

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Believe Jarring May Be Acting As Intermediary Between Israel And Soviet Union

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Diplomatic circles here speculated today that Israel may have utilized the good offices of Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations special envoy for the Middle East, to exhort to the Soviet Government Israel's position in the Arab-Israeli conflict and to explain to the Kremlin what Israel regards as vital to its security. Dr. Jarring, who is the Swedish Ambassador to Moscow, returned to his post earlier this month. Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban flew to Cyprus to see him before his departure.

Today, in the Knesset, replying to questions, Mr. Eban declared that the Soviet Union had been "quite thoroughly informed" of the Israeli position and its views on the possibilities of a settlement. Israel does not have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and any contacts would have to be through a third party.

The Israeli Foreign Minister said last night that President-elect Richard M. Nixon's public statements and his private talks with Israeli officials gave no grounds to assume that the backbone of American policy in support of Israel would break or even weaken. Mr. Eban said in a lecture at the Rabbi Kook Institute that the United States was expected to stand fast in support of Israel's view that the parties to the Middle East dispute must find a solution by themselves and that none should be imposed from outside.

(In London, Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart sidetracked a proposal by Christopher Mayhew, a Labor MP, for action by certain Western powers to make "a constructive contribution" to a solution in the Middle East. Mr. Stewart said that "I think that with the parties concerned, and at the present time, the best thing we can do is to encourage Dr. Jarring and help him in his work.")

(In Washington, the State Department disclosed that former Gov. William W. Scranton, President-elect Nixon's special Middle East fact-finder, was to confer tonight with Secretary of State Dean Rusk. After that meeting, Mr. Scranton was to meet Undersecretary of State Nicholas Katzenbach and other State Department officials concerned with the Middle East.)

(In Rome, addressing the Italian Parliament today in a bid for a vote of confidence in his newly-formed government, Premier Mariano Rumor warned of "threatening stagnation and continuous acts of war" in the Middle East. He said that chances for an "equitable and peaceful settlement" there were narrowed by the lack of democratic development in the area. He said the presence of a Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean should not be over-dramatized nor should it be underrated.)

(At the United Nations, Israel complained to the Security Council that Egyptian armed forces were continuing "unprovoked" attacks against the Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal. The Israeli letter cited four instances in which it said UN observers had reported that Egyptians had opened fire and that the Israelis had not returned it. The Israelis accused Egypt of an "irresponsible attitude toward its obligations under the cease-fire.")

## Jordan Televises Dayan But Censor's Hussein's Interview On West Bank's Future

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Jordanian television broadcast several minutes of Israel Defense Minister Moshe Dayan's Sunday appearance on the American Broadcasting Company's "Issues and Answers" program, an interview show on which Gen. Dayan said Israel was prepared to give up "lots" of occupied territory in return for a negotiated peace with its neighbors. The film clips were televised in Amman Monday.

The Jordanian authorities, however, impounded all newspapers carrying or commenting on a London Observer interview Sunday which quoted King Hussein as saying he was prepared to renounce his claim to the West Bank and would welcome the establishment of a Palestinian State there. Amman radio has remained silent on the interview which was reported all over the world. Jordanian authorities have denied the statements attributed to King Hussein.

But Gavin Young, the correspondent who interviewed the Hashemite ruler in the Royal Palace in Amman last week, stuck by his story. Mr. Young arrived here yesterday and said his version was correct. The report that King Hussein offered to give up the West Bank if that would bring peace and if "the people want it" aroused speculation throughout the world. Some observers saw it as a "trial balloon" to test the reaction of all the parties to the Middle East dispute. Others thought it might be a ploy by King Hussein to get West Bankers to beg him not to abandon them. Israeli sources said the alleged offer by the King was "interesting" but that it would have to be presented in a more direct and substantive manner before it could be taken seriously.

(In London, The Guardian said in an editorial that the proposal to give Palestinians their own state on the West Bank of the Jordan would solve more problems that it would create and could be the beginning of coexistence between Israel and the Arabs "without which peace can never come." The paper said that a Palestinian state, with borders open to both Jordan and Israel, might pose a new danger to Israel "but it could work the other way." It warned that "the spreading chaos of Jordan may present worse dangers to peace than either Moscow or Cairo.")

