

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## U Thant Studying Assertion By Jordanian Official That Cease-Fire Line No Longer Exists

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 27 (JTA)--A United Nations spokesman said today that Secretary General U Thant is studying a remark by the Jordanian Foreign Minister, Abdul Moneim Rifai, which Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah has called "a development of the utmost gravity." Mr. Rifai made a statement last Friday indicating that the cease-fire between Israel and Jordan has ceased to exist. Ambassador Tekoah sent a letter to Mr. Thant today asking for clarification. The exact nature of the Jordanian diplomat's statement was unclear. One report said he had asserted that the cease-fire was no longer operative. Other reports said Mr. Rifai explained that Jordan would not feel obliged to observe the cease-fire if Israel continued to insist on retaining the occupied territories.

Ambassador Tekoah acted in response to a directive from Israeli "political sources," to emphasize the "grave significance" of the Rifai comment to Mr. Thant and ask him to clarify it. Mr. Tekoah's directive is understood to have come from the Israeli Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. In his letter, Mr. Tekoah quoted reports from Amman that Mr. Rifai had "agreed with Nasser" that the cease-fire was "non-existent." The Israeli envoy reiterated that, on the contrary, it was "unconditional," and that Jordan had created a "most dangerous situation" with the Minister's statement. The Israeli ambassador called on Mr. Thant to "urgently apprise the Jordanian government of the full implications" of the statement. When President Nasser made a similar declaration last year, Israel initiated a program of raids on Egypt. Asked today by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency whether the new Jordanian statement made full-scale war more imminent, Mr. Tekoah declined comment.

## Some 50 Suspected Terrorists Arrested In Gaza Strip In Recent Weeks And 12 Killed

TEL AVIV, April 27 (JTA)--Security sources disclosed today that some 50 suspected terrorists have been arrested in the Gaza Strip in recent weeks and 12 others killed in Israeli raids on arms caches in refugee camps in and near Gaza. The suspects were apprehended and the arms found in the El Burej, El Mouazi, Jebeliyeh and Shati refugee camps. All of them are believed connected with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the security sources said. The organization's political leader was captured April 12 while trying to escape into Jordan, and three other key terrorists were seized in the Sinai trying to enter Egypt. But the most important catch of all, according to these sources, is 24-year-old Jallat Aziza, alias Abu Hafez, commander of the Front's military arm. Aziza was born in Gaza, spent time in Egypt and returned to Gaza prior to the Six Day War, after which he went into hiding. The arms seized included guns, machineguns, submachineguns, mortars, explosives and ammunition. A military spokesman reported yesterday that Pvt. Itzhak Shwilli was killed and two other Israeli soldiers were wounded Saturday during an Egyptian mortar attack on Israeli positions near Kantara in the northern section of the Suez Canal zone. A third Israeli soldier was wounded later in the canal area.

## A Number Of Soviet Jews, Including Yosif Kazakov, Have Been Granted Exit Visas

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--Informed sources reported here yesterday that a number of Soviet Jews, including Yosif Kazakov, who have publicly demanded the right to emigrate to Israel have been granted exit visas and given ten days to leave the Soviet Union. The sources said they include members of a group of 39 Moscow Jews who signed and distributed a letter to the Soviet Foreign Ministry denouncing official policies toward Israel and declaring that they were ready to "abandon everything we have to go to Israel, even if we have to walk." The sources gave the names of four Jews believed to be among those granted visas. They are Julius Telesin, Moisey Landman, Boris Sahlain and Kazakov, all of whom have been described in the government newspaper Izvestia as "social outcasts" long known for their "Zionist views." Yosif Kazakov is the father of Yasha Kazakov, a 23-year-old Soviet Jewish emigre who recently staged an eight-day hunger strike in front of United Nations headquarters in New York to dramatize his demand for emigration rights for his family in Moscow. The younger Kazakov was permitted to leave Russia two years ago and settled in Israel.

