

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Israel Welcomes Visit Of Sisco To Country And His Visit To Arab States

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--Foreign Ministry officials said today that the forthcoming visit to Israel of Joseph Sisco, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, and his visit to Cairo and other Arab capitals, is welcomed by Israel. No American diplomat of Mr. Sisco's rank has visited Egypt since Cairo severed diplomatic relations with the U.S. during the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Officials here said Mr. Sisco's visit would enable him to see and compare the stands of Israel and Egypt on Middle East peace and make it clear to him that Israel wants peace while the Arabs do not. Foreign Minister Abba Eban informed the Cabinet today of Mr. Sisco's impending visit. Foreign Ministry officials said they have not yet been informed of the exact date of Mr. Sisco's arrival, accompanied by his assistant, Alfred Atherton. Consequently no schedule has been prepared. They said Israel was informed by the U.S. that Mr. Sisco's visit was an "orientation tour" of the Middle East in connection with meetings to take place later at Teheran, Iran. He will stop over at London and Paris on his way to the Mideast.

The U.S. State Department disclosed in Washington last week that Mr. Sisco was going to Teheran for routine consultations with the chief of the U.S. Mission in the Mideast. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said at the time that while there were no definite plans to visit other countries in the region a stop-over in Egypt was emphatically ruled out. (Diplomatic sources in Cairo said over the week-end that Mr. Sisco was due there next Friday for talks with Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and possibly with President Gamal Abdel Nasser. He is also scheduled to visit Amman and Beirut. According to Washington sources, a Sisco meeting with Egyptian leaders would represent a new departure for the Nixon Administration since the U.S. has no diplomatic relations with Cairo.)

Mr. Sisco, a career diplomat, visited Israel in the summer of 1968 when he accompanied George Ball, then U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson. In the last few weeks Mr. Sisco has had several meetings with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly E. Dobrynin in what some Washington observers have termed the renewal of bilateral talks but which others have viewed as preparatory talks for the resumption of bilateral negotiations.

## Israel's Police Minister Denies Torture Of Prisoners; 'Even A Slap On The Face'

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--Israel's Minister of Police denied yesterday that torture is ever used in interrogating suspects or prisoners and added that "even a slap on the face is an unacceptable method for which the interrogator is disciplined." Shimon Hillel made his remarks on a radio interview following publication of a report by Amnesty International in London last Wednesday claiming that it had prima facie evidence of the maltreatment of Arab prisoners under questioning in Israeli jails. The Amnesty report was vigorously repudiated by the Israeli Government last Thursday. It raised a storm of controversy in London and caused a split in Amnesty, a private international organization active on behalf of political prisoners. The split occurred when Mark Benenson, chairman of the American section of the group, said at the United Nations Thursday night that the U.S. section dissociated itself from the report.

The Amnesty report conceded that all the evidence came from the prisoners themselves but recommended an immediate inquiry by an independent commission because of the "serious nature" of the charges. The Israeli Foreign Ministry issued a statement accusing Amnesty International of allowing itself to be used as a vehicle for atrocity propaganda emanating from the Arab states and their supporters. Mr. Hillel said that torture is against the moral standards and professional ethics of Israeli investigators. He said that "rigorous" interrogation methods are sometimes employed in cross-examining suspects about evidence possessed by the interrogator to determine the measure of truth in his replies.

The Police Minister said that "of course the Arab prisoners in Israel are dissatisfied with their sentences and detention, but so are Jewish prisoners and in fact anyone serving a sentence almost anywhere in the world." Mr. Benenson said in New York that the Amnesty report was "either sloppy writing or biased; I prefer to believe the former." He said the report "gives the impression that Israel gave no satisfaction" on Amnesty's charges when that was not the case. He said it did not mention many cases the group brought to Israel's attention that Israel checked out and responded to. Mr. Benenson said the American section of Amnesty decided last Dec. 9 to dissociate itself from the report.

