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Jewish Survival Legion Formed To Aid Jews; Splits From JDL; To Work Within The Law

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Dissatisfied with the militant tactics employed by the Jewish Defense League, several thousand persons have formed a new organization called the "Jewish Survival Legion" which is dedicated to solving many of the problems the JDL is attacking but "within the framework of the law," according to Allan Mallenbaum, one of the founders of the JSL, which official announced its formation today. Mallenbaum, who left the Jewish Defense League a few months ago after serving as its administrative director, said that his organization already has several thousand members and would try to solve four main problems: the protection of Jewish life and property in urban areas, aiding oppressed Jews in Russia, supporting Israel, and reversing the identity crisis facing alienated Jewish youth. "We cannot criticize the JDL for its actions. We feel that they are taking a very strong and positive approach to solve problems in the way they feel best. We, unfortunately, cannot agree with this and feel that we have a better solution," declared Mallenbaum. Mallenbaum said that JSL is dedicated to the use of the "least forceful methods necessary to accomplish each of its objectives." This means, he explained, acting within the established framework of the government and using political, legal, economic, educational and defensive measures according to the requirements of each situation and "in cooperation with both Jewish and non-Jewish groups."

Noting that seven New England chapters of the JDL and their chairmen had resigned from the national organization along with their New England coordinator, Rabbi Marvin Antelman, Mallenbaum predicted that this was the start of a new trend, and that more resignations could be expected. "Several people who have held high positions in the JDL have come to us and expressed dissatisfaction with the organization," said the JSL founder. He asserted however that his group would not make an attempt to undermine the JDL's influence. "We feel that they have the right to exist and to pursue their own particular means of solving the problems. We feel that it is not for us, however." Continuing, he noted: "The Jewish Survival Legion will give a voice to the newly aroused activist Jew who is dissatisfied with the apathy of old-line Jewish organizations but who cannot accept the necessity for bombings or terrorism. We are offering a realistic and responsible alternative to do-nothing and over-reactive groups." Mallenbaum disclosed that chapters of JSL have already been established in Boston and Worcester, Mass.; Providence, Rhode Island; Hartford, Connecticut and Pawtucket.

Rabbi Antelman, who spearheaded the massive "exodus" of New England members from the national organization, was named as one of the founders of JSL and reported that many of his New England staff have already been appointed. Lazar Lowinger, a criminal attorney and fighter in the Polish resistance, was named as JSL's New England coordinating officer. Rabbi Antelman revealed that also joining the group in leadership positions were Dr. Sanford Gerber, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Clark University who resigned as JDL chapter chairman in Worcester, because of what he termed "irresponsible" national leadership; Rabbi Haim Raizman, spiritual leader of a congregation in Pawtucket, and Warren Shoag, identified by Rabbi Antelman as a veteran of the Irgun, who resigned from the JDL, according to Antelman, because he felt their pursuits were more "publicity-seeking" than "legitimate." Meanwhile, in reaction to the formation of the Jewish Survival Legion, Lawrence Fine, executive director of the JDL, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his group was not antagonistic towards the formation of the new group. "If these people will help the Jewish community, then all power to them!" He insisted, however, that "these alleged members did not come from the ranks of the Jewish Defense League. From letters and phone calls, our members have shown total support for the leadership of JDL and its policies."

Kahane: 'Indefinite Moratorium' On Harassments; Hershkovits Couple Plead Guilty

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Rabbi Meir Kahane, national chairman of the Jewish Defense League said today that his organization was calling an "indefinite moratorium on any further harassment of the Soviets." Rabbi Kahane, one of eight JDL members indicted yesterday by the New York County Grand Jury on various charges of harassment and disorderly conduct, said the moratorium would continue for "a reasonable period of time" but warned that "if we don't see any results, we'll go back to our harassing." He indicated that the moratorium stemmed from his contacts with "various people in the government" and leaders of various Jewish organizations who "told us that we have made our point." He said they told him that his group would accomplish more by working through orthodox channels. Rabbi Kahane said the JDL would continue anti-Soviet picketing but promised that the demonstrations would be orderly. He made this announcement while speaking to newsmen in front of the Criminal Court where he was ordered to appear this morning on a bench warrant on charges of disorderly conduct during the 100-hour vigil last month in front of the Soviet United Nations Mission. Meanwhile, the executive director of the JDL today assailed the indictments as "part of the promised crackdown of the Nixon administration on the JDL."

