

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Thant Tells Security Council He May Have To Withdraw UN Observers at Suez Canal

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., July 7 (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant warned in a special report to the United Nations Security Council released today that he may have to withdraw the 96 UN cease-fire observers from the Suez Canal zone because "open warfare has been resumed" along the Suez Canal. Mr. Thant said that the UN observers "cannot be expected to serve as what amounts to defenseless targets in a shooting gallery."

He reported that as of July 5, the last day for which he had a formal report, firing across the Suez Canal had gone on for 86 consecutive days. He said that during the month of June there were 21 incidents of firing by Egyptian forces and five by Israeli forces on UN personnel or installations.

He said the shooting "further demonstrates the degree of disregard which now prevails for the Security Council cease-fire in the canal sector." He added, "It is certainly true to say that since June, 1967, the level of violence in the Middle East has never been higher than it is at present."

Mr. Thant said that he felt compelled to warn the Council that if the observers continue to be fired on, he would have "no choice" but to consider their future disposition, including possible withdrawal, after consultations with the governments providing the observers. He said that UN observers, their posts, shelter and equipment had been targets.

"The UN experience with the cease-fire in the (Suez) sector underscores the virtual impossibility of insuring effective observance of a cease-fire for a prolonged and indefinite period in a situation in which two hostile forces constantly confront each other across a narrow no-man's land, in this case the Canal, with one of the parties being in military occupation of territory belonging" to the other and with no early prospects of implementation of the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution, Mr. Thant said.

Alluding to the Israel-Jordan cease-fire line, where there are no UN observers, the Secretary-General declared that information he had received pointed to "a similar worsening of the situation in that sector as well."

He added, "It is certainly true to say that since June, 1967 the level of violence in the Mideast" has never been greater than at present. "In fact, never in the history of UN experience with peace-keeping has there been such a complete and sustained disregard, through the massive use of many types of conventional weapons, and also by less conventional weapons, for a cease-fire called by the Security Council, and agreed to by the parties." He noted that "I, as Secretary-General, have been and am unable to effect any noticeable improvement in it."

He said that if the situation continued, it could "render vain efforts for a peaceful settlement and it could even be the overture to more general and intensive hostilities" in the Middle East.

## Israeli Jets Shoot Down 2 Egyptian MIGs At Aqaba Gulf Entrance

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- Israeli jet fighters shot down two Egyptian MIG-21 jets in a new battle today over the Sharm el Sheikh stronghold at the entrance to the Gulf of Aqaba. According to Israeli forces, the engagement began when Israeli jets on patrol duty intercepted four Egyptian MIGs. All Israeli planes were reported to have returned safely to their bases.

The downing of the two Soviet-built MIGs brought to 27 the number of Egyptian war planes destroyed by Israeli fighters since the June, 1967 Six-Day War. Israel claims to have shot down nine MIGs in the last 10 days. The scene of the encounter was also the deepest penetration of Israel-held air space by Egyptian planes to date. Israel reported four Egyptian MIGs shot down over the Gulf of Suez last Wednesday. Cairo claimed that an Israeli jet was shot down apparently in the same fight. Israeli sources said all of their planes returned safely.

In other action, an Israeli Army officer was killed last night and two others were wounded in a continuing Egyptian artillery attack along the Suez Canal. The fatality was Israel's second in 24 hours in the Canal zone. A military spokesman said the Egyptian fire was concentrated south of Qantara and in the vicinity of Port Tewfik at the canal's southern access.

Jordanian guns, which were quiet while workmen repaired the East Ghor irrigation canal near the cease-fire lines, resumed firing yesterday on Israeli positions in the northern Jordan Valley. The attackers used mortars and bazookas but were silenced by Israeli return fire. There were no Israeli casualties. The East Ghor canal, Jordan's largest irrigation project, was sabotaged by Israeli commandos recently in retaliation for attacks on Israeli settlements by Jordanian Army regulars and guerrillas. Israeli gunners allowed the repairs to be made when Jordanian attacks tapered off. An Arab saboteur was killed last night in an encounter with an Israeli patrol near Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. One Israeli soldier was wounded. Two 90-foot towers carrying electric power lines in the Negev were blown up before dawn Sunday. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a guerrilla

organization, claimed credit for the sabotage which briefly cut off electric power to several settlements in the eastern Negev. Repairs by the Israel Electric Corp. were expected to be completed today. The pylons were located 10 miles from the Jordanian border and 50 miles north of Israel's Red Sea port of Eilat. Power to Eilat was shut off in order to make repairs but that city was provided with electric power in the interim from its own generators.