## Trucks Carrying Perishables Permitted To Cross Jordan For First Time In Week

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Trucks laden with fresh fruit and vegetables crossed into Jordan from the West Bank today for the first time in more than a week since Israeli authorities banned vehicular traffic across the Allenby and Damiya Bridges for security reasons. The ban was partially lifted today to permit the transportation of perishable goods in specially licensed trucks between the West Bank and Jordan. Trucks carrying non-perishable goods are still required to discharge their cargo for inspection after which it is transferred by porter to the opposite bank.

## Many West Bank Arabs Are Seeking Permits To Visit Jordan For Holidays

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Israeli authorities reported a heavy volume of applications from West Bank Arabs for permission to cross into Jordan for the coming Moslem and Christian holidays but very few from Arabs wishing to enter Israel-held territory. Moslems are preparing to celebrate El Fitir, which marks the close of the holy month of Ramadan, while Christian Arabs celebrate Christmas. Religious authorities in the Arab countries have ruled out public celebrations this year because of "the enemy occupation of the Holy Land." Holiday observances will be confined to family circles and services in churches and mosques. Public festivities will take place as usual in Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

## Economists Predict Israel's Continued Economic Growth At 11% Annual Rate

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Israeli economists predicted today that the national economy may continue to grow at the spectacular rate of 11 percent a year without impairing price stability, though there may be a moderate rise in Israel's foreign trade deficit. The economists are preparing a forecast for 1969 which is being drawn up jointly by the Central Bank of Israel and the Treasury. They said prices may rise next year, but not by more than 3 percent, which is normal for the average Western country. The foreign trade deficit, which amounts to \$600 million this year, may however, go up to \$650 million in 1969, they said.

The Bank of Israel reported a spurt in building between July and September, 1968, owing to increased immigrant housing needs, but a slowdown in production and employment during the months of October and November. According to the report, public housing construction was up 80 percent over the corresponding period of 1967. However, employment was down slightly and currency in circulation was reduced somewhat owing to tighter credit regulations imposed by the bank earlier this year.

## Israel May Have Favorable Trade Balance With Canada For Year As Exports Jump

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Israel's exports to Canada are increasing at a rapid pace and are expected to exceed imports from that country by the end of this year, it was announced here today. The figures on Canadian-Israel trade were released at a reception by the Israel-Canadian Chamber of Commerce for J. H. Suggit, new Canadian commercial attache in Israel. They showed exports to Canada in the amount of \$9.3 million for the first nine months of this year compared to \$5.5 million in the corresponding period last year. Israel's exports to Canada are expected to reach \$12 million by the end of 1968 compared to imports for the year of \$10 million. Israel sends Canada mainly diamonds, textiles, citrus and cotton.

## New York Teachers' Strike To Reduce Israel's Holiday Tourist Traffic

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--New York City's prolonged school teachers' strike had unexpected repercussions on Israel's tourist industry, it was learned here today. Hotels have reported many cancellations from American families who had planned to visit Israel and the Christian holy places during the Christmas holiday. Their plans were thwarted when the New York Board of Education cancelled the mid-winter vacation so that students could make up the time lost because of the strike.

## Israel To Return Austrian Hospital In Old City To Austrian Government

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The Austrian Hospital on the Via Dolorosa in East Jerusalem will be returned shortly to Austria from which it was seized by the British authorities during World War II as enemy property, a Government spokesman announced today. The building was used as a Jordanian government hospital prior to the June, 1967 war. Israeli doctors who have been using it since then say it lacks modern facilities. Its beds and patients are expected to be transferred to the Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus which is being restored.

Aerial photographs made before June, 1967 that show Jordanian troops and gun emplacements, are the basis for Israel's claim to a plot of land on Mt. Scopus, the ownership of which is also claimed by the Lutheran World Federation. Israeli surveyors have mapped the site preliminary to building new headquarters for the military government of Judea and Samaria. The Lutherans have protested and allege that the land served only as temporary barracks for Jordanian police but not the Jordan Army. Israeli sources said the photographs proved otherwise.

## Tombstone Of King Uzziah Of Judah Is Acquired By Israel Museum

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--A 2,700-year-old tombstone marking the final resting place of King Uzziah, who ruled over Judah from about 767 to 737 BCE, has been acquired by Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem for the Israel Museum where it has gone on view. The 11-inch by 12-inch limestone plaque was purchased from the White Russian Orthodox Church in New York for \$150,000. It bears an Aramaic inscription, "Hither were brought the remains of the bones of Uzziah, King of Judah. Do Not Open."