Lawrence Fine, who was among three defendants indicted on the charge of assaulting a policeman, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the indictments were clearly the "implementation of a similar promise made by (Mayor John V.) Lindsay to 'get tough'." On Jan. 11, Mayor Lindsay issued a directive to the New York City Police Department to be "as alert and as forceful as necessary" in dealing with the JDL. The eight were indicted yesterday on a variety of charges, including rioting, inciting to riot, criminal mischief, burglary and assault, stemming from incidents allegedly perpetrated by League members outside two Soviet offices and inside the offices of the Action Committee on American-Arab Relations. At the same time, the JTA learned today that Avrum and Nancy Hershkovits, the young couple arrested on Sept. 27 for attempting to board a London-bound airliner armed with guns and grenades in order to allegedly hijack an Arab plane, pleaded guilty to the charge of falsifying their passports during a hearing yesterday in the U.S. Federal Court - Eastern Region. They had applied for permits under the fictitious

names of Gordon Joseph Rider and Nancy Joan McGovern. They are expected to be sentenced next month. Hershkovits, 27, was returned to the Federal House of Detention in Manhattan where he had been detained in lieu of bail since his arrest. His 19-year-old wife was released on \$25,000 bail in late October. Seven of the defendants, including Rabbi Kahane, pleaded not guilty and were released on bail in the Manhattan Supreme Court. The eighth, who is 18 years old, will be arraigned January 27 in the Youth Part of the State Supreme Court. Before agreeing to set "nominal" bail for the seven who pleaded before him, Supreme Court Justice Gerald P. Culkinn made each one promise not to engage in further "illegal activities." Rabbi Kahane was indicted on three counts: rioting, which has a maximum penalty of four years; inciting to riot, with a maximum penalty of one year, and unlawful assembly, 90 days.

Rabbi Killed, Another Jew Wounded in Tunis; Shootings Linked To Fanatic Moslem Group

PARIS, Jan. 19 (JTA)--A rabbi was shot to death and another Jew was wounded today by a local Arab in the Jewish quarter of Tunis. The shootings were linked to an ultra-religious Moslem organization, the Tunisian Association to Safeguard the Koran, which issued an appeal to all Moslems yesterday to "fight for the liberation of the holy places in Jerusalem and the stolen territories." According to reports from Tunis the assailant may be mentally unbalanced. The shooting was also linked to the absence of President Habib Bourguiba, of Tunis, a moderate, who is currently undergoing medical treatment at the Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington. (In London today, Chief Rabbi Emanuel Jakobovits called on all rabbis to recite memorial prayers on Jan. 27, the second anniversary of the hanging of nine Jews in Iraq.)

Persistent Rumors That Dayan Met Secretly With Uncle Of Hussein

TEL AVIV, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Persistent rumors reaching here from Arabs who visited Jordan recently claim that Defense Minister Moshe Dayan met secretly on the high seas last month with Sherrif Nassar, an uncle of King Hussein of Jordan. The purported meeting took place aboard a ship between Dec. 22-27, according to the rumors. Those dates coincide with Gen. Dayan's departure on a vacation and his return. They also coincide with the departure and return of Nassar on a trip to Beirut last month. Sources here said the rumors may have been started by Palestinian guerrilla groups in order to discredit Nassar who they regard as an arch enemy. Rumors cropped up late last fall that King Hussein had several meetings with top Israeli leaders including Deputy Premier Yigal Allon, Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Premier Golda Meir. The meetings were said to have taken place over a period of several months in foreign cities and aboard a ship at sea. Both Israel and Jordan denied the reports at the time.