#### 'Open Bridges' Policy Makes Humanitarian Efforts Possible

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- While Jordanian Army regulars, guerrillas and Iraqi troops stationed in Jordan continue to attack Israel almost daily, the authorities in Amman are making use of Israel's "open bridges" policy which permits the free communication by civilians between Jordan and the Israeli-held West Bank. The life of at least one Arab child was saved by the open bridges, it was learned today.

A six-year-old boy from Zatka township in Jordan, left Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem completely recovered from open heart surgery. The youngster and his mother crossed into Israel more than three weeks ago for medical treatment. The mother stayed with her child in the hospital for the entire period of surgery and post-surgical treatment. The boy will stay with relatives in Jerusalem for another month of medical check-ups.

#### El Fatah Alleges Assassination Attempt On Leader By 'Israeli Agents'

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- The El Fatah command in Amman claimed today that it had foiled an attempt by "Israeli agents" to assassinate El Fatah leader Yassir Arafat. A statement broadcast by Amman Radio offered no evidence however that an allegedly explosive-filled parcel addressed to the guerrilla commander originated with Israelis.

The statement said that the parcel was delivered to the Amman headquarters of Assifa, El Fatah's military arm, by a messenger wearing an Iraqi Army uniform with the rank of lieutenant. The parcel was found to contain a plastic charge and a detonator and was rendered harmless by an El Fatah bomb squad, the statement said. It added, "El Fatah has once again foiled this latest attempt by Israeli intelligence and their agents to liquidate the leaders of the revolution."

#### Sisco Will Go To Moscow For Brief Round Of Bilateral Talks, State Department Says

WASHINGTON, July 7 (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Joseph Sisco, will fly to Moscow later this week for a round of high level talks with Soviet officials on the Middle East conflict, the State Department announced today. According to Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey, the United States regards the Moscow talks as a "brief round" in the continuing U.S.-Soviet bilateral talks on the Middle East and will insist that further talks be held in Washington.

Mr. Sisco and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin have been conducting Middle East talks here for the past few months. They had been going on concurrently with the Four Power--U.S., Soviet, Britain and France--Mideast discussions in New York under United Nations auspices. Those talks recessed recently and no date has been set for their resumption.

Mr. McCloskey said that Mr. Sisco would stop at London and Paris en route to Moscow to coordinate his talks with the Four Power approach. His flight to the Soviet capital was anticipated here two weeks ago when it was learned that Soviet leaders had been pressing for at least a temporary shift of the site of the bilateral discussions to the Soviet capital. Israel is opposed to all Big Power intervention in the Middle East which, it claims, lessens the chances for direct Arab-Israeli peace talks. There was no comment from Israeli sources here on Mr. Sisco's trip to Moscow.

#### Dr. Jarring Will Resume His Mission Soon, Israeli Sources Report

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Dr. Gunnar Jarring, the special United Nations envoy for the Middle East, whose mission has been suspended for months during Big Four talks at the UN on the Middle East, may resume his mission soon, informed sources here said.

The sources said the major powers may be interested in bringing Dr. Jarring back to his assignment to bridge the hiatus in the Four Power talks which have been adjourned for the summer and an impasse in the U.S.-Soviet bilateral talks. The sources emphasized that while Dr. Jarring took an indefinite recess from the Middle East problems, the major powers appeared to be interested in reviving his mission, if only as a gesture.

#### Tourism Minister Invites Security Council Members To Jerusalem Following Censure

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- The 15 Security Council members who voted unanimously last week to censure Israel for its activities that change the status of East Jerusalem were urged yesterday to come to Jerusalem to see how the united city was flourishing. The invitation was voiced by the Minister of Tourism and Development, Moshe Kol, who spoke at ceremonies re-opening the restored Jaffa Gate, one of the Old City's main entrances.

"Let them come and see for themselves the results of the acts of destruction and vandalism in Jerusalem's Old City and in the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives carried out during 19 years of Jordanian occupation," Mr. Kol said. "And let them see for themselves the accelerated development projects carried out by Israel since the Six-Day War."

## Zionist General Council Approves Reorganization Plan Proposed By Louis A. Pincus

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- A major reorganization program that will broaden the base of the Jewish Agency by including representatives of the major Jewish fund-raising bodies abroad was approved by the Zionist General Council (Actions Committee) last night. The plan, drafted by Jewish Agency chairman Louis A. Pincus, also divided the functions of the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization.

