

# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10016

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Vol. XXXV - Fifty-First Year

Tuesday, September 3, 1968

No. 169

## Israel Asks Security Council Meeting On Suez Canal Killings, Abduction

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 2 (JTA)--Israel today asked for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider what it termed a "deliberate and planned military attack" by Egyptian forces that resulted Aug. 26 in the death of two Israeli soldiers and kidnapping of another. An Israeli source said a meeting probably would be held Wednesday. A letter was submitted requesting the meeting by Shabtai Rosenne, deputy permanent representative. Yosef Tekoah, Israel's permanent UN representative, is returning from Israel, where he has been holding diplomatic consultations, to present Israel's case.

Mr. Rosenne said in the letter to Ambassador George Ignatieff of Canada, this month's Council president, that the alleged attack constituted a "flagrant violation" of the Six-Day War cease-fire. "The seriousness" of the attack at the Suez Canal, he said, "is aggravated by the negative reply of the United Arab Republic authorities to representations made by Israel through Lt. Gen. Odd Bull," chief of the UN cease-fire observer team, "to return the kidnapped soldier, to take effective steps against those responsible for the attack and to give assurances it would not be repeated." The Israel Cabinet decided Sunday to seek a Council session after considering a report brought from Cairo by Lt. Gen. Bull to Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan. Gen. Bull said that Egyptian authorities denied that Egyptian forces had crossed the canal. The Egyptians also disclaimed any knowledge of the whereabouts of the soldier who, Israel claims, was dragged by some 30 commandos into a boat waiting at the canal. No Arab para-military organization has claimed responsibility for the incident.

Israel claims that the marauders laid mines on a patrol road adjacent to the canal near Ismailiya, and when Israeli troops in a jeep struck the mine, the Egyptians opened fire killing two and abducting the other. In recent incidents at the canal, Israel has responded with firing everything from small arms to heavy artillery. But the Cabinet's decision to use a diplomatic approach apparently reflected concern for the safety and welfare of the abducted soldier. Israeli political circles were certain that any Council resolution condemning Egypt would be vetoed by the Soviet Union, but deemed it important nevertheless to alert world public opinion to the incident. The Cabinet apparently felt that it could also test the Council's handling of an incident in which the available evidence, including that provided by Gen. Bull's observers, apparently pointed to Egyptian responsibility. Since the June war, the Council has been frequently called upon to meet by the Arab states to consider Israeli retaliation to Arab terrorist raids. Egyptian communications media during the past two weeks have been proclaiming that Israel has massed troops on the eastern side of the canal to prevent Egyptian intervention while Israel was "busy" in Jordan. Israel has officially denied any intention of launching a campaign against Arab terrorists in Jordan or any troop build-up on its side of the canal demarcation line. Some officials believe that to retaliate against Egypt would confirm its predictions.

## Report Arab Armies, Air Forces On Full Scale Alert, Expect Attack On Jordan

LONDON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Arab armies and air forces are on a full scale alert in case a new Arab-Israel war erupts as a result of expected heavy Israeli air raids on Jordan towns and villages, according to reports reaching here. Some diplomatic sources here believe that one possible explanation for the wave of reports from Cairo and Damascus alleging that Israel is preparing an attack is that the Arabs may be trying to commit Russia into a "Middle East Czechoslovakia." Reporter Colin Legum of the London Sunday Observer reported from Jerusalem that Arab anxieties are not supported by Western diplomats who have been asked to check on Israeli troop movements. Mr. Legum himself said he had no difficulty in visiting Israel's frontiers and saw no military activity.

(According to a report reaching Washington from Amman, UN peace envoy Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring visited Jordan's capital reportedly to calm Arab fears of an Israeli assault. He reportedly told Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad in Cairo that Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban assured him no raid was planned. In Cairo, Mr. Riad reportedly passed on Dr. Jarring's comments to officials of the 14-member Arab League gathered there to discuss the results of Dr. Jarring's mission.)

