

# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

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Vol. XXXVIII - Fifty-Fourth Year

Monday, April 12, 1971

No. 70

## Knesset To Convene Special Session On Situation Of Iraqi Jews

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--The Knesset, which adjourned for spring recess more than a week ago, will convene in special session Tuesday to discuss the deteriorating situation of Jews in Iraq. A formal request for a special session was received today by Knesset Speaker Reuben Barkat. It was signed by more than the 30 MKs required to call the Knesset into special session. On the agenda are motions filed by several opposition factions including Gahal, Agudat Israel, the Free Center and the State List. The plight of Iraqi Jews was taken up at a special meeting of the Israeli Executive of the World Jewish Congress. While there was no new information today about the plight of Iraqi Jews, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported last week that about 40 Jews were being held in custody without trial for allegedly trying to leave the country illegally. According to reports, three were sentenced to death and would be executed shortly and the rest faced possible death sentences.

## Allende Says Solution Of Mideast Conflict Must Include Israel's Right To Exist

PARIS, April 11 (JTA)--Chile's Marxist President Salvador Allende said in an interview published here today that the Middle East conflict can be solved "only within the concept of the Jewish State's right to existence and survival." Outlining his attitude on the Middle East to the weekly L'Express, Allende said, "We have not always approved of the Israel government but we have always recognized the rights of the Jewish people and we also recognize the rights of the Arab peoples."

## New Emigrants Cite Stepped Up Anti-Semitism In Odessa

TEL AVIV, April 11 (JTA)--A large group of Soviet Jews landed at Lydda Airport early this morning. They included several more families from the Georgian Republic who signed the famous letter appealing to Premier Golda Meir for emigration aid. They said that only two of the 18 families that signed the letter remain in Russia and their prospects for leaving are doubtful. One of this morning's arrivals was Rafael Shvilli, son of Shabtai Shvilli who arrived here last week. He said he had waited two years for his exit permit. One of four families arriving from Walga, Estonia, said they had waited 15 years. They reported that all 16 Jewish families in that town have applied for exit visas. Emigrants from Odessa reported growing anti-Semitism in that Black Sea city. Emigrants from Riga reported that three Jews facing trial in Leningrad have been transferred to Riga to testify against four Jews expected to go on trial there on April 15.

Meanwhile, it was learned here today that Soviet authorities may soon force emigrating Jews to pay for the education they received at institutions of higher learning. Reliable sources in Vilna, contacted by telephone, told the newspaper Yediot Achronot that prospective emigrants may soon have to pay \$1,100 for each academic year. Jews holding degrees which require at least four years at a university or polytechnic institute, would, according to these sources, have to pay at least \$4,400 compared to \$990 now required for an exit permit. Apparently, Soviet authorities feel that Jews who wish to emigrate are not entitled to free education at the expense of the Soviet Union which can be utilized elsewhere. At the same time, sources in Minsk said that Jewish applicants were told recently that they would receive exit permits "within a few days" after which they would have to leave Russia within three days.

## Government Postpones Decision On Interim Arrangement Pending Clarification From U.S.

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--The Israeli government is noding up its decision on interim arrangements for reopening the Suez Canal pending clarification from the United States on the key matter of security guarantees for Israel, it was learned today. Specifically, Israel wants to know what steps will be taken to ensure that no Egyptian forces cross the waterway in the event that Israeli forces pull back any distance from the canal's east bank. Israel has made it clear that it would never agree to an arrangement enabling Egyptian troops to cross the canal. The extent of any Israeli pull-back is one of the subjects under top level discussion here at the moment. It is believed however that Israel will never unilaterally withdraw its forces beyond a point where they would lose effective control of the canal banks. The initiative for an interim arrangement came from Washington. Israel refuses to risk another situation in which it would be presented with an Egyptian fait accompli. They believe that since Washington is anxious for some sort of arrangement to break the present political impasse in the Mideast, it must bear the burden of providing iron-clad security guarantees for Israel. Premier Golda Meir who has taken several days off for the Passover holiday, will preside over the discussions later this week from which a decision is expected to emerge.