## Stangl, Former Commandant Of Treblinka, To Go On Trial As War Criminal

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--When the Brazilian government agreed to extradite former Nazi SS Major Franz Paul Stangl to West Germany for trial as a war criminal, it made the unusual condition that the maximum sentence imposed on him if convicted should not be more than 15 years. Stangl, who was commandant of the notorious Treblinka concentration camp in Poland during World War II, goes on trial in Dusseldorf next month. He will subsequently face trial in Austria, the country where he was born. According to Anthony Terry, correspondent for the Sunday Times who made the disclosure yesterday, West German authorities agreed to the Brazilian conditions and promised to reduce any sentence higher than 15 years pronounced on Stangl. They also agreed to Brazil's demand that the charges against him be limited to the alleged murders of 400,000 Jewish prisoners at Treblinka because Brazil's statute of limitations does not permit him to be tried for earlier offenses.

Stangl, now 62, was the object of an 18 year search. He went to Brazil in 1948 from Syria after evading arrest by U.S. authorities in Europe. His steps were traced with the help of Simon Wiesenthal, director of the Nazi war criminal archives in Vienna. He was spotted working at the Volkswagon plant in Sao Paulo, Brazil and elaborate precautions were taken to prevent him from learning that he was under surveillance while the extradition machinery was put into motion, Mr. Terry reported. He said

that the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, then U.S. Attorney General, wrote his opposite number in Brazil to make it clear that "operation Stangl" had top level backing in Washington. Stangl has pleaded not guilty to all charges against him. He will be confronted at his trial by 17 survivors of Treblinka. They are the remains of a group of prisoners who escaped from the death camp during a mutiny of inmates in 1943.

### Israel Tennis Association Cancels Davis Cup Tournament With Rhodesia

TEL AVIV, April 27 (JTA)--The Israel Tennis Association, apparently yielding to government pressure, has cancelled its scheduled Davis Cup Tournament match with Rhodesia. The Israeli Foreign Ministry has been urging cancellation since the International Lawn Tennis Association paired Israel with Rhodesia and ordered the match to be held in Israel. The government announced recently that it would not admit the Rhodesian players. (Guy Hodder, secretary of the Rhodesian Lawn Tennis Association said in Salisbury yesterday that the Israeli cancellation was "completely non-political.") He said the letter of cancellation received from the Israel Tennis Association explained that the top Israeli player, Willie Davidmann, was under doctor's orders not to play for three months and another player has been called up for military duty. The Israelis therefore felt they could not field a strong enough side for the Davis Cup play, Mr. Hodder said. Rhodesian tennis champion Hank Irvine called the Israeli letter "a reasonable explanation.") Several weeks ago the Israeli Tennis Association appeared determined to go through with the match and said it would play outside Israel if necessary. It apparently had a change of mind. Israel is officially opposed to apartheid and the racial policies of the Rhodesian government.

### Police Report 50 Nablus Residents Questioned About Grenade Throwing Incident

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--Police have reported that 50 residents of Nablus were still being held for questioning in the grenade throwing incident last Wednesday in which six women tourists and 15 local Arabs were wounded. The six women were not badly hurt and most of the wounded Arabs have been discharged from the hospital. Officials said that the grenade was thrown from a black automobile at a waiting bus which had stopped for Nablus sightseeing. The three American women tourists, while hospitalized, issued an appeal to President Nixon to "send more Phantoms." The military governor in Nablus warned the Mayor and other Arab notables that continuation of violence would bring stringent measures against the West bank town. The Mayor contended that grenade incidents were the actions of individuals and that the entire population of Nablus should not be made to suffer for such incidents.

### Conference Scheduled To Deal With Anti-Semitic Material In Parochial Schools

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--The International Committee of Jewish and Christian Organizations will hold a conference soon to consider how to deal with allegedly anti-Semitic passages still remaining in parochial school materials. This was disclosed here by Benjamin Yaffe, director of the Jewish Agency's Department for External Relations, who has returned from a committee session in the Netherlands.

### Al Ahran Editor To Revamp Egypt's Propaganda Machine And Give It Realistic Touch

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--President Gamal Abdel Nasser has appointed his personal friend and confidant Mohammed Hassenein Heykal as the head of Egypt's public information services. The 45 year-old newspaper man edits Al Ahran, the largest daily in the Arab world and is a firm believer in giving the public the true facts however unpleasant they may be at times. Officially Mr. Heykal was named to the post of Minister of Guidance succeeding Mohammed Payek who was appointed Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Col. Nasser named three other ministers of state and a new ambassador to Paris in what were described as his most important government changes in two years. The elevation of Mr. Heykal coinciding with stepped up Egyptian ground and air activity against Israeli positions in the occupied Sinai peninsula, was seen by the (London) Guardian today as the beginning of a campaign to convince the outside world that no peace is possible unless Israel withdraws from Arab land. This is where the appointment of Heykal as information minister comes in, the Guardian said.

