

# JTA daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XXXVII-Fifty-Third Year

Wednesday, January 21, 1970

No. 13

## Israeli Soldier Wounded During Mortar Shelling In Beisan Valley

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA)--An Israeli soldier was wounded by a sniper's bullet in the Beisan Valley today following a night of sporadic mortar shelling and small arms fire in the region. The settlements of Yardena and Tirat Zvi came under fire but no casualties or damage were reported. Syrian forces fired several Katyusha rockets in the direction of Kuneitra last night. They fired bazookas at Israeli positions in other areas of the Golan Heights but caused no casualties or damage.

The Potash plant at Sdom on the Dead Sea was attacked again last night for the second time in 24 hours. There were no casualties or damage and the plant was reported to be working normally. An empty civilian bus was destroyed by fire near Kahn Yunis in the Gaza Strip today after a hand grenade exploded inside. The driver escaped without injury and went for help. Israeli forces are searching the area. The Israeli military command for the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai is relocating a number of refugee families in order to clear the way for the construction of a road through the refugee camp at Kahn Yunis. The road will permit Israeli mobile units to patrol the camp where foot patrols have been attacked in the past.

Two saboteurs were killed last night in a clash with an Israeli patrol near Umm Sidra pass on the Jordan River. Egyptian sources claim that an Israeli fighter pilot who bailed out over Egypt after his jet was hit by anti-aircraft fire last Friday, is dead. International Red Cross representatives informed Israeli authorities yesterday that that was the fate of Capt. Dov Peleg, 28, of Petach Tikvah, although the Egyptians first said he was taken prisoner. Capt. Peleg, the father of two children, was seen bailing out during an Israeli air attack on the Port Suez-Cairo road. Israeli authorities have requested the return of his body through the Red Cross.

## Mrs. Meir Calls On UN To Investigate Conditions Of Jews In Arab Countries

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA)--The Knesset today reiterated Israel's call to the United Nations to hold a full scale inquiry into the condition of Jews in Arab countries. The call was contained in a resolution adopted at a special session marking the first anniversary of the public hanging of nine Jews in Iraq as alleged spies for Israel. The Knesset heard an emotional address by Premier Golda Meir who declared that "Israel won't be silent and Jewish blood won't be wantonly shed." She recited a long list of atrocities allegedly committed against Jews in Iraq, Egypt and Syria. The Knesset resolution, for which all factions except the New Communists voted, concluded that the only way to end the suffering of Jews in Arab countries was to let them emigrate to countries of their choice.

"In view of the facts given by the Prime Minister, it is imperative that the UN accede to Israel's request to hold a full inquiry into the fate of Jews in Arab countries," the resolution said. It expressed thanks to international organizations and foreign governments which have offered assistance and said they would admit Jewish emigrants from Arab countries. The text of the resolution will be distributed to all the parliaments in the free world.

## Iraqis Sentenced To Death Without Due Process

Mrs. Meir said that in addition to the nine Jews hanged in Iraq a year ago, 62 other death sentences had been carried out against Iraqis without due process. She said at least eight more Jews died in Iraqi prisons as the result of torture or were executed secretly and that Iraqi authorities boast openly that they are holding the Jewish population as hostages. Mrs. Meir charged that 4000 Jews in Syria are confined to ghettos and are required to carry identity cards stamped "Jew." She said 100 Jewish heads of families are imprisoned in Egypt under deplorable conditions. According to Mrs. Meir this is about half of the Jewish family heads remaining in Egypt.

In Paris a French group dedicated to the rescue of Jews in the Arab countries reported that at least 19 Jews were executed or tortured to death in Iraq in 1969 and another 60 being held in jail there are "potential victims. The Committee for the Deliverance of Jews in the Middle East, headed by French Senate President Alain Poher who ran against Georges Pompidou for the presidency of France last year charged that the Jewish communities in Iraq, Syria and Egypt were the target of legal or de facto discrimination in violation of the United Nations Charter. The committee charged further that some of the 81 Jews imprisoned in Egypt since the June, 1967 Six Day War are subjected to torture and beatings and that "the 4,000 Jews in Syria are a captive community living in constant fear of virulent public hostility."

## Three Congressmen Say French Mideast Policy Becoming Increasingly Pro-Arab

PARIS, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Three visiting American Congressmen said at a press conference here today that after speaking to many French officials, their general impression was that French policy in the Middle East is becoming more and more pro-Arab. Reps. Bertram Podell of New York, Roman C. Pucinski of Illinois, and Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin, said they came to France specifically to learn about French Mideast policy. They spoke with government supporters and opposition leaders.

