

# 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-Fourth Year

Tuesday, February 16, 1971

No. 31

## Elections For Chief Rabbinate May Be Delayed Due To Dayan's Unexpected Intervention

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has intervened unexpectedly in preparations for the forthcoming election of Israel's chief rabbinate. As a result, the elections may be delayed beyond the expiration of the present chief rabbis' terms at the end of next month. Gen. Dayan who does not normally involve himself in religious affairs, sent a letter to Premier Golda Meir last week in which he stated his view that there is no need for two chief rabbis, one Ashkenazic (East-European) and the other Sephardic (Oriental). The incumbent Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi is Itzhak Unterman and his Sephardic counterpart is Chief Rabbi Isser Nissim. The chief rabbis are not elected by popular vote but are chosen by delegates selected by the religious councils in each Israeli township. Gen. Dayan advised the Premier that he had specific objections to a rabbinical election bill drafted by the Ministry for Religious Affairs and the Ministry of Justice.

The bill was unanimously approved by a ministerial sub-committee on laws and bills and under those circumstances could be submitted directly to the Knesset for approval without discussion by the full Cabinet. But Dayan's intervention is likely to bring the whole issue before the Government, delaying the elections. In that event, Minister of Religious Affairs Zerach Warhaftig would have to ask the Knesset to temporarily extend the terms of the incumbent chief rabbis. Dayan has said on previous occasions that he believes the time has come to end the division of the chief rabbinate into Ashkenazic and Sephardic branches. But his latest action was believed to have been prompted by the Army Chief Chaplain, Rabbi Shlomo Goren, who shares his opinion that one Chief Rabbi is sufficient. Rabbi Goren, who holds the rank of General, was elected Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv two years ago but has yet to take up that post. Sephardic circles in the religious parties are upset by the Dayan move. They insist on the dual rabbinate because they fear that Ashkenazic rabbis would otherwise take over all rabbinical institutions.

## Jewish Students Protest Mobil Oil Executives' Effort To Hire Jews

WALTHAM, Mass., Feb. 15 (JTA)--More than 100 Jewish students at Brandeis University interrupted a presentation by four executives of Mobil Oil Company to protest Mobil's ban on Jewish- and Israeli-made products on carriers calling at Arab ports. In a telephone report to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in New York, a leader of the campus' Jewish Activist League of the Radical Zionist Alliance said the demonstrators attended a scheduled talk last Friday on "career opportunities" at Mobil and interrupted to challenge Mobil's policy. The activist leader, Dr. J. Rosenberg, told the JTA that the executives had "tried to recruit Jews for their office in New York while they follow an anti-Semitic policy." Most students at Brandeis are Jewish. The Mobil executives were "quite surprised" at the interruption, Rosenberg said, and the university officials present "apologized all over the place."

When the attendees were given the opportunity to leave the room, he said, only about 10 of the approximately 125 students there remained. The demonstrators dispersed fliers reproducing articles -- some by the JTA -- reporting the charges against Mobil. When the demonstrators vowed to rally 1,000 students at Mobil's scheduled on-campus recruitment drive in March, the company officials indicated that the drive would be canceled, Rosenberg said. Matthew Sgan, associate dean of students at Brandeis University, told the JTA by phone that he did not recall having formally apologized to the Mobil officials. The issue, he said, was not one of a company's operating policy but one of "academic freedom," that is, the executives should have been allowed to speak without hindrance. He said 10 to 20 students remained after the demonstrators left. He said the Mobil men stated they were willing to return in March, and that as of today their reappearance had not been cancelled.

## Police Arrest 12 After Uncovering Nazi Literature, Arms in Homes Of Right-Wingers

BONN, Feb. 15 (JTA)--Nazi literature, swastikas, submachine guns, pistols and ammunition were uncovered by police today after raiding homes in Bonn, Cologne and Dusseldorf. Twelve persons -- most of them members of the Neo-Nazi Democratic Party -- were arrested. Police said that right-wing groups were planning terrorist acts in Germany.