Appeals By Soviet Jews: Right To Emigrate; Right To Live As Jews; Release Defendants

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry today released three impassioned statements by Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel. One was an essay by Lev Sheinkar, a Moscow Hebrew teacher who, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned, was arrested there after making a live radio broadcast to Israel by telephone. Another was an appeal for emigration rights addressed to Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid I. Brezhnev by Arkady Shpilberg of Riga, who was arrested on Aug. 4 and is one of four Jews who will stand trial in Riga tomorrow on charges of anti-Soviet activities. The third document was an appeal to the Soviet Prosecutor General, R. Rudenko by the families of nine Jews who are defendants in the second Leningrad trial which opened on Jan. 6 and was recently adjourned. The trial is expected to be resumed later this month. Sheinkar, 23, has been leading a Hebrew class turned over to him by Anatol Dekatov, a Jew who was permitted to emigrate to Israel. Last month he demonstrated outside the Russian Federation Supreme Court on Red Square while hearings were underway on the appeals of the 11 defendants in the first Leningrad hijack trial.

According to the paper circulated by the SSSJ, Sheinkar publicly proclaimed himself a Zionist, "not as a matter of party membership, but as a matter of conviction" because he is "a Jew who is convinced that there is no life without Israel either for him or for his people." Sheinkar accused the Soviet government of "lying when it claims that there is no single Jew wishing to be repatriated." He wrote, "I demand from the Soviet government that it should allow me to go to Israel for permanent residence. This is my right, a right declared by the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination which, incidentally, has been ratified by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR." He concluded by asking "All honest people to help me." Shpilberg, 32, an engineer, wrote to Brezhnev on May 4, 1970 that his family had been applying for emigration papers since Nov., 1968 but was consistently turned down without explanation. "I want to live in the land of Israel," he wrote. "I want my daughter to study in Hebrew, just as Russian children study in Russian and Ukrainian children in Ukrainian. I want my children to learn about the kings, Saul, David and Solomon just like Russian children learn about Ivan the Terrible and Peter the Great. I believe that my children have the same right to hear in school about the prophet Isaiah's passionate appeal for peace among peoples, as the children of Russian parents hear about the 'song on Igor's Legion,'" he wrote.

Shpilberg apparently got no reply from Brezhnev. His arrest the following Aug. was in connection with the alleged plot to hijack a Soviet airliner at Leningrad. The appeal to Rudenko dated Aug. 19, was signed by the mothers, wives or sisters of eight of the Leningrad 11 defendants. It claimed that the arrests on June 15 and Aug. 5, 1970 "were made on the basis of charges that could be the result only of a monstrous mistake. The charges are based on the hijacking of a plane and on anti-Soviet activities. All of those arrested were either home or at their places of employment at the time of the arrest. In all our homes, searches have been made. The articles confiscated consisted of textbooks for the study of the Hebrew language, dictionaries, textbooks of Jewish history, tapes with texts of Jewish poems and songs, letters and postcards from Israel, notices to the effect that letters handed to the addressees in Israel, as well as books in Jewish and all books mentioning the words 'Israel,' 'Jew' or 'Jewish,'" they wrote.

Security Forces Question 500 Arab Youths, Detain 100 In Move To End Terrorism

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Israeli security forces on the West Bank have completed questioning 500 Arab youths and detained 100 of them for further questioning in an effort to eliminate terrorist activities in the Judea-Samaria districts, it was announced today. The interrogation process occupied six weeks.