## Consumer Price Rise in Israel Appears Less Broad Than Originally Appeared

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA)--A Government spokesman said today that the sharp consumer price increases announced yesterday were not as broad as they seemed. He attributed them to inflationary pressures exerted from outside of Israel as well as within the country. The spokesman, a senior official of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, told the JTA that the 153 retail items marked up amounted to less than five percent of all the food consumed in Israel and were, in many cases, variations of the same product. He cited, as an example, tuna fish in oil, tuna fish in tomato sauce and tuna fish in sauce piquant. The spokesman said inflation in Israel was a response to a world-wide inflationary trend manifested by higher prices for raw materials purchased abroad and higher ocean freight rates. He said transportation costs inside of Israel have also gone up and that there has been an upward "wage creep" in Israel despite a wage freeze supposedly in effect during 1969. He said his Ministry could do little to change the situation.

## Report States At Least 586 Arab Guerrillas And Saboteurs Killed In 1969

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA)--An Israeli Army spokesman estimated today that at least 586 Arab guerrillas and saboteurs were killed in 1969, 66 percent of them on the Jordanian front. The spokesman said the figure was arrived at by comparing the Israeli body count with the casualty lists announced by El Fatah and other guerrilla organizations. He said that by Israeli count, Arab guerrillas suffered 367 dead but their own casualty lists placed the number at 413. A comparison showed 213 deaths not accounted for by the Israeli tally which brought the number up to 586. But this could be a minimum figure because many deaths are not accounted for by either side, the spokesman said. He said that El Fatah suffered the heaviest losses with 37 percent of the dead. September, 1969 was the worst month for the guerrillas when they lost 88 men.

## Allon Says Pioneer Labor Youth Built Settlements Will Be Part Of Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Deputy Premier Yigal Allon told a rally of pioneer labor youth here yesterday that wherever they establish settlements, that territory will be part of Israel. "The land belongs to the people who live on it," Mr. Allon declared. The youngsters are members of Nahal, a para-military group that has already established settlements in the Golan Heights and the Sinai peninsula. As they reach induction age, they join Israel's regular armed services. Mr. Allon said Nahal settlements were important because they would block the enemy's advance in the event of a new war.

## Nixon's Mid-East Views Will Not Be Available To Conference Of Jewish Leaders

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA)--When the National Emergency Conference of Jewish leaders meets here this weekend on American Mideast policy changes it may not have the benefit of President Nixon's latest thinking on the problem. The White House disclosed today that foreign affairs aspects are being eliminated from the President's State of the Union address to be delivered to Congress on Thursday. The President explained that the international situation was so important that he plans to submit a special foreign affairs message to Congress in early February. The State of the Union message on Thursday will deal primarily with domestic issues. Jewish leaders had anticipated the Thursday address because it would probably clarify the various expressions on Israel by officials of the executive department.

## No Comment On Charge That Israel Is Receiving Arms From South Africa

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA)--The Israeli Foreign Ministry had no comment today on a charge by the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia that South Africa was shipping arms to Israel. The charge, which appeared in the paper Sunday, alleged that the South African Government was planning the export of giant 65 ton tanks to Israel.

## Goodell Says State Department Formulations Favor Arabs And Threaten Israel

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Sen. Charles E. Goodell, New York Republican, charged in the Senate Tuesday that State Department formulations favor the Arabs and threaten the security of Israel. The Senator said the new policy would require Israel to make "major territorial and other concessions" in exchange for a dubious international guarantee. Sen. Goodell announced that he would offer a Senate resolution urging settlement based upon direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states. He said it was "naive" to expect Israel to withdraw to pre-war boundaries in view of unrelenting Arab hostility.

## Leftwing Students Attack Jewish Students Protesting France's Arms Embargo

PARIS, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Jewish students protesting France's arms embargo against Israel battled with left-wing students in the faculty of literature at Censier University here last night. The Jewish students came to distribute anti-embargo leaflets. They claimed they were attacked by the leftists with metal table legs and chairs. The Jewish Students Front alleged today that "an atmosphere of anti-Semitic terror is developing in French universities."

## Former Palestinian Arab Nationalist Leader Welcomed Home By Israeli Official

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Mousa El Alami, a former leader of the Palestinian Arab nationalist movement, was given a ceremonial welcome by the Israeli military governor and senior officials when he returned to his home in Jericho yesterday for the first time since the June, 1967 Six Day War. Though an Arab militant at the time of Israel's war for independence in 1948, Mr. Alami became disillusioned with the nationalist movement.

