

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## CCAR President Charges Calley Scapegoat To Cover Up Army Atrocities, Corruption

BOSTON, April 18 (JTA)—Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, president of the Reform Central Conference of American Rabbis, charged here yesterday that Lt. William Calley was being used as a "scapegoat" to cover up atrocities and corruption by the United States military forces in Vietnam. Speaking from his pulpit at Temple Israel, he drew a parallel between the case of Lt. Calley and Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, who in 1894 was unjustly accused by the French army of revealing military secrets to the Germans. Championed by Emile Zola, the charges against Capt. Dreyfus were dropped after 12 years. Rabbi Gittelsohn told the congregation that a major difference existed between the two cases in that "Calley is guilty" of the murder charges on which he was tried while "Dreyfus was innocent." The Reform leader said that "the French army at the end of the 19th century needed a scapegoat to disguise its own incompetence and corruption. Let us not forget, however painful the remembrance, that our American army too suffers from typical military corruption." Rabbi Gittelsohn also charged that the Defense Department "has connived unconsciously to assure exorbitant profits for the manufacturers of weapons at a time when young Americans are being asked to sacrifice their careers and even their lives."

The CCAR president, a longtime critic of the American involvement in Vietnam, said "such an army can well use a convenient scapegoat. It may need one even more desperately after the war in Vietnam is finally ended and the American people realize at last how much it paid for so little." Citing another "scapegoat" area, the Reform leader said he believed that many officers and men were guilty of atrocities not only at My Lai, the site of the murders for which Lt. Calley was convicted, but during other campaigns in Vietnam. Declaring that Lt. Calley had "a right to expect that such individuals also would be tried by military tribunals, the rabbi declared that "he has no right, however, to pretend that because others were indeed involved, and because thus far only he has been convicted, therefore he should be exonerated. That kind of causticity makes a mockery of morality." He asserted that "the one way to insure that William Calley does not indeed become a scapegoat, indeed the only way to redeem what is left of our country's honor, is to see that every American military man who committed atrocities against civilians anywhere is apprehended and tried."

Rabbi Gittelsohn also accused President Nixon of using the Calley case for personal political gain, declaring that the Nixon administration had repeatedly stressed the need for law and order in this country. He added: "Seldom has any President of the United States been confronted with so sharp and incisive an issue involving the sanctity of the law. The trial of William Calley, unlike that of Alfred Dreyfus, was the very epitome of justice. Every right to which the defendant was entitled was safeguarded scrupulously. His right to appeal was denied by no one. The machinery for appeal is open and available. The President's intervention in the case, 'before the law has pursued its full and proper course, is to make a travesty of all law,' he asserted. 'The President scented an opportunity to ride the crest of political popularity and just could not resist.' He explained the outpouring of protest on Lt. Calley's behalf as really exposing the 'guilt feelings' of many regarding the Vietnam war. 'As the testimony against Calley mounted,' the rabbi declared, 'the man in the street started to realize his own culpability. Had he not so blithely approved and applauded the American policy in Vietnam, there might never have been a Calley or a My Lai. In short, it was no longer so surely he who stood in the dock. Perhaps it was really we.'

## Jewish Painter, Accused Of Bomb Plot On Soviet Mission, Denies Complicity

AMSTERDAM, April 18 (JTA)—The American Jewish painter who was arrested and accused of plotting with two others in the bomb attack on the Soviet Mission here last week has stubbornly denied any knowledge of the conspiracy and continues to assert his innocence. The man, identified only as "Renee W," was arrested shortly after his return from Israel where he had worked for four months. His wife told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Renee had celebrated his birthday with her on the day of the bombing, and could not have been in the vicinity of the attack. She also told the JTA that her husband was not a member of the Jewish Defense League nor of any other Jewish organization. An investigation of the attack is underway and the suspect is scheduled to appear Tuesday before the Amsterdam Public Prosecutor. The bombing of the Soviet Mission resulted in injury to four persons, including a child. Jewish community leaders openly deplored the bombing as a disservice to their Jewish brethren in the Soviet Union. A note in English found in the building after the explosion reportedly read: "Never again. Let my people go." The slogan, "Never again," is associated with the JDL.

