

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Egypt, Soviet Union Pushing For General Assembly Debate On Mideast, Charter

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Delegations to the General Assembly are gearing themselves for a full-scale debate this week on the Middle East. The crunch is coming from the Arab states which are accusing the United States and Israel of torpedoing the Mideast peace talks under Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring. Egypt's Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad, who was reported yesterday to have warned that Egypt would not renew the 90-day cease-fire with Israel which ends midnight Nov. 5, is due to address the General Assembly toward the end of the week. Informed sources here said Mr. Riad is expected to ask the General Assembly to impose sanctions on Israel for its continued occupation of Arab territories. At the same time, Egypt has mounted a concerted drive to pressure the U.S. and Israel to resume the peace talks which were temporarily suspended on Oct. 2 when Dr. Jarring returned to his post in Moscow as Swedish ambassador to the Soviet Union. Dr. Jarring is scheduled to return to UN headquarters this week. Indications are that Egypt wants the peace talks resumed despite charges by the U.S. and Israel that numerous violations of the cease-fire standstill accord continue. Mr. Riad, it was reported from Cairo, stated that Egypt would agree to extend the cease-fire only if Israel "agrees to contact Jarring and declares she is ready to carry out the Security Council resolution (of Nov. 22, 1967)," Israel withdrew from the peace talks last month after charging Egypt with continued violations of the truce accord. The U.S. withdrew last week from the Big Four deputies' talks until there is a rectification of the missiles emplacement.

Earlier last week, Mr. Riad said the missiles, which Israel has charged were moved into the 32-mile standstill zone after the truce went into effect on Aug. 7, had been there all along and that the Egyptians would not remove any of the missiles or missile sites. The Egyptian Foreign Minister warned that if the U.S. persisted in its accusations of truce violations against Egypt, steps would be taken by Arab oil-producing countries at curbing expansion of oil output. The U.S. would, in this case, be particularly hard hit because American oil operations in the Arab world yields approximately \$2 billion a year for the U.S. balance of payments. Informed sources at the UN noted that there is a good possibility that Mr. Riad and Secretary of State William P. Rogers may meet here this week when both diplomats attend the 25th anniversary celebration of the UN. Meanwhile, Donald Bergus, top U.S. diplomat in Cairo, left Washington yesterday for consultations. While diplomats and delegations were girding themselves for the debate on the Middle East, another battle was brewing. This battle, in which the protagonists will be the Soviet Union and the U.S., - and involving the power blocs of both nations - is a drive by the Soviet Union for adoption of a declaration on international security which condemns military occupation and conquest of territory as unlawful under the UN Charter and which would brand as an aggressor any nation which resisted any organization calling itself a "national liberation movement."

The U.S., which is trying to thwart this drive by the Soviet Union, contends that such a declaration could be used by the Russians as a lever to promote its policies in the Middle East and elsewhere and that adoption of such a text would be beneficial to the Arabs in future negotiations with Israel. According to the U.S. view, such a declaration, which the Soviet Union is seeking to establish as a guide for behavior of nations towards each other, fails to mention the provision contained in the Nov. 22, 1967 resolution on the Middle East that a "lasting peace with agreed and secure borders" must be reached. The debate on the Soviet proposal, which began last week, will continue tomorrow and Tuesday. Western and U.S. delegations have expressed the hope that the Soviet terminology will be rejected in favor of a reaffirmation of the UN Charter. During the debate on Friday, Nouredinne Harbi, ambassador from Algeria to the General Assembly, said that a real peace policy would require, among other elements, the Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories. U.S. Ambassador Charles W. Yost recalled the American recent initiatives in the Middle East and said his delegation would press for proposals to make the UN peace keeping more effective and to encourage resort to peaceful settlement of disputes. He also accused the Soviet Union of seeking to substitute a partisan document for the UN Charter.

