

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Jarring Mission Reported Suspended Pending Rogers' Return From Mideast

PARIS, April 29 (JTA)--United Nations Secretary General Thant and his Middle East representative, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring of Sweden, have agreed to suspend Dr. Jarring's mission "for the time being," UN sources in Geneva told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today by telephone from Geneva. The two officials met in that city yesterday. They decided, the sources said, that the Jarring mission will be reconsidered after the Mideast tour by United States Secretary of State William P. Rogers--if it is clear that a resumption of the mission can achieve concrete results. Thant and Dr. Jarring were said to have agreed that Rogers' current personal Mideast "initiative" has for the time being superseded any UN action. Immediately after their consultation, the Swedish diplomat returned to his post in Moscow. His often-interrupted mission began Nov. 23, 1967, the day after the Security Council authorized the Secretary General to designate a "special representative" in the Mideast crisis. (A UN spokesman in New York, a spokesman for Thant said only that he and Dr. Jarring had had "a useful and comprehensive exchange of information and views" and that there was "no real basis" for the intermediary's "immediate" return there. The statement said the two men had decided it would be "desirable" for Dr. Jarring to return there in mid-May for further "useful exchanges." By that time Rogers will have returned to Washington. Thant was due back in New York tonight. A spokesman for the U.S. Mission in New York rejected the description of the Jarring mission as "suspended." He said the mission was in no way connected with the Rogers tour, as Dr. Jarring's dealings are with the Mideast parties and not with the U.S. Secretary of State. The U.S. spokesman said communications between the Big Four and Dr. Jarring were continuing.)

## State Department Seeking Details On Visa Request By Former Nazi

WASHINGTON, April 29 (JTA)--The State Department has asked the American Consulate General in Stuttgart, West Germany, for details on the reported application for a visa to visit the United States by a convicted Nazi war criminal who managed a rubber factory at Auschwitz. "We don't know much about this," a Department source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "We don't know whether he actually applied for a visa or indicated he did." The Washington Post reported today that Otto Ambros, 70, had made the request. The paper said he needed special authorization in view of his conviction by a war-crimes tribunal at Nuremberg in 1948 for what the paper said was "misusing slave labor." The report said Ambros' request was supported by the Dow Chemical Company, which has invited him to speak at an "international seminar" at its Midland, Mich., headquarters May 12. The Post quoted Dow spokesman Max Batterson as saying Ambros was "a well-informed authority on the German chemical industry" and was "not coming here because he is a convicted war criminal."

Jewish leaders were divided on the issue of the visa request by Ambros. Hyman Bookbinder, local representative of the American Jewish Committee, observed that a visit to the U.S. by Ambros would "again remind Americans of the heinous crimes committed by the Nazis generally and by him particularly." But Bookbinder said that "if Mr. Ambros has legitimate business in the United States he has the right to be here, just as others have the right to comment on what they think of him," and that the German "must be prepared for manifestations of revulsion" at his crimes. Dr. Isaac Franck, executive vice president of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, agreed with Bookbinder. But David Brody of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith said he had urged the State Department "not to recommend a waiver of inadmissibility because to do so would not be in the public interest." He said several Congressmen had acted similarly. He called Dow "morally and scientifically bankrupt" in its invitation to Ambros. The Jewish Defense League spokesman, Dr. William Perl of College Park, Md., said that "the invitation to the United States and the planned granting of a visa by the State Department to the convicted Auschwitz war criminal Otto Ambrós is an insult and a provocation, not only to Jews of America but every person with a sense of justice."

Ambros was said by the Post to have been sentenced to eight years in prison--the stiffest penalty handed down against any of the 13 I.G. Farben executives convicted after an all-month trial. The prosecution charged that at least 25,000 persons died at the I.G. Farben rubber plant in Auschwitz and at its specially built concentration camp nearby at Monowitz. The court was told that inmates who had never performed any hard physical labor were forced to transport 100-pound cement sacks at double-time, and that when they broke down they were beaten by kapos. They were selected from the prisoners--Jewish and non-Jewish--at Auschwitz on the basis of their being fit for work. They lived for an average of three more months before they died, it was said. The 60 percent of the prisoners not chosen for the I.G. Farben work were dispatched to immediate gassing at Birkenau. Ambros pleaded not guilty. His attorney, the Post said, declared that the Nazi scientist "never failed to give help if he was approached by anyone about a human problem."

