

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Israel Assails Soviet Invasion As 'Outrageous Violation' Of UN Charter

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The Israel Government denounced today the Soviet bloc action against Czechoslovakia as "an outrageous violation of the charter of the United Nations" and expressed "shock at the invasion and military control of the Czechoslovak Republic." The statement was issued after a special Cabinet meeting which was held late last night in Tel Aviv.

The denunciation added that "the sanctified principles of political independence and territorial integrity, peaceful co-existence, non-intervention in the internal affairs of states, the right of every state — small or large — to security and freedom — the principles on which relations between states are based have been arbitrarily trampled upon."

The statement noted that Israel "has more than once confronted aggression and threats to her independence and the Government voices its repugnance at this act of invasion which threatens the fabric of the family of nations." The statement also declared that "the participation of German troops in the invasion and occupation — this time as part of the forces of the Warsaw Pact — arouses in us particularly terrible memories. The Government of Israel joins with all peace-loving and freedom-loving nations of the world in the demand to put an end to the invasion and to restore the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Czechoslovakia."

The Israeli press and most political parties condemned the invasion. Prime Minister Eshkol's Israel Labor party expressed "horror and shock" and compared the Soviet takeover with the Nazi invasion of 1938. The leftwing Mapam said the "brutal trampling of freedom" in Czechoslovakia "shows the world who the real imperialists are." The Jerusalem Post published an editorial cartoon today, showing a hammer-and-sickle marked boot following a footstep marked with a swastika over the map of Czechoslovakia.

## Israelis Gather At Protest Meetings As Outrage Over Invasion Deepens

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Two protest meetings were held here this evening to protest the Soviet bloc takeover of Czechoslovakia as Israelis of virtually all political views voiced solidarity with the Czech people and condemned the invasion.

Thousands of students and members of youth movements met to hear denunciations of the Soviet invasion and the subordination of the Czech Republic. Posters appeared declaring "Now Czechoslovakia — Who Comes Next?" and "Russians Go Home." Later participants signed a petition of protest for presentation to the United Nations. The meeting took place during the rush hour and police had a hard time keeping traffic moving, but — in sympathy with the protest — they allowed drivers to stop and listen to the speakers. A sea of Czech flags was held by people and many auto owners had put Czech flags on their windshields.

The other rally was sponsored by the moderate Communist Party faction at which leader Shmuel Mikunis denounced the Soviet action as "pure imperialism." The split between the two Communist factions was dramatized last night in statements. The Mikunis faction called the Soviet action "a brutal intervention in the affairs of a Socialist state." The New Communist faction presented a spokesman in a radio interview who said he was "certain" that the Czech people "welcomed" intervention which he said had been undertaken "to save them from counter-revolutionary designs."

Concern was felt for the welfare of Israelis visiting Czechoslovakia when the Russian tanks entered Prague. Among them are exchange students and Prof. Yehuda Leo Pickard, of the Hebrew University, attending a scientific conference there. The Swedish Embassy, which has represented Israeli interests in Prague since the rupture of diplomatic relations after the 1967 Six-Day War, was asked to help the Israelis return home. There are about 45 Czech nationals presently in Israel.

The Israel Writers Association, which had been expecting a delegation of Czech writers for a visit in October, cabled a message of solidarity to its colleagues, though an association spokesman expressed doubt that the cable would reach its destination. The message said in part, "we, the sons of a nation that knew only too well persecution and suffering, understand your hour of trial and believe in the victory of the spirit, freedom and liberty." The whereabouts of the liberal Czech writer, Ladislav Mnacko, were unknown today. Mrs. Mnacko, who is in Israel, said her husband was to join her here, planning to leave Prague a day or two before the invasion. Mr. Mnacko gained prominence through his self-imposed exile in Israel to protest Prague's anti-Israel stand after the Six-Day War. Mrs. Mnacko today joined other Czech citizens at Kibbutz Shomrat, a settlement populated by Jews of Czechoslovak origin.

Zeev Sharef, Israel's Finance Minister and Minister of Trade and Industry, expressed support for Czechoslovakia at a rally marking the liberation of another Eastern European country — Rumania — from Nazi occupation 24 years ago. Mr. Sharef declared that "a day will come when every nation will be able to live as it wishes and no tanks or bombers will be able to move it from its chosen course." He paid tribute to Rumania for standing fast on its principles despite Soviet pressure. Rumania is the only Eastern bloc nation that did not yield to Soviet and Arab pressure to break relations with Israel after the Six-Day War.

