

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Two Planes Collide At Lydda Airport; Both Destroyed; Two Civilians Killed

TEL AVIV, Nov. 30 (JTA)--A TWA cargo plane and an Israel Air Force transport collided and burned on the main runway at Lydda Airport early today in an accident that killed two civilian military employees and injured two others. Minister of Transport Shimon Peres launched an immediate investigation and sent condolences to the families of the victims, Shmuel Wolf and Aharon Abutbul. Lydda Airport was shut down from shortly after 2:30 a.m., when the accident occurred, until noon today, delaying the departures of hundreds of passengers including Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin who was on his way back to Washington. The accident spotlighted mounting criticism by pilots of allegedly inadequate traffic safety controls at Lydda, Israel's only international air terminal. Those charges are also under investigation by a special panel appointed earlier by Mr. Peres. The Transport Minister promised in the Knesset today that he would "publish and faithfully carry out" the findings and recommendations of the investigators.

According to first reports, the TWA Boeing 707 was making its take-off run along the main runway when its right wing slammed into an Air Force Stratocruiser transport that was being towed by a tractor. The TWA plane had been cleared for take-off by the Lydda control tower only moments before the crash. Investigators will have to determine why the Stratocruiser was being hauled across a supposedly clear runway. Mr. Peres said in the Knesset that the committee investigating the accident, headed by former Air Force Commander Dan Tulkowsky, would also "consider operating procedures and arrangements at Lydda Airport" and determine whether they are consonant with safety. The TWA plane was bound for Zurich and Frankfurt with a cargo of vegetables and full fuel tanks. The pilot said he tried to avoid a head-on collision by veering left when he spotted the Stratocruiser blocking his take-off path. But his wing struck the Israeli transport and the tractor, instantly killing the two tractor men. The TWA pilot and his crew jumped to safety seconds before both planes exploded and burst into flames. Both were a total loss.

Eye-witnesses said that if the TWA jet had been a passenger plane the tragedy would have been a disaster of the first magnitude. The two dead men were employees of Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd., a private firm that does contract work for the Israel Air Force. It was the first serious accident at Lydda Airport in several years. But it focussed attention on recent charges by the Israel Airline Pilots' Association that there are serious safety shortcomings at Lydda. The charges came to light after a plane carrying Premier Golda Meir to the United States last month narrowly avoided a mid-air collision over Lydda. Subsequent reports said there had been 58 complaints of near accidents in the air over Lydda in 1970. The pilots blamed a shortage of navigation equipment in the Lydda control tower and the fact that Lydda has only one international landing strip. They also charged poor discipline of airport personnel and inadequate safety procedures in the control tower. Transport Minister Peres named a special committee of aeronautical experts to investigate the charges and promised that \$8 million will be spent over the next few years to modernize Lydda Airport.

## 200 Jewish Youths Delay Performance Of Red Army Chorus; 24 Arrested Then Released

PARIS, Nov. 30 (JTA)--French police arrested but later released about two dozen Jewish youths last night after some 200 shouting demonstrators stormed the Palais d'Hiver in an attempt to prevent a performance by the Red Army Chorus. The youngsters, carrying signs denouncing alleged anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union, delayed the performance for about a half hour before they were ejected by police. A delegation of survivors of the Vilna ghetto now living in France, will go to Stuttgart shortly to dedicate a monument to Lithuanian victims of Nazism. The monument has been erected on the site of the former Dautmergen concentration camp in the former French occupation zone. The survivors have asked French authorities to identify Jewish graves in the camp cemetery.

## Sapir Says \$500 Million U.S. Aid Not Enough To Cover Israel's Defense Needs

TEL AVIV, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir said last night that the \$500 million of U.S. aid ear-marked for Israel in 1971 is not enough to cover the country's defense needs. "If and when we get it, it will not even suffice to pay for what we have already received and what we are scheduled to receive" in military equipment from the U.S., Mr. Sapir told reporters on his return from a visit to North and South America. He did not refer to reports that Israel will get a total of \$1.5 billion in economic aid from the U.S. between 1970-72. Those reports, though emanating from reliable sources, have not been confirmed. The sum of \$500 million however is included in the Pentagon's fiscal 1971 authorization bill passed by both houses of Congress. Mr. Sapir warned Israelis not to be under the illusion that a continuation of the current cease-fire would ease Israel's economic burden. "We cannot expect that in the next two years our budget will be reduced," he said. He predicted more immigration from Latin America than previously expected because of changed conditions there.

