

# 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

Thursday, September 24, 1970

No. 185

## Israel Denies Reports Of Mobilization Of Reserves For Jordan Intervention

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Israel denied today that it has mobilized its reserves for possible intervention in Jordan. According to latest reports, Syrian invasion forces have suffered a serious setback and there were indications that Damascus was preparing to disengage and pull back. There have been no signs of any move by Iraqi forces stationed in Jordan to enter the battle on the side of the Palestinian guerrillas fighting King Hussein. Israeli authorities are continuing to keep a close watch on events in Jordan. But they do not consider it wise or necessary to intervene at the present stage, informed sources said. Israel's policy of non-intervention would change however, if certain new developments occurred. According to the sources these would be Syrian occupation of the Gilead heights which would expose Israeli settlements in the Jordan Valley to artillery bombardment; direct intervention by the 12,000-man Iraqi forces in Jordan or an imminent threat to the lives of 54 hijacked airline passengers held hostage by Arab terrorists in Jordan.

Israeli military intelligence, which was the first to report the Syrian capture of Irbid, Jordan's second largest city, reported today that Jordanian forces succeeded in breaking through Syrian lines around Irbid and now have the city under siege. Amman claimed that King Hussein's forces have destroyed 80 Syrian tanks. The Syrians have at least another 300 combat ready tanks and several divisions they could throw into Jordan but Israeli sources said today that Syria seems to have ended its offensive and may be willing to withdraw with the prestige of its initial victories intact. The Syrian Government never officially acknowledged that its army was fighting in Jordan. Syrian forces wore the battle dress of Palestinian commandos and Syrian tanks were painted with commando insignia. To maintain the fiction that only Palestinians were fighting, Syria did not employ its air force, made up largely of Soviet MIGs, which vastly outnumbers Hussein's 29-plane air force.

## Likelihood Of U.S. Intervention Seen Lessened By Hussein Gain

The apparent change in military fortunes in favor of King Hussein lessened the likelihood of United States intervention in Jordan. In recent days the U.S. Sixth Fleet has reportedly moved into the Eastern Mediterranean in a position to support a U.S. airborne landing in Jordan which has no outlet on the Mediterranean. U.S. military transport planes have been on the ready at bases in Europe and in Turkey for the past week to evacuate Americans from Jordan should that become necessary. It was noted here that American transports sent in to evacuate American civilians could land troops at the same time. The U.S. would require permission from Israel or Lebanon to fly over their territory. It was indicated here that Israel would readily grant permission if asked. Military observers here noted that U.S. intervention in Jordan would be far more difficult than was the landing of marines in Lebanon in 1958 to quash a revolt against the pro-Western government. The lack of a Jordanian coastline would force the U.S. to rely on an airlift and to depend on Hussein's forces to control the Amman airport at least until U.S. troops landed in force. In Lebanon the Americans encountered no opposition but in Jordan they would be opposed by a guerrilla force commanding artillery and tanks. Observers here said that from the military standpoint, Israel was better suited than the U.S. to intervene in Jordan.

The fighting in Jordan between Arab and Arab continued to have a profound impact on West Bank residents. A group of physicians and nurses hurried today to the Damiya bridge on the Jordan River after hearing rumors that injured Jordanian civilians had been brought to the bridge for treatment in Israel. The rumors proved to be unfounded. During the day, girl students at a high school in Nablus read rites from the Koran in memory of Palestinians killed in the Jordanian civil war. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan made a visit today to Nablus for talks with the mayor and other officials on the situation across the border. West Bank residents generally reacted favorably to a pledge yesterday by Israeli Health Minister Victor Shemtov to accept injured women and children and aged Jordanians for treatment in Israeli hospitals. However, there were no indications that the Jordanian Government had any interest in the proposal.

## Report U.S. Asked Israel To Intervene In Jordan To Help Hussein

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--A source known to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to be completely reliable said here today that the United States had asked Israel to go to the aid of embattled King Hussein of Jordan and that Israel refused to do so on grounds that it would consider such action only if its vital interests were directly threatened. The informant also told the JTA that Israel does not now consider the situation as containing that threat, particularly since in the past 24 hours the Jordanian Army seems to be regaining the military initiative in Hussein's war with the commandos.