The latter will deal with organization and public information, educational activities in the Diaspora, youth and halutz training and cultural institutions. The Jewish Agency will be responsible for fund-raising, immigration and immigrant absorption, social welfare services, health education, youth care and training, immigrant housing and settlement in Israel.

The reorganization plan sets up a new supreme body--the Assembly of the Jewish Agency--which will be composed of up to 250 members. Half of them will represent the WZO and Israel, 30 percent the United States and 20 percent all other countries. The Assembly will meet at stipulated intervals. Between its meetings the movement will be directed by a board of governors composed of delegates to the Assembly on the same proportional basis. The board will meet three times a year and will provide the authority by which the Jewish Agency conducts its day-to-day activities.

The General Council sessions, marred from the beginning by a bitter conflict between the older generation and representatives of youth and student organizations, wound up its business without youth representation.

The youngsters walked out last week when the Council voted 67-23 to reject their demand that it set a date now for the next World Zionist Congress. The Council decided, however, to convene the next Congress--the 28th--within two years, a concession to the youth element. Normally Congresses are held every five years. The last took place here in 1968.

The General Council also adopted resolutions emphasizing youth and student participation in Zionist activities and promising to give youth representatives a substantial voice in Council deliberations. But the youngsters stated flatly that they had no confidence in the old leadership and hinted that they might establish a dissident Zionist movement of their own.

The student and youth delegates insisted on a new Congress at an early date and on the democratic election of Congress delegates. They also demanded a complete revamping of the Zionist ideology to bring it in line with the contemporary world. The demand for democratic elections was called academic by Zionist leaders since the last Zionist Congress decided that future delegates would be elected instead of selected by their respective parties.

Other resolutions adopted by the General Council denounced the UN Security Council's censure of Israel for its activities in the former Arab section of Jerusalem and declared the Zionist movement's solidarity with Israel in its quest for peace and direct negotiations with its Arab neighbors. The Zionists also called on the Soviet Union to end its anti-Zionist campaign, to allow Russian Jews to emigrate if they so desired and to accord Soviet Jews the same cultural and religious rights enjoyed by other ethnic minorities in the USSR. The Council warned against manifestations of neo-Nazism in West Germany and expressed concern over the plight of the Jewish remnants in Arab countries.

Another resolution called on all bodies attached to the World Zionist Organization especially its territorial federations, to designate 1970 as a year of a world-wide membership drive. Zionist groups were urged to recruit members through Zionist Organizations, various Zionist parties and on a personal basis as provided for by resolutions of the last Zionist Congress, and the World Zionist Organization constitution. Zionists were also urged to expand their educational and information services to counteract "constant attacks" on Zionism and to defend the vital interests of the State of Israel by explaining Zionism as "the national liberation movement" of the Jewish people. Proposals contained in resolutions called for special emphasis on Zionist work in universities and other educational institutions.

## Dayan Tells Rafi Rally He Has No Intention Of Splitting The Israel Labor Party

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has apparently forestalled a split in the ranks of the Israel Labor Party. But he strongly indicated, at a rally of his followers here today, that former members of the Rafi faction were deeply dissatisfied with the present party leadership.

Several thousand supporters of Gen. Dayan attended the rally which was held in a Tel Aviv movie theater, not at Labor Party headquarters. That fact alone seemed to bear out Gen. Dayan's remark that Rafi members felt like "second class" members in Labor Party ranks. He declared nevertheless that he had no intention of splitting the Labor Party or forming a new party. He said he did not think a split was a "must."

A break in the ranks of the party, formed less than a year ago by merger of the Rafi and Achdut Avodah factions with Mapai, appeared imminent last week and two ranking Labor Party ministers were trying to head it off.

Minister of Labor Yosef Almogi, himself a former Rafi member, urged Gen. Dayan and his followers not to bolt the party despite their dispute with its leadership. The same appeal was made by Deputy Premier Yigal Allon who remarked pointedly that only personal ambition could cause a split because, in

his view, there were no ideological or political reasons for one. Gen. Dayan is regarded as Mr. Allon's most serious rival for the Premiership whenever Premier Golda Meir decides to step down. The Defense Minister sharply criticized Mr. Allon and Mr. Almogi at today's rally. He complained that Rafi members are not trusted by the party leadership and cited as an example the exclusion of former Rafi members from discussions about who will be the Labor Party candidate in the next Jerusalem municipality elections. Gen. Dayan said further that on security and political problems he found it difficult to join in an alignment with the left-wing Mapam Party. Mapam has joined in a political alignment with the Labor Party and will present a common election list in the October elections. The alignment gave Labor a clear majority in the Knesset for the first time in Israel's history. But it has come under attack from Labor Party factions and from Mapam dissidents who announced plans recently to file a separate election list.