## WJC Denounces Upcoming Trials Of Soviet Jews, Violence Against Soviet Offices

LONDON, Nov. 30 (JTA)--The European executive of the World Jewish Congress today denounced the impending trials of Soviet Jews charged with attempting to hijack a Russian airliner at Leningrad last June. But it also strongly condemned recent acts of violence against Soviet offices abroad "which do not ease the situation of Soviet Jewry." The WJC's resolution was aimed at last Wednesday's bomb-

ing of the Soviet Aeroflot and Intourist offices in New York though it did not refer specifically to the incident. It described the forthcoming trials as "an effort to intimidate Soviet Jews who in increasing numbers and with unparalleled courage affirm their Jewish national identity and tradition and openly express their desire to lead a full Jewish life in Israel." The WJC urged the Soviet government to release the prisoners and to permit those of its Jewish citizens who wish, to emigrate to Israel or other countries.

### Dayan: Smaller State With Jewish Majority Better Than Larger State With More Arabs

TEL AVIV, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said last night that he would prefer a smaller Israel with an assured Jewish majority to a larger state with a big Arab population that would threaten Jewish numerical superiority. Gen. Dayan addressed a Labor Party meeting in connection with the intra-party elections campaign. He apparently took pains to make no remarks that might run counter to government policy. He did not urge unconditional return to the Jarring peace talks. He said that if and when the government decided that conditions warranted resumption of the talks, "We shall go to the talks without pre-conditions." Gen. Dayan added however that Israel would not compromise its "essential interests."

Elaborating on those "interests" he observed that he agreed with Premier Meir that they include Sharm el-Sheikh, Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and the Gaza Strip. He added that there was an "oral doctrine" of the government that the Jordan River is Israel's security border and that no Arab army can be permitted west of it. Gen. Dayan warned the Arab states not to confuse Israel's desire for peace with weakness. He said that the Egyptians, despite their bluster, want and need the Suez cease-fire as much as Israel and perhaps more so. He noted that Cairo readily accepted the first cease-fire last August and agreed to its extension which Israel had not specifically asked for. He said the re-opening of the Suez Canal and the return of civilian population to the canal zone towns was more in Egypt's interests than Israel's. "The Suez Canal is a natural defense line to us but not a vital waterway," he said.

### Israel Charges Egypt Resumes Building, Preparation Of SAM Missile Sites

TEL AVIV, Nov. 30 (JTA)--The Egyptians have resumed the construction and preparation of SAM missile sites in the Suez standstill cease-fire zone, Israel charged in a complaint filed today with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). It was Israel's first complaint of missile violations since the cease-fire was extended on Nov. 5. The complaint was based on intelligence available to the Israel Army on Nov. 27. Three previous complaints of cease-fire violations this month were against overflights of Israeli positions by Egyptian combat aircraft. When the truce was extended for another 90-day period after its expiration Nov. 5, Israeli military officials observed that Egypt had saturated the cease-fire zone with missiles and any further installations would be sheer waste on their part.

### Mrs. Abzug Says Israel Should Receive Military, Economic Support; Favors Direct Talks

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Mrs. Bella Abzug, Congresswoman-elect from the heavily Jewish populated New York's Nineteenth Congressional District, said in an exclusive interview with the Jewish telegraphic Agency that Israel should receive "support of a military and economic nature necessary for its survival." The Congresswoman, a former Hebrew teacher, said she favored "Direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs" and in spite of the Egyptian "violation" of the cease-fire, "a way should be found under the original terms" for the two countries to come to the table and find a way to peace.