## Jewish Students Disrupt Performance Of Moscow Orchestra In Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Militant Jewish students protesting the Soviet treatment of the Jews, disrupted a performance of the Moscow Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra in Constitution Hall last night. They won applause from a large section of the audience and even from members of the orchestra, many of whom are believed to be Jewish. But Soviet diplomats attending the performance were furious because Patrick Hayes, managing director of the Washington Performing Arts Society which sponsored the concert, refused to prefer charges against the demonstrators.

Five youths in the front row sounded shofars just as the Moscow orchestra finished playing the Soviet national anthem. Others in the balcony, showered the hall with leaflets detailing alleged Soviet anti-Jewish actions. Some members of the audience helped distribute the leaflets. The demonstrators represented the "New Washington Committee for the Prevention of Genocide," a splinter group that emerged from another group of protestors who recently chained themselves to the Soviet Embassy. Some of the students are awaiting trial on charges arising from the earlier demonstration.

### Soviet Officials Protest Incident To State Department

Soviet officials have already protested to the U.S. State Department over the incident. State Department officials indicated displeasure over the demonstration lest it interfere with the U.S.-Soviet cultural exchange program. The students said later that they did not intend to deprecate the artistry of the Soviet musicians but to call attention to the alleged anti-Jewish policies of the Soviet Government.

Mr. Hayes arranged for the conductor of the Moscow Philharmonic, Kiri Kondrashin, to receive a student delegation. He met with two of them but refused to accept a petition against Soviet anti-Semitism. Police re-enforcements were summoned to Constitution Hall but no arrests were made. In all, about 25 youngsters were involved, all high school and college students from the Washington area.

## 'Sabbath Of Concern' Designated This Weekend For Detroit Area Synagogues

DETROIT, Jan. 20 (JTA)--The week-end of Jan. 23-24 has been designated a "Sabbath of Concern" by the Rabbinical Commission of the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit. It is intended to express Jewish concern over recent American proposals on the Middle East regarded as inimical to Israel's security and to prospects for peace in the region. Rabbi Max Kapustin, co-chairman of the Rabbinical Commission and Lawrence Gubow, president of the Community Council, said the "Sabbath of Concern" would be an expression of solidarity with Israel and support for the National Emergency Conference on Middle East Peace, a gathering of American Jewish leaders which opens in Washington, D.C. Jan. 25. The Detroit Jewish News reports that the Rabbinical Commission has asked all rabbis in the Detroit area to devote their sermons next Friday and Saturday to the current Mideast situation and the dangers to Israel posed by American suggestions for a peace settlement. The commission is composed of rabbis from the Reform, Conservative and Orthodox branches with congregations in Detroit and other communities.

## Jewish Prayer Should Reflect Chagrin Over France's Anti-Israel Position

PARIS, Jan. 20 (JTA)--A French-Jewish periodical proposed yesterday that the traditional prayer for the Republic, recited in synagogues on the Sabbath and the High Holidays, be altered to reflect Jewish chagrin over the French Government's anti-Israel stand. But Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan said he could not agree to any changes although he sympathized with the sentiments that prompted the suggestion. According to an editorial in La Tribune Juive, the text of the prayer should read, "May France enjoy lasting peace and resume her glorious position among the nations" instead of "maintain her glorious position." The editorial also suggested that French politicians hostile to Israel should not be invited to attend patriotic and memorial services in synagogues. Rabbi Kaplan had no comment on that proposal. The Chief Rabbi attacked France's arms embargo against Israel at memorial services in the Great Synagogue today for the victims of the Auschwitz death camp. He said "None of us should forget the painful truth that Israel is in perpetual danger and the embargo only hurts it more."

## 68 Congressmen Support Direct Negotiations Between Israel And Arab States

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Sixty-eight Republican congressmen Monday joined in supporting a House resolution calling for "direct, face-to-face negotiations" between the Arab states and Israel as "the only path to an effective, long-term peace in the Middle East." The resolution was introduced by Rep. Philip M. Crane, of Illinois, and co-sponsored by Rep. John Buchanan of Alabama. It quickly drew support from other Republicans.

The resolution would affirm "the long-standing U.S. policy calling for direct, face-to-face negotiations between the governments of the nations involved as the only path to an effective, long-term peace in the Middle East." It noted that "the involvement of the Soviet Union in this area of the world has heightened tensions, and increased the possibility of a major outbreak of hostilities." Emphasis was placed upon "the consistent policy of the United States to peace, justice and freedom in the Middle East." Rep. Crane noted recent expressions by Secretary of State William P. Rogers and said it was consequently important to restate the traditional position of this and the former administration on direct negotiations and a real peace. The congressman said he was pleased by the wide support accorded the resolution.

