

# 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

Tuesday, September 22, 1970

No. 183

## Mrs. Meir Tells Nation-Wide Audience 'Convinced' Israel Will Get U.S. Aid

NEW YORK, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir completed a hectic round of conferences with President Nixon and key Administration officials and meetings with American Jewish leaders with a report last night to a nation-wide audience in which she declared that she was "convinced" that Israel would get the assistance it has asked for from the United States.

(Mrs. Meir arrived at Lydda airport today and said she would report later to the Cabinet on her visit to the United States. She added that though there was no "absolute identity" between the views of the United States and Israeli governments, "the gap is not too wide and one can easily live with it." She also said that the friendship between Israel and the United States would continue despite differences in political positions and she thanked the United States authorities for the "friendly welcome" she received and for the "good spirit" in which the talks were held. She also praised American Jewry, adding that if anyone in Israel was afraid of being alone, she could give assurance that "many scores of Jews are backing us.")

Mrs. Meir spoke last night before an audience of 3,000 at a dinner here sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal and the Israel Bond Organization. Her address was telecast by closed circuit television to Jewish audiences totalling an estimated 40,000 viewers in 19 cities. She said "I would like to say I am convinced--maybe I should say I am convinced--that we will get it," in reference to her talks about needed help with President Nixon and Secretary of State William P. Rogers in Washington Friday. She met with the two leaders to ask for stepped-up United States deliveries of military equipment and financial aid for Israel which is rapidly depleting its foreign currency reserves to pay for military hardware. Mrs. Meir told intimates here privately, according to the New York Times, that she expected United States financial help to Israel to begin in the immediate future. The Times reported that Nixon Administration officials said recently that Israel would receive about \$450 million in loans next year, more than half of it to re-finance old and recent arms purchase agreements.

Mrs. Meir also appealed in her address here last night, for more money from American Jews. She said the contributions and Israel Bond purchases of American Jews were needed not only "for itself" but also to demonstrate American Jewish solidarity with Israel. She repeated Israel's charge of cease-fire violations by Egypt and said the latter country would not have dared to violate the truce if it did not have the Soviet Union's backing. "The fact that they (the Russians) dared break a promise they made to the American Government, that's a terribly frightening thing not only for Israel but for the world," she said. She claimed that the Kremlin was ready to sacrifice not only Israel but the Egyptian people "for their selfish imperialist aims." Mrs. Meir said Israel was not fighting for victory or territorial gains but for peace within secure borders, "What your President has called 'defensible borders,'" she said. She repeated that Israel could not return to the Jarring peace talks unless there is a complete roll-back of the missiles Egypt installed in the standstill cease-fire zone.

(In an interview published in Paris today, Israel's Deputy Premier Yigal Allon said Israel would sooner risk a dispute with the United States than agree to borders that it did not consider secure. The interview appeared in the weekly *Nouvel Observateur*. The paper quoted Mr. Allon as saying, "If Israel had to choose, we would choose security borders because a misunderstanding with Washington would be temporary whereas borders would be permanent." Mr. Allon said further that Israel had the material resources to resist pressure from the U.S. "If and when they should take the form of political and economic sanctions, we have sufficient weapons and equipment to successfully conduct war with the Arab states for years," he said.)

Earlier yesterday Mrs. Meir addressed a private meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. She reportedly told them that she was "flying home feeling better" as a result of her talks with President Nixon and Secretary Rogers. After addressing the Bond-UJA dinner, Mrs. Meir conferred at her hotel with Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban who had just arrived to attend the United Nations General Assembly sessions. She boarded a special El Al airliner at Kennedy Airport just before 1 a.m. for her return trip to Israel. Speakers who preceded Mrs. Meir at the Bond-UJA dinner included Edward Ginsberg, general chairman of the UJA, Samuel Rothberg, national campaign chairman of State of Israel Bonds, Abraham Feinberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization, Max Fisher, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and Dr. William A. Wexler, chairman of the Presidents' Conference.

The Israel Consulate said today that Mr. Eban was now scheduled to address the General Assembly on Wednesday. A spokesman for the U.S. Mission said Secretary of State Rogers had cancelled plans to address the Assembly, citing the Jordanian crisis and his pending accompaniment of President Nixon on the latter's eight-day Mediterranean tour which starts next Sunday. The spokesman said that Charles Yost, United States ambassador to the UN, will speak in Mr. Rogers' place, probably next Monday or Tuesday.