### Rabbi Vainstein Says Israel's, Diaspora Jewry's Fate Insolubly Linked

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Rabbi Dr. Jacob Vainstein, president of the Religious Council of Jerusalem, told the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America over the weekend that "Israel and diaspora Jewry are two arms of one and the same body whose fate is insolubly bound together." Israel's "unique contribution" is "its religious and spiritual heritage," and "the basis of the unity of its people the world over is Torah and the special Judaic way of life," Rabbi Vainstein observed to the 2,000 delegates to the UOJCA's five-day convention, which ended yesterday. "The national and religious elements in the new are inseparable, and this is the distinctive mark that makes Medinath Israel a Jewish State," he continued. Dr. Vainstein, the founder of the Department of Torah Education of the Jewish Agency in Israel and a member of the World Executive of the Religious Zionist Movement, urged Jewish families to "encourage their college children to come to Israel and to examine the possibilities of building their future there." He said, "The golah (diaspora), with its assimilationist pressures and diverse foreign streams of thinking, has thrown masses of Jewish young people into total confusion, because they lack Jewish roots and an understanding of the message of Judaism in a nihilistic world society."

Rabbi Vainstein called on American Jewry to "invest a maximum effort in the Jewish education of their young and set the correct example for them." Rabbi Vainstein, 54, is chairman of the Ramot Shapira Youth Institute scheduled for an opening next March in Jerusalem. In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, he observed that Jewish youth, like non-Jewish youth, were attracted to the New Left because it appears to be more relevant to today's society than the assimilationism and ritualism of their parents. Instead of categorically condemning youngsters, he went on, Jewish adults and leaders should offer them "the kind of Judaism that can stabilize the character of the youth." The UOJCA's 72nd biennial convention approved the creation of a commission to encourage leadership potential in college-age youth--a decision made after Lawrence A. Kobrin, a vice president, said the Union was hypocritical in "encouraging young people to idealism and communal service and then excluding them from decision-making posts." The commission--believed to be a first for a national religious organization--will hold six-month leadership classes for collegians. Rabbi Samson R. Weiss, UOJCA executive vice president, recommended to Jewish federations and welfare funds that they start giving "substantial and meaningful support to Jewish education" instead of concentrating on nursing and family services, hospitals and old-age homes.

## Report U.S. Reconnaissance Flights Over Suez Canal Suspended Three Weeks Ago

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (JTA)--State Department sources acknowledged today that high level U.S. reconnaissance flights over the Suez Canal zone to detect truce violations by Egypt were suspended about three weeks ago after having been conducted continuously since the early part of August. The sources would not say why the flights were suspended but indicated that they could be resumed if developments warranted them. (Authoritative sources in Jerusalem have denied an Egyptian charge of a "warlike" military build-up by Israel along the Suez Canal. A military spokesman said that the Egyptians may have mistaken routine Army maneuvers on the Israeli side for a build-up.) American reconnaissance flights over the Suez Canal zone apparently were prompted by Israeli charges of Egyptian truce violations almost from the moment the truce went into effect. The intelligence gained from the flights reportedly corroborated Israeli charges that the Egyptians were bringing Soviet missiles into the truce zone in violation of the standstill provisions of the cease-fire agreement.

## No Peace Talks Until Dayan Returns From U.S.; Brezhnev Optimistic About Peace

JERUSALEM, Nov. 30 (JTA)--A government decision on Israel's return to the Jarring talks will not be made until after Defense Minister Moshe Dayan returns from his visit to the United States some time next month, it was learned here today. Gen. Dayan will be in the U.S. in mid-December and has scheduled talks with top Nixon administration officials and the possibility of a meeting with the President. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned that he is expected to finalize an understanding still to be reached with the U.S. government on the conditions that will warrant Israel's return to the peace negotiations under Dr. Jarring's auspices. Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin, who returns to Washington today after being called home for consultations last week, will continue the "dialogue" with U.S. officials that was begun by Foreign Minister Abba Eban last month. Sources here said Ambassador Rabin would confine himself to "sounding out" the State Department in order to establish the extent to which the U.S. is prepared to go to satisfy Israel's conditions. So far as is known, the Cabinet has yet to decide what those conditions will be. At a pre-departure press conference today, Mr. Rabin said the U.S. was not exerting pressure on Israel to return to the Jarring talks although Washington was obviously very anxious to have the talks resumed. He said the Americans were afraid it would be impossible to get the current cease-fire extended a second time unless concurrent peace talks were underway.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon told a Labor Party meeting here last night that Israel must return to the Jarring talks "for both moral and political reasons so that nobody can ever say in the future that we neglected a chance for peace." Mr. Allon added however that Israel's return must be based on conditions that include its "effective security borders and political realism." He said there were differences of opinion between Israel and the U.S. but observed that Israel can influence Washington. "Compare the Rogers plan of 1969 with the U.S. position now," he said. Referring to the Soviet Union, the Deputy Premier said that if Moscow wanted to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel, it would find Israel more than willing. (Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid I. Brezhnev said in a nationally televised speech yesterday that he was optimistic over Middle East peace prospects but "it is now difficult to predict with precision how events will develop in the Middle East." He branded Israel an aggressor but claimed that it was effectively isolated by world opinion while the Arabs are "getting growing support from all peace-loving states." Mr. Brezhnev claimed that the current situation "creates favorable conditions for the liquidation of the Middle East hotbed of international tension.")