## Czech Kibbutz Becomes Haven For Non-Jewish Czech Visitors To Israel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA)--"In June, 1967 we had letters from Czechoslovakia asking what they can do to help us when we stood with our backs to the wall. Today we ask them, what can we do to help them." The feelings of thousands of Israelis were summed up in those words by Akiva Nir, secretary of Kibbutz Shomrat in Western Galilee which was founded by Czechoslovakian Jews and today found itself a haven for a group of non-Jewish Czechs visiting in Israel when Soviet troops invaded their homeland.

Their mood was one of shock, anger and bewilderment but clearly not despair as they attended a protest rally in front of the kibbutz dining hall. As one of the group, a woman journalist put it, "I always had friendly feelings toward Israel, but now I understand her." Another Czech observed that "Czechoslovakia and Israel are both small countries and both have to look out for themselves, though the situation in our country is much worse." Beyond expressing hope that justice would triumph in the end, there was little that the Czechs or their Israeli hosts could do. Tomorrow all Czech nationals in Israel will meet at Kfar Masaryk, another settlement of Czech-Jewish immigrants, to decide whether to stay in Israel or go home.

### JDC Reports Czech Jewish Tourists Seek Help; HIAS Also Offers Aid

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The Joint Distribution Committee reported that 42 Czech Jews applied for assistance today to JDC offices and associated agencies in Austria and West Germany, the first to do so since the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Samuel L. Haber, JDC executive vice-chairman, also reported that the applicants were among the thousands of Czech tourists who found themselves outside their country when the Soviet takeover occurred.

He said many were apparently awaiting further developments before deciding to ask for welfare, migration and medical assistance. He declared that it was probable that the Czechs, as tourists, had enough money to carry on for at least a limited period before needing financial help. He added that all JDC offices and cooperating groups throughout Europe had been instructed "to provide emergency and other help to any Czech Jew who applies, just as thousands of Hungarian Jews received such assistance" after the 1956 revolt. He estimated there were about 15,000 Jews in Czechoslovakia. The JDC has had no program there since 1948, shortly after the Communist takeover when the JDC was asked to end its program.

HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, announced today that it was ready to assist all Czech Jews able to leave Czechoslovakia or who were outside its borders when Soviet bloc armed forces moved in. Carlos L. Israels, HIAS president, said the agency would help Czech Jews who want to resettle in the United States or other western countries. He added that the Czech crisis "poses a new and unforeseen challenge to our agency and we are prepared for it." Gaynor I. Jacobson, HIAS executive vice-president, reported many calls to HIAS from anxious relatives of Czech Jews.

### British Labor Zionists Urged To Attend Labor Party Rally For Czechs

LONDON, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Members of Poale Zion, the Labor Zionist party of Britain, were asked today to rally to the support of Czechoslovakian freedom. Sidney Goldberg, general secretary, urged Labor Zionists to attend the Labor Party's meeting Sunday to protest the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. The rally will be addressed by Richard H. S. Crossman, George Brown and Jennie Lee, all Labor MPs.

## Most East Jerusalem Shops Closed In Arab Protest; Ten Persons Arrested

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Virtually all shops in East Jerusalem were closed today in a near total general strike called by an Arab underground group to protest last Sunday night's riots by Israeli youths following a series of grenade explosions in West Jerusalem. Police arrested 10 persons today on suspicion of having coerced shop-owners to close their doors. Police also dispersed groups of agitators who tried to organize street demonstrations.

Police were alerted to a possible strike when crudely stenciled leaflets calling for a strike were distributed yesterday to East Jerusalemites. The leaflets were signed by the "Popular Front," a clandestine organization previously involved in strike calls in Ramallah and other West Bank towns. Heavy police guards were posted this morning, mainly to protect shopkeepers who chose to open for business. Some did, but shut down when agitators accused them of being "traitors to the Arab cause." Israelis from West Jerusalem came to the Old City for shopping as usual, apparently unaware of the strike, but no incidents were reported.

## Five Arab Saboteurs Killed, Two Israeli Soldiers Wounded In Jericho Clash

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Five Arab saboteurs were killed and two Israeli soldiers were wounded in a clash today between an Israeli patrol and a gang of Arab saboteurs north of Jericho, a military spokesman announced. Two Arabs were captured. One of them was wounded in the encounter.

The spokesman said that the patrol spotted the saboteurs in a house. As the Israelis approached, they came under heavy fire from the building which wounded one soldier. Another soldier was wounded in the assault that ended with five of the Arabs dead. The house yielded seven Russian-made Kalachnikoff assault guns and four magazines for each, three hand grenades and three double bazooka shells.

