

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## State Dept. Says Sisco Took Counter-Proposals To Moscow Mideast Talks

WASHINGTON, July 17 (JTA) -- United States Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Joseph J. Sisco brought U.S. counter-proposals for a Mideast settlement to Moscow this week, State Department officials disclosed today. The counter-proposals were said to be a reply to the terms set forth in Soviet proposals delivered in Washington June 17 which emphasized Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories.

The officials said that Mr. Sisco's three days of talks with Soviet officials yielded no "break-through" but indicated "sufficient progress" to warrant a continuation of the talks when Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin returns to Washington. The bi-lateral U.S.-Soviet talks on the Middle East have been going on for several months, mainly between Mr. Sisco and Mr. Dobrynin. Mr. Sisco's visit to Moscow was described by the State Department as a "brief round" in those discussions.

American officials said that "points of disagreement" remained between the U.S. and Soviet positions and that the latter have given no evidence yet of meaningful concessions. They said Israel was being kept informed of the progress of the talks. The absence of an Israeli diplomatic mission in Moscow was dismissed by officials who pointed out that Egypt is not formally or fully represented in Washington because of the absence of diplomatic relations with Cairo.

## Israel Air Force Maintaining Superiority Over Arab Forces, Says Commander

TEL AVIV, July 17 (JTA) -- The commander of Israel's Air Force said today that the Air Force has succeeded in maintaining its qualitative gap over Arab air forces and in certain respect has widened it since the June, 1967 Six-Day War. Gen. Mordecai Hod spoke to newsmen at a press conference prior to Air Force Day ceremonies at an air base somewhere in Israel.

He said the quality of Israel's pilots was the secret of the Air Force's success but noted that the Arab air forces have a quantitative advantage. Israel needs more planes, Gen. Hod declared, in view of the continuing build-up of Arab air strength by the Soviet Union. He said one lesson of the Six-Day War was that Israel's Air Force must be built on a multi-purpose aircraft as its backbone with additional specialized planes assigned specific tasks.

Addressing newly commissioned pilots at Air Force Day ceremonies later, Gen. Hod described Israel's air arm as the "spearhead" of the armed forces which must mount the initial, surprise thrust against the enemy in any war. Israel's Air Force destroyed the air forces of Egypt, Syria and Jordan on the ground in surprise attacks during the first hours of the Six-Day War. Gen. Hod said the Air Force's strength lies in its pilots, its maintenance crews, its armaments and its communications all of which comprise a single entity of men and machines.

The Air Force Day ceremonies were also addressed briefly by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan who paid tribute to the Apollo 11 astronauts now on their way to a moon landing Sunday. He said that Israel was dependent on foreign sources even for its conventional aircraft and added, "we do not always get the best and most modern equipment." Nevertheless, Gen. Dayan said, "while the wings may be French or American, the feathers are ours and they are glorious feathers."

## Lebanese Report Russia To Resume Arms Shipments To Syria

WASHINGTON, July 17 (JTA) ---The Soviet Union has agreed to resume arms shipments to Syria after a four-months suspension, the Lebanese magazine, "As-Sayyad," reported today in Beirut. The resumption of shipments was arranged during the recent visit to Moscow of Syrian President Norueddin Atassi, the magazine reported, adding that Chinese Communist weapons have been arriving in Syria in considerable quantities.

## Egyptians Fire At Red Cross, UN Personnel, Bar Return Of Slain Commandos

TEL AVIV, July 17 (JTA) -- Egyptian forces lobbed mortar shells at Red Cross and United Nations personnel today to frustrate for a second time attempts to return the bodies of three Egyptian soldiers killed several weeks ago during a commando raid on Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal. Israeli forces returned the fire but recovery of the bodies had to be abandoned.

The return was to have taken place two weeks ago at Qantara under Red Cross supervision. But Egyptian gunners fired on the approaches to the town making it impossible. Egypt afterwards accused Israel of "inhuman behavior" for allowing the bodies to "moulder" on the sun-baked shores of the waterway. Israeli officials noted that it was Egypt's aggressive action that prevented the removal of the dead soldiers. Today's events bore out the Israeli claim.

An Arab saboteur was killed today in an encounter with Israeli units in the Jordan Valley after his comrades retreated across the river. A military spokesman said that a Russian-made Kalashnikov rifle was found on the body. A hand grenade was thrown on the main road of the Gaza Strip just outside of Gaza today. The road was empty at the time and there was no damage.