## Jarring Move Continues To Agitate Israeli Leaders; Serious Rift With U.S. Posed

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (JTA)--Israeli leaders were wrestling with two major diplomatic problems today and the possibility of a serious rift with Washington arising from one of them. The Cabinet suspended all other business and devoted its regular session yesterday to the latest move by the United Nations mediator, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, who, Israel contends, exceeded the authority of his mandate from the Security Council in the letters he submitted last week to Israel and Egypt. Israelis were also reacting to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's elaboration of his offer to reopen the Suez Canal provided Israel withdraws its forces from the waterway. The Israelis view the Sadat proposal as a cunning ploy to force Israel's withdrawal without a peace settlement but fear that the Egyptian leader may have won world opinion to his side, at least temporarily. The latest Jarring move created the gravest misgivings here. Israel saw it as a "proposal" that it agree to return to the pre-June, 1967 boundaries before a peace settlement. Israeli leaders claimed that when they agreed to resume the Jarring talks last month it was with the specific understanding that the Swedish diplomat would continue his role as a mediator without advancing "solutions." Premier Golda Meir and Foreign Minister Abba Eban made their attitude clear to United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour at a meeting last Friday.

But the U.S. has disagreed sharply with Israel's view of the Jarring move. Obviously speaking for the Administration, Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco said on the CBS television program "Face the Nation" yesterday that Jarring "has a very broad mandate and is acting strictly in accord with that mandate." He declared that the time has come for both parties to make "painful compromises" and take "risks

for peace." Sisco noted that Security Council Resolution 242, mandating Dr. Jarring "to promote an agreement between the two parties," and the U.S. peace initiative of June 1970, gives the UN mediator "very wide latitude indeed." Since both sides are committed to the Council resolution and the U.S. initiative, "no procedures are barred," Sisco added. Israeli diplomatic circles told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that there was nothing "surprising" in Sisco's remarks. They said that Israel has been aware of the American attitude and is convinced that Washington was making a serious error in backing the Jarring move. The Cabinet meets again on Thursday. Meanwhile, the Knesset Presidium refused to recognize a contention by two opposition factions today that the latest Jarring move created a situation of urgency, and rejected their demand for an immediate full-dress Knesset debate. The demand was made by Gahal and the State List. The Presidium stated that the Jarring move would not be taken up during the current session unless the Government presented the chamber with a policy statement on foreign affairs alluding to it.

#### No Hint Of Intention To Negotiate Or Conclude Peace In Latest Sadat Proposals

Of more immediate concern was Sadat's interview published today in Newsweek magazine. The Egyptian President said that in exchange for an Israeli withdrawal to a line behind El Arish, he would be prepared to re-open the Suez Canal within six months. El Arish, a coastal town in eastern Sinai, is only 30 miles from the old Israeli-Egyptian border and withdrawal to that point would be tantamount to withdrawal from almost all of the Sinai peninsula. Sadat told Newsweek's senior editor, Arnaud de Borchgrave, that he was prepared to accept an international force at Sharm el-Sheikh, the strongpoint on the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula which controls the Strait of Tiran and access to Israel's port of Eilat. Sadat also said that if Israel agreed to withdrawal, he would agree to prolong the current 30-day cease-fire extension to a "fixed date." The cease-fire is to expire on March 7. On the question of Israel's use of the Suez Canal, Sadat told the American editor that he would agree on condition that Israel first "fulfilled her obligations under the UN resolutions." Sadat was, in effect, re-stating Egypt's position that Israel's use of the waterway could only follow a solution of the Palestinian refugee problem. Israelis were quick to point out that Sadat gave no hint of any intention to conclude peace or negotiate peace with Israel. "Every demand leaves an opening for a new demand," one Israeli source told the JTA today.

An official communique issued after yesterday's Cabinet session said that Israel will continue "to pursue the course initiated by her upon the resumption of Ambassador Jarring's mission at the beginning of January, 1971." It stated that Israel continues to await Egypt's reply to its latest memorandum which was submitted to Cairo through Dr. Jarring more than a week ago. The subsequent Jarring letters to Jerusalem and Cairo were not referred to directly but the communique made it clear that Israel does not consider itself bound by any obligations to Dr. Jarring's proposals. There was no official information on the content of the Jarring letter which caused consternation in Jerusalem. Unconfirmed reports published last week claimed that he suggested an Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai peninsula, the stationing of a UN force at Sharm el-Sheikh and Israeli withdrawal of the Gaza Strip. Knowledge of his proposals and what was unlikely that Dr. Jarring made outright proposals on these subjects but that he may have submitted one or more questions so phrased as to imply that he favored a certain course of action. His letter to Cairo reportedly queried the Egyptian Government on its willingness to make formal peace with Israel and recognize its boundaries and sovereignty. There was little comment from Cairo on the latest Jarring move but there were indications that Egyptian diplomats were pleased with it.