## Rabbi Schacter, Retiring Conference Of Presidents Chairman, Praised By Rabin

NEW YORK, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Ambassador Itzhak Rabin of Israel paid tribute today to the leadership of Rabbi Herschel Schacter, retiring after two years as chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and to the conference as "the powerful and courageous voice of a unified American Jewish community in support and defense of the Jewish people in Israel and around the world." He spoke at a luncheon here honoring Rabbi Schacter who is retiring after two years as the Conference chairman. Other speakers today included Dr. William Wexler, international president of B'nai B'rith, who succeeds Rabbi Schacter; Rabbi Joachim Prinz, who preceded him as chairman, and Yehuda Hellman, executive director of the conference.

Rabbi Schacter's last official act will be to preside over the two-day emergency conference on the Middle East situation convoked by the presidents' group in Washington Jan. 25-26. Gen. Rabin praised Rabbi Schacter for his leadership of the organization during "a critical period of Jewish history in which the Presidents' Conference significantly strengthened its role as the powerful and courageous voice of a unified American Jewish community in support and defense of the Jewish people in Israel and around the world." Rabbi Schacter is president of the Religious Zionists of America and is spiritual leader of the Mosholu Jewish Center in The Bronx.

## US Postal Authorities Urged To Revoke Mailing Rights Of Canada Neo-Nazi Group

TORONTO, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Canadian postal authorities are asking their American counterparts to revoke the mailing privileges of a hate-mongering neo-Nazi group, "The Natural Order," which is getting around the Canadian postal ban by sending anti-Semitic literature into Canada from Niagara Falls, New York. The group, described as a front for 54-year-old John Ross Taylor of Gooderham, Ontario, has been mailing thick packets of hate literature which includes the nefarious Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion. One such packet was mailed to the home of Robert Muir, a Nova Scotia Conservative member of the House of Commons. Muir proceeded to ask Postmaster-General Eric Kierans to ask American postal authorities to institute a mail ban.

Muir explained that the ban should be instituted because "the literature apparently prepared by these congenital fools reflects upon the presiding officer of the House of Commons (Speaker Lucien Lamoureux) and our Jewish citizens." Kierans promised to accept Muir's suggestion that the matter be referred to the Commons Justice Committee. The literature Muir received asked whether the "supposed neutral Speaker" was "trying to be a nursemaid to Mr. (Pierre Eliot) Trudeau (Canadian Prime Minister) so that stinging rebuke and proof of his incompetent judgment" would not reach the members of Parliament.

Other material in the packet Muir received says the gas ovens of the concentration camps were built by captured German soldiers under the direction of Jewish officers. The Protocols of Zion, attributed to Jewish authors, are described by the literature as proof of a plot by Jews to control the world. The packet carried a Niagara Falls postmark and material in the packet stated: "Our mail is banned in Canada. Canadians send mail to friends in the USA for re-mailing to John Ross Taylor." A Niagara Falls post office box was given as the U.S. address. The hate group stated it mailed similar packets to 264 members of Parliament last summer but the mail was "detained" in the Commons post office by Speaker Lucien Lamoureux and returned.

## JTA Receiving Applications For Student Intern-Training Program

NEW YORK, Jan. 20 (JTA)--The Jewish Telegraphic Agency is now receiving applications from journalism students interested in participating in the agency's new intern-training program. The program will be open only to those interested in the profession of journalism and who have already had some practical experience. To a limited number, JTA will offer parttime work up to 20 hours a week during the school term, and fulltime work during the Summer months in the JTA offices in New York and Washington and with leading American Jewish weeklies in major cities.

At a later stage, one or two of the interns will be selected each year from among the interns for post-graduate work and study in Israel and other overseas centers of Jewish life. They will combine parttime correspondence work for JTA with studies in Jewish history, culture and religion and the Hebrew language.

A major reason for this specially-funded program is to attract to the American Jewish news field, which is in urgent need of skilled men and women in every facet of news handling and publishing, young men and women with a practical background in American journalism. The interns will be given the opportunity to work at every phase of a news service operation, but the main thrust of their employment however will be out of the office covering news.

Robert H. Arnow, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, noted that the American Jewish press which now includes about 100 weekly publications, is slowly growing in strength and the quality of its service. The employment prospects it offers are gradually increasing in attractiveness. He said there was a tremendous shortage of qualified young newsmen in the field.

## Rogers Asked To Make Public Contents Of US Mid-East Proposals To Russia

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (JTA)--Rep. William F. Ryan, New York Democrat, disclosed yesterday that he has asked Secretary of State William P. Rogers to make public the contents of U.S. Mid-east proposals to the Soviet Union. The Congressman said that Congress must rely upon news leaks published abroad to learn what the U.S. is proposing. He pointed out that the State Department has been submitting proposals on a settlement since last spring but has refused to inform Congressmen of the details.