## State Dept. Says U.S. Has No Current Information On Situation Of Hostages In Jordan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 (JTA)--A State Department official admitted today that the United States has no current information as to the whereabouts and condition of 54 hijacked airline passengers--38 of them

Americans--held hostage by Arab terrorists in Jordan. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey indicated that the U.S. was continuing to rely on an International Red Cross negotiating team in Amman to secure the hostages' freedom. The IRC has apparently had no contact with the terrorists since heavy fighting broke out between them and Jordanian regulars last week. Mr. McCloskey said last Friday that information on the hostages available then was at least 36 hours old, indicating that nothing new has been heard since last Tuesday or Wednesday. Defense Secretary Melvin Laird said Friday that as far as the U.S. knew, the hostages were safe. Mr. McCloskey said that in addition to the 38 Americans among the hostages there were 350 private American citizens in Jordan and 40 official Americans, meaning Embassy personnel. He said facilities for their evacuation were ready but so far the U.S. Embassy in Amman has not recommended evacuation.

(The Syrian invasion of northern Jordan and the uncertain fate of 54 hijacked airline passengers held hostage by Arab terrorists in that country has basically altered the situation as far as Israel is concerned, informed sources said in Jerusalem today. They said the intervention of outside forces in the Jordanian fighting would affect Israel's policy of non-intervention. Israel has so far adhered to the principle of non-interference in Jordan's internal affairs irrespective of who is in power in that country. Deputy Premier Yigal Allon has gone on record as saying that he would "be willing to negotiate with an El Fatah government if it were in control of the country." According to Israeli reports, a Syrian armored force captured Irbid, Jordan's second largest city last night. Amman radio said the Syrians were attacking Irbid and that government troops were outnumbered and suffered heavy casualties. But there was no confirmation that the city had fallen. Irbid, in northern Jordan, is a guerrilla stronghold where King Hussein has been unable to exert effective authority for many months.)

Secretary of State William P. Rogers called on Syria to end its invasion of Jordan, warning that it could lead to a wider war in the Mideast. Mr. Rogers underscored U.S. concern by conveying a similar warning to the Soviet Union through diplomatic channels urging Moscow to impress on Syria the dangers of the situation. The Defense Department said today that U.S. forces in Europe and the Middle East have been alerted for the possible evacuation of American citizens from Jordan. (Official French sources warned in Paris today that the lives of 54 hostages held by Arab terrorists in Jordan would be endangered if any foreign power intervened in the civil war in that country. President Georges Pompidou, without mentioning the hostages, warned that "outside intervention is already creating and would create, a dangerous situation for world peace." It was not clear whether his warning was aimed at potential intervention by the United States or Israel or at the reported invasion of Jordan by Syrian forces today. Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann said he did not believe the U.S. would intervene physically in the Jordanian crisis. He said he gained that impression from his recent talks with Secretary of State William P. Rogers.)

The hijackers have demanded the release of seven Arab prisoners in West Germany, Switzerland and Britain, plus an undisclosed number in Israel in exchange for the hostages. The three European countries, along with the U.S. and Israel, have been holding consultations in Berne, Switzerland for the past two weeks on means to secure the hostages' release. Israel, which refuses to be part of any exchange deal with the commandos, attended the Berne meetings as an observer but has now apparently joined the group as a working member. This was indicated by Israel's signature on an appeal last week for the transfer of the captives to another country because of the heavy fighting in Jordan. West Germany's relations with Israel have reportedly become strained and uneasy because of the latter's refusal to contribute to a package deal with the terrorists. The Bonn government reportedly has said it would make a private arrangement with the terrorists for its nationals unless there was more progress. According to unconfirmed reports, West German diplomats in Bonn and Jerusalem have been told to expect a wave of anti-German feeling in Israel if West Germany breaks the united front.

