

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Eshkol Assails Security Council Condemnation as "One-Sided, Unjust"

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol criticized today as "one-sided and unjust" the unanimous vote Friday by the Security Council condemning Israel for its Aug. 4 air attack on terrorist bases near the Jordanian village of Salt. The Premier told the regular Cabinet meeting that the Council resolution "cannot help to stop acts of terrorism perpetrated against Israel which force her to resort to self-defense."

He said it was regrettable that the Council did not consider itself duty-bound to condemn explicitly those responsible for terrorist penetrations from Jordanian territory into Israel to lay mines and commit "sabotage and murder." Such acts, he declared, "constitute not only a flagrant violation of the cease-fire but are also a continuation of aggression against Israel." He reiterated that Israel had observed and would continue to fully observe the cease-fire agreements on the basis of reciprocity and "strongly wished" that these agreements be kept by all sides "but like all states belonging to the family of nations, Israel will not lay her roads open to mining and her citizens to murder." Mr. Eshkol, who is acting Foreign Minister in the absence of Abba Eban, made his statement at the end of a short report on developments leading to the Council session and the resolution.

Prior to the Cabinet meeting, Foreign Ministry sources similarly assailed the Council resolution but expressed satisfaction with the stands of the United States, Canada, Britain and Denmark whose delegates, in statements after the voting, referred to the terrorist attacks as one of the factors undermining the June 1967 cease-fire agreements. Ambassador George Ball, the United States chief delegate, specifically cited Jordanian support of such raids in expressing the hope that the latest Council resolution would serve to end all violations of the cease-fire.

### Resolution Calls Air Assault "Flagrant Violation" of UN Charter

The resolution declared that Israel's attack near Salt was a "flagrant violation" of the UN Charter and of the Security Council's resolutions dealing with the Middle East. It warned that if such attacks continued, the Council would "duly take account of the failure to comply with the present resolution" and "would have to consider further and more effective steps as envisaged in the Charter to ensure against repetition of such acts." The resolution deplored "all violent incidents in violation of the cease-fire" and considered "that all violations of the cease-fire should be prevented," an oblique reference to Arab terrorist incursions against Israel and the only one in the resolution. Ambassador Ball and most other Council members urged continued support for the peace-seeking mission of the UN's special envoy Dr. Gunnar Jarring and expressed hopes that the resolution would dampen hostilities in the Middle East and improve prospects for the Jarring mission's success.

Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, Israel's chief representative, said that the two weeks of debate preceding the resolution demonstrated continued Arab intransigence, belligerence and the destructive Arab attitude toward Israel. He declared the resolution demonstrated again the inadequacy of the Council's handling of the problem and that Israel retained its "inalienable right" to defend itself against continued Arab warfare. He stressed, however, that Israel would do its utmost to ensure maintenance of the cease-fire and expected the Arab states to do the same. He re-affirmed Israel's support of the Jarring mission. Ambassador Yakov Malik, the Soviet envoy said that his Government supported the resolution because unanimous approval could be a "tangible barrier" to Israeli "aggression." He assailed Israel for allegedly refusing to accept the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution on the Middle East which, he claimed, the Arab states had accepted.

(The New York Times, in an editorial yesterday, sharply criticized the resolution as a one-sided document "that can only make Ambassador Jarring's task more difficult." It described the resolution "which virtually ignores Arab guerrilla actions in violation of the cease-fire while condemning Israeli reactions" as "an exercise in futility - and worse." "As long as Arab guerrillas can cross cease-fire lines to blow up installations and kill Israeli citizens without so much as a slap on the wrist from the world community, the Israelis are certain to take the law into their own hands and strike back," the Times said.)

## Pilot's Association Drops Boycott; Says Algeria Will Release El Al Crew

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The cancellation of its projected boycott of Algeria by the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations was discussed by the Cabinet at its weekly meeting today at which the Foreign Minister was empowered to continue his efforts to obtain the release of the hijacked El Al airliner from Algeria by political means. The Government also indicated that it would request United Nations Secretary General U Thant to continue his efforts to effect the release of the plane and its 12 Israeli passengers and crew members.