"Arab observers believe Nasser chose him to mastermind a campaign to get this message across. The message is not for home consumption but directed particularly to the West where Arab battle claims have been received in the past with considerable scepticism." Mr. Heykal will have authority over information and propaganda activities including publishing, television and radio and other means of informing and influencing opinion at home and abroad. He has been a critic of secrecy and bureaucratic obfuscation. His close relationship with President Nasser has given Al Ahran the status of a semi-official organ of state. The views it expresses are said to be usually those of the President. As an editor and editorialist Mr. Heykal has opposed officials who want to keep bad news from the public. Last January he disclosed in Al Ahran that a complete Soviet-made radar station had been captured by Israeli commandos and flown off by helicopters. In one of his columns he assailed the practice of issuing optimistic military communiqués when they are not justified. Subsequently, military spokesmen began announcing the deaths of Egyptian soldiers and civilians in Israeli air attacks.

### Mass Rally To Call On Soviet Government To Permit Jews To Emigrate To Israel

BUENOS AIRES, April 27 (JTA)--"Let My People Go," an appeal to the Soviet government to permit Jews to emigrate to Israel if they wish, will be the theme of a mass rally May 14 at Luna Park, the largest stadium in Buenos Aires. It will be attended by delegates from 15 Latin American countries and is expected to draw thousands of adults and youths from Buenos Aires and the provincial cities. A 300-member delegation is expected from Brazil. Plans for the event were disclosed at a press conference called by Dr. Isaac Goldenberg and Mark Turkow, chairman and secretary respectively of the Latin American Jewish Congress. The rally will coincide with the third plenary session of the Congress to be held here. Dr. Goldenberg said that no special figure will be the "star" of the rally as has been the practice at similar community gatherings in the past. It is intended to be simply a manifestation of mass Jewish solidarity with the Jews of Russia, he said.

## Britain Refuses To Extradite Man Soviets Claim Murdered Ukrainian Jews In World War II

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--The British government is reported to have rejected a Soviet demand for the arrest and extradition of a man now resident in Britain accused by the Soviets of mass murders of Ukrainian Jews during World War II. The British Embassy in Moscow said the Soviet request was delivered to the Embassy January and that it was rejected in March. The British Foreign Office stated that Britain has no extradition treaty with the Soviet Union. Tass, the Soviet news agency, identified the man named in the note as Yuri Epifanovich Chapodze, a resident of Bournemouth. Chapodze, 57, who changed his name to George Chapell, said that "these charges are definitely not true. I was in the Ukraine at the time but I was in the Soviet Army."

He added he would "refuse to comment any more until such time as some official approach is made to me. I don't worry if they (Soviet officials) have something against me, I cannot hide but there is nothing on my conscience." He has been in Britain for 22 years since leaving his home in Soviet Georgia and is now a naturalized British subject. According to Tass, Chapodze, then a squad commander in a "Caucasian Company" took part during the summer of 1943 in the slaughter of some 2000 inmates of two Jewish ghettos in Tarnopol in the Eastern Galicia region. Tass charged he had personally shot women, children and elderly victims and that in October, 1943, he took part in an "operation" to murder 3000 Jewish inmates in the Yanovsky camp on the outskirts of Ivov, and that he personally shot them.

## Times Square In N.Y. Will Be Turned Into Warsaw Square To Celebrate Ghetto Uprising

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Times Square will become Warsaw Ghetto Square at noon, Sunday, when hundreds of people from the metropolitan area will gather there to commemorate the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Anniversary Committee and the Manhattan Region of the Zionist Organization of America, announced today. The city's Deputy Mayor, Timothy Costello, will conduct the ceremony and Mayor John V. Lindsay will issue a proclamation on behalf of the City designating Sunday as Warsaw Ghetto Commemoration Day throughout New York City. The 27th anniversary of the uprising ceremony Sunday corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan of the Hebrew calendar and is the date when such commemoration will be observed throughout the world, spokesmen for the sponsoring committee said.