## Soviet Congress Ends Without A Public Word On Future Of Emigration Policy

LONDON, April 11 (JTA)--Throughout its 10 days of speeches and discussions, the 24th Soviet Communist Party Congress which ended Friday, no reference was made to the demand by Jews who want to emigrate, nor was there any indication as to what policy the Kremlin leadership intends to follow in the future on the granting of exit visas. In what some observers thought was a gesture to the Jewish community, two Jews were elected to the 81-member Central Auditing Commission, a watchdog group of less prestige than the Party's Central Committee. The lower echelon posts went to Col. Gen. David Dragunsky, an Army officer who has been a constant defender of Soviet policy toward Jews, and to Vladimir J. Peller, a collective farm chairman from the Soviet Jewish Autonomous Republic of Birobidjan where only some 15,000 of Russia's three million Jews reside.

Named to full membership in the Central Committee was Nikolai V. Goldin, a name usually Jewish

in the Soviet Union. There are, however, no biographies available on him and no evidence beyond the name that he may be of Jewish origin. The only known Jewish members of the Central Committee are Veniamin E. Dymshits, a Deputy Premier, and Aleksandr B. Chakovsky, editor of the weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta. Neither have been identified with Jewish causes. The career of Viktor V. Grishin, one of the four men newly elected full members of the powerful Politburo is interesting because of the man he replaced when he was elevated to the prestigious post of Moscow city Party leader in 1967 by Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev. Grishin succeeded Nikolai G. Yegorychev who was dismissed by Brezhnev because he differed with the Party leadership on Middle East policy. The assumption is that Yegorychev's dismissal was prompted by his more dovish views on the Mideast compared with that of his successor.

### Displeasure Expressed Over Pontiff's Reference To Christian Community In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--Displeasure was expressed in Israel government circles today over Pope Paul VI's references to the Christian community in Jerusalem in his Good Friday sermon. Most observers interpreted the Pope's words as a clear allusion to the Vatican's long-standing position favoring special international status for Jerusalem and its holy places. The Pontiff called on the world's Christians to give "spiritual, moral and material support" to the Christian community in Jerusalem and the Holy Land "where the benign wind of peace still fails to blow." He said, "We must look with affectionate solicitude to the Christian communities in that Holy Land. They have been sorely tried in the course of history." He went on to observe that the aid rendered by Christians to their brethren in Jerusalem was not only for the maintenance of Christian shrines but for the functioning of religious and social institutions that aid the poor without discrimination. The Pope also spoke of Christians' desire for access to their shrines.

### Arab Diplomats Meeting In Effort To End Conflict In Jordan

LONDON, April 11 (JTA)--Middle echelon Arab diplomats from nine nations are meeting in Cairo in an effort to end the bloody conflict between the Jordanian government and Palestinian guerrillas. But King Hussein reportedly rejected their appeal that he settle his differences directly with El Fatah leader Yassir Arafat. Hussein has demanded a full scale Arab summit meeting which, he insists, is the only way to deal with the situation in his kingdom. The Algerian representative at the Cairo meeting reportedly supported a meeting of Arab foreign ministers to be followed by a summit conference that would seek to end the fighting. The guerrillas, meanwhile, claimed that Hussein's forces have launched a full scale attack on their positions in the north. The Jordanian government reportedly has prepared an amnesty law that would pardon about 900 fedayeen now in jail for illegal possession of weapons. Sources said the law would become effective as soon as all guerrillas leave Amman.

Syria, whose abortive intervention on the guerrillas' side in last September's Jordanian civil war led to the downfall of the Baathist regime in Damascus, has now joined Jordan in peace efforts. According to reports from Damascus, Syria and Jordan and the central committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization have set up a six-man committee to supervise peace arrangements. Maj. Gen. Mustafa Tias, the Syrian Chief of Staff, visited Hussein last week and met with guerrilla representatives in Amman. He said afterwards that agreement was reached on the new committee that will supersede the now defunct all-Arab committee established after the civil war to supervise the truce. He said the new committee is empowered to decide on all past and future troubles between Jordanian authorities and the comandos.