(The Christian Science Monitor reported today in a dispatch from Tel Aviv that Israel's attitude toward the crisis in Jordan was being determined by a new "Allon doctrine," named for its author, Deputy Premier Yigal Allon, which "would have Israeli forces intervene in Jordan on King Hussein's side out of pure Israeli self-interest." According to the Monitor report, the Allon doctrine was quoted as stating that "there are liable to be situations in which Israel might be asked to lend assistance to neighboring nations and regimes which seek peace with Israel and which ask help against domestic or foreign insurgents, or both." The Monitor report added that this "doctrine" was considered at an "extraordinary meeting" of the Cabinet called less than 24 hours after Premier Golda Meir returned to Israel Monday from a visit to the United States during which she reportedly discussed with President Nixon the

Jordanian crisis, among other topics.) Premier Meir was reported today to be in constant contact with her senior advisors and the Defense Ministry over Jordanian developments. The Israeli defense forces were described as in readiness for any eventuality.

### TWA Sets Up Special Staff In New York Office To Handle Inquiries About Hostages

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Trans-World Airlines said today that it has had no information since Sept. 15 on the condition of 54 hijacked airline hostages who have been held captive by Palestinian terrorists in Jordan since Sept. 6. Thirty-six of the hostages were passengers and four were crew members of a TWA airliner hijacked on that date while on a flight from Tel Aviv to New York. A TWA spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that two of its representatives are in Amman and will remain there until all of the hostages are released. They are Richard Wilson, assistant to F.C. Wiser, TWA president, and Claude Girard, director of flight operations of TWA's international region in Paris. The spokesman said that Mr. Wilson has not been heard from directly since Sept. 16 though messages from him have been relayed through the U.S. State Department. He said the last word about the hostages was that they were being held in a "liberated area" of Jordan. Relatives of the hostages have been phoning TWA regularly for information. The airline spokesman said that for a time there were "hundreds" of calls a day but the volume has abated somewhat in recent days. He said inquiries about the hostages were directed to the company's reservation office in New York where a staff of 22 has been assigned to answer calls around the clock.

(State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said in Washington today that 50 persons including nine Americans, have been evacuated from Jordan and arrived in Beirut. There are still about 400 Americans in Jordan including Embassy personnel and 38 of the hostages. The U.S. was reportedly considering a mass evacuation employing civilian aircraft of the Middle East Airlines which is partly owned by American interests.) (In Berne, Switzerland today, a coordinating committee of five nations whose citizens are among the hostages continued to meet on ways to secure their release. No progress was reported in negotiations between the International Red Cross and the terrorists which were broken off when heavy fighting erupted in Jordan last week.)

(A British Foreign Office spokesman indicated to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in London today that despite a newspaper report to the contrary, Britain had not decided to agree to the exchange of jailed commando Laila Khaled for the eight British hostages being held in Jordan by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. "Our position remains unchanged," the spokesman said. "We are working for the release of the hostages through the group of five (in Berne, Switzerland), and whatever contacts are possible are handled by the Red Cross." Regarding the Popular Front's new designation of the 54 hostages as "prisoners of war," the British spokesman said: "In our view they remain innocent passengers held captive." Miss Khaled, the 24-year-old Haifa-born commando, was captured in an aborted attempt Sept. 6 to hijack an El Al airliner off the coast of England. The five nations meeting in Berne are Britain, Israel, the United States, West Germany and Switzerland. Prime Minister Edward Heath replied today to a letter on the crisis from Michael M. Fidler, MP and president of the Board of Jewish Deputies. Mr. Heath said the British "consider it intolerable that the lives of innocent travelers should be exposed to risks of this kind" and that "we have been consulting urgently together (in Berne) on the best means of procuring (their) release." On completion of that mission, the Prime Minister wrote in his "Dear Michael" letter, "we shall be considering what we can do in international efforts to prevent any recurrence of these incidents," noting that "this cannot be done by any one government in isolation.")