## Major Jewish Groups Condemn JDL Invasion Of N.Y. Board Of Rabbis' Office

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA)--Major Jewish organizations today condemned the invasion yesterday of the Manhattan offices of the New York Board of Rabbis by members of the Jewish Defense League and called upon the total Jewish community to repudiate them. In a statement issued by the New York Board of Rabbis and endorsed by top officials of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Workmen's Circle and National Council of Jewish Women, the JDL's invasion was termed "a senseless act" and compared to "stormtrooper tactics." The statement asserted: "The New York Board of Rabbis feels it is time to call a halt to such terrorist activities." It added that the Board "is a religious organization serving the entire Jewish community. To disrupt our daily work on behalf of the Jewish faith, the Jewish people and the general commu-

ity is intolerable." Twenty-one JDL members invaded the Board's offices and also forced their way into the office of Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, executive vice-president of the Board following the transfer of 26-year-old JDL member Avraham Hershkowitz from the Manhattan Federal House of Detention to the Lewistown (Pa.) Federal Penitentiary. (See separate story.) General Counsel Bertram Zweibon said that the JDLers entered the offices to demand that "the Board make sure that Hershkowitz be permitted to maintain his status as an Orthodox Jew in the penitentiary." Zweibon charged that the "activities of the New York Board of Rabbis with regard to Jewish prisoners is worthless. They do absolutely nothing," he charged, "and maintain minimal contact at a time when they could be of great influence." A spokesman for the Board of Rabbis stated that it had informed the JDL on a number of occasions that "JDL has no right to demand that the Board take responsibility for JDL's illegal actions." According to the statement by the Board of Rabbis, the JDLers were removed from the Board's premises by police one hour after having entered it, leaving "our offices in shambles and our staff terrorized." Damage was estimated to run "into thousands," according to the statement. "Papers and files were strewn about, equipment demolished, phone wires ripped out and irreplaceable religious books damaged," the statement added. The 21 JDLers were arraigned this morning on charges of illegal trespass.

### Hershkowitz Transferred From N.Y. To Pa. Penitentiary In Surprise Move

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA)—In a surprise move by Federal agents, Jewish Defense League member Avraham Hershkowitz was suddenly transferred yesterday from Manhattan's Federal House of Detention where he had been serving a five year prison term on charges of falsifying his passport to the Lewistown Federal Penitentiary in Pa. This move was described by a high JDL official as "part of the government's campaign to exert pressure on the JDL" and its attempt "to make lawyers, wife and friends inaccessible to Hershkowitz." The sudden transfer, JDL General Counsel Bertram Zweibon termed "very unusual." He also said that Judge John Bartels, who meted out the five-year sentence to Hershkowitz, had promised his lawyers that he would be kept in the Manhattan detention center to enable them to confer with the prisoner whenever necessary. Zweibon added that "it is very rare that the government moves a prisoner so quickly after sentence." Hershkowitz was sentenced last week and began to serve it on Tuesday.

### Israel Celebrates 23rd Anniversary With Parades, Naval And Air Reviews

JERUSALEM, April 29 (JTA)—Cloudless skies, marking the end of the recent winter weather, induced thousands of Israelis to trek to the woods and national parks to spend Independence Day picnicking. Others enjoyed the numerous public events, including parades, receptions, naval and air reviews and, last night, fireworks. Still others, particularly the teenagers, were fast asleep, having danced and reveled in the streets all night. The entire Cabinet, led by Premier Golda Meir, called on President Zalman Shazar at his residence in the heart of this city and offered him its good wishes. An hour later the President welcomed 119 soldiers who had distinguished themselves during the past year. As each was introduced by Chief of Staff Haim Bar-Lev, he received a certificate from Shazar. Three thousand persons—including leading citizens, consular representatives, Jewish and Moslem clergymen and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan—attended a garden party in the Citadel, part of the 500-year-old Jaffa Gate in the Old City. The hosts were Mayor Teddy Kollek and Acting District Governor Raphael Levy.

