

# JTA daily news bulletin

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

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement.

Vol. XXXVI-Fifty-Second Year

Wednesday, June 18, 1969

No. 115

## Rochester, N.Y. Woman Is First American Tourist Killed In Israel By Arab Fire

TEL AVIV, June 17 (JTA) -- A young American tourist was killed and a companion was wounded today in a burst of Arab shell fire that struck Kallia beach on the north shore of the Dead Sea where the two were preparing to swim. An Israeli civilian was also killed. Three other Americans were wounded in the attack, as well as an Arab taxi driver who drove the Americans.

Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem identified the dead woman as Shirley Louise Anderson of Rochester, N.Y. and said that Elaine Bonnett, 27, of Lodi, Cal. suffered shrapnel wounds in the arm. The metal was removed at the hospital. None of the wounded was on the critical list. They were reportedly the first foreign tourists to be hit by gunfire since the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Some 70 Russian-made 122-millimeter mortar shells were reported to have hit a parking lot near the beach and shrapnel riddled the cabin where the two girls were changing for their swim. Four taxis were set on fire. The beach is 15 miles from Jerusalem and three miles south of the Abdullah bridge spanning the Jordan River.

There were conflicting reports about the origin of the shell fire. One source said the victims were caught in a mortar and artillery duel between Israeli and Jordanian forces. Another source attributed the shelling to Iraqi units stationed in Jordan. They said the shell fragments were from mortar shells used by the Iraqi Army but not by Jordanian forces.

Miss Anderson and Miss Bonnett were said to have been visiting Israel on their way home from Kinshasa in the Congo where they had been teaching at the American Community School for the past two years. The school is run by the Christian services program of the Mennonite Brotherhood.

The girls had gone to the beach with 23 other tourists. The beach is reached by a winding and steep road which made it almost impossible to escape while the shelling was in progress. An Israeli military spokesman said that the artillery fire which was aimed at the beach came at the end of a barrage that had first been directed against Israeli military positions about five miles north. The beach is a stopover point for tourists.

## Congressman Deplores Tourist's Death, Fish Says Arms Shipments Should Be Suspended

WASHINGTON, June 17 (JTA) -- The Congressman representing the New York State home county of Miss Anderson said she was an "innocent victim of Arab terrorism." Rep. Frank Horton, New York Republican, said that he had spoken with the State Department and had confirmed the death of Miss Anderson, the daughter of Gordon B. Anderson and Mrs. Anderson of Rochester, N.Y. The girl's father is a Republican member of the Monroe County governing body.

Rep. Hamilton Fish, Jr., New York Republican, said today that the killing and wounding of American tourists by military forces of Jordan required that the State Department consider suspension of export licenses for further shipment of U.S. munitions to Jordan. He said that he was particularly concerned about the pending shipment of F-104 fighter jets and other weaponry including tanks and artillery. The Congressman said the Anderson incident indicated that "King Hussein has appeased extremists within his kingdom to a degree that the Jordanian Government seems no longer its own master."

Rep. Fish doubted the wisdom of continuing U.S. arm shipments contracted in Washington by Jordan during the Johnson Administration. He said that "any military assistance provided to Jordan must be conditioned on strict observance by that state of the cease-fire agreement." He added that "if such a review had been made...Jordan's conduct during the last several months would have caused suspension of all contracts and might have inhibited the kind of firing that has now cost the life of an innocent American girl."

The Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the organization of Reform rabbis, voted a resolution today at its Houston, Texas convention deploring the death of Miss Anderson and affirming the general safety of Israel as a locale for tourism. "We note with profound shock and sadness that Arab terrorist activities have taken a further toll of civilian life and limb," the measure said. "We are aware that a crucial aim of such terror is to discourage tourists from coming to Israel to isolate the land and its people.

"Despite this and previous acts, Israel remains a safe and secure land. People walk through its streets and villages day and night with complete confidence. We will continue to urge people everywhere to visit Israel in the future as in the past. "We reaffirm that the CCAR will hold its next convention in Israel in March, and we expect to go there with our families and many of our congregants," the resolution said.

## El Fatah Leaders Tell Cairo Paper His Guerrillas Have Changed Tactics

LONDON, June 17 (JTA) -- The commander of the El Fatah guerrilla organization says his group

has changed its tactics from hit-and-run raids to direct though limited confrontations with the Israel Army. According to the Cairo newspaper Al Akhbar, which published an interview with Yassir Arafat, the commando leader who cited a recent battle with Israeli troops in the Samarian hills north of Jerusalem as an example of the new tactics.