## First Latin-American Official Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Held In Bogota

BOGOTA, Colombia, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The first official dialogue between the Roman Catholic Church and representatives of the 800,000 Jews of Latin America closed here yesterday on a note of good-will and achievement as this capital prepared for the arrival of Pope Paul VI to attend the International Eucharistic Congress. The ecumenical discussions were organized by the Latin American Bishops' Council and District 23 of the B'nai B'rith and the Anti-Defamation League. Its purpose was to begin a dialogue on the doctrinal aspects of the two faiths and to develop cooperative programs. One of the major achievements was the development of a series of recommendations to purge Catholic texts and liturgy of anti-Semitic content and to introduce information about the Jews and Israel to Roman Catholic studies.

Rev. Jorge Mejia, of Argentina, secretary of the department of ecumenism of the Latin American Bishops' Conference, delivered the opening address of the two-day parley in which he assailed anti-Semitism and observed that for the two faiths to meet, "it is necessary to exclude in any form whatsoever attempts at proselytism." Father Mejia declared that "Catholicism and Judaism, to have dialogue, must begin by mutually accepting each other as religions."

The sessions were presided over by Rev. Madre Maria Caridad, of Costa Rica and Stanley Fidanque, director of the department of human rights of B'nai B'rith in Panama. Rabbi Leon Klenicki, of Buenos Aires, gave the Jewish view of relations between the two faiths. He spoke of their common roots in the Old Testament and of the persecution suffered by the Jews at the hands of Christians in the Middle Ages. He said that Roman Catholic "silence at times when we urgently needed your voices crying out for justice" made discussion difficult, but added, "the time of hope has arrived. The task is hard but not impossible."

The first cooperative venture emerging from the dialogue was the publication and mass distribution of a summary of the meeting and text of Father Mejia's opening speech. Plans were also made to bring the question of the relations between the two faiths before the national council of bishops in the Latin American countries and to bring about the deletion of prejudicial material from textbooks. A textbook revision program is already planned in Argentina where there are 500,000 Jews. It is jointly sponsored by the Roman Catholic bishops and the Protestant Council of Churches along with Jewish leaders.

## Dr. Wise Discusses Exchanges Of Students With Chilean Education Officials

SANTIAGO, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Dr. George Wise, president of Tel Aviv University, completed four days of meetings here today with governmental and university officials during a goodwill tour of Latin America. He offered five scholarships at the university for Chilean students during discussions with Secretary of Education Maximo Pacheco and officials of the University of Chile on exchanges of professors and students. Dr. Wise departed for a visit to Buenos Aires and will also visit Brazil.

## Air France Says French Mechanics Preparing Hijacked El Al Plane For Flight

PARIS, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Rumors that Algeria was about to release the hijacked El Al airliner and its 12 passengers and crewmen detained since July 23 gained currency here today when it was learned that a team of French airplane mechanics flew to Algiers to tune up the \$6 million Boeing 707 jet. The report was confirmed by Air France. Other reports, however, said that Foreign Minister Boufelflika of Algeria has received messages from the governments of Libya, Guinea, Turkey, Lebanon and East Germany supporting Algeria's stand on the plane issue.

## Hebron Jews Apologize For Violations, Make New Demands On Israel Government

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA)--While an expulsion order against three of their number has been deferred pending another Cabinet session, the 80 Orthodox Jews who settled in the West Bank town of Hebron last Passover and refused to leave decided to send a formal apology to Prime Minister Eshkol for disobeying the military governor's orders, it was learned today. The orders had been for the three men to tear down the kosher food stand they had built, without a permit. When they refused, the kiosk was demolished by soldiers.

The order revoking the residence permits of the three men was supported by the Knesset (Parliament) foreign affairs and security committee. But the settlers, in their letter of apology, were said to be making new demands on the Government, including a call for settlement of more Jews in Hebron, construction of a yeshiva there and a speed-up in the housing allegedly promised them. Hebron, which had been without a Jewish community since the Arab riots in Palestine in 1936, is the site of the Patriarchs' tombs and is considered holy by Orthodox Jews.

## Red Mogen David Plane Leaving Israel For Biafra With 13 Tons Of Supplies

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA)--A Dutch plane chartered by the Red Mogen David, Israel's Red Cross, will take off for Biafra tomorrow with 13 tons of food and medical supplies for the civilian population of Nigeria's secessionist eastern province. Passengers on the plane will be Itzhak Shani, general manager of the Red Mogen David and Abie Nathan, Israel's erstwhile one-man peace mission to Egypt, who has been active in Biafran relief efforts.