### Amnesty Report Concedes Its Claim Of Torture Is Unsubstantiated

After its initial questioning of prisoners, Amnesty submitted a four-part report to the Israel Government last May. By August, the latter gave Amnesty a detailed account of its investigation of one part of the report that contained the names of the complainants and gave details of their charges. It said its investigation showed the claims to be unsubstantiated. Israel did not mention the other three

complainants. Martin Enssels, secretary general of Amnesty International said in Switzerland yesterday that he had informed the Israel Government last January that the report would be published in three or four weeks. He said the final decision to publish it was made March 21. He denied that a "pro-Arab lobby" influenced the decision. Mr. Enssels said he would apologize for the "administrative error" in failing to furnish the Israel Embassy in London with a copy of the report before it was released.

(Washington Post correspondent Alfred Friendly reported from London yesterday that pro-Arab members of the Amnesty International board were partly responsible for publication of the report accusing Israel of torturing Arab prisoners. Mr. Friendly cited a statement Wednesday by Christopher Mayhew, an MP who is leader of the pro-Arab faction in the Labor Party, as saying on a radio interview that members of Amnesty who like himself "take a balanced view" of the Middle East had been "very worried" that Amnesty would not publish the report. Mr. Friendly remarked that the nature of Mayhew's "balanced view" could be found in the fact that he never complained that Amnesty had not been able to investigate the treatment of Jews in Arab countries. Israel, on the other hand, has cooperated fully with the organization whose investigators have visited Israel "at will and have been given free and complete access to all prisoners."

(The Amnesty report took note of the fact that Israel offered to grant safe conduct to the complainants and provide them with Arab lawyers of their choice provided that an inquiry into the charges was conducted along formal legal lines with the right of cross-examination. The proposal was conveyed to Amnesty by Israel's Ambassador in London, Aharon Remes. But the Amnesty report said it was "insufficient" and insisted that an investigation be conducted by an outside independent agency empowered to produce documents and subpoena witnesses. The Daily Express remarked editorially today that it believed Amnesty's charges should be investigated by an international inquiry. "It would be to Israel's everlasting credit if it invited international scrutiny of its handling of Arab suspects and if there is nothing whatsoever in the charges, the Arab campaign of atrocity mongering would be brought to an abrupt halt," the Express said. Mr. Friendly wrote however that no country would permit an international tribunal to "sit within its borders investigating the workings of its own judicial system." He said he doubted that Britain would accept such a commission to probe suggestions of violent treatment of Catholic prisoners in Ulster.)

#### Israeli Soldier Killed By Egyptian Fire; Israeli Soldier Wounded By Explosive Charge

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA)--An Israeli soldier was killed by Egyptian fire in the southern section of the Suez Canal zone last night. He was identified as Corp. Menahem Oblal, 30, of Magdiel. An Israeli soldier was wounded this morning when an explosive charge went off in a desolate area near the Lebanese border, north of Shtullah village. Two Gaza residents were injured by a hand grenade thrown into a street this morning. Several shells were fired from Syrian territory in the area of Nahal Golan last night. They caused no casualties or damage. The fire was returned. Israel Air Force jets continued to attack Egyptian anti-aircraft missile sites near Mansoura in the Nile valley Friday. The targets were less than 100 miles from Cairo. All planes returned safely. A military spokesman said the area around Mansoura is the main center of the Egyptian anti-aircraft defense line guarding the approaches to Cairo.

#### Friend Of Kazakov Accuses Israel Government Of Short Circuiting Youth's Campaign

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA)--A friend of Yasha Kazakov accused the Israel government today of short circuiting the struggle by the 23-year-old Russian emigre to secure immigration rights for his family in Moscow. Boris Sperling claimed that the government did not wholeheartedly support young Kazakov's eight-day hunger strike in front of United Nations headquarters in New York and actually "short circuited" it by calling on him to end his fast. Mr. Sperling, speaking at the Commercial and Industrial Club here, hinted at possible sympathy strikes in Israel. As long as the government fails to carry on the struggle in the way "we understand it should be conducted, we will abstain from our normal work and carry on the struggle openly, shouting aloud what we have to tell the world," he said. Kazakov ended his fast last Thursday at the urging of his father, Joseph. The elder Kazakov telephoned his appeal from Moscow to the Israeli UN Mission. The message was conveyed to his son by Ambassador Yosef Teikoh, chief Israeli representative to the UN.