(At the United Nations Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah wrote to Secretary General Thant today to protest the "transparent attempt" to "harness the United Nations for dishonest purposes" that he said was evident in a Sept. 16 letter to Mr. Thant in which the Arab League condemned Israel's detention of 450 West Bank and Gaza Strip Arabs. Mr. Tekoah, without referring by name to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, called its hijackings "crimes against mankind (that) have enraged the civilized world." He also condemned the "barbaric conditions" being suffered by the hostages. All of the 450 Arabs were released earlier this week.)

### Eban Schedules Round Of Talks Before UN Assembly Address Monday

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 23 (JTA)--Abba Eban, Israel's Foreign Minister, plans to confer in the next few days with several other Foreign Ministers, including Sir Alec Douglas-Home of Britain, as well as with Secretary General U Thant. Mr. Eban, who was scheduled to address the current General Assembly today, has postponed that speech until next Monday, apparently because of the turbulent situation in Jordan. A spokesman for Mr. Eban said the Foreign Minister had no plans to meet with Soviet representatives, or with UN peace mediator Gunnar Jarring while he is in New York. He will be host at a reception for UN delegates at a New York hotel and will be guest of honor next Tuesday at a luncheon of the UN Correspondents Association. The Soviet Union has submitted to the Security Council the text of a statement by Tass, the Soviet news agency, that "the fratricidal conflict in Jordan jeopardizes the vital interests of Jordan, the Palestinian resistance movement and the interests of the national liberation struggle of the Arab nations, especially as Israel is continuing her aggression." Tass cautioned against "armed intervention" by any power and said it was "alarmed" by reports of U.S. Sixth Fleet movement into the Eastern Mediterranean.

### Two French Jewish Leaders Named Members Of France's Legion Of Honor

PARIS, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Two prominent French Jews were made members of France's Legion of Honor today. Andre Meyer, a member of the Alliance, Israelite Universelle was accorded the title of Grand Officer of the Legion d'Honneur, the highest degree of membership. Chief Rabbi Joseph Cohen of Bordeaux was awarded the title of Commander.

## Knesset Committee Urges Nations To Speed Laws Against Air Piracy

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--The parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee called on the nations of the world today to "expedite the passing of legislation aimed at increasing the security of international civil aviation." The committee urged universal application of the 1963 Tokyo Convention on air piracy, and recommended the immediate passage of conventions penalizing hijackers, airliner terrorists and their superiors. The committee also condemned the "surrender to black-mail" in releasing Arab terrorists. (The International Civil Aviation Organization is scheduled to meet again in Montreal next Tuesday to consider a United States proposal that the 119 nation members of the ICAO institute an aerial boycott of any country which harbors airline hijackers or detains hijacked planes. U.S. Transportation Secretary John Volpe submitted the proposal at a special ICAO meeting in Montreal on Sept. 18. After the delegates listened to the U.S. proposal, the meeting was adjourned until Sept. 29 so that delegations could receive instructions from their governments.)

## Former Nazi Death Camp Guards Get Light Sentences For War Crimes

BONN, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Two former guards at the World War II Mauthausen concentration camp received seven year prison sentences today for murdering camp inmates. The convicted men, Werner Sassel and Martin Roth, are both 60 years of age. The war crimes trial of two former SS men resumed in Munich today after being suspended to enable the court to visit Russia to hear eye-witness testimony against the accused. The defendants, Kurt Grimbom and Friederich Severign, and a Dr. Heinrich Georg, are charged with the execution of Jews in Russia in 1941-42. Erich Wollschlager, 60, a former police official, will go on trial shortly on charges that he took part in police commando action in which Jews and non-Jews were murdered in Kielce, Poland between 1942-44. Testimony will be taken from witnesses in the United States and Israel. A one-time aid of Adolf Eichmann went on trial in West Berlin today on charges of complicity in the murder of at least 35,000 Jews during World War II. The defendant, Richard Hartmann, 59, was attached to Eichmann's Berlin office where he ordered the deportation of Jews from several countries occupied by the Germans. Fritz Gotthard Gebauer, 63, went on trial in Saarbruecken, charged with murdering 22 concentration camp inmates in Lvov during the years 1941 to 1943. He is charged with beating some of his victims to death, shooting and hanging others, and causing the death of a Jewish child by dashing the child against a wall. Sixty-three witnesses, including Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal of Vienna will give testimony against Gebauer.