## Polish Media Launch All-Out Attack On 'Zionists'; Jews Escape From Czechoslovakia

LONDON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The Polish Government, whose anti-Zionist campaign of last spring was conceded by its own leaders to have degenerated into an anti-Semitic witchhunt, emerged today as the most vociferous attacker of "Zionists," Jewish and other liberal elements among all of the Warsaw Pact nations that participated in the Soviet-led invasion and occupation of Czechoslovakia. According to reports reaching here, the officially controlled Polish press and other mass communications media have mounted an all-out attack on alleged "Zionists" and on Czech writers and intellectuals linked to that country's reform movement. The Poles are blaming them for trying to subvert Socialism in Czechoslovakia and said their action necessitated the invasion of their homeland to rescue it from "counter-revolution."

The blasts in the Polish press, television and radio were heard against the background of ominous reports from reliable quarters that Soviet intelligence agents in Prague secretly rounded up writers and journalists and that at least 11 of them were beaten unconscious before they were driven

to an undisclosed destination. Listed among the victims was the prominent Czech novelist and journalist Ladislav Mnacko, a non-Jew who went into self-imposed exile in Israel following the June, 1967 Six-Day War to protest against his Government's pro-Arab policies. His wife, a Jewess, is in Israel. Reportedly safe in Vienna today were Dr. Eduard Goldstuecker, a prominent Czech-Jewish writer and president of the Czechoslovak Writers Union, Ludvig Ashkenazai, Jan Grossman and other writers and artists, Jewish and non-Jewish, Arnold Lustig, another well known Czech-Jewish writer, arrived in Israel with his wife and daughter yesterday from Italy where they had been vacationing when the invasion of Czechoslovakia began. He does not intend to return to Prague.

Mr. Goldstuecker, Mr. Mnacko, Pavel Kohout and other liberal Czech writers and intellectuals were singled out in a Warsaw television broadcast as "defenders and supporters of aggressive Israel." The Polish commentator, Czeslaw Berenda charged in a broadcast from Prague that Zionists are among the "most active and zealous proponents of counter-revolution in Czechoslovakia." Mr. Berenda said that they had been "very active in the radio and press witch-hunt lodged against the Communist Party." He added that these are the same people who "bitterly attacked" Poland in March when the Warsaw regime accused "Zionists" of a leading role in the student demonstrations and riots.

On Saturday, Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz of Poland strongly defended the invasion of Czechoslovakia and predicted that "there will be a time when those circles who succumbed to the propaganda of cosmopolitan and counter-revolutionary forces (in Czechoslovakia) will understand who is their friend and who is their enemy." "Cosmopolitan" in Marxist jargon is a word used to describe Jews suspected of "Zionism" and, as such, was often employed during the purge of Jews from high Government and party posts in Poland last spring, and has been similarly used in Russia. Mr. Cyrankiewicz, himself a survivor of Auschwitz, delivered his remarks in an address to a Communist Party audience on the eve of the 29th anniversary of the Nazi invasion of Poland.

The London Sunday Observer reported that plans were being made throughout Western Europe to cope with the wave of refugees from Czechoslovakia. According to the report, the refugees include large numbers of actors, musicians, architects and journalists. The Sunday Telegraph reported from Prague that the visa section of the British Embassy was crowded for two days after reports spread that Czech frontiers would be closed. "Many of the applicants were Jews," the paper said. The Guardian said in a dispatch from its correspondent Hella Pick in Bucharest that "clearly Moscow does not like Rumania's independent stand in foreign policy." Among other things that irritated the Soviets are Rumania's continued diplomatic relations with Israel and the recent purchase from Israel of Soviet-made tanks captured during the Six-Day War, the correspondent reported.

(A report that the State Department was keeping touch with "the possibility of growing anti-Semitism in the Warsaw Pact countries" and its possible effect on the fate of Czechoslovakia's Jews was made in New York by Bertram H. Gold, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee. He said the organization "expressed its concern about our fellow-religionists in Czechoslovakia" during a meeting last week with Secretary of State Dean Rusk at the Department, "arranged by us on the subject of Biafran relief, and with a dozen representatives of different faiths present.")