## Gov. Rockefeller Issues Greetings On Chanukah To Jews Of New York

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 17 (JTA)--Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller issued a message of "cordial holiday greetings" today to the Jewish people of New York State on the occasion of Chanukah. He said "the Festival of Lights recalls one of the most brilliant period in Israelite history" and noted that "the joyous holiday commemorates the ancient Jewish right of freedom of worship, the right which we all enjoy today."

## Hillel Leader Warns Against Pitfalls In Ecumenical Approach To Campus Youth

GROSSINGER, N.Y., Dec. 17 (JTA)--A tri-faith look at the "alienated college student" suggested today that his political and cultural radicalisms are "religiously motivated," that he is uniquely evolving a "counter-culture" to existing styles which could transform American society, and that he presents "both challenge and opportunity" to the campus ministry. An Episcopal minister, a Roman Catholic priest and a rabbi, participating in a symposium that opened the annual directors' conference of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation were agreed that the present-day college element "alienated from adult social concepts and practices" is in many respects "the most spiritually sensitive generation that has appeared on the campus in a long, long time."

The Rev. Martin E. Bloy, Jr., executive director of the Church Society for College Work in Cambridge, Mass.; Father Thomas Phelan, Catholic chaplain at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., and Dr. Norman Frimer, Hillel's national coordinator for Metropolitan New York, also agreed on the need for active involvement by campus chaplains and their respective student constituencies in "the social revolution" gripping the college community.

But Rabbi Frimer, responding to a call by the Christian clergymen for a broadly ecumenical effort on the campus, warned against any approaches "in which the ecumenical effort becomes a pitfall to the particularistic identity of Jewish participants."

"Jews and Judaism have an essential stake in the social change," Rabbi Frimer declared. "But their contribution must be made not in universalistic terms but within the clearly defined context of the Jewish tradition." He emphasized that his primary responsibility on the campus was "to keep Jewish students Jews" and that he did not engage in social action "for its own sake" but as an expression of "Jewish tradition, history and experience."

Father Phelan, critical of the failure of the university to "gather in its community," said this task evolved on its chaplaincy but "it is impossible to create a community of service on the campus without shared responsibilities and an ecumenical spirit." Defining campus ecumenism in terms that would not "impose on any faith's theological doctrines" he urged a greater responsiveness among Hillel directors to such cooperative action.

All three symposium speakers identified the campus minister as having a marginal status not unlike that of alienated students. "The college chaplain," said Rev. Bloy, "is professionally anomalous to the academic community on the one side and his established church or synagogue on the other." Urging the chaplaincy to relate closely to the alienated student group, Rev. Bloy said that "their being outside the establishment enables the Christian campus minister and Hillel director to be constructive theologians with a group whose alienation has become a force for sweeping change that 'can do the most good or the most harm.'"

## President-Elect Nixon Names Dr. Herbert Stein To Council Of Economic Advisers

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (JTA)--President-elect Nixon announced today appointment of Herbert Stein, his chief adviser on fiscal policy during the campaign, to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Stein, 52, a native of Detroit, is a senior fellow of the Brookings Institution.

## UN Body Seeks Action To Outlaw Racist, Nazi Organizations, Halt Their Activities

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 17 (JTA)--The General Assembly's Social, Humanitarian and Cultural (Third) Committee, adopted a draft resolution today under which the General Assembly "once again resolutely condemns racism, Nazism, apartheid and all similar ideologies and practices which are based on racial intolerance and terror as a gross violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and which may jeopardize world peace."

The resolution also calls upon all states to take "legislative and other positive measures" to outlaw groups and organizations disseminating propaganda for racism, Nazism, apartheid and other forms of racial intolerance. It would also call on all states and organizations to seek the eradication of these ideologies and would request the Secretary-General to survey measures to halt racist, Nazi and similar activities. The resolution would have the General Assembly commit itself to consideration of the question at its 24th session next year. The resolution was carried by a vote of 80 to one, with no abstentions, after there had been 21 votes on proposed amendments.

The resolution expressed concern that despite previous condemnation of racism and Nazism by the General Assembly, groups and organizations continued to be active in propagating ideologies based on terrorism and racial intolerance. It warned that "such ideologies have in the past led to barbarous acts which outraged the conscience of mankind and to other heinous violations of human rights and, eventually, to a war which brought indescribable suffering to mankind."