The Cabinet session heard reports on the plane crisis from Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, Transport Minister Moshe Carmel and Gideon Rafael, Foreign Ministry director general, who participated in negotiations on the plane in Rome last week. The Prime Minister reported on political contacts, mainly with Mr. Thant. Mr. Carmel reported on contacts with the pilots' federation and told the Cabinet that "certain promises" had been given to federation representatives by Algerian authorities but it was reported that the Transport Minister had no information on the nature of those promises. A Government spokesman said later that it was understood that contacts with the pilots' federation were continuing and that the Government's stand would be announced when further information was available.

Earlier today, Government sources criticized IFALPA for calling off its boycott while the "hard facts" remained that the hijacked airliner and its Israeli passengers and crewmen were still held by Algeria. The boycott was supposed to go into effect at midnight tonight. Consultations on the problem were held all day yesterday between Prime Minister Eshkol and other Cabinet ministers.

Cancellation of the boycott was announced in Algiers yesterday by a vice president of the pilots' federation, Vitali Nicolaev, who arrived in Paris from the Algerian capital and strongly indicated that the release of the seven El Al crewmen and five passengers was imminent. Mr. Nicolaev, who is an Air France pilot, declined to specify what assurances the Algerians had given in exchange for the cancellation beyond a quick conclusion of their "investigation" into the hijacking. He said his negotiations with the Algerian authorities covered only the "human element", not disposition of the \$6 million El Al Boeing 707 which Algeria has held since July 23, when it was hijacked.

Government sources said however that as long as a prize is kept by the hijackers, whether it was the plane or anything else, the Federation could not be considered as having discharged its duty toward air safety. The pilots' group had stressed that its sole consideration in ordering the boycott was to discourage air hijacking in the interests of commercial aviation safety.

(At United Nations headquarters in New York Secretary General Thant met for an hour yesterday with James O'Grady, vice president of IFALPA. A spokesman refused to disclose the contents of their talks except to say that Mr. Thant had asked the Federation to make available to him whatever information might be helpful in securing release of the plane and the detainees.)

(The London Times reported in a dispatch from its correspondent Peter Hopkirk in Algeria yesterday that Capt. Jan Bartelski, president of IFALPA, and Capt. Nicolaev were received by the Algerian Foreign Minister and later driven to a secret site where the Israelis were being held to ascertain for themselves that they were well cared for. Mr. Hopkirk said the Algerians confided to the visiting pilots that they were under heavy pressure from the Arab states on the plane issue which, they said, accounted for the delays.)

### Report Egypt is Keeping Jarring Mission Alive Only For Propaganda Purposes

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Washington Post reported today, in a dispatch from Paris which cited confidential information from Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources, that Egypt was seeking to keep the mediation mission of United Nations Middle East envoy Gunnar V. Jarring alive but only for propaganda purposes and to prevent an actual peaceful settlement.

The report, filed by correspondent Alfred Friendly, said that Egypt feared that if the Jarring mission failed, Palestinian Arabs in the occupied West Bank might come to terms with Israel. The Post published what it described as a complete account of a staff meeting held last May at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry offices in Cairo, addressed by Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad at which a basic Egyptian strategy was outlined aimed at mobilizing world opinion to force the United States to end its support of Israel.

According to Friendly, Egypt announced acceptance of the Nov. 22, 1967 Security Council resolution for a Middle East settlement as part of its efforts to portray Israel as the aggressor. Riad purportedly told the staff meeting that Egypt's diplomatic goal was to isolate Israel, identify Israel as the aggressor and force the United States to pressure Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories. The dispatch quoted Riad as saying he was convinced that the purported Egyptian effort could succeed, and that Norway and Sweden allegedly had been convinced by Egyptian arguments that Egypt could not trust any peace treaty with Israel.

### American Students Refused Permit to Hold McCarthy Rally in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--Police refused today to grant a permit to 36 American students studying in Israel to hold a rally against the Viet Nam War and in support of Democratic presidential candidate Eugene McCarthy. The police told the applicants that it would not be in the public interest for Israel to become involved in the internal politics of the United States. The police did not prevent the students from circulating a petition among American citizens in Israel which they said they plan to submit to the Democratic National Convention next week in Chicago.

### Czech Writers Accept Israeli Bid; Will Make Visit in October

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Israeli Writers Association announced today that the Czech Writers Association had accepted an invitation to send a delegation to see Israeli development at firsthand. The Israeli Writers Association said that the delegation was expected to come during the second half of October.