The young man, who was allowed to leave Russia a year ago and settled in Israel, will return here from New York tomorrow. Mr. Sperling predicted he would get a rousing welcome at the airport from Knesset members, fellow immigrants from the Soviet Union and friends. Sperling's charges against the Israel government apparently were prompted by a Cabinet decision last Thursday to restrict "private initiatives" on behalf of Soviet Jews while continuing international initiatives on an official level. The proposal was adopted over the opposition of Haim Landau, the Minister of Development who represents the militant Herut faction. But no objections were raised by another Herut member of the Cabinet, Minister of Transport Ezer Weizman. (Jewish students at Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg and Cape Town University held a one-day fast yesterday in solidarity with Yasha Kazakov. They signed a petition addressed to the Soviet government urging full rights for Jews including the right to leave for Israel.)

#### East German Military Experts Begin Training Egyptian Soldiers And Parachutists

BONN, April 5 (JTA)--East German Foreign Minister Otto Winzer flew to Cairo this weekend to confer with Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and with East German ambassadors and representatives there and in other Arab and African states. Concurrently, East German military experts have begun training Egyptian soldiers and parachutists. Mr. Winzer is accompanied on his trip by experts from the Foreign Ministry's Middle East section.

## Jewish Communities in Latin America And Israel Protest Soviet Treatment Of Jews

SAO PAULO, Brazil, April 5 (JTA)--An unprecedented declaration of concern with the plight of Soviet Jewry has been issued by Brazilian Jewry in a 1500-word manifesto given wide dissemination in the news media. The detailed document, released by the Confederation of Brazilian Jews, attacked Soviet policy toward its Jews as anti-Semitic and discriminatory, scored it for seeking to destroy Israel, deplored the self-disparagement of 63 high-ranking Soviet Jews, and called for freedom of emigration. Confederation president Moyses Kauffmann spoke personally to the press here. In Rio de Janeiro, Samuel Malamud, president of the local branch, met with the Brazilian Press Association. The manifesto was up to date on facts regarding the situation of Soviet Jews, with the most recent developments in the form of attached Xerox sheets. Accompanying the document was an open letter to United Nations Secretary General U Thant signed by 25 Russian Jews seeking emigration to Israel.

(In Mexico City, the Union of Rabbis of Latin America has issued two statements protesting the treatment of Soviet Jewry and U.S. policy towards Israel. One statement was sent to President Nixon, according to Rabbi Abraham M. Hersberg, president of the organization. The statement protesting treatment of Soviet Jewry, declared the Soviet Union "wants to destroy the spiritual life of the Jewish people behind the Iron Curtain." It noted that Soviet policy has always been to prevent rabbis from involvement in politics, but that "when it comes (time) to speak against Israel," the Soviet government has used and forced rabbis to speak out. The statement also noted that "Some Jewish leaders still believe that we should be silent and not demonstrate against our enemies." Recalling that six million Jews were killed by the Nazis while Jews were silent, the statement called on Jews to "demonstrate in our synagogues, in our schools, and all over" against the Soviet treatment of Jews. The statement sent to President Nixon noted that "I (Rabbi Hersberg) know you are a great friend of the State of Israel, as you mentioned to me that you are very interested in the welfare of Israel. I have also heard from David Ben Gurion, former Prime Minister of Israel, that he feels the same way." He appealed to Nixon to help bring the combatants in the Middle East together in face to face peace talks.)

(In Jerusalem, Miss Angie Brooks, president of the United Nations General Assembly was released today from Hadassah Hospital where she had been confined for the past week with a respiratory ailment. While hospitalized, she received a petition from the Israeli National Students Union demanding full rights for Soviet Jews. According to sources the petition was conveyed to Miss Brooks by Foreign Ministry officials because she was unable to receive a student delegation due to her illness. Miss Brooks is reported to have also received several requests from private persons seeking her aid in behalf of relatives who want to leave the Soviet Union. The Council of Women's Organizations in Israel issued an appeal to women's groups throughout the world to use their influence in behalf of the Jews in the Soviet Union to emigrate and join other members of their families in Israel. The appeal cited the eight-day hunger strike by Yasha Kazarov as an event which symbolized "the suffering of hundreds of thousands of Jews" in Russia.)