Cabinet Discusses UAR Plan; UAR May Not Call For Council Meeting, Withdrawal Timetable

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The Cabinet met in special session today to discuss Egypt's reply to Israel's peace proposals. The discussion will be continued at the next Cabinet session which is expected to be held as usual on Sunday. The Egyptian reply reached Jerusalem this morning from Israel's United Nations Ambassador Yosef Tekoah who received it from UN mediator Gunnar Jarring. It was presented to the Cabinet by Foreign Minister Abba Eban who reported on his contacts with Jarring. No details of the Egyptian reply were disclosed here. (In New York, sources at the United Nations said that the Egyptian response handed to Dr. Jarring last Friday did not contain any stipulation calling for a Security Council meeting before Feb. 5, contrary to earlier indications that they would, and contained no stipulation for an Israeli withdrawal timetable as a condition for continuing the cease-fire beyond its Feb. 5 expiration date. According to some observers, the reported omissions were seen as tactical rather than basic changes in the Egyptian position. Some sources, who noted that the two omissions could not be immediately confirmed, felt that if the report was correct the omissions may have been prompted by the Soviet Union.)

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from unofficial sources that the Egyptians avoided an outright rejection of the Israeli proposals so that it will not bear the onus should the Jarring talks collapse. One source said, "We are continuing our secret diplomacy and we are optimistic." (At the UN, Tekoah said yesterday Israel would study Egypt's reply "very carefully.") (The Israel Embassy in Washington refused to comment on the authenticity of purported excerpts from the Israeli peace plan published today in several newspapers in the U.S. and abroad. The State Department as well had no comment. The JTA learned that Arab sources may have leaked information on the Israeli memorandum to some correspondents.) (CBS Radio Network correspondent Bruno Wassertell reported from Tel Aviv yesterday that Russia has been putting pressure on Egypt to tone down its saucy-raucy posture and to choose, for the time being, its demand for an Israeli withdrawal timetable. According to Wassertell, it was Moscow that influenced Egypt last week not to reject completely the Israeli proposals conveyed by Jarring. The correspondent said that Soviet pressure for moderation stemmed from a desire to avoid an unnecessary military showdown with Israel and to keep U.S.-Soviet relations from deteriorating further.)

Sources here said the Egyptians continue to insist on total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories. But they say that intelligence reaching Israel indicates that President Anwar Sadat will continue the Suez cease-fire unofficially after Feb. 5. The sources said that Sadat was influenced by Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny, who visited Egypt last week, to agree to a one-month truce extension, though without making a formal commitment. The Egyptians meanwhile have started what they apparently intend to be a war of nerves against Israeli forces occupying the east bank of the Suez Canal. Egyptian soldiers engage in amphibious exercises in full view of Israeli troops every morning. The exercises are obviously part of a training program for a cross-canal attack. The Egyptians practice with rubber boats and landing craft carrying tanks. The daily maneuvers are carried out in the central sector of the canal zone opposite Ismailia. The Egyptians are also engaged in extensive construction work along the canal and have built outposts facing Israeli positions. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir said in a radio interview today that Israel's record \$2.1 billion defense budget for fiscal 1971 would stand even if the truce was to continue indefinitely and even if there was a peace settlement. Sapir said, "If we want to keep the peace we must remain strong and to remain strong one has to have equipment and more equipment."

First Four Mirage Jets Delivered To Libya; Pilots, Ground Crews Begin Training

PARIS, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The Dassault works delivered its first four Mirage jets to Libya last month, it was disclosed here today. But doubts cropped up as to whether Libya intends to accept all of the 110 Mirages it ordered from France last year for its air force. According to the newspaper Le Monde, the four Mirages, all training models, were handed over to the Libyans at the Bordeaux-Mérignac Airbase which adjoins the Dassault works. They have since been transferred to the French Air Force base near Dijon where Libyan pilots and ground crews are being trained. The delivery of the trainers was four months ahead of schedule, but there are no plans to speed up production of the remaining Mirages, which, under the contract with Libya, are to be delivered over a period of 18 months, Le Monde said. Libya was reported to have ordered a number of French-made helicopters including nine Super-Frelons, each of which can carry a fully armed platoon. The French decision to supply Libya with Mirage jets aroused a furor in pro-Israel circles. It was pointed out at the time that the Libyan Air Force is too small to absorb so many highly sophisticated, supersonic combat planes and that they probably would be transferred to Egypt. A clause in the contract prohibits transfer of the planes to a third party.