## Dayan: Arab Federation No New Threat; Looks Toward U.S. Superiority In Mediterranean

JERUSALEM, April 18 (JTA)—Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said today that the announced federation of Egypt, Libya and Syria posed no new threats to Israel and did not necessarily preclude an interim arrangement with Egypt to reopen the Suez Canal. (See separate story for an additional assessment of the tripartite federation.) Addressing the annual meeting of the Tel Aviv Journalists Association, Dayan disclosed that Israel is already taking steps and planned additional measures to consolidate its hold on the occupied Arab territories in the absence of a peace settlement. The Golan Heights is to have more settlements and efforts are being made to turn Golan into an integral part of the State, he said. Similarly, the West Bank is being secured as a place where Jews and Israelis can live in security. In that respect, Dayan said, the Jordan River is "our security line. We have here a good line of defense and even an effective one." He observed that Arab workers are building the Jewish quarter at the West Bank town of Hebron "and no one is protesting." Dayan said that in the Gaza Strip the main problems are agriculture, civil service and security. Israel is "making headway" in all of these

areas, he added. On the Lebanese border "we are doing what we have done so that people can live there in peace," he said. Dayan said that he did not envisage the Suez Canal as a permanent future boundary but as a prime defense line which must remain under Israel's control until there is a final peace settlement. "As long as war is still officially on there can be no retreat from the canal. It is the best defense line we have," he added. Nevertheless, he said, Israel was willing to make an interim arrangement with Egypt leading to the canal's reopening. He said that he didn't think Egypt's federation with Libya and Syria posed a serious obstacle. It was not a new threat he explained because the three elements comprising the federation existed before. Referring to the global struggle outside of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Dayan said "I would like to see an American superiority in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, an absolute superiority that would prevent any Russian attempt to gain military superiority over the West in this region." Dayan said Israel wanted no one to fight its wars. "All we need is the means to equip our troops," he added.

### Federation Seen As Block To Chances For Interim Agreement On Canal Reopening

JERUSALEM, April 18 (JTA)--Authoritative Israeli sources said today that the announced federation of Egypt, Libya and Syria virtually kills whatever chances there may have been for an interim agreement with Egypt to reopen the Suez Canal. However, the sources observed, the federation is not to become effective until Sept. 1 which gives President Anwar Sadat of Egypt ample time to act as if there was no federation. The appraisal of the federation's effect on an interim agreement was based on the terms of the pact which Sadat disclosed yesterday in Cairo, particularly Egypt's undertaking not to relinquish an inch of territory occupied by Israel in the Six-Day War and not to hold direct negotiations with Israel. The feeling here is that Egypt has by its own volition bound itself to a much tighter framework than hitherto and has restricted its freedom to enter into a partial arrangement with Israel at this time. The federation pact was signed at Benghazi, Libya in the early hours of Saturday after three days of round-the-clock meetings. The signatories, Sadat, President Mummur el-Qaddafi of Libya and President Hafez al-Assad of Syria pledged to come to each others aid, even if the state needing aid is unable to request it as, for example, in the case of a coup d'etat.

Sudan, which is linked to Egypt and Libya in a cooperative alliance did not join the federation at this time because of "special circumstances," according to Sadat. It is believed that a strong Communist element in Sudan is resisting adherence to the federation. Plebiscites will be held in Egypt, Libya and Syria Sept. 1 to endorse the federation agreement. Sources here said a further obstacle toward reopening the Suez Canal emerged in Cairo today following a meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Andre A. Gromyko and Egypt's Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riaz. Both countries reportedly agreed that the reopening of the waterway could be regarded only as a prelude toward a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the Security Council's Resolution 242 which, by Arab-Soviet interpretation means that Israel must commit itself in advance to total withdrawal from all occupied territories. Such terms are unacceptable to Israel. Moreover, according to the sources, Israel's attitude is that the waterway is not vital to its interests and any agreement to reopen it would amount to a concession by Israel to Egypt and the Soviet Union. The Israelis say they are not going to "pay a price" in order to make a concession to their antagonists.

In announcing the tripartite federation, Sadat emphasized that the leaders of Libya and Syria agreed to channel the resources of their countries toward the liberation of all Arab territory held by Israel. Sadat said he agreed "never to yield an inch of Arab territory to Israel, never to negotiate with Israel" and never to bargain on the rights of Palestinian refugees seeking restitution from Israel. The federation, if it materializes, will join 34 million Egyptians with about 6 million Syrians and 1.9 million Libyans in a territory covering 1.1 million square miles. The countries will retain their sovereignty but Sadat said there would be a national assembly for federal legislation, one president, one flag, one anthem and one federal capital. Observers here concede that if the federation pact is implemented, Israel would face the prospect of coordinated military action by Egypt and Syria backed up by Libya's oil wealth. But they recall that similar Arab moves toward federation in the past have come to nought because of insoluble differences between the parties. They recall in particular the short-lived United Arab Republic of the mid-fifties which brought Syria and Egypt into federation under the late Gamal Abdel Nasser.