According to Israeli spokesmen, a band of eight Arabs was wiped out in a four hour battle last Wednesday in which three Israeli soldiers lost their lives. The guerrillas were concealed in caves and Israeli forces used artillery to blast them out. The Al Akhbar interview gave no reason for the change in tactics.

#### Grenade Hurlled At Israeli Troops Misses, Kills Arab In Gaza Coffee House

TEL AVIV, June 17 (JTA) -- Israeli soldiers, who escaped a hand grenade that missed their vehicle in Gaza's busy Medina Square yesterday, rushed to the aid of local Arabs who were wounded when the missile exploded in a crowded coffee house. One Arab was killed and 2 were reported injured. A search was going on today for the grenade-thrower, who was hailed as a "patriot" in a Cairo Radio broadcast which reported the incident and claimed one Israeli soldier was killed. An Israeli lieutenant was killed in a grenade incident on Sunday.

#### Dayan Describes Mideast Military Situation To International Human Needs Parley

JERUSALEM, June 17 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said today that while Israel regards the present Mideast situation as "transitory," a new war has begun. It is not an all-out war but rather a gradual "warming up" along the cease-fire lines, he said. Gen. Dayan gave this appraisal to more than 200 delegates from abroad attending the International Conference on Human Needs in Israel. The delegates represent major fund-raising bodies in the United States and 23 other countries. The purpose of their conference is to appraise Israel's needs in the fields of housing, education and immigrant absorption. Gen. Dayan spoke at a closed military briefing which also heard from Israel's Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Haim Bar-Lev and Maj. Gen. Zvi Tsur, the Deputy Minister of Defense.

A communique released afterwards reported that Gen. Dayan said the new warfare consisted of sniping, artillery exchanges and terrorist raids, all in violation of the cease-fire agreements. He said a full-scale war was not envisaged but that the situation along the borders could deteriorate further.

Gen. Bar-Lev said the Israel Army has achieved its main objectives: re-enforcement of the cease-fire lines; the administration of one million Arabs in the occupied territories without undue difficulties; and frustration of terrorist efforts to cause a general uprising in the occupied territories. He said Israel could hold out indefinitely in the present situation even if there is a deterioration along the cease-fire lines. Gen. Tsur described Israel's defense budget and explained the economic aspects of national security, plans for acquiring additional weapons and equipment and Israel's plans to produce defense items for itself.

#### Slum Clearance, Housing, Health, Agriculture, Education On Agenda

Slum clearance and the shortage of housing were cited today as two of the most important social problems facing Israel. Minister of Housing Mordecai Bentov described the situation to a workshop on housing at the International Conference on Human Needs. The housing workshop met under the chairmanship of Jack D. Weiler, a New York real estate executive. Abraham Rad, of Iran, served as co-chairman. The 204 delegates split into working groups today, each dealing with another aspect of Israel's human needs.

Mr. Bentov said the housing shortage increased social tensions and slum conditions influenced future generations, and noted that slum clearance was less expensive in the long run than the cost of slum existence. Mr. Bentov said that rentals in Israel average from \$75 to \$85 per month. For this reason, housing is an essential requirement of the State and must be heavily subsidized, he said. The Minister said that 13,000 new housing units were constructed last year but the need is for 90,000 units plus absorption centers and new hospitals.

Minister of Health Israel Barzilai described the various illnesses introduced into the country by new immigrants. He spoke to the workshop on health chaired by Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson of New York, a member of the American Section of the Jewish Agency executive. Mr. Barzilai said the diseases ranged from trachoma, common among immigrants from Oriental countries, to drug addiction among young people who came from Western lands. He said that despite the increase in types of illness, Israel's infant mortality rate has decreased considerably and is among the lowest in the world. He said the big problem was a shortage of doctors and of auxiliary medical personnel. He pointed out that a recent strike in a large Government hospital was over the shortage of nurses, not wages.

A workshop in agricultural settlement, chaired by Rabbi Israel Breslau of Washington, D.C. and Isador A. Magit of Australia heard from Dr. Raanan Weitz, head of the Jewish Agency's agricultural settlement department and Yaacov Tsur, chairman of the Jewish National Fund. Dr. Weitz said that about 500 rural settlements were established since 1948 of which about 300 are economically and socially self-sufficient. He said there were about 50 settlements dating from before Israel's independence which were not yet consolidated. He attributed this to lack of funds and the fact that a large proportion of their inhabitants are immigrants from the Oriental countries. Dr. Weitz said the usual

methods of integrating immigrants were inadequate as far as they were concerned. New methods have been worked out and employed in the Lachish regional settlement area which, were successful, he said. Mr. Tsur noted that most of the land in Israel requires costly reclamation. He said 45 percent of the land available for settlement was provided by the JNF which builds roads, clears away rocks and levels the ground.