### Black Panthers Win Demand For Military Induction Of Youths With Criminal Records

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--One of the major grievances of the so-called Israeli "Black Panthers" has been removed with the agreement of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan to end the exclusion of youths with criminal records from military induction. Dayan's decision was revealed by Rabbi Michael Jacob Hazani, Minister of Social Welfare. The Army's practice of rejecting convicted youths was based on considerations of economy--their enlistment cost more than they were worth to the service--and of morale. But those youths found it very hard to become rehabilitated, since potential employers want to see applicants' military-discharge certificates before hiring them. Special plans have now been developed, in conjunction with the Social Welfare Ministry, to enlist convicted youths into the military and have them carefully watched by social workers. The Israeli "Panthers"--who have demonstrated against poverty and have the support of extreme Israeli Leftists, but have not been linked to the Black Panther Party in the United States--announced Thursday that they had asked Premier Golda Meir for an interview and would fast in front of the Western Wall if it was not granted. A spokesman for Mrs. Meir said she had left town for the Passover holiday before the Panthers' request arrived, and that it would be submitted to her when she returned today.

### Halpern Accuses Fulbright Of Increasing Danger Of War In Mideast

WASHINGTON, April 11 (JTA)--Rep. Seymour Halpern, a Republican from New York, accused Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman J. William Fulbright today of increasing the danger of war in the Middle East by remarks critical of Israel that he made in a speech to Yale University students April 4. The Arkansas Democrat accused Israel of resorting to "Communist-baiting humbuggery" in order to manipulate American policy in its interest. Halpern is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In a statement released by his office today, he said "The distinguished chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee unwittingly or otherwise justified the Soviet-Arab position while denouncing Israel for opposing Communism and aggression." According to Halpern, Fulbright's remarks "tacitly encouraged the Arabs and their Soviet friends to desist from real peace and to continue their military build-up." Halpern claimed that Fulbright thus "struck a blow at the credibility of America's deterrent gap."

### Arabs, Israelis Work Jointly To Increase Agricultural Output In Jericho

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--Jericho, which lies 1,000 feet below sea level near the north shore of the Dead Sea was cited by Arab and Israeli spokesmen today as an outstanding example of the bene-

fits Jewish-Arab cooperation can bring. The occasion was the opening of the agricultural fair attended by some 5,000 Arab villagers from all over the West Bank, Arab notables and representatives of the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture and the Military government. Political differences were buried as the throng examined some of the latest farm equipment and the excellent fruits and vegetables produced in the warm, sunny climate of Jericho when most of Europe is blanketed with snow. Jericho's Mayor Sheikh Salah Abdi, sponsored the fair jointly with the farm department of the West Bank Military government. He said, "Please tell the world that Jericho is a quiet city. There has been no fighting here and there will be no fighting. We want to work in peace and we shall welcome visitors who would like to see for themselves what it is like here." Amir Taha, the regional agricultural officer for the Ministry of Agriculture, said, "I am not speaking now as an Arab but as a human being and a farmer. I want to say that thanks to the assistance of the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture, we have increased several fold our farm yield in the Jericho region." He said that up to 18 months ago, all farm work was done manually; now local farmers have the benefit of modern equipment.

Assahel Ben David, the Military government's agricultural staff officer observed that before Israel's occupation of the region in 1967, there were only 700 acres of arable land around Jericho. Now there are 3,700 acres under cultivation. Where there was one farm instructor three years ago, now there are 15 and new crops have been introduced ending the region's dependence on the success or failure of a few staples. Ben David noted that diversified farming in Jericho employs local labor and benefits Israel by producing fresh fruit and vegetables for export. "We cannot supply enough to satisfy the European market's appetite for fresh vegetables in winter," he said. The Jericho region exports fresh tomatoes, aubergines, turnips, green peppers, lettuce and celery which are air freighted to Europe daily during the winter months. Much of its produce is also sold across the river in Jordan. Ben David said that agricultural development on the entire West Bank is directed by 300 local Arab instructors and 50 Israeli experts who are mainly administrative staff.

### Newsletter Reports On Plight, Arrests of Soviet Jews; Authoritative Sources Quoted

WASHINGTON, April 11 (JTA)--The Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington is publishing and distributing a newsletter, "Undercover," containing reports about Jews in the Soviet Union. A statement on the front page says: "The following news items, relating to Russian Jewry, are drawn from the most authoritative sources inside the Soviet Union whose identity cannot be revealed for obvious reasons. This material, distributed as received, is being given a limited circulation but may be used freely for publication purposes." Thus far, two newsletters have been issued, on March 31 and April 2. Dr. Isaac Franck, executive vice-president of the Council and editor of the publication, said that a newsletter will be published whenever sufficient information for two pages is received. "This happened very quickly," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "We are working with other people regarding distribution."