### Warsaw Uprising Memorial Meeting Told Anti-Semitism Still Rampant In Many Countries

LONDON, April 18 (JTA)--Simon Frisner, chairman of the Association of Polish Jewish ex-Servicemen, today charged that although "the generation of the holocaust is still alive, anti-Semitism is still rampant in many countries." Speaking to more than 700 people attending the 28th commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, Frisner declared: "The danger comes now not only from the Right but even more from the old and new Left. The Polish Communist regime has accomplished what Hitler did not achieve, and today Poland is almost free of Jews." At the conclusion of his address, he issued an appeal to the world asking that "the Holocaust not perish with the generation that witnessed it," and noted that those at the commemoration must "rededicate themselves to the struggle for Soviet Jewry." A Christian leader, Lord Chancellor Hailsham, delivered the keynote address in which he paid tribute to the six million martyrs and also "the millions who escaped with their lives, but will carry to their death the results of their tribulations, and the millions of children who are fatherless and motherless in our midst."

Lord Janner, chairman of the Board of Deputies, observed that just as "Israel was the goal of tens of thousands of Polish Jews in the years preceding and following its independence, so too, today, Soviet Jews seek refuge in the ancient and restored Jewish homeland." He added, "On this solemn day too our hearts go out to the Jews of Iraq, the victims of continued discrimination and oppression. It is with deep foreboding that we recall the hangings of Jews in Baghdad and Basra two years ago." He declared that "there must be no repetition." Lord Janner also issued an appeal "to governments and men and women of good will throughout the world to secure the release of Jews held in (Iraqi) prisons on trumped up charges and the complete emigration of this small community to lands of freedom."

## Israeli Black Panthers Turn Meeting Into Shambles; Battle Police; Charge Brutality

JERUSALEM, April 18 (JTA)--Israel's home grown Black Panthers battled police outside of Jerusalem district police headquarters today after they earlier disrupted an annual folkloric gathering of immigrants from North Africa. Police wielded truncheons as the self-styled Panthers tried to storm the headquarters building. A claim by one Panther, that mounted police had indiscriminately trampled them was refuted by an eye-witness known by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to be reliable. The witness said police used truncheons to disrupt the mob, but not "viciously" and "only when absolutely necessary." Today's incidents were the first serious outbreak of violence involving Jerusalem slum youths who have adopted the name and style of the extremist militant American Negro Black Panther Party.

According to witnesses, a gathering of 5,000 North African immigrants in Sacher Park across a valley from the Knesset building was turned into shambles when a gang of Panthers tried to take it over. The gathering, known as "Maimuna" fosters North African Jewish folklore. President Zalman Shazar appeared personally this morning to open it. The Panthers invaded the gathering in the afternoon, storming the central stage. Two policemen were injured in the melee that followed. Several Panthers were arrested. About 20 Panthers marched from the park down Jaffa Road, Jerusalem's main thoroughfare, to district police headquarters in the center of the city. The marchers were joined by bystanders and their numbers increased to about 60 when they reached police headquarters. According to eye-witnesses they threatened to storm the jail unless the Panthers arrested earlier were released. Ten mounted policemen and several dozen constables guarded the building but did not move against the attackers until they were practically at the door, witnesses said.

## Two Jews Achieve Prominence: One Elected Mayor, Another First Dean of Catholic U.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 18 (JTA)--Two Jewish residents recently achieved prominence in Brazil. Jaime Lerner, son of Polish-Jewish immigrants, took office last week as Mayor of Curitiba, the eighth largest city in Brazil, while Mrs. Helena Levin, became the first woman ever to be appointed as Dean of the Social Science Faculty of Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro. The new Mayor of Curitiba, which has about 600 Jewish families; was born in Brazil and speaks Yiddish fluently. Mrs. Levin who is 40 years old and a mother of three children, was born in Sao Paulo to Russian-Jewish immigrants.