## Another Soviet Jew Writes To Premier Meir For Help In Emigrating

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--A 31-year-old Kiev-born Jew now living in Riga has written to Premier Golda Meir for aid in emigrating to Israel with his wife. The writer, Valeriy Aleksandrovich Portnoy, said his two applications to the Soviet authorities had been rejected because of "the absence of material and moral dependence on the relatives in Israel," Mr. Portnoy said. The facts, he continued, were otherwise, as "we, apart from material assistance, constitute a single spiritual whole with the relatives--we correspond regularly in the Hebrew language, which is not an official language in the USSR and the study of which here is connected with difficulties," Mr. Portnoy said that he and his wife and their relatives were "united by a general national tradition, which we shall be able to keep only in Israel, as well as the national history and culture of our people."

### Newsbriefs

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 (JTA)--The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture has announced its seventh annual program of scholarship and fellowship grants for the academic year 1971-72. The Foundation invited university students specializing in a Jewish field on the doctoral level to apply for scholarship grants and other persons qualified to carry out independent projects in the same field to apply for fellowship grants. Applications must be submitted before the end of Dec., 1970 to the Memorial Foundation office here. Last year the Foundation granted 114 scholarships to doctoral students and 74 fellowships to scholars and writers for individual projects.

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Eleven new settlements were established during the Jewish year just ending. It was noted today by Dr. Raanan Weitz, director of the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department. Eight of them are located in the occupied Arab territories and three within the "green line" dividing Israel proper and the Jordanian West Bank. Nine of them are still awaiting their first residents, who are expected in the coming year. Two of the 11 new villages were set aside for 100 immigrants from France, and two others are being planned for Americans. Since the Six-Day War, 40 settlements have been established.

ANTWERP, Sept. 23 (JTA)--Goldmuntz Center, a four-story building for Jewish cultural, artistic and communal events, financed by a legacy of Romi Goldmuntz, an Antwerp philanthropist, was formally opened here. Additional funds for the center were provided by the Joint Distribution Committee and the Conference of Material Claims Against Germany. The Mayor, Cabinet Ministers and celebrities attended the ceremony. The center chairman is Leo Matersdorf, a friend of the late philanthropist, who counseled the Belgian Government for many years on matters pertaining to the diamond industry.

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--A new 35 million pound polyester plant will be built in the Haifa Bay area with an annual output of 12,000 tons, it was announced by the board of directors of the Haifa Petrochemical works. Most of the output is earmarked to replace imports from the United States and West Germany. The company also plans to expand its existing polyethylene plant.

## Hillel-Sponsored Panel Urges Changes In Purdue's Restrictive Entry Policies

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind., Sept. 23 (JTA)--Rabbi Gerald Engel, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at Purdue University, reported today that a faculty-student conclave had recommended to university president Fred Hovde changes in the school's admissions policy which has been criticized as discriminating against out-of-state Jews and applicants of other minorities. The recommendations emerged from a weekend discussion on "The Morality of Purdue's Admissions Policy" at the Hillel Foundation. Mr. Hovde had asked for "constructive suggestions" for modification of the admission policy for out-of-state applicants after the university had come under severe criticism. Initially, Purdue University had rejected virtually all applications from students in the New York metropolitan area and New Jersey. Later, the university set a quota for both states but continued under criticism for the content of its form letter to applicants from the metropolitan New York area and from New Jersey. The blanket policy had been justified by the university with the contention it was trying to reduce the number of "disruptive campus outsiders" among its students.