The current issue reports the arrest of 39 of 111 Jews who sought to petition the Supreme Soviet to release Jews imprisoned since June, 1970, and not yet brought to trial. The 39 have been charged with "hooliganism." "Two of those arrested, Yuri Titlov and Lena Stoeva, were immediately committed to a mental institution" according to Undercover. "A few, mostly women, were given fines and allowed to go free. Most of the men were given sentences with hard labor from 10 to 15 days, among them an ailing man of 60, Rosenblum, who is a psychiatrist by profession. They are serving their sentences at the police jail located at 10 Kooperativnaya Street, Moscow. Four of the men, Slepak, Polski, Rand and Prestin, were separated from the rest and their whereabouts are unknown."

### Department Of Jewish Studies Established At City College Of New York

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--An independent Department of Jewish Studies has been established at The City College of New York. The Faculty Council which voted for this also voted in favor of establishing Departments of Afro-American, Puerto Rican and Asian-American Studies. The Jewish Studies Department will be an integral part of the College of Liberal Arts and Science and will be placed in the Humanities or Social Science Division. The other three ethnic departments will form a division of their own, officials said. This separation indicates recognition for the view that Jewish studies should not be classified as ethnic and that it implies recognition of the intrinsic academic validity of Jewish studies as well as for their social and humanistic values. On the approval by the Board of Higher Education, the departments will begin to function this fall for a three year trial period to be followed by an evaluation. According to college officials, student-faculty committees will soon be appointed to plan curriculums and nominate chairmen of the departments. Dr. Robert E. Marshak, college president, suggested that majors in the new departments be required to take a "trans-cultural survey course," so that students "will become aware of their common humanity." The Faculty Council accepted this suggestion for close cooperation between the departments. The Advisory Committee on Jewish Studies was headed by Professor Salo W. Baron of Columbia University and included Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, provost at Yeshiva University, Professor Judah Goldin of Yale, Professor Harry Orlinsky of Hebrew Union College and Rabbi Arthur J. Zuckerman, director of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at The City College.

### Astor Defends His Interview With Rabbi Prinz; Quotations All Documented

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--Gerald Astor, the Look magazine senior editor who has been criticized by Dr. Joachim Prinz for allegedly "distorting" his comments for use in the article "The Agonized American Jews," said that the quotations printed were all documented in the notes he took during their three-hour interview. "I respect him greatly," said Astor of Dr. Prinz, former president of the American Jewish Congress, when queried by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "but when a man speaks at great length" not all his remarks can be published. Astor added that "I don't feel that I have seriously missed something that he said." On one specific complaint of Dr. Prinz's, that he was not, as alleged, "a 1937 graduate of solitary confinement in a Nazi concentration camp," Astor said his notes showed that Dr. Prinz left Germany after experiencing "solitary confinement in a Nazi jail."

**SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW****WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MIKHAIL KALIK?**

By YITTA HALBERSTAM, JTA Staff Reporter

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--The whereabouts of a leading Soviet Jewish movie producer, Mikhail Kalik, who applied for an exit permit to Israel in December, 1970, remains a mystery to foreign and local friends who have tried unsuccessfully to contact him in the past month. According to a close friend of Kalik's, now in the United States who asked not to be identified, Kalik's home in Moscow was ransacked on February 17 by Soviet police. They confiscated his belongings and films, informing him that a criminal case was pending against him for having produced an adaptation of Arthur Miller's "The Price," which was never officially released by Soviet authorities on the screen or television. Soon after the search, Kalik's friend revealed it became impossible to reach Kalik at his home either by phone or in person. A foreign correspondent who unsuccessfully attempted to enter his apartment returned to the street to find all four tires of his car slashed. Kalik's friend has made repeated efforts to reach him by phone, and reports that many of his calls have been interrupted by what he termed the sabotage efforts of the Soviet police. He also disclosed that the Moscow operator has, on several occasions, informed him in noncommittal tones, "Sorry. Apartment does not answer." This, he asserts, is impossible, since Kalik has a wife and two small children. "They should be at home some of the times when I make my calls," he maintains. "But in recent months his calls have gone unanswered."