Later in the day a solemn candle lighting ceremony commemorating the uprising will be held beside a symbolic wall at the auditorium of Hunder College. Speakers will include Arthur J. Goldberg, former U.S. representative to the United Nations; Major General Eliahu Zeira, Military Attache of Israel Embassy, Washington, D. C.; and Shlomo Ben Israel, famous writer. The ceremony, under the auspices of a Joint Commemorating Committee, is planned also as a memorial service for the six million Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis.

## Jewish Youths, Protesting Soviet Policy Toward Jews, Say Marx Would Be An Outcast

AMSTERDAM, April 27 (JTA)--Jewish youths demonstrating in front of the Soviet Trade Mission here during Passover, offered matzoth and wine to persons entering the building to attend a Lenin Centenary reception. They fixed posters to the railing quoting Lenin against anti-Semitism. Another poster said, "Marx would have been a second class citizen in Russia today." The youths were protesting policies that repress Jewish cultural and religious life in the Soviet Union.

## Hot War On Israel's Borders No Deterrent To Israeli-Arab Student Amity In Israel

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--The hot war raging along Israel's borders appears to have no effect on the normally amicable relations between Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel. This is especially evident on Israeli college campuses and in vocational and other high schools where Jewish and Arab youth study together and fraternize as if there were no Middle East conflict. The situation was described in reports by the Women's American ORT and from the University of Haifa. At the latter, 240 of the 3800 students are Arabs. Although the number is small, the University has developed a program for Arab students, offering courses that will enable them to return to their home towns as teachers and community leaders, according to Eliezer Rafaeli, director general of the University.

The Women's American ORT reported that many minority group students--Arabs, Druze and Circassian--attend its vocational high schools and apprenticeship centers with predominantly Jewish student bodies. Others attend ORT high schools which serve minority groups exclusively, located in Nazareth, Abu Gosh and Isfiya. "Of greatest interest perhaps are the ORT schools in which Israeli Arabs form a minority," the report said. "From time to time, an Arab pupil may experience initial adjustment problems, but these are not always because he is studying in a predominantly Jewish school. If they are, however, school directors and teachers take prompt corrective action--which usually begins with a quiet reminder to the Jewish students that, being in the majority, they have an obligation to make the Arab boy or girl feel accepted and at ease," the report said. According to the directors of some ORT vocational schools, "the Arab boys frequently work harder and take better care of the equipment than some Jewish boys do. As for hostility in day-to-day relations, it simply does not exist here."

## Nasser Said To Have Rejected British Proposal For Cease-Fire Line In Suez Canal Zone

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt is reported to have rejected out of hand a British proposal to re-establish the cease-fire in the Suez Canal zone. This rejection was contained in a "shock report" that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco brought home to Washington from his recent "orientation tour" of the Middle East, according to a report in today's Evening Standard. The proposal allegedly called for an exchange of Egyptian and Israeli declarations supporting the cease-fire. But Pres. Nasser told Mr. Sisco that he regarded the cease-fire as a means by which Israel could entrench itself along the canal. He said he would not adhere to it until the Israelis withdrew, the Standard reported.

## AJCongress Urges Senate Committee To Recommend Ratification Of Genocide Convention

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress today urged the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to "move promptly and positively" in recommending Senate ratification of the United Nations Genocide Convention. In a letter to Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. William Fulbright, Eleazar Lipsky, chairman of the Congress' Commission on International Affairs, said that U.S. failure to ratify the treaty for more than 20 years "has compromised our country's support of the world-wide effort to elevate standards of morality and decency among nations." Noting that President Nixon, Secretary of State William F. Rogers and Attorney General John Mitchell have endorsed the call for immediate ratification, Mr. Lipsky declared that responsibility for action "now rests inescapably upon the Senate."