## Israeli Pilots Union Criticizes Foreign Ministry On Reported 'Deal' With Algeria

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Representatives of the Israeli pilots union were sharply critical of the Foreign Ministry today in the wake of the release by Algeria of the hijacked \$7,500,000 Boeing 707 jet and its 12 Israeli passengers and crewmen who had been held in Algeria since the El Al plane was pirated by Arab terrorists July 23. The source of the criticism was a reported "deal" made by the Israel Government with Algeria to obtain the plane's release. According to widespread reports, confirmed by authoritative sources in Jerusalem last week, Israel agreed to make a "humanitarian gesture" once the plane and the 12 detainees were safely in Israeli hands. The "gesture," it is widely believed, would consist of freeing certain Arab prisoners held by Israel; the Cabinet reportedly may decide on it Sunday.

At a special meeting held by the Histadrut central committee to officially welcome home Capt. Oded Abarbanel, chief pilot of the newly released plane and his crew, spokesmen for Israeli airline pilots accused the Foreign Ministry of taking more credit than it was due for release of the plane. Capt. David Gutmann, head of the Israel Pilots Association and the Israeli representative to the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA), declared that the latter organization's threat to boycott Algeria had greater influence on the Algerian authorities than the reported "deal" offered by Israel through the Italian Government which served as an intermediary. Another speaker, Capt. Baruch Pressman of the Aircrew Association, said "we should not have given a prize to the hijackers. The Foreign Ministry creates illusions. Algeria did not give in to any speeches of the Ministry but to pressure by IFALPA and the International Transport Workers Federation. What worries us," Capt. Pressman said, "is what will happen in the future if the hijackers are given a prize." The Foreign Ministry had no comment today save to say that the pilots lacked "fundamental details" and that the action of the Italian Government in the case was decisive.

(It was reported in London today that a "humanitarian gesture" by Israel was first suggested by the Italians at the beginning of August and was subsequently approved by a majority of the Eshkol Cabinet. The paper said that the Algerians at one point submitted a list of 24 men they wanted freed in exchange for the detained Israelis but Israel balked at specifying the prisoners to be freed before the aircraft and its passengers and crew were released. The Daily Express said that Israel will hand over 12 elderly Arab prisoners but they will not be terrorists who, once freed, could resume their sabotage against Israel. According to the newspaper, the Arabs to be released are elderly, sickly illiterates who

have spent many years in Israeli jails for infiltration, robbery and like offenses.) El Al reported today that the 39-day detention of its jet liner cost the company about \$300,000 in charter fees for a replacement plane which enabled the airline to maintain its scheduled flights. However, observers believe that most if not all of the loss will be made up by the increased traffic carried by El Al as an indirect result of the hijacking. Passengers filled El Al flights to capacity during August, they said, many of them in a gesture of support and solidarity against the hijackers and Algeria. The released plane was reported to be in excellent condition and was expected to be back in service in a full day.

Algeria handed over the 12 Israelis to the Red Cross on Saturday, after completing its investigation into the hijacking, and they were flown to Rome and then home. The plane itself was flown to Rome by a French crew and then to Lydda Airport in Israel. Twenty-six other passengers and crew members, among them three Israeli hostesses and Israeli women and children, were allowed to return to Israel shortly after Arab terrorists, armed with guns and grenades, forced it off course while on a Rome to Lydda flight. The detainees returned home to a joyful celebration. Capt. Abarbanel said they were not mistreated. He said they were kept in barracks and permitted to leave their rooms only to go to lavatories.

While the entire country experienced a deep sense of relief, Foreign Minister Abba Eban convened a press conference to express the Government's official evaluation of the entire situation. "The resolution of this dangerous matter by political means is an event worthy of positive appraisal throughout the world," he said. "I express our appreciation to the many governments which have exerted their positive influence...to the international organizations including the aviation and pilots' organizations, and to United Nations Secretary-General U Thant and the International Red Cross and to the hundreds of newspapers of all continents which expressed their concern for the well-being of our detained citizens and for the respect of the principles of law and international morality. However, I find it my duty to specially mention our deep appreciation to the Italian Government...for (its) good offices and their untiring efforts to solve this matter." Mr. Eban said Algeria should have released the plane, crew and passengers at once after the hijacking. "Compared to the fate of Israeli citizens kidnapped and held in neighboring Arab countries," he said, "such as Egypt and Syria, the solution has been honorable and in line with international law and morality."

