israel were dismissed here today by Israel's United Nations envoy as only another example of "propaganda games of words."

Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, declared also in a statement that the latest press reports from Cairo were "the usual meaningless smokescreen behind which Cairo hides its continued refusal to make peace with Israel and its growing intransigence." He declared that intransigence had been shown again by Egyptian President Nasser's "warlike statement of July 23 and similar official Egyptian announcements."

The latest Cairo reports were to the effect that Egyptian diplomats were privately pressing a proposal for "declarations of peace" to be endorsed by the Security Council and the four major powers in Middle East affairs -- the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union. The "informants" in Cairo purportedly said that Egypt viewed such a procedure as a way of getting around Israel's insistence on signed peace treaties with the Arab countries and that Egypt had urged this approach on UN peace envoy Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring at his headquarters in Nicosia.

Mr. Tekoah said that as long as Egypt and other Arab states "adhere to the Khartoum decision of no peace, no negotiations and no recognition of Israel, there can be no progress toward peace." He stressed that "what is required to terminate the 20-year Arab war against Israel are not verbal declarations of piety and promise but a peace agreement." Remarking that "there is nothing more common in the past two decades than such Arab declarations," he cited several recent examples. He noted that in January, 1967, he had helped to negotiate a declaration of non-belligerency with Syria which was published on Jan. 25, 1967 as a joint communique by the UN Truce Supervision Organization. This declaration, he added, "had no effect whatsoever on Syria's pursuance of terror warfare which was one of the factors which brought about the June 1967 hostilities."

More recently, the envoy added, Muhammad el-Farra, the Jordanian ambassador to the UN, made a declaration in the Security Council that his country abided by the cease-fire agreement with Israel. At the same time, Mr. Tekoah continued, "Jordan supports and participates in terror warfare carried on from its territory against Israel in violation of the cease-fire." Since 1948, and even after June 1967, he pointed out, Israel and the Arab governments have negotiated and signed agreements. He added that when Egypt and the other Arab states "decide that they are ready for peace with Israel, they will enter into negotiations with Israel as they have done in the past, and contractual binding agreements will be concluded between the parties as has been the case in the past."

## More Bitter Debate Marks Security Council Meeting; No Resolution Seen Yet

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 15 (JTA)--The Security Council adjourned today its current session over an August 4 Israeli air attack on Jordanian terrorist bases after listening to three hours of acrimonious debate in which the Soviet Union joined with delegates of Jordan and Syria in denouncing Israeli "aggression" and Israel repeatedly challenged the hostile speakers. The session was adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow with no substantive action taken.

Reports circulated again that efforts were being made by Arab bloc supporters to prepare a resolution severely criticizing Israel for the air raid on new guerrilla bases near Salt about 15 miles from Amman. However, the debate today, which was largely a reprise of charges and counter-charges made since the session began on Aug. 5, indicated that little progress was being made toward an acceptable resolution.

Muhammad el-Farra, the Jordanian delegate, again demanded that the Security Council take "effective measures" to "halt Israeli aggression." Yakov Malik, the Soviet delegate, argued again that Israel should be compelled to accept the Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution which he again interpreted as requiring Israel's immediate withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Yosef Tekoah, the Israeli representative, repeatedly challenged the Arab and Soviet speakers in exercise of his right of reply. On one occasion, when he called Malik's statements a "calumny of Israel," the Soviet delegate stopped the envoy's statement on a point of order and the President cautioned him to adhere to the agenda. When he resumed his statement, Mr. Tekoah said the world was "still waiting" for the Soviet Union to come to a UN forum and speak for peace, rather than in support of war. The Israeli envoy again assailed the Arab statements which he said amounted to an argument that Israel had no right

to legitimate defense against Arab terrorist attacks but that the Arab countries could continue such actions, both by guerrillas and by regular Arab troops. He said that both types of attack on Israel were continuing up to the moment he was speaking. He said Israel would never accept such a "one-sided" judgment.

### West Bank Arabs Oppose Terrorism, Israeli Administration Aided

TEL AVIV, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Israeli authorities have no trouble administering the occupied Arab territories although they have their share of local problems to deal with, a military source said here today. He said that while the West Bank residents had strong nationalistic sentiments, they were opposed to terrorist activities because of the economic disruptions they caused.