Premier Meir was supposed to attend the Rafi rally today to appeal for unity, but she did not show up. Rafi, once headed by former Premier David Ben Gurion, broke away from the Mapai Party several years ago but joined it in last year's merger of the main labor factions. Rafi leaders have recently expressed dissatisfaction with the Labor Party's preparations for the Knesset elections and voiced other demands. Some Rafi adherents want to present an ultimatum to the party.

### Hold Ceremonial Reburial On Massada For Bones Believed To Be Remains Of Defenders

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Bones believed to be the remains of Jewish defenders of the mountain fortress of Massada against Roman Legionnaires 1,900 years ago were re-buried with full military honors on the site of that ancient fortress near the Dead Sea today. The remains were said to belong to 27 men, women and children who took their own lives rather than fall into Roman hands.

The cortege was accompanied to the burial site by a guard of honor and a rifle squad. Prof. Yigal Yadin, the Hebrew University archaeologist who discovered the bones in a cave while excavating around Massada, read a selection from an address of Elazar Ben Yair, the commander of Massada during the siege. Others officiating at the reburial ceremonies were Gen. Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of Israel's armed forces, and Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Minister for Religious Affairs.

Some controversy surrounded the authenticity of the bones. Prof. Yadin himself said there was no proof that all of the skeletons belonged to the Massada defenders or that they dated from the same period. But religious authorities insisted that the remains be given heroes' burial on the Mount of Olives outside Jerusalem. The ceremonies were to have taken place in March but were postponed while a special Cabinet committee considered the evidence. The committee eventually recommended re-burial but the site selected was Massada, a remote location, rather than the Mount of Olives.

### Association Of New York Yeshiva Principals Appeals For Financial Assistance

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- An association of New York City yeshiva principals and administrators has appealed to local charitable agencies and the Jewish public at large to help alleviate "the desperate financial plight" of Orthodox Hebrew day schools in the metropolitan area. The association is affiliated with Torah Umesorah, the national society for Hebrew day schools.

A statement issued by the association today called attention to "the paltry salaries that we pay our teachers and the unusually high tuition rates with which we tax our parents and the ever-spiraling costs which we fear will bring us to the gates of disaster." It declared that "the philanthropic and communal agencies in the Jewish community must become more responsive to our call."

The statement suggested, in addition, "that funds will also have to be secured from those industries which directly benefit from religious education, such as the kosher food business, and publishers of Hebrew text books and sacred works, amongst others, to help alleviate the financial distress hovering over these institutions." The association claimed that the schools it represents have a student body of 40,000. Tuition fees average close to \$900 which many parents cannot pay. In addition, because of low salaries paid compared to teachers' salaries in other private and public schools, many of the best teachers in schools in near poverty areas are frequently "pirated" away to suburban schools which offer better pay, the statement said.

### Eban Expresses Shock At Hearing Of Assassination Of Kenya's Tom Mboya, Recalls Visit

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban expressed shock yesterday at news of the assassination of Tom Mboya of Kenya, an African leader whom the Israeli diplomat had met on his tour of three East African nations last week. "I only met him a few days ago and we travelled together for several hours in the plane that took us to Addis Ababa," Mr. Eban said on learning that Mr. Mboya was gunned down by an assassin on a busy street in Nairobi last weekend. The 38-year-old victim was Minister of Economic Planning and Development in the Kenya Government and was regarded as one of the most modern and progressive of black African leaders.

Mr. Eban described him as "a courageous fighter for the liberation of his country" who had "an enlightened approach to social problems." Mr. Mboya visited Israel several times and was considered one of the pioneers of the friendship between Israel and the African liberation movement. Mr. Eban sent condolences to Mr. Mboya's family, President Jomo Kenyatta and the people of Kenya. His African tour took him to Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia.

### Jewish Federation Of Seattle Becomes 82nd Community Member Of NCRAC

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- The Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle has become the 82nd community member of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, it was announced here. Nine national Jewish organizations are also Council members.