### Security Strengthened At Bonn Home Of Israeli Envoy After Threats

BONN, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Security arrangements were strengthened around the home of Israeli Ambassador Eliahi Ben Horin today. Police said they took the measures after they stopped a number of Arabs near the Ambassador's residence. The Arabs said they were visiting the Arab League office located nearby. A government spokesman had previously reported that the envoy had been under constant guard since the Israel Embassy received an anonymous telephone threat last week that the ambassador would be kidnapped. At the same time, another government spokesman said the German government had learned that Arab terrorists were preparing to renew their activities in West Germany. Werner Smoydzin, Deputy Chief of the German Intelligence Service, said "Thirty thousand Arabs reside in West Germany. Among them are 3,000 Palestinians, many of whom are connected with terrorist groups." He said the West German government knew of Arab plans to renew terrorist activities in West Germany through "our cooperation with intelligence services of other countries."

### Cassin Joins Other Nobel Peace Laureates In UN Plea For Arms Reduction

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 21 (JTA)--Five of the six living Nobel Peace Prize laureates joined here today in a "Declaration on Peace and Disarmaments" in which they singled out the Middle East and Indochina wars as major threats to world peace. In their statement, presented officially to the United Nations today, they said the world remained divided and that violence was spreading. They added that "The Middle East and Southeast Asia are ravaged by war" and that "reduction of armaments has to be a condition of world peace." The declaration was signed by Rene Cassin of France, president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle, the 1968 winner; Linus Pauling of the United States (1962); Sir John Boyd Orr (1949) and Philip J. Noel-Baker (1959), both of Britain, and Lester B. Pearson of Canada (1957). The only other living peace laureate, Dr. Ralph J. Bunche of the U.S. (1950), Under-Secretary General for Special Political Affairs, said that, as a member of the Secretariat, he felt he could not sign the declaration. But he said he fully agreed with and endorsed its text.

## Toronto, Philadelphia Focus Spotlight On Soviet Jewish Plight

MONTREAL, Sept. 21 (JTA)--The Canadian Jewish Congress will hold a "mass solidarity meeting" in Toronto Nov. 14-15 to reaffirm its "unlimiting efforts for the amelioration of our cruelly oppressed brethren in Russia," president Monroe Abbey said. "We continue to be appalled," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, by discrimination against Soviet Jews and by the "euphemism" anti-Zionism for a policy of anti-Semitism. (Students representing the Universities Committee on Soviet Jewry picketed the Soviet Embassy in London yesterday and managed to question an Embassy secretary on the condition of Jews in the USSR. They were unable to see the Soviet Ambassador who, they were told, was at a meeting. The Embassy secretary, identified as a Mr. Dyanov, agreed to speak to three of the students and accepted a letter from them. When asked about the reported arrests of Jews in Leningrad, Riga and elsewhere, he replied that he knew only what was published in the Soviet press. Asked whether the detainees would be tried, he said he did not know of any arrests. He invited the students to return at another time to discuss the matter with him but did not say when he would be free to receive them.)

(Mayor James H. Tate of Philadelphia has declared Sept. 20-Oct. 17 "Soviet Jewry Month" in the City of Brotherly Love. In a City Hall ceremony yesterday, he presented his declaration to executive director Albert Chernin and research-programming director Malcolm Hoenlein of the Jewish Community Relations Council. Mayor Tate scored the "severe restrictions" on Soviet Jews and urged Philadelphians of all faiths to join the fight against that oppression. As in other cities, "World Day for Soviet Jewry" was marked by a rally here. Upcoming are a memorial service on "Babi Yar Day," Sept. 29; special prayers on Rosh Hashanah, Oct. 1-2; the National Youth Mobilization for Soviet Jewry, Oct. 10-13 in Washington, D.C., and Simchat Torah rallies, Oct. 17.) (In Jerusalem, it was reported that a 22-year-old Latvian Jew from Riga, Eisik Rosin, wrote to Shimon Peres, Minister of Transport and Posts, complaining that the Latvian Department of Visas had told him he would never be allowed to leave the Soviet Union. In his letter he wrote "I want to be with my people in Israel." and asked Mr. Peres to "please forward this letter to any international organization capable of helping me." Mr. Peres was Minister of Immigrant Absorption when the letter was received.)