#### New Development Towns, Analysis Of 1968 Newcomers Are Considered

The problem of finding means of support for the 20 percent of new immigrants arriving with a low level of education and skills was discussed in a workshop on manpower and development towns, chaired by Louis Stern of Newark, N.J., Nissim Gaon of Switzerland and Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum, a member of the Jewish Agency Executive in Israel, served as co-chairmen. Mordecai Allon, mayor of Upper Nazareth, a new development town, described the purpose of Israel's population which is made up largely of immigrants with low skills and little education. The average population of these towns is 10,000 and special facilities are needed in them such as cultural centers and social workers.

Deputy Minister of Absorption Arye Eliav said that many new immigrants are young and most have skills or professions that enable them to integrate rapidly. He said that out of 30,000 newcomers last year, 500 were engineers, 2,000 clerical workers and 2,500 with experience in trade and industry. He said 80 percent of them are likely to be absorbed into the economy. The problem lies with the 20 percent who lack trades, skills or professions.

Meyer Weisgal, former president of the Weizmann Institute of Science, chaired the workshop on higher education of which Charles J. Bensley, of New York and Mrs. Fela Perelman of Belgium are co-chairmen. Speakers representing various institutions of higher learning agreed that facilities were insufficient to train the large numbers of students that Israel requires. They said it costs the state \$17,000 to train a student for science even if he pays full tuition fees. The workshop was told that Jews of Oriental extraction comprised 55 percent of the school population at the primary level, 40 percent in secondary school and only 12 percent at university level. Educators said that to increase the number of Oriental Jews who receive a higher education required financial assistance almost from birth as well as special courses to help them along the way. But educational standards, the workshop was told, must not be lowered.

#### French Political Observers Think Israel May Initiate 'Dialogue' To Improve Relations

PARIS, June 17 (JTA) -- French political observers indicated today they expected Israel to respond to the election of Georges Pompidou as President by seeking to initiate a "dialogue" aimed at improving Franco-Israel ties in an effort to bring them back to at least a condition of "normalcy," if not the close friendly ties that previously existed.

The observers suggested they considered it likely that either Israeli Premier Golda Meir or Foreign Minister Abba Eban would visit Paris, probably soon after President-elect Pompidou picked his Prime Minister and his new Government began to function. The identity of the man M. Pompidou names as his Foreign Minister was expected to be a clue to the new President's Middle East policy. If, as some reports indicated, he names the current Foreign Minister, Michel Debre, to the post for another term, it was believed this would seriously dampen Israel's hopes for a quick improvement of Franco-Israel relations.

The prospect that Jacques Chaban Delmas, the current National Assembly president, may be named Premier, is one regarded with approval by pro-Israel circles. Though he is a loyal Gaullist, M. Chaban-Delmas did not join the anti-Israel chorus that arose when then President Charles de Gaulle accused Israel of initiating the June, 1967 war and clamped an embargo on weapons and parts shipments to Israel, which is still in effect. The Assembly president has steadfastly refused to make any public statement on the embargo but he has privately assured Israeli diplomats here that he wishes France had adopted a "more neutral and objective attitude," the observers asserted.

#### Arab Capitals Are 'Moderately Pleased' By Election of Pompidou

BOSTON, June 17 (JTA) -- The Christian Science Monitor reported from Beirut today that Arab capitals "appear moderately pleased" by the election of M. Pompidou as President. The Monitor quoted the independent Beirut newspaper, Al Jarida, as saying that while M. Pompidou was not another de Gaulle, the European leader most widely admired in the Arab world, "he is better than the other candidates."

The Beirut paper said that whatever changes the new President may introduce in French policy toward Israel, "he cannot give up our friendship or support for the basis of our (Arab) cause."

Cairo radio stressed that M. Pompidou had carried out Gaullist policies when he served as Premier under former President de Gaulle. According to the Monitor report, "Arab interest in Mr. Pompidou's Mideast policy centers on his attitude toward French military aid to Arab countries and continuation of a total arms embargo imposed on Israel after the Israeli raid on Beirut airport last December." The paper said that "some Arab commentators have privately noted that Mr. Pompidou was in the early 1950s a director of the Rothschild bank in Paris. But this has not become a public issue in Arab news media."