## Mrs. Meir: Too Early To Evaluate Egypt's Condition For Cease-Fire Extension

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said in reply to a question at today's cabinet meeting that it was too early to evaluate Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad's statement that Egypt would agree to a cease-fire extension only if Israel returned to the Gunnar V. Jarring-led peace talks. Mrs. Meir observed that an authorized version of the statement was not yet at hand, but reiterated that Israel would return to the talks only after a rollback of the SAM missiles illegally emplaced in the standstill zone by Egypt with the aid of Soviet personnel. Political circles here called Mr. Riad's threat hollow. By all the rules of logic, they said, Egypt must want a truce extension, but "In the Middle East men's actions are not always guided by logic. Thus one can never know." The political circles also noted an article in Pravda, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper, that said a truce extension would be "a blow to the plans of Washington and Tel Aviv," indicating Kremlin interest in an extension. The sources added that Egypt's announced intention to seek the expulsion of Israel from the United Nations was not to be taken fearfully, but that nevertheless Israel is "getting ready to meet the onslaught." The sources said it was certain that Egypt could not have made such a proposal without full coordination with the Kremlin.

## Soviet Contention That It Has No Personnel In Canal Area Ridiculed In Israel, U.S.

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Political circles here ridiculed today the Soviet Union's contention over the weekend that it has no personnel in the Suez Canal area, charging that Russians are manning not

only the SAM-3 surface-to-air missiles there on Egypt's behalf but even auxiliary units, like anti-aircraft guns and Russian "defensive" aircraft. Foreign sources quoted in Israeli newspapers added that the Russians are training the Egyptian and Russian crews of the Soviet-made SAM-2 and SAM-3 missiles in the area and helping them move missiles from site to site. Moreover, the political circles added, the number of Soviet personnel manning SAM-2s is being increased. Sources put the number of operational missile sites within the 32-mile standstill area at 30, with almost 100 more ready to be made operational in an hour's time. The total number of Soviet personnel at SAM-3 sites in the area was estimated by sources as at least 1,000, with 200 needed to man each of the SAM-3 sites Israel has complained about to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). Israel has in the past publicly put the overall total of Soviet personnel technicians and advisers on SAM-3s and SAM-2s--at 15,000. Political circles noted that even the SAM-3s in East Germany are manned by Soviet personnel, indicating that the Kremlin does not trust even its Communist allies to operate its missiles.

(The United States and the Soviet Union clashed verbally over the weekend on the issue of Soviet personnel in the standstill zone and Soviet complicity in Egypt's standstill violations. Secretary of State William P. Rogers, in his first news conference at the State Department in more than three months, said that the USSR was guilty as charged "beyond a doubt," and added that its heated denials in the face of the American evidence raised "serious questions" about the USSR's professed desire for peace. The Soviet press agency, Tass, retorted that "There are not any grounds for accusing the Soviet Union of violating the terms of the agreement because, as it is known, the Soviet Union took no part in drafting any cease-fire terms and is not a party to any such agreements." Tass added that the "so-called violations" were "a sheer fabrication," and a "slander." But the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, noted that "the defense potential of the United Arab Republic has grown" and that Soviet military aid "is the most important factor." Mr. Rogers, for the first time, defined "rectification" of the missile situation as "a condition that would satisfy both parties." It was not immediately clear how such a condition would be possible.

### Over 10,000 Persons For Yom Kippur Services At Western Wall; Some 100 Faint

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--More than 100 worshippers at the Western Wall fainted in the course of Yom Kippur services yesterday. They were treated on the spot by Magen David Adom teams and seven were taken to the hospital, none in serious condition. More than 10,000 persons crowded the Wall compound, with a constant stream of worshippers coming and going. After the last shofar blast on Saturday night had reverberated across the vast area, youngsters--although weakened by the fast--spontaneously burst into song and dance. Students at a nearby yeshiva brought prepared food and drink and handed them out to the crowds. There were no incidents throughout the day and the preceding night. Traffic in West Jerusalem was almost at a standstill. Traffic from East Jerusalem southward to Bethlehem and Hebron was rerouted so as not to enter Jewish areas; traffic from the West Bank into the city was banned altogether.

### Mrs. Meir Offers Solace To Bereaved Families On Eve Of Yom Kippur

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--On the eve of Yom Kippur, Prime Minister Golda Meir broadcast a message of comfort to the bereaved families in Israel. She said: "On the eve of the Day of Atonement, more than on ordinary days, we are conscious of the memories of our dear ones who gave their lives in the campaigns for the renaissance and the existence of the State of Israel." Mrs. Meir declared that every citizen of Israel who has lost a son, a daughter, a brother, a sister, a father or a husband, "feels daily and without respite the hurt of the catastrophe." Continuing, she said: "All of us pay tribute to your fortitude of spirit and your magnitude of heart and want to share your grief. We know that time does not heal this pain. I am speaking to you today while the cease-fire on the southern front is still in force." Mrs. Meir said that on the other fronts, too, conditions have become easier. "We are all glad of it," she said. "We all hope that shooting will not be resumed."