#### Gaza Military Governor Dissolves Municipal Council; Israeli Officer Takes Over

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA)--An Israeli officer appointed by the Military Governor took over the administration of Gaza today after the Military Governor formally dissolved the Municipal Council that has been moribund for more than six weeks. The Military Governor announced that the move was temporary, pending the appointment of a new Municipal Council. He invited the public to submit the names of candidates. Gaza has long been a hotbed of terrorist activities. Its 11-man Municipal Council ceased functioning on Jan. 2 after Israeli officials ousted Mayor Ragheb el Alami for alleged neglect of his duties. Alami was accused of failure to conduct municipal affairs. The members of his council refused to carry out their duties on grounds that they would be regarded as collaborators with the Israelis. The Military Governor summoned the councilmen to his office yesterday. Only five showed up. He told them that an Israeli officer would take over their duties because it has been impossible to conduct the day-to-day affairs of the city under existing circumstances. The Gaza Municipal Council was appointed by Egyptian authorities in 1965. When Israel occupied the Gaza Strip in June, 1967, it was allowed to remain in office. The Israelis also permitted the town councils of most West Bank towns, appointed by Jordanian authorities, to continue in office. The Gaza council is the only one in any of the occupied territories that Israel has found necessary to dissolve.

#### Six Terrorists Killed By Israeli Patrols; Two More Terrorist Bands Uncovered

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA)--Four terrorists from Lebanese territory were killed last night in an encounter with an Israeli patrol in the Upper Galilee. In addition, two terrorists were killed north of the Dead Sea. All were found to be bearing weapons, ammunition and mines. Meanwhile, security forces were searching for the saboteurs who forced Arab workers out of a bus near Hebron and destroyed it by fire. Security forces have uncovered two more terrorist bands -- one at El Arish in the northern Sinai headed by two Egyptian intelligence men and another in the Jerusalem area. The El Arish band was charged with firing bazookas at the Nahal Yam settlement, shelling the military governor's house and planting mines. The four-man Jerusalem gang, headed by 27-year-old El Fatah trainee Said Eldado, admitted throwing grenades at the Nablus and Jaffa gates and at the British Consulate and sabotaging an electric pylon. Three members of a spy ring in the service of El Fatah were sentenced to jail today. They were Ommar Ibrahim Assoulin of East Jerusalem, a part-time journalist and engineering student in Beirut, Lebanon, and Seidan and Abou Khalil, Israeli Arabs. They had been found early last year in possession of military information. Assoulin received 10 years, the Khalils 6 years each. According to information from Amman, there are only 5,000 guerrillas in Jordan, compared with 20,000 before last September's civil war.

## B'nai B'rith Women Contribute \$250,000 For Its Children's Home In Jerusalem

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 15 (JTA)--The B'nai B'rith Women contributed \$250,000 today for construction of a new building for older troubled boys at its Children's Home in Jerusalem. The 140,000-member organization is holding a four-day triennial international convention and diamond jubilee celebration here. Some 700 delegates will be in attendance through Wednesday. The new building will open in September for the treatment of around 20 boys aged 15 to 18. It will include a gymnasium, music and science rooms, a library, psychotherapy facilities, a clinic and a sickroom. Latin American chapters of B'nai B'rith Women will finance the new addition to the Children's Home, which was founded in 1943 to treat victims of the Holocaust. At today's ceremony, a local housewife, Mrs. Selma Hurwitz, donated to the home an artistic panel with the biblical quotation "He who walks uprightly walks securely." Mrs. Michael Shapiro of Washington, outgoing president of B'nai B'rith Women, received a silver kiddush cup and plate from B'nai B'rith president Dr. William A. Wexler. Messages from President Nixon and Israeli Premier Golda Meir were read.

Yecheskel Cohen, director of the Children's Home, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the institution now houses 70 boys and girls aged 9 to 14. "We not only seek to educate and treat our children," he said, "but to create a new life for them." Cohen said he and his staff "realize the shortcomings of an institution," but noted: "As far as I can judge, these disturbed boys cannot go to foster homes. They are too aggressive, have no trust in anyone, and can't have a relation with a small family because the family can't stand them in their aggressiveness." The new wing will be devoted largely to boys who are failing in foster homes. Cohen, who was born in Germany in 1932 and immigrated to Palestine with his family in 1938, will visit institutions similar to his in New York, Boston, Cleveland, Chicago and Topeka before returning home. At the opening of the convention last night Mrs. Rita E. Hauser, the United States representative on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, contended that the status of Israeli women "surely influenced" Palestinian women -- including Haifa-born hijacker Lella Khaled -- to revolt for equal rights with men.