## Five French-Trained Saboteurs Working For Terrorists Caught; Counter-Espionage Coup

JERUSALEM, April 18 (JTA)--Israeli police disclosed today the arrests last week of five French-trained saboteurs working for Arab terrorist organizations. The round-up was described as one of the biggest coups of Israel's counter-espionage service. According to Jacob Turjeman, a police spokesman, it forestalled a wave of sabotage and terror in Israel including a plot to hijack a TWA airliner in flight from Lydda to New York. Turjeman said details of the affair were passed on to Interpol and to the various police forces in Europe which led to the arrest of a group of terrorists in Rome. He told newsmen at a press conference that the first arrest in Israel was made April 11 at Lydda Airport. Police seized two sisters, Nadia and Madeleine Bardly, aged 26 and 21, who were caught with forged passports and luggage filled with various types of high explosives. The girls reportedly confessed membership in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in France. Their father is Moslem and their mother Christian.

On April 12 police arrested 26-year-old Evelyn Brage at Lydda Airport. The German-born woman who was raised in France was said to have been exposed as one of the PFLP members who planned the multiple airliner hijackings of last September. She also reportedly admitted committing sabotage in a West European country. Police did not release further details. The most bizarre case revealed by Turjeman was the arrest of two French tourists at a Tel Aviv hotel last week who were found in possession of high explosives concealed in shoe heels, clothing lining and in a lady's handbag. The pair was identified as Pierre Burghalter, 69 and his wife, Edith, 60. According to police the couple was carrying the most sophisticated sabotage device yet known in Israel. It consisted of articles of clothing soaked in a liquid which, when dried, become explosive. The Burghalters allegedly planned to detonate the impregnated articles in schools and other public places. According to police the couple was paid \$2,000 to commit sabotage in Israel.

## Rally For Soviet Jews Opposite Soviet Compound Draws 500 Persons

GLEN COVE, LONG ISLAND, April 18 (JTA)--More than 500 people gathered today on a sloping hillside directly opposite Kenilworth, the Soviet Compound, to participate in a "Ninth Day of Pass-over for Soviet Jews" rally. Sponsored by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, the rally focused on the plight of Ruth Aleksandrovich, the Soviet Jew from Riga who is expected to go on trial shortly. Surrounded by more than 200 State, County and State Department policemen, the hillside was transformed into one swaying mass of people who were led in dancing and singing by Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. Rabbi Abraham J. Heschel, Jewish theologian, told his listeners to "try to feel the plight of Soviet Jewry as though it were our own."

## Soviet Betar Leader Among New Arrivals; Rostov Jew Charged With Anti-Soviet Acts

TEL AVIV, April 18 (JTA)--Another group of Jewish immigrants from Russia landed here this morning, among them a large number of children. They came via a chartered El Al jet from Vienna. One of the newcomers was David Yaffit, who was a leader in the Soviet Union of Betar. Yaffit spent several years in Siberian labor camps for his Zionist activities and was granted an exit visa only recently. He broke his leg before departure but insisted on making the trip. He was removed from the plane on a stretcher and taken to a hospital. Reliable sources reported that charges of conducting anti-Soviet propaganda have been filed against a 45-year-old Jew in Rostov, Lazar Liubarski, who has been pressing for a visa to emigrate to Israel. Several days ago 70 new immigrants arrived by ship at Haifa from South America. The vessel also landed 300 Latin American tourists.

## 2,500 In Raillies In Manhattan, Brooklyn For Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, April 18 (JTA)--More than 2,500 persons participated in demonstrations today on behalf of Soviet Jewry in Brooklyn and Manhattan. More than 1,000 persons attended a community-wide freedom rally for Soviet Jews sponsored by the Washington Heights Committee for Soviet Jewry which includes virtually all synagogues and Jewish organizations in the Washington Heights-Inwood sections of New York City. Ronald Wachtel, assistant director of admissions at Yeshiva University, who with Rabbi Joseph Singer of the Mt. Sinai Jewish Center, was co-chairman of the rally, described the gathering as an unprecedented one in the area. "We hope this broad-based community-wide rally will be the beginning of a really grass-roots neighborhood effort by Jews and non-Jews on behalf of the suffering Russian Jewish community," he said. The rally focused on the fate of Jews imprisoned since last June's alleged hijack plot in Leningrad. Giant blow-ups of some of the imprisoned Jews were hung from the podium and a 30-foot wide "Free Soviet Jews" banner led the 10-block line of the march following the rally where the participants went to Congregation Shaare Hatikvah to recite psalms read in times of crisis to the Jewish community.