The AJCongress statement came as a Foreign Relations subcommittee continued hearings today on the Genocide Convention, which was submitted to the Senate by President Truman. Since the treaty's adoption by the United Nations in 1948, 75 nations have ratified it. The United States--in what Mr. Lipsky termed a "tragic impasse"--has withheld endorsement until now. The hearings, which began last Thursday before the special subcommittee on the Genocide Convention of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, opened with a plea for ratification by Sen. William Proxmire, Democrat of Wisconsin, who said he had been working since 1967 to get the Senate to ratify this and other UN human rights conventions. Administration representatives argued for ratification on the grounds that U.S. approval of the treaty would give it more powers as world law, and more clout in world public opinion. "Senate ratification of the Genocide Convention will publicly reaffirm our fundamental belief that human life is most precious," Sen. Proxmire said.

The Genocide Convention was passed by the UN in the wake of Hitler's systematic extermination of six million Jews. The treaty pledges each nation to end genocide and to pass legislation making genocide a crime within its own country. Dr. William Pierce, representative of the National Socialist White Peoples Party, claimed that the convention "would not...prevent or...punish racial or religious massacres in this country." He said ratification had not stopped the Congo from massacring the whites, Cambodia from executing the Vietnamese, or Israel from deliberately destroying the Palestinians. All those countries have ratified the convention. The hearings are led by subcommittee chairman Frank Church, Democrat of Idaho.

## U Thant And Dr. Bunche Studying Quaker Report But Unlikely To Offer Public Comment

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 27 (JTA)--A United Nations spokesman said today it is unlikely that either Secretary General U Thant or Under Secretary Dr. Ralph J. Bunche would comment on a Quaker report released yesterday which outlines a series of steps to be taken by the UN, Israel and the Arab states to achieve peace in the Middle East. The spokesman said neither official normally comments on studies by non-governmental organizations but indicated that both had copies of the report and were studying it. The 20,000-word study, issued by the American Friends Service Committee following two years of travel in Israel and Arab countries, includes a recommendation for an emergency UN peace-keeping force in a demilitarized buffer zone "removable only by a Security Council vote," and calls for a UN conference of all Mideast arms suppliers.

A UN source said Dr. Bunche appeared to have some immediate reservation about the report's proposal for reactivating a peace-keeping force. He added Dr. Bunche had made no formal comments. Such a force was active until May 1967 when Mr. Thant ordered it removed at the request of Egyptian President Nasser. The Six-Day War followed within weeks of the removal. The Quaker report, which will be published as a book next month, also calls on Israel to take the initiative in withdrawing its troops from occupied territories and that the Arabs must then recognize Israel's "territorial integrity within agreed-upon boundaries." In addition, the report criticizes American Zionist leaders for their uncritical acceptance of Israel's government views and ignoring dissident elements in and out of the government that are searching "for more creative ways to solve the Middle East problems."

## Plans Under Way In N.Y. Metropolitan Area To Celebrate Israel Independence Day

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Elaborate plans are being made in the New York area for the celebration of Israel's Independence Day on May 10. It will be the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the Jewish State. The Israel Anniversary Committee here is sponsoring a show to be presented at Philharmonic Hall, Lincoln Center. The presentation will feature David Frost, a popular television performer and Shelley Winters, Hollywood and Broadway actress. Metropolitan Opera star Martina Arroyo, said she would interrupt a concert tour to perform at the Israeli celebration, accompanied by the City Symphony under the direction of Jak Zadikov. The program includes addresses by Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador to the United States and Sen. Jacob K. Javits of New York.

Sponsors of the annual Salute to Israel Parade on Independence Day hope for an even greater number of marchers than the 60,000 who turned out for the Israel Independence Day Parade in 1969. Marchers and floats will move along Fifth Avenue from 57th to 86th Streets. This year's parade theme is "Israel blossoming from 4000 year roots." The parade is a project of the American Zionist Youth Foundation. Mayor John V. Lindsay is an honorary chairman. Others are Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, of New York and Gov. William T. Cahill, of New Jersey. Independence Day ceremonies sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Bergen County, N.J., will be held May 6 at the Garden State Plaza auditorium at Paramus. It features a cultural exhibition and a Hebrew poster contest for school children. The Israeli Consul, Nahum Eshkol, will open the proceedings. (Overseas, the Chief Rabbinate of Britain will sponsor Israel Independence Day services on May 10 at the Bevis Marks Synagogue. The service is the representative religious event of British Jewry on Israel's anniversary.)