## Memorial Foundation Allocates \$1.26 Million For Jewish Cultural Programs

GENEVA, July 19 (JTA) -- The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture has allocated \$1.26 million during fiscal year 1969-70 for Jewish cultural and educational programs throughout the world, according to a report submitted here today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, Foundation treasurer. The Foundation disburses its funds in cooperation with universities and established scholarly organizations and conducts annual scholarship and fellowship programs.

The allocation represented an increase of \$58,000 over the funds disbursed during fiscal 1967-68. Fifty percent of the allocations went to Israel. Europe received 35 percent, the United States 16 percent and all other countries three percent.

Dr. Schwartz reported at the annual conference of the Foundation's board of trustees that \$1,127,000 or 89 percent of the 1968-69 grants were to organizations and institutions; \$116,000 to scholarship and fellowship programs and \$18,000 were allocated for documentation of the Nazi holocaust.

The conference devoted considerable discussion to problems of Jewish education around the world. Prof. Ernest Simon, of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, said the only choice for Jewish youth who wished to remain Jewish was to "fight the battle of the generations" within the framework of Jewry. Rabbi Jochim Prinz, of Orange, N.J., said the Memorial Foundation was perhaps the only Jewish group and one of the few groups in the world representing established society to which young people came to freely discuss problems.

Part of the discussion centered around the establishment of a Commission of Jewish Education within the framework of Cojo, the Conference of Jewish Organizations which will begin a three-day meeting here tomorrow. The Commission would replace the World Council of Jewish Education. Rabbi J. Kaufmann, Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency and Chaim Finkelstein, a member of the Jewish Agency executive, proposed that the Commission be headquartered in Jerusalem. Isaac Toubin, executive vice president of the American Association for Jewish Education, expressed doubts over the proposed education commission. He was assured by Cojo chairman Dr. Nahum Goldmann that the projected Commission would deal with problems of Jewish education in a general way and would encourage the various other bodies dedicated to the same task.

Dr. Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, urged the Memorial Foundation to pay more attention of basic Jewish education instead of higher education. According to Dr. Rosen, primary school is sometimes more vital than post-graduate studies from the point of view of preserving Jewish tradition and Jewish faith.

The Memorial Foundation closed its conference after electing officers. Dr. Nahum Goldmann was named president; Jacob Blaustein, Louis Pincus and Lord Sieff of Brimpton were elected vice presidents. Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz was re-elected treasurer, Shad Polier secretary, Mark Uveeler executive director and Maurice Boukstein, counsel. Elected to the executive committee were: Mandel Berman; Jules Brunschvig; Gregorio Faigon; Itzhak Gross; Avraham Harman; Oscar Joseph; Rabbi Joseph Karasick; Claude Kelman; Dr. Israel Knox; Solomon Litt; Prof. Joshua Prawer; Louis Stern and Dr. William A. Wexler.

## NGO Conclave Attended By Jewish Groups Vows To Protect Status At UN

GENEVA, July 17 (JTA) -- A conference here of 90 non-governmental organizations that enjoy consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council agreed today to give special attention to protecting the status and dignity of such organizations.

The matter was brought up in light of Soviet-Arab attempts to deprive certain Jewish organizations of their status at a meeting of ECOSOC last month. The attempts were partially successful. The UN body agreed that the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations should continue to enjoy consultative status "until its future relationship with the Council was finally determined." That qualification placed in some doubt the future status of the Coordinating Board which represents the B'nai B'rith and the boards of Jewish deputies of Great Britain and South Africa. Consultative status allows non-governmental bodies to speak before ECOSOC though not to vote.

Jewish organizations attending the conference here are the World Jewish Congress, represented by Dr. Gerhardt Riegner and Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig; the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, represented by H. Edelsberg, Dr. G. Warburg and A.J. Marks; the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations represented by Mrs. G. Cairncross and G. Brunschvig and the International Council of Jewish Women represented by Mrs. M. Warburg and Mrs. K. Levy. Dr. Riegner was named chairman of the resolutions committee, and Dr. Perlzweig was appointed to the drafting committee.

## NYU Head Going To Israel To Present Prizes To Israeli Writers

NEW YORK, July 17 (JTA) -- Dr. James M. Hester, president of New York University, will visit Israel this month to present the Irving and Bertha Neuman literary prizes to two Israeli authors and to meet with Israeli government and educational leaders, the NYU news bureau announced today. Dr. and Mrs. Hester will be in Israel for five days. The \$1000 prizes, awarded by NYU's Institute of Hebrew Studies for outstanding works published in Hebrew will go to Gershon Shofman and Lea Goldberg. The Neuman Prize was established by the Neuman Foundation in 1963. Dr. Hester went to Israel at that time to present the award to S. Y. Agnon who later shared the Nobel Prize for literature.