Argentinian Poet, Writer Named Winner Of \$2,000 Jerusalem Prize

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Jorge Luis Borges, the famed Argentinian poet and writer, has been named this year's winner of the "Jerusalem Prize," the biennial award given by the Jerusalem Municipality to the author who has contributed most to "the freedom of the individual." The 71-year-old poet, who shared the International Publishers Prize of 1961 with Samuel Beckett, and was Professor of English and American Literature at the University of Buenos Aires, will be awarded the \$2,000 prize in the presence of President Zalman Shazar at the opening of the Fifth International Book Fair here on April 19.

12-Year-Old Israeli One Of Two Survivors In Airplane Crash; Father Killed

PARIS, Jan. 19 (JTA)--A 12-year-old Israeli boy whose family name is Furmanovitz was one of two survivors of the crash of a Bulgarian airliner at Kloten Airport, Zurich, last night in which 35 passengers and crew-members were killed. The youngster, whose first name was not immediately available, is in serious condition at the Zurich Cantonal Hospital, suffering from severe burns and multiple fractures in both legs. His father was killed in the crash. The boy and his father were on a flight from Santiago, Chile to Sofia, Bulgaria.

Case Says Pressure Must Continue On USSR To Ease Its Treatment Of Jews

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Sen. Clifford Case said today that pressure must be maintained on the USSR to persuade it to ease its treatment of Russian Jews. The New Jersey Republican added the commutation of two death sentences did not mean that the Russian attitude towards the Jews has changed.

100-Year-Old Synagogue Destroyed By Blaze; 40 Or 50 Sacred Scrolls Consumed By Fire

BROOKLYN, N.Y., Jan. 19 (JTA)--A two-alarm fire yesterday completely destroyed the interior of Congregation Tifereth Israel, a four-story brick synagogue in the Williamsburg section that was built 100 years ago next week. The blaze, which apparently originated near an oil burner in the basement, also caused the roof to collapse. Eighty firemen battled the flames for two hours with 15 pieces of apparatus. Although the synagogue is located in a largely Orthodox area that has been the scene in recent years of racial tensions, a Fire Department spokesman said arson was not suspected. The fire was reported by a neighbor shortly after the Orthodox congregants had concluded morning services and locked the doors behind them. They no longer have a permanent rabbi, as they have dwindled in numbers to 150-175 from 1,200-1,400 a decade ago. Meyer Haapel, president of the synagogue for more than 20 years, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that 40 or 50 sacred scrolls had been destroyed in the blaze and had been buried in accordance with Jewish law. He said a dollar value could not be placed on the lost artifacts, but that to rebuild the synagogue might require \$1 million. The congregation bought the building about 55 years ago after moving from Manhattan's East Side.

University Students Urge Change In Student Calendar To Avoid Conflict With Holy Days

EVANSTON, Ill., Jan. 19 (JTA)--An ad hoc Committee of Jewish Students at Northwestern University urged University president Robert Strotz to change the schedule for New Student Week next September because it conflicts with the start of the Jewish High Holy Days. The appeal asked for a decision within one week, declaring that "otherwise we will be forced to take action as so many other Jews have done recently, to end the discrimination which faces us." The appeal was made in a letter which noted that a similar situation occurred two years ago and that while protests from Jewish students failed to obtain a change in the scheduling, the University "issued a verbal promise that it would take the Jewish calendar into account when drawing up an academic calendar for the future." The letter added that "we ask it to honor its promise." The letter did not indicate what kind of action the students were contemplating if the appeal failed a second time.