## WUJS To Launch World-Wide Student Press Service; Offers To Stand-In For 33 Jews

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Leaders of the North American region of the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS) reported today that the 200 delegates to the union's convention in Asbury Park, N.J., over the weekend had approved the inception of a Jewish Student Press Service and an affiliated news-reel service. The press service will coordinate and distribute news of the activities of the "hundreds" of independent on-campus Jewish student groups in the United States and Canada. The reports will be channeled to the 40 or so on-campus Jewish-interest publications, which were said by a WUJS officer to have a combined press run of 300,000 copies a month. The officer, David Kaufman of New York, newly elected member of the WUJS steering committee and co-editor of the new press service, added that the service would soon provide material to "five or six" European Jewish-student papers, one in Australia and all those in Israel. David Twersky of the Radical Zionist Alliance here was elected chairman of North American WUJS and will be co-editor of the press service.

The convention held workshops on the Middle East situation, Soviet Jewry, black-Jewish relations in America, the confrontation between American Jewish youth and the community, the urban crisis and relations with the New Left. The delegates--from some 15 states and 50 campuses--represented a diversity of Jewish student groups, including Yavneh, the Radical Zionist Alliance, Betar, Yugntruf, the Jewish Peace Fellowship, Jews for Urban Justice, Havurat-Shalom Community Seminary of Boston, the Jewish Liberation Project in Saskatchewan, six regional Jewish student unions, a number of Hillel organizations, the Jewish Defense League and student newspapers. Most of the delegates were Zionists and non-Orthodox, according to Mr. Twersky. He said that Jewish defectors from the New Left were helping build the Jewish student organizations. He described the new Jewish Student Press Service as in opposition to the Jewish Establishment and the New Left. Mr. Twersky denied that WUJS' welcoming of JDL youth represented an endorsement of that organization's national political views, noting that JDL has been effective in protecting Jews in black ghettos. "We want a feeling of community," he said. "None of us can do it alone." Twenty WUJS members staged a five-minute sit-in at the Soviet Mission and a 15-minute demonstration across the street on the steps of Park East Synagogue yesterday evening. The students, offering to stand trial in place of the 33 Soviet Jews facing "show trials," were led from the Mission by the police. Bearing placards, they relocated on the synagogue steps until asked to leave by synagogue officials, after which they held a half-hour demonstration on the corner. A synagogue spokesman told the JTA the students should have sought advance permission before congregating on the synagogue's steps.

## COLPA Files Briefs With Supreme Court On Behalf Of Two Christian Sabbath Observers

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA)--The National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) which has heretofore rendered legal aid to Orthodox Jews in cases where their employment conflicted with Sabbath observance, announced today that it has filed briefs with the United States Supreme Court on behalf of two Christian Sabbath observers. COLPA has asked the Supreme Court to review lower court decisions in cases in California and Michigan which deal with the question of whether government agencies and private employers must accommodate to the religious needs of their employees. According to COLPA, the outcome of the cases is of great importance to the religious Jewish community. In California, the State Department of Water Resources dismissed Thomas Stimpel, a Seventh Day Adventist, because he refused to work on Saturdays. The Adventists are a Protestant sect which observes the Sabbath on Saturday. In Michigan, the Reynolds Metal Co. fired a Protestant employee, Robert Dewey, because he would not work on Sunday. In each case the lower courts ruled against the employee. COLPA's brief to the Supreme Court claimed that the rulings presented "a grave danger to religious liberty in this country."