### Plans Announced For Fourth Auschwitz Trial In Frankfurt

BONN, July 17 (JTA) -- A fourth "Auschwitz trial" will open soon in Frankfurt, it was announced here today. Two public prosecutors have visited Warsaw, Posen and Cracow to interview 19 witnesses. The defendants are six low-ranking former officials of Auschwitz death camp and one ex-Kapo, an inmate member of the camp police. Many Kapos were Jews. The identity of the one to face trial at Frankfurt was not disclosed, nor the exact date when the trial would begin.

The prosecutor's office also announced that Josef Windek, 66, who was sentenced to life imprisonment at the third Auschwitz trial in Frankfurt last summer, had been freed on recommendation of doctors.

### Swiss Doctor Gets Month In Jail For Writing Book Branded As Anti-Semitic

GENEVA, July 17 (JTA) -- A Swiss doctor who wrote an allegedly anti-Semitic book that has been banned by local authorities was sentenced to one month in jail by a court in Vevey today. The accused is Dr. James Albert Mathez, a former radiologist, whose book "The Past, The Present and The Jewish Question," was branded by the public prosecutor as "a collection of insults and incitements to crime." The prosecutor had demanded an eight-month sentence.

The conviction of Dr. Mathez followed civil action brought by the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities last year which resulted in a court decision to destroy his book. An accomplice of Dr. Mathez was acquitted but the prosecutor has appealed that decision.

### JDC Official Says Only 13,000 Jews Left In Poland, Mostly Elderly

VIENNA, July 17 (JTA) -- The director general of the Joint Distribution Committee has estimated that there are only 13,000 Jews left in Poland, a majority of them elderly. He said that Jewish departures from Poland in 1969 would total about 3,000.

Louis D. Horowitz spoke to members of the United Jewish Appeal's young leadership mission which stopped here enroute to Israel. He said there was a steady stream of Jews out of Eastern European countries and a trickle from Middle Eastern countries. He reported that Jewish arrivals from Poland have increased since the Warsaw regime announced last month that it would restrict the issuance of exit permits starting Sept. 1. Mr. Horowitz said that last year the JDC served 340,000 Jews in 27 countries at a cost of \$23 million. The JDC is a beneficiary of the UJA.

### Tel Aviv Court Bars Departure Of Nehama Lifschitz At Husband's Request

TEL AVIV, July 17 (JTA) -- A rabbinical court here issued yesterday a temporary injunction barring Jewish folk singer Nehama Lifschitz, who recently came to Israel from Russia, from leaving Israel. The injunction was sought by her husband, Haim Binstein, who claimed that his wife planned to desert him now that she has become famous. Miss Lifschitz claimed in court that her marriage to her much younger husband was fictitious in that she married to save him and his family from the Nazis after the invasion of Lithuania in 1940. She was scheduled to perform in New York next month. The hearing will resume Sunday.

### SCA Assails Vigilante Tactics By 'Unrepresentative' Jewish Group

NEW YORK, July 17 (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America denounced today "calls to violence and vigilantism emanating from various quarters, including a small unrepresentative segment of the Jewish community." The SCA is the coordinating agency for Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbinical and congregational organizations.

The statement by Rabbi Solomon J. Sharfman, SCA president, did not name any vigilante groups but it apparently was aimed at the Jewish Defense League, a militant group headed by a Brooklyn Orthodox rabbi. Rabbi Sharfman said that "the lawlessness of vigilantes no more makes for a defense of Jewish or other interests than the riot makes for the rectification of social injustices." The statement recalled that the SCA recently rejected demands of the Black Economic Development Conference for a half billion dollars from churches and synagogues as "reparation" for suffering of the Negroes.

Rabbi Sharfman said the antidote to vigilantism and violence was "a re-ordering of priorities and reconstruction of our society" and added that the SCA urged all Americans "whatever their race or faith, not to permit an irresponsible few to divert" them from "the real challenge" of ending poverty, degradation and hopelessness "suffered by so many of our fellow citizens."

### JWB Announces 17 New Jewish Military Chaplains Reporting For Duty

NEW YORK, July 17 (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board announced today that 17 new Jewish military chaplains entered the U.S. Armed Forces recently in time to prepare Rosh Hashanah services for Jewish military personnel. Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, begins at sundown Sept. 12.

Eleven of the new chaplains have gone into the Army. Three are assigned to the Air Force and three to the Navy, the JWB said. They bring to 56 the total number of full-time Jewish chaplains in the armed services and the Veterans Administration.

The JWB also announced the appointment of Menashe Guilah, an Israeli social worker, as executive director of the Jerusalem YM-YWHA. Mr. Guilah has served as program and teen director of the Henry N. Hart Jewish Community Center in Chicago.