Who is this Mikhail Kalik, a unique individual in his own right yet who shares the collective fate of so many Soviet Jews? Like so many Soviet Jews, Kalik has known the harsh life of the Siberian labor camps in which he spent four long, unbearable years. He was born 40 years ago in Moscow and studied in the State Institute of Cinematography. In 1952, he was arrested for his "Jewish and pro-Israel sentiments," and sentenced to 10 years of hard labor by a special committee of the MGB - Ministry of State Security. Stalin's death mercifully cut short his stay; he was released after four years of having served his sentence and was "rehabilitated." He was permitted to return to his interrupted program of studies at the Cinematography Institute and graduated with honors in 1959. Since his graduation, he has produced several successful films, many of them recipients of high awards. Among his more renowned films are "Man Follows the Sun"; "The Route" and "To Love." He overcame the "disadvantage" of being a Jew and won great esteem among his colleagues and the general Soviet public. He was wealthy and well-liked; he should have been happy. But he was not. In a letter to his friend in the United States, he wrote:

"I have achieved material success and popularity. My films have been shown in many countries of the world, and my name is in many reference books. Seemingly, what else could I desire? But as time goes by, I feel more and more dissatisfied. As time goes by, it becomes more difficult to remain true to myself, more difficult not to prostitute myself." Continuing, Kalik stated: "As time goes by, more and more I feel the need to free my children from their feelings of inferiority, and the more time goes by, the more I desire to think not only about myself but also about people. And so, on December 11, we finally submitted the documents. A long, trying and grave period then began. We need patience and stamina. After all, anything might happen. But I hope for the best. What will happen to all will happen to us. We hope to meet you soon in the Promised Land: (Shalom, Lehitraot Be Arzeinu) I have studied Hebrew for a long time." The letter was the last Kalik's friend in the United States received from him. Friends and colleagues had tried to dissuade Kalik from the "reckless" action of applying for a permit to Israel. He listened politely to their arguments and pleas, but insisted on his right to emigrate. Kalik has not yet received his exit permit and ostensibly is waiting. But the question arises: Waiting where? In his apartment? In a prison cell? In a labor camp? Nobody knows. The whereabouts of Kalik remain a mystery. One informed Jewish source said that Kalik had been arrested two months ago and released shortly thereafter. According to another report, he and another Jewish film director, Yeshu Sevela, have been expelled from the Soviet Union's cinema workers' association. Kalik's story is only one in the continuing series of nightmarish tales in the continuing struggle of Soviet Jews.

**Finland Embassy Refuses To Serve As Middleman For Anti-Soviet Petitions**

TEL AVIV, April 11 (JTA)--The Finnish Embassy here, which has represented Soviet interests in Israel since the Six-Day War, has decided to stop serving as a middleman for anti-Soviet petitions. The Embassy refused to accept a petition last Thursday signed by students, asking for the release of 39 Jews in Russian prisons on charges of Zionist activity. A spokesman for the Embassy said it could no longer be expected to provide a special messenger service for Israelis who want to contact Soviet authorities.

**Norman Bentwich, Leader In Brith Shalom, Herzl's Collaborator, Dies At 88**

LONDON, April 11 (JTA)--Norman Bentwich, one of the earliest political Zionists in Britain, who worked closely with Theodor Herzl and a leader in Palestine during the 1920's and 1930's in the movement for a binational state, died here Friday at the age of 88. Between 1921 and 1929 he served as Attorney General of the Palestine Mandate government. During that period he was deeply involved in working for a rapprochement between the Jews and Arabs in Palestine as one of the leaders of Brith Shalom, and was active on behalf of Hebrew University. Bentwich, who was Cambridge educated, joined the civil service and served in Egypt. During World War I he was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the British army and won the Military Cross. He left his post of Attorney General in 1929 after there was an attempt on his life. Between 1932 and 1951 he was professor of international relations at Hebrew University, dividing his time between Britain and Israel. After 1951 he resided in London where he devoted his time to social service, writing and activities within the framework of United Nations agencies. At one time he organized aid for Falashas of Ethiopia. But most of his energies and talents were devoted, in the last period of his life, to the Hebrew University as vice-chairman of the Board of Governors and chairman of the Executive of the British Friends of Hebrew University. Bentwich wrote some 20 books, including an autobiography, "Wanderer Between Two Worlds."