#### United States Urged To Ratify 1963 Convention On Hijacking

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Two leading newspapers today urged the United States to ratify the 1963 Tokyo Convention of the International Civil Aviation Organization, a United Nations agency, which obliges its members to arrest aerial hijackers and free hijacked planes, crew members and passengers. The editorials in the New York Times and the Washington Post commented on the release by Algeria of the hijacked El Al Israel airliner with 12 of its Israeli crewmen and passengers.

The Times noted that "aroused pilots from many countries set a salutary precedent when they forced the release of the Israeli crew and remaining passengers after five weeks of detention. But there is no assurance that such demonstrations of pilot power will always be fully effective. Algeria's embarrassment and ultimate wisdom in this case will be most useful if it spurs all governments to complete the creation of international law needed to deal with a dangerous type of crime that is being committed with increasing frequency and often with impunity." The editorial pointed out that neither Algeria or Israel have ratified the Tokyo Convention. The Post said that Algeria "was caught between pan-Arab pressures to continue defying Israel on one side and the world's repugnance to hijacking and the threat of economic sanctions on the other side." The Algerian hijacking incident is closed now, but the very real problem of hijacking remains, the Post said.

(In Israel, Minister of Transport Moshe Carmel told the Cabinet that he would propose that Israel sign the convention. Fewer than 10 countries have signed the draft convention. At least 20 must sign and ratify it so that it becomes a part of international law.)

#### **Israel Will Celebrate Independence Next Year Without Military Parade**

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Israel's 21st anniversary next year will be celebrated without a military parade, an annual feature in the past. A ministerial committee will be appointed to decide how the day should be observed. The Cabinet decided not to hold a parade next year. The commander-in-chief of the armed forces, Gen. Haim Bar-Lev told the Government he doubted whether a military parade was a fitting method of marking the day. Other leaders have opposed it on the grounds of expense and in the belief that it is not necessary to display the state's military power.

The parade last May 2, largest in Israel's history, was steeped in controversy. It was condemned in a resolution of the Security Council, principally because its route included streets in East Jerusalem, occupied during the Six-Day War. Secretary-General U Thant told the Council at the time that he thought the parade would hurt peace efforts in the Middle East. The resolution criticized the parade as a violation of the Israel-Jordan 1948 armistice agreement.

#### **Exchange Of Fire Breaks Out On Syria-Israel Cease-Fire Demarcation Line**

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA)---Shooting erupted on the Israel-Syria cease-fire demarcation line Saturday for the first time in months. Syrian units opened fire with mortars into Israel-held territory three miles north of Kuneitra, an Army spokesman said. Israeli units returned the fire which went on intermittently for 25 minutes. There were no Israeli casualties.

## Muskie Record Shows He Has Voted For Pro-Israel Legislation In Senate

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--A study of the voting record of Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, of Maine, Vice-Presidential nominee of the Democratic Party, shows he has voted on a number of occasions for legislation favored by supporters of Israel and has from time to time identified himself with Israel's cause.

The Senator adopted a non-committal stance, however, when the Senate Sub-committee on International Finance, of which he is chairman, held hearings on May 24 and 25, 1965, on an amendment aimed at the Arab boycott. The Johnson Administration opposed the anti-boycott measure. Sen. Muskie was believed to have personally favored the amendment but he did not publicly differ with the State Department. The amendment was approved by the Subcommittee and the full Banking and Currency Committee despite the pressures of the Executive Department.

Last August, Sen. Muskie took the Senate floor to commend Rumania for her independent stand toward Israel during the Six-Day War, when it refused to sever diplomatic relations with Israel, unlike the other Eastern bloc states.