## New Defense Department Official Active In Pro-Arab Friends Of The Middle East

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 (JTA)--The new Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Near East and Asian Affairs, James H. Noyes, was active for more than four years for the American Friends of the Middle East, an organization that has taken a consistently pro-Arab stand on matters affecting that region, it was disclosed today. Mr. Noyes, 43, assumed his Pentagon post on Sept. 15. He is responsible for all policy matters of Defense Department interest pertaining to countries of the Near East and South-east Asia. He served the American Friends of the Middle East at home and abroad. He was employed by the Bank of America's international department for three years and was director of the Northeast Asia division of the Asia Foundation in San Francisco before he was appointed to his present position.

## Steward Wounded In El Al Hijack Attempt Released From London Hospital

LONDON, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Shlomo Vider, the 39-year-old El Al steward who was injured in the aborted attempt to hijack an El Al airliner Aug. 30, was discharged from Hillingdon County Hospital today and flown back to Israel with his wife under strict security precautions. A hospital spokesman said Mr. Vider had received five bullet wounds--three in his back and limbs, one in his abdomen and one behind an ear. Some of the bullets were extracted here, but Mr. Vider was discharged for further treatment in Israel because he was anxious to return home.

## British MP Asks Ban On Public Meeting Featuring El Fatah Speaker

LONDON, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Conservative MP Harold Soref has written to Home Secretary Reginald Maudling asking him to ban a public meeting scheduled to be addressed Wednesday night in Eastbourne by a member of El Fatah, the largest Palestinian guerrilla organization. The subject of the commando's talk is "The Future of Jews in Palestine." Mr. Soref said the meeting was likely to result in a breach of the peace and was thus subject to cancellation by the government. The meeting is a fringe event of the Liberal Party's annual conference, although it is not an official party event. The party leader, MP Jeremy Thorpe, has publicly disavowed the sponsoring group of Young Liberals, who maintain a militant anti-Israel policy.

## Jarring Talk Halt Causes Dip In Egyptian Pound Value In Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Suspension of the Jarring peace talks in New York has caused the Egyptian pound to drop in value relative to the Israel pound in the Gaza Strip. Both currencies have been recognized as legal tender there since Israel occupied the Strip in the June, 1967 war. Many Gaza residents anticipated an early return of Egyptian rule when the Jarring talks began last month and started to unload their Israeli currency. Some made massive purchases of Israeli goods and other exchanged Israeli for Egyptian pounds. The latter rose in value from 5-1 to 6-1. When Israel broke off the talks on grounds of Egyptian truce violations, the old ratio of five Israeli pounds to one Egyptian pound was restored. The buying wave has also ended.

## Histadrut Says Will Push Fight To Mobilize Consumers Against Rising Prices

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21 (JTA)--A Histadrut spokesman has promised that the trade union would continue its efforts to hold down prices despite the apparent failure of its first attempt to mobilize consumer action against rising prices. Histadrut called one-hour consumer boycotts last week in a section of Tel Aviv, in the new immigrant centers of Kiryat Gat and Beersheba and in the resort town of Herzliya but admitted that they were only partially successful. Most housewives were too busy shopping to pay much attention to the exhortations of Histadrut volunteers. The trade union federation said the consumer strike was not directed against goods that have increased in price because of higher taxes.

## U.S. Histadrut Drive Reports Total Gifts Of Nearly \$8 Million In 11 Months

NEW YORK, Sept. 21 (JTA)--The Israel Histadrut campaign in the United States and Canada raised \$3,756,631 in the first 11 months of the current fiscal year, more than \$1 million more than the same period in 1969, it was reported over the weekend by Dr. Sol Stein, national executive director of Histadrut, the National Committee for Labor Israel. An additional \$4 million in deferred gifts--wills, bequests, annuities and life income trusts--was received by the American Histadrut Development Foundation. William H. Sytk of Philadelphia, the foundation's national chairman, added that it had amassed more than \$18.5 million in commitments over the past 10 years for long-range projects in Israel.

The Histadrut board of directors unanimously adopted a six-point program submitted by president Leon H. Keyserling. It comprises extension of fund-raising goals, expansion of the foundation's activities, enrolment of members in Israel Histadrut Associates and similar groups, improvement of relations with American trade unionism, initiation of cultural exchanges between Histadrut and "American intellectuals," and expansion of the effort to inform all Americans of "the achievements, purposes and problems of Israel, and of Histadrut as a part of this, toward developing and activating affirmative support for the economic and social objectives of the people of Israel under institutions of freedom and democracy." The board also voted to support the Israeli government's position regarding Egypt's missile violations and the U.S. government's call for "rectification" of that situation, and called on the U.S. to help free all 54 hostages held in Jordan by "criminal" and "lawless" hijackers.