## Poland, Yugoslavia Sign UN Convention To Bar Statute Of Limitations On War Crimes

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 17 (JTA)--Poland and Yugoslavia signed the United Nations convention barring application of the statute of limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity when the convention was opened for signature Monday. The convention, adopted by the General Assembly on Nov. 26, defines war crimes and crimes against humanity and requires its signatories to take whatever steps may be necessary to ensure that statutory or other limitations shall not apply to the prosecution and punishment of these crimes.

The preamble to the convention describes war crimes and crimes against humanity as "among the gravest crimes in international law. Their effective punishment is an important element in preventing such crimes and in protecting human rights, encouraging confidence, furthering co-operation among peoples and promoting international peace and security."

## Nazi Victims In Paris Protest 'Whitewash' Of War Criminals; Berliners Demonstrate

PARIS, Dec. 17 (JTA)--A strong protest against leniency for Nazi war criminals and attempts to whitewash them was lodged here today by the Association of Former Jewish Deportees from France. The group referred specifically to last week's acquittal of a Nazi judge, Hans-Joachim Rehse, who had passed death sentences on more than 200 political prisoners in Germany during World War II. They called on France and world opinion to halt "this process of Nazi rehabilitation." The Association announced that it will organize a mass meeting at Pere LaChaise, the central cemetery of Paris next Sunday to "honor the memory of the dead" and to call for the continued prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

(In Kiel, the interior minister of Schleswig-Holstein said today that Rehse was assured of receiving at least 50 percent of his pension from the state.)

(In West Berlin, more than 5,000 took part in a weekend demonstration against the acquittal of Rehse. They bore placards contrasting the acquittal of a Nazi judge who had imposed 231 death sentences and the sentence of a year's imprisonment on a woman who had slapped Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger.)

## UN Committee Seeks To Speed Establishment Of High Commissioner For Human Rights

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 17 (JTA)--The Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee) adopted a draft resolution Monday calling on the General Assembly to give high priority next year to consideration of the creation of a post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The draft, submitted by nine member states, was adopted by a vote of 61 to 14 with 15 abstentions. Israel cast one of the favorable votes. The resolution also would request the Secretary General to provide all information relevant to the creation of a High Commissioner's post at the 24th session of the General Assembly.

## U.S. Military Authorities Open 'Hitler Museum' At Berchtesgaden For GIs

BONN, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Many Germans and American civilians here expressed dismay today at the opening of a "Hitler museum" by U.S. military authorities at the late Fuehrer's Berchtesgaden retreat in the Bavarian Alps. The museum, intended to acquaint American servicemen and their families with the history of the Hitler era, was established in the labyrinthine bunkers under the former Hitler villa, now a hotel.

U.S. military spokesmen defended the museum as "strictly historical." But Germans have taken a dim view of the display and American civilian authorities said they would look into the situation immediately. An official of the West German Ministry of Justice said the museum was a "lapse of taste" but conceded that as an historic exhibit it did not violate German laws against the display of Nazi symbols. A local newspaper, the Berchtesgaden Anzeiger, expressed fear that the museum "will probably create a new Upper Salzburg Hitler hurly-burly."

Berchtesgaden, on a peak overlooking the Austrian frontier, was Hitler's favorite hide-out when he was at the peak of his power. He received Nazi leaders and foreign dignitaries there, among the latter the late British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain at a fateful meeting that led to the Munich Pact.

## Mexican Jews Mark 20th Anniversary Of Declaration Of Human Rights

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The Mexican Jewish community observed the 20th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights at a large meeting here under the auspices of the central Jewish organization, Comité Central Israelita, and B'nai B'rith. Gregorio Shapiro, president of the committee, presided at the meeting. The principal speaker was Senator Andres Serra Rojas. He called on the Mexican Red Cross to intervene in behalf of the Jews in the Arab countries. The well-known writer Sergio Nudelstejer denounced the treatment of the Jews in the Soviet Union and the revival of anti-Semitism in Poland as well as the maltreatment of the Jews in Egypt, Iraq and Syria.

## New Community Center In Marseilles To Cater To Needs Of Growing Jewish Population

MARSEILLES, Dec. 17 (JTA)--A \$185,000 Jewish Community Center patterned after community centers in the United States, was dedicated here yesterday to cater to the needs of a Jewish population that has grown rapidly as a result of immigration from North Africa and Eastern Europe. The center, named for the late Edmond Fleg, French-Jewish writer and humanist, was built through public subscription here and abroad and the joint efforts of French and international Jewish organizations and French Government ministries.