## Israel Prepares For Soviet Emigre Families; Lubavitcher Rebbe Scores Demonstrations

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA)--A new organization of Russian Jews in Israel held its first convention at the Mann Auditorium here last night as Israel prepared for the imminent arrival of at least six Soviet Jewish families who unexpectedly received exit visas last week after having been denied them for months by Soviet authorities. As reported by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency last week, the newcomers will include Iosif Kazakov, his wife and two daughters. They are the family of Yasha Kazakov, a youthful Jewish activist who was permitted to emigrate to Israel in 1969 and has been agitating ever since for the release of his parents. The Kazakovs are expected to go to Vienna this week enroute to Israel. Meanwhile, a report from Moscow said that Alexander Kazakov, brother of Yasha Kazakov, was beaten by hooligans in a Moscow street last week. Reports from Moscow over the weekend also confirmed an earlier report of the impending departure for Israel of Mr. and Mrs. David Drabkin and their daughter, Moscow Jews who have long been demanding the right to emigrate. Others said to have received permission to leave were Mr. and Mrs. Viktor Fedoseyev; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gurevich; Mr. and Mrs. Vadim Barshevsky and their child and Krayna Shur, the sister of Gilel Shur who was arrested in Leningrad last spring and is reportedly awaiting trial.

Jewish sources reportedly know of many more Jews seeking exit permits who have been denied them. These sources refuse to regard the recent granting of visas a new trend but claim that Soviet authorities simply want to "get rid" of Jewish activists who sign petitions and try to enlist world opinion in their cause. (In New York last week, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, claimed that anti-Soviet demonstrations by Jews in the U.S. and elsewhere were counter-productive and in fact jeopardized the departure of 100 Russian-Jewish families who had already been promised visas. Addressing 3000 of his followers in Yiddish, Rabbi Schneerson said he had privately warned the organizers of anti-Soviet demonstrations "against acts which do more harm than good." He said the organizers "knew that 100 families had been about to leave the Soviet Union. In fact all arrangements had been made for their visas and departures. I begged... (them) not to do anything at the time... I sometimes think that they would be prepared to sacrifice three million Jews in order to make their point over here. Now these families are being harassed in the Soviet Union because they, or some of them, are suspected of collusion with those who organize demonstrations in the West," Rabbi Schneerson said.)

The convention last night was an emotional occasion, bringing together recent emigres from Russia and Israelis who came during the Czarist era. Among the latter were former Premier David Ben Gurion and Itzhak Tabenkin, of the Second Aliyah. Among the newcomers were Maj. Grisha Feigin, a former officer in the Soviet Army, who arrived in Israel last week. Feigin, an activist from Riga, was given an exit visa shortly after he was released from a mental home where he was confined briefly because he returned his World War II combat medals in protest against the Kremlin's anti-Jewish policies. Another newcomer from Moscow was Boris Tsukerman, a scientist who arrived in Israel last month with his wife and two children. Premier Golda Meir embraced them both on the platform. She declared, "There is no force in the world, no government however cruel, that can deter Jews from coming to Israel if they wish to." Absorption Minister Nathan Peled said there should be no difficulty in absorbing Russian Jews into Israel's economy because most of them are well educated and come to Israel with skills and technical knowledge.

## Israel In Bid To Expand Its High Fashion Market; Buyers Arriving In Israel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15 (JTA)--Israel is making a bid to expand its share of the high fashion market. Fashion Week opened here tonight and Israel's fashion houses are playing host to several hundred buyers from the United States and Europe as well as writers from some 50 fashion magazines here to cover the event. Israel will display its latest designs, the products of 70 fashion houses, eight of which are newcomers to the export market. According to Benzion Shapira, director of the Export Industry Institute's Fashion Center, Israel's textile and ready-to-wear industries will have an infusion of \$51 million in investments this year, about 20 percent of the total investment in Israel's industry. He said that textile and fashion exports are expected to reach the \$28 million mark in 1971.