Arab mayors, however, have expressed concern over rumors that the Israeli military government might be replaced by a civilian administration. At a meeting in Nablus recently, attended by all of the West Bank mayors with the exception of Mayor El Jabaari, of Hebron, the idea of a civilian administration was rejected on the grounds that it would widen the gap between the West Bank and Jordan. West Bank residents maintain a profitable trade with Jordan which, they fear, might be stopped by the Jordanians if Israeli civilian authorities took over from the military government. Such a move would be construed as another step toward the permanent separation of the West Bank from Jordan, the mayors believe.

Some 8,000 Arab students and visitors from Arab countries took advantage of the summer vacation program under which Israel permitted them to visit relatives on the West Bank and in East Jerusalem, it was learned today. A total of 20,000 permits were issued but more than half of them were not used for various reasons. Visiting Arab students are reported to have had contacts with Israeli students at Tel Aviv University.

### Systematic Exclusion Of Polish Jews From Jobs, Housing, Schools Reported Underway

LONDON, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Polish Jews are being systematically excluded from jobs, housing and schools in a pattern of quiet persecution that seems to have replaced the anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist tirades launched by the Warsaw Government and the Communist Party earlier this year. According to reports just received here from Warsaw, only those Jews who are for the present irreplaceable can hold their jobs and they are periodically reviewed to see if a non-Jewish Pole with suitable qualifications is available.

British Jews meanwhile are urged to boycott Polish goods. In an advertisement to appear in the Jewish Chronicle tomorrow, the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen called on fellow Jews to "remember the discrimination against Jews in Poland when buying such Polish goods as butter, eggs, cucumbers, vodka, etc." A spokesman for the Association told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the boycott was not directed against the Polish people but against the Government and its continuing anti-Semitic campaign.

According to reports from Warsaw, Jews who formerly held high positions in fields of scholarship or technology are being offered jobs as bus conductors when they seek employment. Many Jewish school children have been discharged before the term's end and their parents are told to find new schools. In cases where the children's academic records are outstanding, the excuse is given that the schools are overcrowded or that the youngsters do not "fit in." Many Jews have lost their apartments as a result of having lost their jobs because in many cases the flat goes with the job. These people have to fend for themselves and often live under appalling conditions in the big cities, the reports said.

### Poland Allowing Trickle Of Jews To Emigrate To Israel, AP Reports

NEW YORK, Aug. 15 (JTA)--An estimated 800 of Poland's surviving 25,000 Jews have emigrated since June, 1967, the month of the Arab-Israel Middle East war, the Associated Press reported in a dispatch from Warsaw today. The exodus is a result of the anti-Zionist campaign conducted by Polish authorities which has deprived scores of Jews of their jobs, many of them high in Government and Communist Party echelons, and in the communications and entertainment industries.

"Jews are allowed to emigrate to Israel," the AP report said. "They apply for visas to the Dutch Embassy, which had been handling Israeli affairs since Poland broke off diplomatic relations in June, 1967. The embassy refuses to reveal the number of visas being issued," the AP said. "Jews then apply for travel documents from the Polish authorities. This takes about six weeks." According to the AP dispatch, "leaving Poland, their first destination is normally Vienna. There a Jewish organization gives them assistance. From there some go to Israel, others to various Western destinations, some with promised jobs ahead, others with uncertain futures." The AP said "they go disappointed, bitter, feeling there is no future for them" in Poland. The dispatch quoted one Polish Jew as saying, "If I stay I am called a Zionist. If I go to Israel, I am considered a traitor."

### Vilna Survivors Demand Re-trial Of Acquitted Nazi Head Of Ghetto

TEL AVIV, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Representatives of the surviving Jews of Vilna attending a world meeting of Vilna Jews here, have demanded the re-trial of Franz Murer, the Nazi wartime Gauleiter of the Vilna ghetto whose first trial in Austria in 1963 ended with an acquittal. Murer was tried in Graz on charges that he murdered 17 Jews but is considered to have been responsible for the destruction of all the Jews of Vilna. The meeting here brought together some 3,000 Vilna Jews from all parts of the free world to discuss matters of mutual interest. Vilna, once a center of Jewish learning, now has only a tiny remnant of its former Jewish community, who were barred from meeting here.

## Rabbi Levin Denies Role In Conservative Rabbis Talk With Moscow Official

NEW YORK, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow has categorically denied a report that he arranged a meeting on July 26 in Moscow between a delegation of visiting American Conservative rabbis and an official of the Soviet Council for Religious Affairs, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America said today.

Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, who headed the delegation which met with Michail Kadikoff, the Soviet official, said here Tuesday that the meeting had been arranged by Rabbi Levin and that the official had indicated that the Soviet Government would have no objections to invitations to Russian synagogues to affiliate with the World Council of Synagogues, which is under Conservative sponsorship.

Rabbi Joseph Karasick, UOJCA president, said he had been informed of Rabbi Levin's disavowal by Rabbi Pinchas Teitz of Elizabeth, N.J. Rabbi Teitz was a companion of Chief Rabbi Levin during the latter's tour this summer of the United States. Rabbi Karasick added that Rabbi Levin, in an overseas telephone conversation with Rabbi Teitz, asked Rabbi Teitz to convey his denial to the UOJCA president "with permission to make it known to the public."

### Chief Rabbi Says Contact With Conservative Rabbis 'Courtesy' Act

According to Rabbi Karasick, Rabbi Levin also said that his sole contact with the Conservative rabbis was to receive them as a formal courtesy during their Moscow visit, "as is his practice with overseas Jewish visitors in general," and that "he had had no discussion with them on any proposal to seek to get Russian synagogues to affiliate with the World Council of Synagogues or any other form of association between religious Jewry of the Soviet Union and the Conservative movement."

The Moscow rabbinical leader also stated, according to the UOJCA president, that "in the Soviet Union, all synagogues are Orthodox and all rabbis are Orthodox" and that "there is no other form of Jewish religion than Orthodox Judaism in the USSR, and all synagogues in Soviet Russia adhere strictly to the Shulchan Aruch," the basic code of Jewish religious law, "without any deviation or change."

## JDC, On Anniversary Of Jordan's Death, Asks Intensified Czech Probe

NEW YORK, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Samuel L. Haber, executive director of the Joint Distribution Committee, called on Czechoslovakian authorities today "to continue and intensify their investigation to determine and reveal the true facts" surrounding the mysterious death in Prague last August of Charles H. Jordan, former executive vice chairman of the JDC. Tomorrow will be the first anniversary of the disappearance of Mr. Jordan from his hotel room in Prague where he and Mrs. Jordan were visiting. His body was found in the Vitava River four days later. Mr. Haber said "we owe it to the memory of our former executive vice chairman and general director to remind the Czechoslovakian Government publicly that we are still waiting for answers to the questions we raised a year ago." He noted in his statement today, "the institution of political reforms and the growing liberalization in Czechoslovakia" during the past year.

Mr. Jordan's death was all the more mysterious in that an autopsy failed to reveal any marks of violence and drowning was officially given as its cause. Mr. Haber noted that news stories emanating from various sources speculated that Mr. Jordan had been killed by Arab students, by an Egyptian diplomat who returned to his country or by Soviet secret police. "We prefer to get the true facts from the proper authorities," he said. "We shall not relax our efforts until the full truth becomes known." Mr. Haber expressed gratitude to the U.S. State Department for its continued assistance in pressing the Czechoslovak authorities to establish the full sequence of events that led to Mr. Jordan's death.

## COJO Official Expresses Hope Jews Will Give Maximum Aid To Biafrans

LONDON, Aug. 15 (JTA)--An official of the Conference of Jewish Organizations expressed hope today that "Jews who know the meaning of suffering so well will rally to help the Biafran people in their appalling distress." Yehuda Hellman, secretary general of the conference, made his remarks to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here prior to returning to the United States. Jewish bodies all over the world are seeking to provide relief to civilians in the ravaged secessionist province of Nigeria.

Mr. Hellman, who also serves as executive director of the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations, met here with leaders of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He told JTA that they had discussed a number of important issues, among them the situation of Soviet Jewry, the anti-Semitic campaign in Poland, the statute of limitations on war crimes in West Germany and the hijacked Israeli airliner held by Algeria.

## Israel Names Envoy To Brazil, Military Attaches To Paris, Central America

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15 (JTA)--Appointment of Itzhak Harkavi as Israel's new ambassador to Brazil was announced by the Foreign Ministry. Also announced was the appointment of Col. Dov Sion, son-in-law of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, as military attache to Western Europe with headquarters in Paris, and of Lt. Col. Naim Mourad as military attache in Central America.

Mr. Harkavi served as ambassador to Uruguay and later headed the Jewish Agency's department of Education and Culture in the Diaspora. Col. Sion, husband of authoress Yael Dayan, was former liaison officer with United Nations observers. Col. Mourad, an Iraqi by birth, headed an army mission in Togo and later directed the department of French-speaking countries in a Defense Ministry branch.