### Dayan Says Paratroopers Carry On Heritage Of Maccabees, Hashmonaites

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The name of the Israeli paratroopers is taking up its position side by side with the names of the Maccabees and Hashmonaites, said Defense Minister Moshe Dayan at the annual memorial service for the fallen paratroopers held at the paratroopers' memorial on the main road leading to the south of Israel. Some 2000 people, bereaved families and high-ranking army officers attended the solemn service Friday during which mothers, sisters and children lovingly patted the name of their fallen dear ones inscribed on the memorial stone. The stone, however, was too small to contain all names of those fallen in recent years and an additional plaque was placed nearby.

### El Al Capt. Barlev's Punishment For Security Violation To Be Reviewed

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The punishment meted out to El Al Captain Uri Barlev, who violated security instructions permitting a security man to be in his cockpit when two terrorists attempted to hijack an El Al plane on Sept. 6, will be reviewed by a new committee in which aircrew representatives will participate, plus a representative of Capt. Barlev. That was the agreement reached between the aircrew committee and El Al management after El Al crewmen decided to disregard the punishment against Capt. Barlev as it had been adopted without their participation on the committee, in violation of standing labor agreement procedure. The airman's committee said it was not against punishment as such. El Al pilots threatened last week to strike unless the company rescinded the temporary demotion of Capt. Barlev. He has been reduced in rank for the period of one month on charges of negligence brought by a special committee investigating the circumstances of the hijack attempt.

### Israel Given Additional Reciprocal Privileges In Coastal Trade

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The Treasury Department has announced that Israel had been added to the list of countries that are allowed reciprocal privileges for the coast-wise transportation of stevedoring and lifting equipment for use in shipping. The new reciprocal provisions went into effect Friday.

## Report Soviets Preparing Show Trial In Connection With Alleged Hijacking Attempt

LONDON, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The Sunday Observer reported today that Soviet authorities are preparing a show trial of Russian citizens, mostly Jewish--the biggest in the Soviet Union since 1968, when 17 intellectuals were accused of dissension after the invasion of Czechoslovakia. The trial, likely to be held in Leningrad next month, is connected with the arrest of 30 Soviet citizens alleged to have tried to hijack a Soviet plane at Leningrad airport to fly to Finland last June, the Observer said. Two leading Leningrad Jews, Grigory Vertlib, jurist, and Gillel Shur, engineer, have written to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet protesting the trial and the searches of other Leningrad Jews following the arrests. It is believed that the KGB, the Soviet secret police, had a hand in the alleged hijackings, the paper said. Realizing how desperate many Soviet Jews had become to leave the country, and seeing mounting applications for exit permits, the secret police are thought to have planted an agent provocateur--a Jew named B. Dymshits--and provoked the hijacking. The purpose of the trial appears to be to terrorize Jews and curb their desires to emigrate. Procurator General Andreyevich Rudenko has taken charge of legal preparations and investigations. Mr. Rudenko, a member of Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, was chief Soviet prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials. It is feared that Jews will be tried on charges of attempting to seize state property, an offense punishable by death.

## Cholera Epidemic Subsides; No New Cases Reported; Hospitalized Cases Down To Three

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The cholera scare here appears to be subsiding, with no Jewish cases reported for the past 12 days and no Arab cases for the past four days. The number of hospitalized acute cases is down to three. The Health Ministry is not yet claiming, however, that the cholera has been eradicated. Medical circles said today that it was "a treacherous disease" that "may disappear for months and then turn up again." But they added that "We do hope we have brought it under control."

## Two Former Nazis, Charged With Murdering Thousands Of Jews, Acquitted

FRANKFURT, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Dr. Bernard Franz Lucas, one of the defendants in the Auschwitz trial who had been sentenced to three-and-a-half-years imprisonment, had his appeal upheld and was acquitted despite the fact that the jury found he had aided in the murder of several thousand Jews by selecting for death the elderly who arrived in Auschwitz. The jury based its verdict on the state prosecutor's words that Lucas had been in a difficult situation and no one could have expected him to endanger himself by saving other people. Informed sources here pointed out that to this day, there is no evidence that any Nazi criminal had been punished for refusing to take part in such actions and they always had the alternative of volunteering for front-line service. In Vienna, former SS member Joseph Wendel was acquitted here last Friday because "he had acted under orders" in participating in the murder of 300 Jews in 1943. Wendel was one of the drivers of the infamous "gas cars" that predated the gas chambers. He is 60 years old.