## First Jewish Migrants To New World Were Hijack Victims, Historian Says

NEW YORK, Sept. 21 (JTA)--The first Jewish immigrants to America came here because they had been sidetracked by hijackers 316 years ago, a group of 200 New York Jews was told here yesterday by Rabbi Avram Goodman, president of the American Jewish Historical Society. The 200 New York Jews made a walking tour of Jewish historical sites in lower Manhattan, starting in Peter Minuit Plaza at the southern tip of Manhattan. A flag pole and a plaque mark the site there of the landing of 23 Jews in 1654, the first to come to New Amsterdam. Rabbi Goodman described the hijacking in a brief discourse to the walkers before they started their tour. He said that the 23 Jews, seeking to escape Portuguese oppression in Recife, Brazil, set sail for what they hoped would be a friendlier haven in Dutch-held Curacao. Their boat was hijacked on the high seas but they were saved by the St. Charles, a French ship, which dropped them off, destitute, in New Amsterdam.

The newcomers were as poorly received by the Dutch as they had been in Brazil, Rabbi Goodman recounted, adding that they were barred from maintaining synagogues, retail stores or fur businesses and denied welfare aid. But, he said, under the leadership of Asser Levy, one of their number, they eventually achieved first-class citizenship. The marchers then walked past the site of the first synagogue, now a parking lot, and under the Brooklyn Bridge to Chatham Square where there is still a part of the first Jewish cemetery in this country.

## Eight Arrested After Clash With Police At Toronto Anti-Zionist Rally

TORONTO, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Eight men were arrested here yesterday on a variety of charges following a clash between 30 members of the Communist party of Canada, a Maoist group, who demonstrated at city hall against "Zionist criminals" and King Hussein of Jordan. One member waved a claw hammer during a march by the Maoists to the nearby United States consulate. At the same time, John Beattie, self-proclaimed Canadian Neo-Nazi leader, denounced Zionism in a speech at Allen Park, attended by an audience of 75, including a number of newsmen. Because of a recently-adopted Canadian anti-bigotry law, the neo-Nazi omitted his customary attacks on "international Jewry" and confined his denunciations to Zionism.

## Detroit Hebrew Teachers Union Bars Strike, Accepts Compromise Pact

DETROIT, Sept. 21 (JTA)--Classes began on schedule in the United Hebrew Schools of Detroit last week after a compromise settlement averted a teachers' strike. Rabbi Charles Rosenzweig, president of the Association of Hebrew Teachers of Metropolitan Detroit, said that while the teachers were not wholly satisfied with the settlement, "We felt that we were not morally ready to go out on strike... We had the power to destroy more than we were willing to destroy," he said. The teachers did not achieve their full wage demands, the Detroit Jewish News reported. They had asked for a five percent pay increment over a six percent cost of living increment this year, a total of 11 percent, and at least a five percent wage increase next year. They accepted an eight percent total pay increase this year and six percent next year. But according to Rabbi Rosenzweig, the teachers' position has been greatly enhanced by the new contract. One key issue, the trend toward fewer full-time teachers, was settled by an agreement with the United Hebrew Schools to explore "means and methods" to find at least 20 additional students willing to take night classes so that more teachers could be employed full time. The students would be those needing extra help or who wanted accelerated work.

The teachers' demand for severance pay was not met. The United Hebrew Schools argued that because half of the teachers were not on tenure, the issue was meaningless. Rabbi Rosenzweig conceded that point but added, "psychologically it would have been a boost for us," the Jewish News reported. The United Hebrew Schools did not agree to union proposals for a teachers' role in policy-making for the system. But it agreed to hold one full board meeting a year devoted to presentations by Association representatives and discussion of them. The Association currently has 56 members; four or five teachers do not belong. The new contract comes up for ratification next week. Rabbi Rosenzweig said the union did win its request for an agency shop. He said all teachers in the United Hebrew Schools will be bound by Association rulings and those teachers who are not dues-paying members of the union must pay fees of equal amount. He also said that the Association had agreed that during the life of the new two-year contract, "we must do a better job of explaining to the board exactly what it means to teach in the Hebrew schools."