## Zionist Leader Says Mideast Peace More Remote Now Than A Year Ago

GROSSINGER, N.Y., April 5 (JTA)--Leaders of the Zionist Organization of America were told this weekend that the chances of peace in the Middle East are further away than a year ago and that there is "no chance for peace in the very near future." Ehud Avriel, chairman of the Actions Committee (General Council) of the World Zionist Organization, added that in spite of the victory of the Six-Day War, the Arabs and their Soviet "sponsors" had not learned to live in peace with Israel. But Mr. Avriel told the more than 180 leaders of the ZOA that Israel now has better strategic borders and that a new war will be "in the middle of Arab countries and not in Jewish villages or towns." Mr. Avriel called on the ZOA to aid Israel in bringing even more American students to the Jewish state. "We believe," he said, "Israel must find new avenues to make it easier for Jews to come to Israel."

Jacques Torczyner, president of the ZOA, commenting on President Nixon's decision not to send jets to Israel, said he "regretted" the President's decision. Mr. Torczyner, however, added that he believed the President's decision was not final and that it would "be corrected" after the administration reappraises the role of the Soviet Union in the Middle East, including their supplying of SAM-3 missiles and military personnel to Egypt. Joseph Sapir, Israel's Minister of Commerce and Industry, told the conference that "Israel's economy is now on the verge of a new entry into a new era of industrial development." He said this new industrial development "gives investors from developed countries the opportunity for profitable investment based on the relative advantage of the Israeli economy, especially that of manpower in fields of highly sophisticated production, as in science-based industry." Mr. Sapir noted that "everything connected with war is unfortunate," but because of incentives in strictly military fields, "there is also a direct result in the transmission of some new products into civilian markets, such as electronics and aviation." He said that a joint venture by American investors and Israeli participants has the best chance of success.

## Israel's South African Community Mourns Death of Two Army Officers

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--Israel's South African community was in mourning today for two Army officers killed in action last week, both of them the sons of prominent immigrants from South Africa. Funeral services were held today at the Jerusalem Military Cemetery for Capt. Adam Weller, son of Dr. Moses Cyrus Weller, former Chief Rabbi of the Reform community in South Africa and presently rabbi of the Progressive Community Synagogue in Tel Aviv. Also killed in action in the Syrian border fighting last Thursday was Capt. Daniel Kahan, 23, son of the commander of the northern police district, Maxim Kahan, formerly of Johannesburg. Capt. Kahan was a member of the engineering corps. Capt. Weller was in an armoured division and the circumstances of his death were not disclosed. He was eulogized by the Armoured Corps commander.

## Right-Wing Demonstrators Supporting U.S. Victory in Vietnam Hail Israel

WASHINGTON, April 5 (JTA)--Israel was hailed at a mass demonstration demanding victory in Vietnam here yesterday. Included in the crowd, variously estimated at between 15,000 and 50,000, were about a dozen swastika-wearing members of the National Socialist White Peoples Party, formerly known as the American Nazi Party, who carried placards denouncing President Nixon as a "No Win Swine" and proclaiming, "Marxism is Jewish." But the organizer of the demonstration, Rev. Carl McIntire, a fundamentalist preacher, told the crowd at the Washington Monument, "We stand for Israel. In fact we wish we had a one-eyed general in the Pentagon." The reference was to Israel's Defense Minister, Gen. Moshe Dayan. It was made after Mr. McIntire praised what he called the broad racial and religious composition of the pro-war marchers. He asked all Roman Catholics and Jews present to raise their hands for praise. Many Catholics and a few Jews responded.

Mr. McIntire is widely known for his anti-Communist radio commentary and his association with the radical right. His rally drew contingents from such extremist groups as the Minutemen, the National States Rights Party and the National Youth Alliance. In the main the marchers appeared to be followers of former Gov. George C. Wallace, of Alabama, an unsuccessful presidential candidate in 1968. Demands for victory in Vietnam were coupled with denunciations of liberals, socialists, sex education in schools and anti-segregationists. Many Confederate flags were seen in the crowd.