## Scotland Yard Raids London Home, Seizes Nazi Leaflets And Weapons

LONDON, Aug. 22 (JTA)--Scotland Yard detectives raided a house in the Cheswick section of London and seized arms, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, hand grenades and packets of anti-Jewish leaflets and Nazi flags. Two men were arrested and held for questioning.

## AJ Committee Urges Democratic Platform Stand For Israel's Right To Peace

CHICAGO, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee will recommend here tomorrow a series of planks to the Democratic National Platform Committee on United States policy in the Middle East, the situation of Jews in Soviet Russia and Poland and problems arising from the urban and racial crises at home. The proposals are scheduled to be presented by AJ Committee president Morris B. Abram.

The proposed plank on Middle East policy will urge the United States Government "to make it unmistakably clear to the Arab states that we support without qualification, Israel's right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries." The Abram statement also will propose United States support of the stand that there should be no withdrawal of Israel from present cease-fire lines until the Arab states "have renounced all claims of belligerence, including economic boycotts and restrictions on Israeli shipping, and have binding treaties with Israel." Mr. Abram also was scheduled to urge the Democrats to "affirm that Jerusalem should remain a unified city in which the legitimate interests of all concerned can be satisfied within the framework of an over-all Arab-Israeli peace settlement." Also to be proposed will be generous aid for constructive efforts to solve the Arab refugee problem but opposition to United States aid to Iraq, Syria and Egypt until they cease harassing their Jewish communities.

The platform committee will be asked also to adopt a pledge to ask the Polish Government to "facilitate the emigration of those Jews who indicate a desire to go to the United States, or other countries," as well as a platform declaration to the Soviet Government calling on it to allow Russian Jews the same freedom to practice their faith and develop their culture granted other minorities by the Soviet Constitution. The proposed declaration would also ask Soviet Premier Kosygin to keep his promise to allow Soviet Jews to emigrate for re-union with families abroad.

Other AJ Committee proposals would pledge the Federal Government to set up a national institute of intergroup relations to coordinate all efforts on intergroup and human relations problems; to create a social advisors council to act on human relations matters as the Council of Economic Advisors does on economic problems; and to pledge Federal funds for a massive voter registration drive aimed at all groups of Americans. On law enforcement, Mr. Abram will propose greater governmental support of activities to advance community relations functions in urban police departments, including creation of a national police college to grant professional degrees to law enforcement officers.

The platform committee heard testimony today from Frank C. Sakran, executive secretary of the American Council of the Middle East, urging that the Israel-Arab issue should be kept out of the platform because "a nuclear holocaust" might occur in the region. He said the situation was "so tense" that American political leaders should avoid mentioning the problem. L. Humphrey Walz of New York, speaking for the American Committee for Justice in the Middle East, asked the platform committee to endorse the Nov. 22, 1967 Security Council resolution on the mideast, a resolution which has been subject to widely differing interpretations. Mr. Walz has advocated the Arab position before various forums.

### Bailey Pledges Non-Use Of Biased Clubs In Chicago During Convention

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The Democratic Party pledged today not to use the facilities of any "club or meeting place where religious or racial discrimination is practiced" during its forthcoming national convention in Chicago. The pledge was made by John Bailey, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, in a letter to Dore Schary, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The Bailey letter was in response to one from Mr. Schary which noted the discriminatory practices of some social clubs in Chicago.

The Democratic official said he was "confident that all of the facilities that will be used during the official proceedings of the convention do not practice discrimination." A similar exchange of letters was made prior to the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach between the ADL and Ray C. Bliss, chairman of the Republican National Committee.

### ADL Names First Negro Executive As Urban Affairs Unit Director

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The Anti-Defamation League announced today the appointment of a Negro community relations specialist as director of its newly-created Urban Affairs department. The first Negro executive on the ADL staff is Kenyon C. Burke, a former associate executive director of the Urban League of Essex County, N.J. The department was established to enable the ADL "to intensify its activities in intergroup relations and better cope with the urban crisis," according to Dore Schary, ADL chairman.

Mr. Schary said Mr. Burke would be responsible for "systematizing and coordinating" present ADL activities relevant to the urban crisis and race relations. The new ADL official is a member of a number of professional personnel and rehabilitation organizations.

### N.Y. Yeshiva To Open Rabbinical College In East Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA)--The first American style rabbinical college in Israel will be opened in East Jerusalem by the Chofetz Chaim Yeshiva of New York City. Ninety-five students and faculty members and their families arrived here today to take up temporary quarters in the Sanhedria section until the yeshiva's buildings are completed. The project is receiving assistance from the Jewish Agency and the Israel Government. The Chofetz Chaim Yeshiva will require all of its students to spend at least one year of study on the Jerusalem campus.