COLPA's petitions to the Supreme Court, prepared by Nathan Lewin, vice-president and Washington Chapter chairman of COLPA, said that the Stimpel case offers the "opportunity for much-needed clarification of the rights of religious minorities which are guaranteed by the First Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1964." He also noted that many Orthodox Jews have been victimized by employment policies similar to that which affected Stimpel. The COLPA brief to the Supreme Court stated: "We have no way of knowing, of course, how many Orthodox Jewish employees who wish to observe Saturdays as a Sabbath have been subjected to the pressure to forego their religious practices and have abandoned one of the precepts of their religion in order to accept work." The Supreme Court is expected to decide whether to review these cases in a few weeks. COLPA's intervention with the Justice Department has led the federal government to support COLPA's position in a special brief.

## Interfaith Group Scores Arrests Of Soviet Jews; Javits, Buckley Assail Show Trial

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA)--The Appeal of Conscience Foundation, a group devoted to the preservation of religious freedom throughout the world, has issued an interfaith condemnation of the "shocking" arrests of more than two dozen Soviet Jews in recent months. Their detention "is all the more shocking since Russian authorities, beginning with Premier Kosygin's declaration in 1966, asserted that Jews living in Russia would be permitted reunion with their families in other countries," the statement said. "To now arrest those who took advantage of this offer is an entrapment of the most sordid kind." The declaration was signed by Rabbi Arthur Schneier of Park East Synagogue, president of the foundation; Dr. Harold A. Bosley of Christ Church Methodist, vice president; and the Rev. Thurston N. Davis of the Department of Communications of the United States Catholic Bishops' Conference, also a foundation vice president.

Noting that "The mass arrests and the prospect of a trial must be construed as a measure to stem the tide of applications from thousands of Jews for exit permits," the foundation officials appealed for the release of those under detention and urged "leaders of all religious faiths and men to whom freedom of conscience is dear to join their voices to ours." Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, and Sen.-elect James L. Buckley, New York Conservative, have written to Rabbi Schneier deploring the upcoming "show trial." Sen. Javits said that kind of trial was "so reminiscent of the Stalin era" and "raises anew the issue of Jews being able to live at peace and in freedom in the USSR and the spectre of the persecution of the 1930s and 1940s." Mr. Buckley said those arrested were "Jewish prisoners of conscience who, frustrated by the spiritual and cultural repression of Jews in the Soviet Union, are known for their persistent demand to leave the Soviet Union for Israel." He added that "No camouflage will be able to cover up the fact that these men are on trial for their convictions and are persecuted as Jews."

## Six Jewish Cultural Groups Awarded \$76,200 In Grants From State Arts Council

ALBANY, N.Y., Nov. 30 (JTA)--Six Jewish cultural and arts organizations in New York State have been awarded a total of \$76,200 in grants by the State Council on the Arts, it was announced today by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. These grants are part of a \$2,669,752 total awarded today to 172 arts organizations by the Council under a program adopted at the Governor's request by the 1970 Legislature. The largest single grant, \$62,000, was awarded to the Jewish Museum in New York City for organizing and re-installing its permanent exhibit, the Judaica Exhibition. The 92nd Street Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association, also of New York City, received \$1,300 to aid the public performances of the Y's Folk Music Project. In Albany, the Jewish Community Center received \$5,000 to aid professional performers, theater workshops and children's theater. The Jewish Community Center of Binghamton was awarded \$4,800 for theatrical productions, a special guest artist program and a children's creative theater project. In Rochester, a \$2,500 grant was given to the Jewish Young Men's and Women's Association for the production of new playwright's works. The YM-YWHA of Mid Westchester, Inc., in Scarsdale was awarded \$600 for its professional concert series.

## Pincus Says Zionist Membership Campaign Successful; Vital Force In Diaspora

LONDON, Nov. 30 (JTA)--Jewish Agency chairman Louis Pincus claimed here yesterday that the recent Zionist membership campaigns in Britain and elsewhere demonstrated that the Zionist philosophy was becoming a "vital force" in the lives of diaspora Jewry at all levels. He said the response in Britain exceeded his own expectations and convinced the skeptics that they were wrong. Mr. Pincus expressed his views in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency prior to his departure for New York. He said the newly formed American Zionist Federation would hold its membership campaign during January, February and March. Mr. Pincus said that Israel expected 45,000 new immigrants during the next 12 months. He said that not all of the newcomers in recent years are from distressed areas.