The letter was signed by representatives of the Student Forum, the Chicago Jewish Student Press, the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, the American Students for Israel, the United Synagogue Youth, the Chicago coordinator for the youth division of the Jewish Defense League, the Jewish Student Movement, the Association for Torah Advancement, the Jewish Radical Action Committee, and the Jewish Reconstructionist University Fellowship. The appeal declared that the Jewish student groups had previously asked the University Calendar Committee to change the 1971 schedule from its present start on Sept. 19, a Sunday evening, and have it start on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Recalling the situation two years ago, the letter said that then, "as well as now," the University had copies of the Jewish calendar, had "received many pleas to change the date of the start of the student week and that, on both occasions, our requests were denied."

Court Review Of Sunday Observer Case May Have Implications For Sabbath Observers

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The United States Supreme Court agreed yesterday to review the question of whether an employer can dismiss a worker who refuses to work on a certain day or at certain times because to do so would violate his religious practices. The case under review, *Dewey vs. Reynolds Metal Co.*, involves Robert Dewey, a member of a Protestant sect, who was fired because he refused to work on Sunday. The U.S. Court of Appeals in Detroit, Mich. had ruled against Dewey, a resident of Grand Rapids. His court action was handled by the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA). The brief requesting the Supreme Court to review the lower court's decision was written by Nathan Lewin, of Washington, D.C., vice president of COLPA. Lewin will present a brief on the merits of the case before the Supreme Court. According to Lewin, the Dewey case has important implications for all Sabbath observers including many Orthodox Jews.

UFT Cancels Sponsorship Of Tour To USSR; Members Object To Plight Of Soviet Jewry

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA)--New York City's teachers' union has withdrawn its sponsorship of a spring study-tour in the Soviet Union after many of its members objected to it because of the treatment of Jews in Russia. An announcement of the withdrawal appeared in the current issue of the United Teacher, the weekly newspaper of the 65,000 member United Federation of Teachers. The same issue published "two typical letters" of objection from teachers protesting the tour. One, from Kenneth J. Tewel, a Queens high school teacher said, "I would consider it morally wrong for us to encourage or support tourism to the Soviet Union under the aegis of our union" because of the treatment of Jews. The second letter, in a similar vein, was signed by Henry Heitner, a union chapter chairman and 44 other teachers. The tour to Russia was one of two Easter vacation travel projects sponsored by the UFT and arranged by the Professional Seminar Consultants, Inc. The Russian trip, described as a "Soviet-American Symposium on Primary and Secondary Education and Teacher Training Program," was scheduled to take place from April 8-17 and was first advertised in the UFT newspaper last Nov. 22. Initial response was described by a spokesman for the organizers as "quite good" but as the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union developed into a major issue, there were many cancellations from teachers. The tour will take place nevertheless but according to the spokesman, without UFT backing "it is not going to be a successful venture." The second Easter vacation tour, a trip to Italy, will continue to be sponsored by the UFT.

Rabbi Urges Conference Of World Jewish Leaders To Combat Anti-Zionism, Anti-Semitism

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Jan. 19 (JTA)--Rabbi Bernard L. Berzon, leader of Congregation Ahavah Israel in Brooklyn, N.Y. and president of the Rabbinical Council of America, called yesterday for a conference of world Jewish leaders to combat "one of the greatest dangers in the history of the Jewish people"--anti-Semitism cloaked behind the rhetoric of anti-Zionism and anti-Israelism. Addressing the midwinter conference of the Assembly, the country's largest Orthodox rabbinical group, Rabbi Berzon charged that world Jewry was underestimating the threat of this new form of anti-Semitism, which he attributed to the Soviet Union and "the so-called Left." While their approach is different from the "classic anti-Semitism" practiced earlier by reactionary and nationalistic forces, he noted, the "Jew-hater and Jew-baiter of old" is still at its source.