## Mattapan Rabbi Sees Attack On Him Stemming From Urban Tensions

MATTAPAN, Mass., July 17 (JTA) -- A 28-year-old rabbi who was severely burned when two assailants attacked him with an acid bomb in his home here last month said today that the incident may have been related to the tensions between Jews and Negroes in his once predominantly Jewish neighborhood.

Rabbi Gerald B. Zelermyer of Temple Beth Hillel here was the victim of two black youths who rang the doorbell of his home, handed him a note and hurled an acid bomb in his face before fleeing. The note began, "dearest rabbi," contained obscene language and ordered him to get out of "get out of town," he said. Temporarily blinded but since fully recovered, the rabbi said he was unable to identify his assailants. The note was destroyed by the acid, he said. The rabbi said his assailants obviously knew who he was and that they apparently had been watching his home, where he lives alone, for some time. He added this indicated that the attack was planned and not a random incident but he indicated that he could think of no reason why he was singled out. He added he intended to remain in Mattapan.

The rabbi told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he tried to withhold news of the assault for fear of increasing neighborhood tensions but the story was published in the Advocate, a Jewish weekly in Boston. It spurred the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Boston to join with rabbis in the Dorchester-Mattapan section to alert city officials to the need for more protection and other help. A meeting was held with police officials who promised to provide adequate police protection for congregants, particularly the elderly. Robert Segal, JCC director, urged residents to report all incidents to the JCC and to rely on police to provide safety.

Rabbi Zelermyer said he considered the attack on him part of the spreading malaise affecting most large cities where aspiring blacks confronted established whites. In Mattapan, he said, the whites happen to be Jews, those too old or too poor to have joined the white exodus to the suburbs. In Mattapan, he told the JTA, black families are moving in as Jewish families depart. He said that real estate speculators, "block busters," both Negro and Jewish, were trying to panic Jewish families into selling their property. He reported that Negroes had sought to buy his synagogue's quarters and that their intermediary was a Jew.

He asserted that the problems in Mattapan had nationwide significance and were "as important to Jews as the Six-Day War." He said national Jewish agencies were neglecting "the needs of poor, urban Jewish communities." He added that such communities needed social workers and other facilities for the aged and the poor but that the Jewish agencies apparently felt they were "a poor investment."

The Advocate declared editorially that "the most shameful reaction" by the community to the attack would be "simply to ignore this plethora of human problems." In a statement in the Advocate, the rabbi said that the fault was not in the "black incursion" into Mattapan but with the community which had "sounded a requiem for our area through almost wholesale indifference to our plight. The affluent have left. The less affluent, who need help, mostly remain."

## Rabbi Urges Federal Action On 'Block-Busting'; Cites Efforts On Jewish Areas

NEW YORK, July 17 (JTA) -- A Brooklyn rabbi called today for a Federal investigation of "block-busting" by real estate speculators in large American cities and for appropriate state and local legislation to combat the practice which, he said, was "polarizing blacks and whites into two enemy camps."

According to Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht, executive vice president of the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education, an Orthodox group, "block-busting" has reached dangerous proportions in at least two sections of Brooklyn--East Flatbush and Crown Heights. Rabbi Hecht said he based his interviews with 513 said he bases his warning on the results of a two year study of those sections which included interviews with 513 present and former home-owners in an 80-block area. Crown Heights and East Flatbush are mixed neighborhoods, once predominantly Jewish, with large enclaves of Orthodox Jews. Italian-Americans comprise the second largest white ethnic group in the areas. Earlier this month a warning against "block-busting" tactics was voiced by Rabbi Zalman Gurary, a member of the Crown Heights Jewish Community Council, another Orthodox group. He charged that speculators had "deliberately installed tenants" in some housing "to harass and drive out the rest of the block."

Rabbi Hecht called "block-busting" a "major contributor to a city's ills" and said it cost more annually than such crimes as mugging, auto theft and armed robbery. He urged householders to join forces against "block-busting" realtors in target neighborhoods."

## Rabbi Ruslander, Former JWB Chaplaincy Commission Head, Dies At 58

COLUMBUS, Ohio, July 17 (JTA) --Rabbi Selwyn D. Ruslander, of Dayton, an immediate past chairman of the National Jewish Welfare Board's commission on Jewish chaplaincy, died here today at the age of 58. He was commission chairman from 1965 to 1968. A navy chaplain in World War II, he was the first Jewish chaplain in the history of the U.S. Navy to be assigned to a combat fleet. During the invasion of southern France, he was a flotilla chaplain.