He joined with Sen. Howard Baker, Tennessee Republican, in co-sponsoring in 1967 a resolution favoring the Eisenhower-Strauss nuclear desalination plan for the Middle East. An advocate of foreign aid, Sen. Muskie nevertheless opposed aid to nations, like Egypt, which divert their resources for aggressive military expenditures. Sen. Muskie voted in 1959 for an amendment to the Mutual Security Act, sponsored by Sen. Wayne Morse, Oregon Democrat, designed to stop economic aid to countries which discriminate against American citizens abroad on the basis of race and religion. The bill was aimed at the Saudi Arabia Government because of its refusal to allow American Jewish servicemen on an American base in Arabia.

In 1960 he supported the Douglas-Keating amendment providing for denial of aid to countries restricting commerce by illegal blockades. It was aimed at the Egyptian blockade of the Suez Canal against Israel and was called the "freedom of the seas" amendment. The Senator in 1963 voted for the Gruening-Javits amendment designed to bar aid to nations like Egypt that prepare aggression against neighboring states also receiving U.S. aid.

## Synagogue Council Assails President Of NYU For Defense Of Hatchett

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The president of New York University was assailed today by the representative body of six national synagogue and rabbinic organizations for defending the controversial director of the university's Afro-American Student Center, John F. Hatchett, against charges that he is an anti-Semite. The controversy grew out of an article by Mr. Hatchett in a Negro teachers' periodical last year in which he accused Jewish teachers who, he alleged, dominate the New York public school system, of "mentally poisoning" Negro pupils. NYU president Dr. James M. Hester, said in an interview published recently in the New York Times, that while he did not subscribe to Mr. Hatchett's views he could understand how they might have been expressed in the context of his article without the author being anti-Semitic "in the classical sense." The Synagogue Council of America, comprised of the lay and rabbinical bodies of Conservative, Reform and Orthodox Judaism in the United States, denounced Dr. Hester's comments as an "apologia" for a "scurrilous anti-Semitic article."

Mr. Hatchett's appointment to the NYU post, made apparently without knowledge of the contents of his article which had appeared months earlier, aroused a storm of protest in Jewish and non-Jewish circles and demands for his ouster. Mr. Hatchett replied that his article was not anti-Semitic in intent, but he defended his right to identify by name the ethnic group that he charged, in effect, was responsible for the lack of progress by Negro pupils. Dr. Hester accepted his disclaimer. The Synagogue Council's statement said "it would have been possible and sufficient for Dr. Hester to attempt to justify the engagement of Mr. Hatchett with the assertion that the article did not truly reflect what NYU believes to be Mr. Hatchett's true convictions. Instead, Dr. Hester chose to defend Hatchett's article and state 'I can understand' the reference to the religion of the teachers under attack. This statement by Dr. Hester constitutes an apologia for Mr. Hatchett's scurrilous anti-Semitic article that is in no way mitigated by the condescending qualification, 'personally I wouldn't do it.'...Surely he cannot be ignorant of the long, sordid history of anti-Semitism in which the classical defense of the anti-Semite always was that the Jews was singled out not for his Jewishness but for 'objective' sins attributed to him." Dr. Hester's remarks were defended in a letter to him by Dr. M. T. Mehdi, secretary-general of the Action Committee on American-Arab Relations, who said that "Jewish organizations believe that the Jews can do no wrong and any criticism of any Jew, ipso facto is anti-Semitism."

## 'Ramparts' Article Says Sirhan Hopes To Use Trial As Anti-Israel Propaganda Forum

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, intends to "go to the gas chamber silent" unless he can turn his trial into an anti-Israel propaganda forum, according to an exclusive report in the September issue of Ramparts magazine by Mahmoud Abdel Hadi. The writer is a correspondent for Akhbar el-Yom, a Cairo newspaper. He secured private interviews with the Sirhan family. The report said that Sirhan told one of his brothers that he intends to make the trial "a public and political forum for the Arab position...he wants the major networks to broadcast the entire trial." If he does not get maximum press and television coverage for an indictment of Israel and Zionism, he will refuse to testify, according to the report.

The Ramparts article said Sirhan saw the trial as an "opportunity" to present the Arab case. The author wrote that Sirhan's family was "confused and bitter (and) surprised that they have not gotten any financial help from Arab consulates in Los Angeles."