## Israel 'Surprised' by State Dept. Complaint of 'Balk' on Liberty Payments

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 (JTA)--State Department officials have alleged that differences have arisen between the United States and Israel over payment for damages to the U.S. communications ship Liberty which was attacked in error by Israeli jets off the Sinai coast last year during the Six-Day War. The allegation was made at a background briefing for domestic news media at which the officials were critical of Israel on matters unrelated to the Liberty episode and at which they reportedly called on the American press for "more balanced" reporting on Israel. The briefing was held on the eve of Democratic national platform hearings which will open here tomorrow.

The officials contended that Israel was seeking to avoid payment of a \$7 million claim for damages to the Liberty. They said Israel was willing to pay \$2 million for damages to the ship plus additional compensation for the 160 crewmen injured in the attack. Israel paid \$3.3 million last May to the families of the 34 crewmen killed aboard the Liberty.

(In Jerusalem last night, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the United States had not yet submitted a claim to Israel for indemnification of the 160 wounded crewmen and expressed "surprise" that the State Department officials had accused Israel of refusing to pay for material damages sustained by the ship. He noted that negotiations were in progress over the U.S. damages claim and that Israel had already paid compensation to the families of the deceased. He also observed that several Congressmen had questioned whether Israel was obligated to pay any damages in view of the fact that the Liberty was in the Sinai war zone on June 8 only because a U.S. Navy communications mixup prevented her from receiving Pentagon orders to move out. That aspect of the case was brought to light last month in testimony before a House Defense Appropriations subcommittee.)

At the briefing here, State Department officials criticized Israel for failing to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, for its allegedly rigid stand on negotiations with the Arabs and for a "trigger-happy" policy of reprisals.

The Democratic platform hearings will open with testimony by Rabbi Philip Bernstein, co-chairman of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee. Testimony urging the United States to sell supersonic Phantom jet fighter planes to Israel is being prepared for the platform committee by Rep. Bertram Podell, N.Y. Democrat and others. The Republican Party platform has taken a strong stand in favor of the Phantoms for Israel.

## Soviet Army Paper Assails 'Fifth Columns' of 'Zionist Sympathizers'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Soviet army newspaper, Red Star, made a new attack today on Jews, warning the peoples of Communist countries against "fifth columns" of Zionist sympathizers and branding the World Zionist Organization as a "corporation for ideological saboteurs," according to reports received here. The article equated Zionism with "imperialism and Nazism." Red Star also denounced Judaism itself, saying "the religious morality of Judaism isolates religious Jews from other nations and justifies any crimes against the Gentiles."

The army newspaper also asserted that Zionism had been "an insidious reactionary anti-Communist movement since its organization in 1897." Zionism was termed "an imperialist corporation dedicated to dirty deals of the big Jewish bourgeoisie with the monopolies of the United States, Britain and France at the expense of the Middle Eastern peoples."

## Cabinet Defers Action on Expulsion Order Against Hebron Settlers

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The expulsion order against three Jewish settlers in the West Bank town of Hebron who refused to obey orders of the Military Governor, was discussed at a meeting of the ministerial committee on security affairs today in which the entire Cabinet participated. But action was deferred to a further session.

The three settlers had defied an order to tear down a kosher food stand they had built in a restricted part of the town without the required permit. They are part of a group of some 80 Orthodox Jews who squatted in Hebron after last Passover and were finally allowed to remain on condition that they stayed within the Military Governor's compound and obeyed local ordinances. The expulsion order was to go into effect last Sunday but several ministers intervened, claiming the punishment was too severe. The matter was put off until the full Cabinet could take it up. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, who attended today's meeting, was absent last Sunday owing to the death of his father.

## U.S. Team Completes Talks in Israel on Nuclear Desalination Proposal

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--A team of American desalination experts left Israel today after a series of meetings with Israeli experts and visits to possible sites for a nuclear powered water desalination and electric generator plant projected to be built in Israel with U.S. financial assistance. The team, headed by George Woods, a special representative of President Johnson, held final summing-up talks with Prime Minister Eshkol before its departure and will report to the President on the various problems involved in the project.

The difficulties, it was learned, are mainly financial. Israel needs cheap financing of the project in order to keep the price of desalted water within economic limits. The project is considered essential inasmuch as the country's existing fresh water sources, including the Jordan river and all springs and wells, are insufficient to keep up with the growing population which needs additional arable land. President Johnson first announced the project in 1964.