## New Soviet Artillery Endangers Israel's Defenses; Jet Engines By GE For Israel

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Soviet 203-mm. artillery pieces now in Egypt may be powerful enough to force Israel to withdraw her lines further back from the Suez Canal, Washington Post correspondent George C. Wilson reported yesterday. The 203s, which have not yet been deployed along the canal but can be placed within hours, would thus greatly aid Egypt's attempts to establish an east side beachhead and the Soviet Union's attempts to reopen the canal for her navy, the correspondent said. Concurrently, jet engines manufactured by the General Electric Company are earmarked for use in Israeli planes under an agreement-in-principle among the Israeli government, the State Department and GE, Post reporter Michael Getler wrote yesterday. The engine, a rough prototype of which has already been test-flown in Israel, is a modification of the J-79 that the United States has been sending Israel for use in Phantom F-4Es. Israel is reportedly urging GE to improve the J-79 further, even though it is among the most powerful and accurate jets in the world, the Post reported. Israel is said to want GE to use lightweight boron for some parts to increase the jet's speed and range. Despite its first-class aviation industry, it was said, Israel is unable to mass-produce J-79s on her own.

## Cabinet Approves Extension Of Gen. Bar Lev's Term As Army's Chief Of Staff

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The cabinet approved today a year-long extension of Gen. Haim Bar Lev's term as Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army. He was scheduled to complete a three-year term next January, but was recommended for an extension by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. Bar Lev is the third Chief of Staff to be so honored, the first two having been Gen. Dayan and Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, the latter now ambassador to the United States. Premier Golda Meir, in a letter to Gen. Bar Lev, noted the government's "great esteem of your work as Chief of Staff during a period in which our security problems are so difficult and complex." Mrs. Meir expressed her "delight at the continuation of our joint work, which to me is a source of confidence and satisfaction." Gen. Bar Lev, who was born in Yugoslavia and educated at Columbia University in New York, will be 46 on Nov. 16.

## Arafat Reported Opposed To Skyjackings; Warns Terrorist Extremists To Stop

LONDON, Oct. 11 (JTA)--According to reports released here from Beirut, Yassir Arafat, leader of El Fatah, reportedly told Palestinian extremists there must be no more skyjackings of Western airliners and there was no room for this in his strategy. Arafat said the Palestinian cause would be seriously damaged in world opinion by further attempts. His warning comes at a time when the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine is said to be making plans to force Israel to release prisoners. A PFLP spokesman in Beirut said another skyjack could be carried out "without any difficulty." Correspondents in Beirut report the civil war in Jordan brought extremist guerrilla groups nearer to El Fatah and there are even reports from Jordan that a single Palestinian army is being planned under Arafat's leadership. It is said this may soon be agreed between Arafat and Dr. George Habbash, leader of PFLP and that the new force will be called the Peoples Army.

### 3000 Youths In Rally To Protest Soviet Suppression Of Jewish Rights

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 11 (JTA)--More than 3000 Jewish youths from major cities across the country began to assemble here today for a two-day demonstration to protest Soviet suppression of Jewish rights. The youths, from some 30 communities, began arriving early in the day and by mid-afternoon assembled at Farragut Square in the heart of the city midway between the Soviet Embassy and the White House. Many of the young men wore yarmulkas and the girls wore pins bearing such inscriptions as "Free Soviet Jews"; "Soviet Jewry Will Be Redeemed"; and "Israel Will Live." Sheila Seiden, 14, a member of Young Judea in Baltimore, the daughter of a United States social security officer, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "I feel very strongly about the suppression of freedom for the Jewish people in the Soviet Union. That's why I'm here. I'm a free person in the United States but my brothers in the Soviet Union are not." Harold Bingham from Washington, wearing a Massachusetts Institute of Technology sweatshirt, said friends had told him about the rally and "I felt I should do something." Asked if he was Jewish, the MIT freshman looked surprised and answered proudly: "Of course I am." Margy-Ruth Greenbaum of New York, co-chairman of the North American Jewish Youth Council which is sponsoring the mobilization, told the JTA that a letter, signed by 83 Moscow Jews and recently smuggled out of the Soviet Union asking world Jewry to protest the repression of Soviet Jews and urging aid for their efforts to immigrate to Israel, would be read later in the day. The youths plan to march to the Soviet Embassy and then meet with U.S. officials from the State Department and individual congressmen.