The demonstrators sang Hebrew songs in solidarity with the young Soviet Jews who in defiance of Soviet authorities dance before Russian synagogues. Rally participants were given specially printed postcards with the photo of Ruth Aleksandrovich of Riga whose trial is expected shortly. Each participant was asked to send these cards to Soviet Prosecutor General Roman Rudenko. At the Shaare Hatikvah, Silim Goldberger, a young Jewish emigre from Riga, described the plight of Jews imprisoned in the Soviet Union. A 450-car motorcade, organized by the Kings County (Brooklyn) Council of the Jewish War Veterans, brought some 1,200 persons to the steps of Brooklyn's Borough Hall for a rally with the theme of "Let My People Go." William Posner, Kings County JYW Commander, vowed that the veteran's organization "will not rest until every Jew who wants to leave the Soviet Union can do so." Posner said that the 10-mile motorcade demonstration was to "assure that the plight of Soviet Jewry is kept before the conscience of the world, until the justice of their cause prevails."

## Some 200 Jewish, Non-Jewish Youths In 8-Hour Overnight Rally For Soviet Jewry

WASHINGTON, April 18 (JTA)--More than 200 Jewish and non-Jewish youths, most of them students from area universities staged an all-night vigil at the reflecting pool directly opposite the Lincoln Memorial that began at 10 p.m. last night and ended at 6 a.m. this morning. Dr. Isaac Frank, executive vice-president of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington which sponsored the peaceful vigil, described it as a "continuing solidarity with the Jews in the Soviet Union." Seymour Wolf, Council president, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that this "is only one more protest in the on-going campaign for Soviet Jewry." He said that Jewry will survive and that "Russian Jews will participate in that survival." Wolf also stated that according to reports the Council has, some 80,000 Jewish families have applied for exit permits.

Despite the light rain and cold, participants, including 42 survivors of Nazi concentration camps, maintained their ranks throughout the eight hours singing Hebrew songs, dancing and conducting evening and morning prayer services. They watched a film "Let My People Go," which depicted the response of Jews in the Soviet Union, Israel and the United States to the plight of Soviet Jewry. One of the participants, John Sigmond, 21, a senior at the American University in Washington, wore a large cross on his chest. He told the JTA that he was participating because "I'm a Christian and I'm for Zion. I am fully committed to the struggle by the Soviet Jews and firmly believe that all should be allowed to emigrate." Ken Bradley, 20, a sophomore at Georgetown University who is from Palmetto, Ga., where his father is the mayor, said: "I'm a Jew by association. There are no Jews in Palmetto and I didn't know any Jews until I came to Washington." The 42 concentration camp survivors conducted yiskor services later in the day at Congregation Tifereth Israel in Washington.

## Federation, Union Continue Negotiations To Avert Cancellation Of Summer Programs

NEW YORK, April 18 (JTA)--The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York and Local 1707 of the Community and Social Agency Employees, AFL-CIO, continued negotiations late this afternoon in an effort to avert a reported threat by the Federation to cancel its summer programs for youngsters. According to the union, the Federation had warned that if its group-work agency employees would fail to sign a new contract by today, it would cancel its sleep-away and in-city summer camps, teen and kindergarten programs. No statements were available from either the Federation or the union today, as spokesmen from both groups were locked in negotiation talks since the morning. The group-work agencies number 21, including associated and independent agencies, YM-YWHA's and the Educational Alliance. They employ a total of 450 personnel, including professionals, social workers, recreational workers, community organizers, clerical help and maintenance men.

The contract between Federation and the group-work agencies officially ended Jan. 21, but continued past that date in de facto effect. Management, according to a statement last Friday by Eric Strong, spokesman for Local 1707, declared April 1 that the contract would end April 5, and that it wanted a settlement by last Friday. Strong said the Federation set tomorrow as the day of cancellation of this summer's programs if there is no settlement by then. In a separate development, as reported earlier, 800 Local 1707 employees at seven autonomous Federation agencies may call a strike, authorized last Wednesday at a meeting of the Local. The agencies' attorney I. Robert Feinberg, could not be reached immediately for comment. A strike would not affect the 275 union members employed at Federation headquarters whose contract expires in June.

## Storms Plague Israel For Seventh Day; Estimated \$1.57 Million Crop Damage

TEL AVIV, April 18 (JTA)--Rain, hailstorms and unseasonably low temperatures plagued Israel today for the seventh consecutive day. A Ministry of Agriculture spokesman placed crop damage at \$1.57 million, sustained mainly by vegetables and fruits. In the hills of Galilee the temperature dropped below the freezing mark during the past two nights. Overcoats are in evidence on the streets. Roads all over the country have been flooded or blocked by uprooted trees and downed telephone poles.