## **Synagogue Council Calls on U.S. Jews to Spur Aid to Biafrans**

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Synagogue Council of America has called on all rabbis and their congregants to make a nation-wide effort to provide aid to the starving Biafrans in the secessionist Nigerian province. In a resolution, the coordinating agency for American Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jews declared that "we who have endured the barbarism of the centuries condemn those who watched our suffering with callous, unseeing eyes and hearts of stone. We regard the silent spectators as accomplices of the persecutors."

The resolution called on rabbis and congregants to arouse public opinion on the issue through sermons, special prayers, community demonstrations and other "appropriate means" and to urge the United States Government to "undertake a massive relief effort." The resolution also called on Jews "to solicit contributions to enable international relief agencies to get food and medical supplies to the suffering." The resolution noted that the SCA and its agencies joined recently with other Jewish organizations to form the American Jewish Emergency Effort for Biafran Relief and an interreligious group with the National Council of Churches and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, to resolve the problem.

## **Javits Says Will Ask Nixon to Back Approval of Fortas as Chief Justice**

MONTICELLO, N.Y. Aug. 18 (JTA)--Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, said at a news conference here yesterday that he would ask Richard M. Nixon, the Republican presidential nominee, to help achieve the confirmation of Associate Justice Abe Fortas as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Senator Javits, who is campaigning for re-election, said he planned to meet with Mr. Nixon in the immediate future to ask him "to do all he can" to prevent a threatened filibuster when the Senate reconvenes next month and resumes hearings on the Fortas nomination.

Senator Javits said he saw no evidence of anti-Semitism in the opposition to Justice Fortas' appointment. "To invoke the issue of anti-Semitism without any real proof is likely to make the confirmation process more difficult" because "it injects a much more abrasive issue into the matter than is justified by the confirmation process," Sen. Javits said.

## **Gen. Allon to Speak at B'nai B'rith Conclave in Washington in September**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 (JTA)--Gen. Yigal Allon, Deputy Prime Minister of Israel and new Minister of Absorption, will visit the United States September 7 to 11 to address the triennial international convention of B'nai B'rith here.

International President William A. Wexler announced that Gen. Allon's address would be a highlight of the affair marking the 125th anniversary of B'nai B'rith. Gen. Allon also will address the National Press Club during his Washington visit.

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JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA)--Joseph Saphir, Minister Without Portfolio, will leave Tuesday for the United States to attend the Zionist Organization of America convention, the Cabinet was informed today. Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, the Religious Affairs Minister, will go to Argentina early next month to attend a conference of Jewish community councils.

## **Agency's Aliyah Center Says 660 North Americans Settled in Israel in July**

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Jewish Agency's Israel Aliyah Center here reported today that 660 Americans and Canadians left for settlement in Israel during July. According to Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, chairman of the Center and associate head of the Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, "almost as many Americans and Canadians settled in Israel during the first seven months of 1968 as in the whole of 1967." He said that 1769 Americans have immigrated so far this year compared to 1777 during all of 1967.

## **Tel Aviv to Name Street in Memory of Brazilian Friend of Statehood**

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The Tel Aviv municipality has decided to name a street here in honor of the late Dr. Oswaldo Arana of Brazil who was president of the United Nations General Assembly on Nov. 29, 1947 when the world body voted to establish a Jewish State in Palestine. Local streets will also be named in honor of the late Moshe Sharett, Israel's first Foreign Minister and later Prime Minister and the late Rabbi Yehuda Leib Maimon who was the first Minister for Religious Affairs.

## **American-Israeli Paper Mills Report Earnings Boost in Second Quarter**

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA)--The American Israeli Paper Mills, Ltd., of Tel Aviv, showed a substantial increase in earnings for the quarter of this year ending June 30 compared to the corresponding period last year, it was reported here today. Sales for the quarter totalled \$4,296,730 this year, compared to \$3,030,682 in the second quarter of 1967. The latter year's figures were converted at the then existing exchange rate of \$1 to three Israeli pounds. The 1968 figures were converted at the current rate of \$1 to three-and-a-half Israeli pounds. Net income after provision for deferred taxes during the April-June, 1968 quarter was \$350,707.

## **Bnei Akiva Plans First Study Session at Kfar Etzion This Year**

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA)--Kfar Etzion, a religious kibbutz south of Jerusalem that was besieged and captured by the Jordan Arab Legion during Israel's war for independence in 1948, will be the site for the first time of a study institute organized by Bnei Akiva of North America, the religious-sponsored Zionist youth movement. Fifty-six members will participate in the institute.