## Dr. Prinz Says Dr. Goldmann Wrong in Saying Israel Attracts Rightist Support

ORANGE, N.J., April 5 (JTA)--Dr. Joachim Prinz, chairman of the governing council of the World Jewish Congress, expressed disagreement today with the recent statements by WJC president Dr. Nahum Goldmann that Israel is attracting increasing support from rightist groups. In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dr. Prinz labeled the allegations "lacking in clarity and substantiation," noting that the neo-Nazi National Democratic party in Germany is "viciously opposed to Israel." Dr. Goldmann, writing in the April issue of Foreign Affairs Quarterly, had asserted that one "negative consequence of (the) permanent state of war" in the Middle East was that "in many parts of the world it is the reactionary, nationalistic groups which have become the sponsors and admirers of Israel, whereas large parts of the progressive world have become disappointed and antagonistic to Israel." Dr. Prinz noted that "progressive elements," including anti-war protesters and civil rights activists, have been solidly pro-Israel.

Dr. Prinz disclosed a cable, just received from Dr. Goldmann in Jerusalem, stating: "My article in Foreign Affairs, as well as a series of articles now being published by me in Haaretz, are the expression of my personal opinion. The WJC position, as confirmed by its recent executive committee meeting in Tel Aviv, is unreserved support for Israel, whose government alone is responsible for its foreign policies. I have always fully accepted and continue to accept this position. The WJC comprises Jewish groups, agencies and communities from all over the world holding different opinions, and it has therefore never taken a position on Israel's foreign policy." Dr. Prinz described as "frightening" the pro-war, pro-Israel rally in Washington on Saturday. Dr. Prinz said Mr. McIntire was merely a "peripheral figure" who did not represent conservative American thought. He re-emphasized that he did not think the "reactionary forces of the world" were rallying behind Israel.

## Two Rabbis Express 'Unalterable Opposition' To Nomination Of Judge Carswell

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA)--Two American rabbis have expressed their "unalterable opposition" to the nomination of Judge G. Harrold Carswell to the United States Supreme Court. Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and Rabbi Henry Siegmans, executive vice president of the Synagogue Council of America which represents the lay and rabbinic bodies of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jewry, joined five Christian clergymen in protesting the Carswell nomination. The seven signed a telegram addressed to Senators who have indicated their support of the nomination or who are still uncommitted. The telegram said, in part: "We, American religious leaders, wish to express our unalterable opposition to his (Carswell's) nomination. Such an act would, in our judgment, be an affront to our national black citizens, and deal a serious blow to the pursuit of racial justice. Carswell's nomination and/or confirmation would further deepen the cynical malaise with which so many of our citizens now view the future of our country and intensify their conviction that America is speedily sliding into moral decadence." The other signatories of the telegram were Dr. John Bennett, Bishop William Crittendon, Dr. Dana McLean Greeley, Rev. David Hunter and Rev. Robert B. Moss.

## Scarsdale UJA To Cite Robert H. Arnow At Testimonial Dinner

SCARSDALE, N.Y., April 5 (JTA)--Robert H. Arnow, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and a leader in Jewish communal affairs, will be honored for his commitment to the humanitarian aims of the United Jewish Appeal at a testimonial dinner tendered by the UJA's Scarsdale Division on Monday, May 11, at Temple Israel Center of White Plains. Plans for the dinner were announced by William M. Landau, the chairman of the Scarsdale Division's 1970 campaign. Mr. Arnow also urged Scarsdale residents to continue their support of the UJA's relief and rehabilitation operations. "There must be no slackening," he added. "We must demonstrate our solidarity with the people of Israel by aiding the humanitarian efforts of the UJA."

## Dr. Shelley R. Saphire, A Founder of Yeshiva University, Dies At Age 79

OAKLAND, Calif., April 5 (JTA)--Dr. Shelley R. Saphire, one of the founders of Yeshiva College, now Yeshiva University, died here Friday at the age of 79. Dr. Saphire, a biologist, served as the first dean of Yeshiva College, the first such institution established under Jewish auspices in the United States. He was also a professor and head of the biology department until 1960 when he was named professor emeritus.