### Jewish, Puerto Rican Youths In Scuffle After Being Taunted At Yom Kippur Services

NEW YORK, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Jewish and Puerto Rican youths clashed last night outside Congregation Adath Sochochow in Brooklyn after a Puerto Rican taunted several Jews attending the closing Yom Kippur services at the rear of the synagogue. An eyewitness told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a Jewish youth ran out of the synagogue and grappled with the Puerto Rican. As they were fighting, a group of Puerto Rican youths began to beat the Jewish youth. His cries for help brought out a number of worshippers from the synagogue. They were met, according to the eyewitness, by some 50 Puerto Rican youths. In the ensuing scuffle, some noses were bloodied. Rabbi Shabse Meisels of the synagogue is participating in an investigation of the incident.

### Public Employees' Union Condemns Soviet Union's Refusal To Permit Jews To Emigrate

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 11 (JTA)--The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, largest of the nation's public employee unions, has condemned both "the refusal of the Soviet Union to permit Jewish emigration to the Republic of Israel and the simultaneous resurgence of official and unofficial anti-Semitism in the U.S.S.R." The 500,000-member union urged the State Department to make appropriate representations to the Soviet Union with a view toward permitting Jews in the U.S.S.R. and its satellites free emigration to Israel with their families and belongings. The union also urged the AFL-CIO and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions "to continue and intensify their humanitarian efforts within the court of public opinion and through any other feasible channels to effect the free emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union and satellite countries to the Republic of Israel."

### Warsaw Ghetto Diary By Dropsie President Published In Japanese

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 11 (JTA)--Excerpts from "Scroll of Agony" by Dr. Abraham I. Katsh, already published in seven different countries throughout the world, has now been published for the first time in the Far East in Japan. "Scroll of Agony," based on the Warsaw Ghetto diary of a noted Polish Hebrew scholar, was first published in this country by the Macmillan Company. Dr. Katsh, who also found the missing portions of the diary after its original publication, is president of The Dropsie University. The excerpted sections of the book provide the opening chapters of a new book titled, "From the Distance to Liberation," just published in Tokyo, Japan, by the Gakugei Shorin Publishing Corp. The new book, which deals with the Nazi Holocaust, was edited by Hariu Ichiro, a well-known literary critic in Japan. The diary of Chaim A. Kaplan, a Polish intellectual and Hebraic scholar who died during the Nazi occupation, provides the most detailed account of events and activities of the half million Jews imprisoned behind the walls of the Warsaw Ghetto.

### Nathan Neta Harpaz, Co-Founder of Achdut Ha-Avoda, Dies At 80

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Nathan Neta Harpaz, 80, one of the founders of Achdut Ha-Avoda, the forerunner of the labor movement of Palestine and later Israel, died last night at his home. He was a member of the first Knesset from 1949-51. Born in Poland he came to Israel--then Palestine--in 1908 as one of the "second aliya." He was founder of the Agricultural Center, was a member of the National Committee of the Jewish Population in Palestine, a member of the Zionist Central Committee and a member of Mapai and labor bodies.

### Capt. Tzvi Tohar, El Al Pilot Famed For Many 'Firsts,' Dies At 55

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Capt. Tzvi Tohar, the Israeli pilot who collapsed and died of a heart attack last night in London while on his way to pilot an El Al Boeing here from Heathrow Airport, had achieved several "firsts." Born 55 years ago in Berlin, he came to Palestine in 1935 to join a kibbutz as a graduate of machinery engineering school. Later, when war broke out, he joined Britain's Royal Air Force and was among the first Israelis to get RAF wings and fly British planes, mainly in the South African area. In Israel, Capt. Tohar was the commander of the first Israeli flight when the Israeli Air Force was established. Later, he was the first commander of the first Israeli flying school. In 1950, he joined El Al and became the first Israeli to become a captain, in 1957. Since then Mr. Tohar had been the pilot of El Al planes taking Israeli leaders abroad and back. He was at the cockpit when David Ben-Gurion, Levi Eshkol and Golda Meir flew overseas, and was the pilot who brought Adolf Eichmann from Argentina to Israel.