## Reform Rabbis Debate Whether Chaplains Should Serve In Civilian Or Military Capacities

HOUSTON, Tex., June 17 (JTA) -- American Reform rabbis debated today whether Jewish chaplains in the armed forces should serve in a civilian or military capacity and whether Christian-Jewish dialogues should be limited or broadened in scope. The debate developed during the second day of the 80th annual convention here of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the rabbinic body of Reform Judaism in America. The convention had before it a proposal to substitute a civilian chaplaincy for military chaplaincy. Under the proposal, rabbis who presently serve as officers in uniform under military command would be replaced by civilian chaplains contracted by the armed forces just as many other civilian services are contracted.

The resolution stated that the change was essential because "the fulfillment of the role of the clergyman requires his independence, and tends to be frustrated by his being subject to military command...a clergyman, whose purpose is to enhance life, wearing the uniform of a military establishment, whose purpose is to deal death, portrays an unseemly contradiction."

According to Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser of San Francisco, one of eight rabbis who signed the proposal, civilian chaplains would be subject to military authority only in times of obvious emergency or actual combat and would not be subject to evaluation as a military officer which, except for the Air Force, is now the case. In another area involving the chaplaincy, the convention had before it a recommendation of the CCAR's executive board to abandon the draft of rabbis for military service and a report of a special committee on chaplaincy chaired by Robert I. Kahn, which rejected the executive board's proposal and urged continuance of the draft on the grounds that voluntary systems do not work.

Rabbi Levi A. Olan, CCAR president, urged in his opening address yesterday that a lower priority be assigned to theological discussions with Christian spiritual leaders because of their "neutral" if not "antagonistic" attitude toward Israel. Rabbi Olan said the interfaith dialogues should be limited to a "common attack against the social evils of our day." Many of his colleagues disagreed and thought that inter-religious discussions should be extended and intensified. Rabbi Olan attributed what he called the Christian world's failure to support Israel in its "struggle to survive" to "church doctrine that Israel's successful existence is a Christian heresy." He accused church organizations, without naming them, of uncritical acceptance of the "Arab propaganda line."

At a meeting before Rabbi Olan's address, the CCAR's executive board adopted a statement rejecting any limitation on Christian-Jewish dialogue as "artificial and in the long run untenable." In a paper titled "The Rabbi and the Christian Community," Rabbi Abraham D. Shaw of Baltimore conceded that effective dialogues had been undermined by "Christian silence" over Israel's survival at the time of the Six-Day War. He noted, however, that "a significant number of Christian clergymen responded in a pro-Israel way." Rabbi Shaw said that "although it may be true that many of us are now inclined to approach the whole area of interfaith relationships with a somewhat jaundiced eye... dare we permit this to break off the dialogue?"

## Scranton Given Standing Ovation At Farewell Event For Philadelphia Consul-General

PHILADELPHIA, June 17 (JTA) -- Former Gov. William Scranton put in an unexpected appearance yesterday at a citywide farewell dinner for Israel Consul-General Issakhar Ben-Yaacov who has been designated Ambassador to Nigeria. He told more than 400 people, "Israel is fortunate in having such dedicated, talented people in its service. We have had many enjoyable conversations together," he said, adding that he was impressed with the manner in which Mr. Ben-Yaacov carried out his duties.

A standing ovation was given to Gov. Scranton who, on a fact-finding Mideast mission for Richard M. Nixon as president-elect last year, called for "even-handed" U.S. policy toward Israel and the Arab states. Many critics saw his call as urging diminished U.S. backing for Israel.

## Rabbi Kaufman Tells B'nai B'rith Parley That Big Powers Cannot Bring Mideast Peace

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., June 17 (JTA) -- The Big Four talks on the Middle East are "the last gesture of an expiring era" and whatever their outcome, Israel and the Arab states will still have to settle their differences themselves," Rabbi Jay Kaufman, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith said today. Mideast nations "cannot look with any real hope" to the Great Powers "who have little to gain and much to lose by forced solutions," Rabbi Kaufman told 1,200 delegates at the annual convention of B'nai B'rith district three.

The "negligible effect" on world trade of a blocked Suez Canal, the obsolescence of military bases because of advanced missile technology, and geo-political factors are making the Middle East "not worth fighting over" among world powers, Rabbi Kaufman said. "The experiences of the 1950s, which brought French and British armies to recover the Suez and American troops to rescue Lebanon, are not likely to be repeated," he said. Some form of direct negotiation, "probably halting and disguised at first," is inevitable, he predicted.

## Boston Jewish Community Council Opposes School Prayers In Public Schools

BOSTON, June 17 (JTA) -- Boston Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Boston has announced its opposition to efforts to reintroduce prayers in the public schools. "These actions (by several Massachusetts communities)," a resolution adopted by the Council said, "are taken in defiance both of the United States Supreme Court decision of 1962 and (a) Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling of 1964," the Boston Jewish Advocate reported.