Both faculty members and students recommended that the letter now being sent to New York and New Jersey applicants be revised because it discouraged such applicants and made it impossible for the university to fill its own established quota for the area, based on the populations of the two states. The quota system for the two states was introduced last Nov. 19 when Dr. John Hicks, assistant to President Hovde, advised Rabbi Engel that the blanket no-admission policy for the two states was being changed to allow admission to applicants other than sons and daughters of alumni of the school, few of whom were residents of the two areas. Rabbi Engel proposed to Dr. Hicks last January that the New York-New Jersey quotas be eliminated, and that all out-of-state inquiries about admission should be handled with a uniform letter and application forms. Last May, Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, called for a Department of Justice investigation of the Purdue University admissions policy and later introduced two bills in the House, one to curb discriminatory admissions policies in schools of higher learning and one to reward with additional federal funds schools admitting students without any discrimination.

Harland White, admissions director, told the meeting that for the fall of 1969 when no applications were accepted from the New York metropolitan area, as distinguished from upper New York state, and New Jersey, 25 qualified applicants from the two areas had been refused admission. But, he said, after a quota was set for New York state and New Jersey, no qualified applicants had been refused admission. Critics contended, nevertheless, that the present letter for applicants from the two eastern states discouraged applicants by implying that chances for admission would be slight for any persons other than children of Purdue alumni. The critics also said that while application forms are mailed routinely to applicants from all other states, those from New York and New Jersey receive only the criticized form letter.

The faculty members on the panel agreed that the university's official letter to such applicants tended to discourage them from filing. Dr. Harvey Marshall, a sociologist, proposed the elimination of specific area quotas on admissions as not in the university's best interests. He said the assumption that all given areas were similar in proportions of race, religion and ethnicity was false. Dr. William LeBold, director of engineering educational research studies, said that New York and New Jersey had improved their higher education systems to the point that their residents were no longer so reliant on out-of-state colleges. Dr. Howard Fromkin, a social psychologist, said that while there was no conclusive evidence of bias against applicants from New York and New Jersey, the admissions form letters were discriminatory in that they actively discouraged applications from some students. Dr. George McNelly, technology school dean, recommended that all qualified New York and New Jersey applicants be accepted within the limits of the university's quota for out-of-state applicants. He said such applicants should receive application forms and be encouraged to file early.

## City College Of New York Starts First Jewish Studies Program

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 (JTA)--City College of New York has started its first Jewish Studies program, with Dr. Marnin Feinstein, associate professor of Hebrew at the college as director. Dr. Feinstein was dean of the Herzliah Hebrew Teachers Institute of New York from 1960 to 1963. Dr. Feinstein also was elected to the executive committee of the Jewish Studies program. Other members of the committee are Prof. Howard Adelson, chairman of the History Department; Prof. Nathan Susskind, Yiddish scholar of the German Department; Prof. Victor Sanua of the Education Department; Prof. Morris Ettenberg, chairman of the Electrical Engineering Department, and Associate Professor Louis Heller, author, editor and linguist, of the Classical Languages Department. The CCNY Jewish Studies program is initially on an inter-departmental basis--students may select Jewish Studies courses and add them to their schedules. This term some 250 are taking Hebrew; 50, Yiddish, and 50, Jewish history. Dr. Feinstein and his colleagues hope that separate Jewish Studies curricula leading to degrees will soon be established. The new director is also newly elected to the board of the American Association for Jewish Studies, created last year at Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.

## Black Jewish Congregation Moving To New Home In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23 (JTA)--An official of a Jewish group formed to help black Jews and to promote better understanding between black and white Jews has reported that Adath Emeth Israel, a black Jewish congregation has moved from rented quarters to a new structure which is expected to be open for High Holy Day services. Steven Jacobs, a spokesman for the Association of Black and White Jews, said the new building, which had been a store, was being renovated by members of the congregation. The building will house the synagogue and a religious school, which will teach traditional Jewish studies. Also planned for the new home of the black congregation is an Afro-Asian Israelite Cultural Center to emphasize the role of black Jews in African civilization.