Israel's tough national youth soccer team—all of whose members are under 23—gave Israelis a welcome holiday present by making the semifinals at the All-Asian Soccer Championship for Youth being held in faraway Tokyo. The Israeli team played to a draw with South Korea, and because of its earlier victories finished first in its group. The Israelis were to have opposed Kuwait, but that country refused to play against them and forfeited the game. The captain of the Kuwait team had explained to an Israeli television reporter last week "we do not hate the Israelis, but we have been ordered by our government not to play against them." Israel will meet Burma in the semifinals next Monday. Back home, a highlight of the day was the international Bible-knowledge quiz for youths. There were contestants from 28 lands, but the first three places went, as expected, to Israelis, who receive intensive biblical instruction in school. The first-prize winner was Israel Vechoropoulos, a 16-year-old immigrant from Greece. His victory was personally cheered by Premier Meir, Knesset members, senior Army officers, leaders of the Jewish Agency and others. The panel of judges was headed by the Interior Minister Rabbi Yosef Burg. In an impressive demonstration of Air Force power, 132 jets—all American-made—flew maneuvers over major Israeli cities. The pilots manned 64 Skyhawks, 57 Phantoms and 11 Fougas. Along the Tel Aviv beach, Israeli naval units presented a parade of gun boats and patrol vessels and a submarine. During the presentation, paratroopers parachuted into the sea—alone and in groups—and were retrieved from the chilly water within seconds by Navy boats criss-crossing the area.

### Rogers, Schumann Confer On Mideast; Interim Solution Step To Pact

PARIS, April 29 (JTA)—The American Secretary of State, William P. Rogers, conferred for nearly 90 minutes today with his French counterpart, Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann. Their meeting was devoted almost entirely to the Middle East. Rogers said afterwards that he hoped his upcoming visit to that region could help "to make a breakthrough towards an eventual settlement." Rogers, accompanied here by Assistant Secretary Joseph J. Sisco and 40 aides, also said that an interim solution, such as reopening of the Suez Canal, could well be helping toward that final pact. The American contingent then left immediately for Ankara and the ministerial meeting of the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO). French sources said Rogers agreed with Schumann that the U.S. feels the Big Four talks "still have an important role to play." Rogers was also said to have agreed that a solution to the Suez situation was not "an end by itself," but only "a first step toward a wider solution." The French ambassador to Cairo, Francois Puaux, met for more than an hour here yesterday with President Georges Pompidou, informing him of Egypt's long-range intentions. France has been increasingly used by Egypt as Cairo's main "Western advisor."

## JTA To Establish European, Middle East News Bureaus As Part Of Widening Services

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA)--The Jewish Telegraphic Agency will soon establish a European news bureau with headquarters in Paris and a Middle East news bureau with headquarters in Jerusalem, it was announced today by Robert H. Arnow, JTA president. Arnow said the approval for this development was given by the JTA Board of Directors at its last meeting held April 14. He noted that this, along with the launching four months ago of a daily French News Bulletin, was part of the continuing expansion of the world-wide coverage by JTA. In addition, the Board also approved a number of recommendations dealing with structural and editorial innovations. The recommendations included: election of Board of Directors members for one, two and three year terms to allow for rotation and mobility; the creation of standing committees to deal with finance and development, editorial services, personnel practices, and overseas liaison. The Board of Directors represents the Jewish communities in the United States, Canada, Great Britain and France.

Re-elected to one-year terms as officers of the JTA were: Robert H. Arnow of New York, his fifth year in office; Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland, vice-president; Philip Slomovitz of Detroit, vice-president; Abraham Goodman of New York, treasurer; Isidor Schifrin of Cincinnati, secretary; Eleazar Lipsky of New York, Board chairman; and Jerold C. Hoffberger of Baltimore, executive committee chairman. Michel Topiol, president of the Appel Juif Unifié de France (United Jewish Appeal), the central French fund-raising body, and active in the French Jewish community, told the Board meeting that the bulletin has been well received by the French Jewish community, especially since it carries news about Jewish affairs and community services not covered by the general press. Topiol added that it was expected that the news carried in the Bulletin would be used by the general press.

## Direct Negotiations Between Israel, Arab Nations Urged By Bi-Partisan Legislators

WASHINGTON, April 29 (JTA)--Leaders of both major parties in the House of Representatives strongly urged face-to-face negotiations between Israel and Arab countries and deplored any attempt at an imposed solution in the Middle East. They spoke today to an audience of about 170 Congressmen and 400 delegates attending the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee's annual policy conference. The AIPAC delegates will meet with Senate leaders tomorrow. The conference marked Israel's 23rd anniversary and honored Israeli Ambassador Itzhak Rabin who received a standing ovation after he pleaded for "help to bring us together in dialogue with our neighbors." The speeches in support of Israel by House Speaker Carl Albert, Democrat of Oklahoma; Majority Leader Hale Boggs, Democrat of Louisiana; and Minority Leader Gerald Ford, Republican of Michigan, came while Secretary of State William P. Rogers was in Ankara, Turkey, on the eve of his visit to four Arab countries and Israel to explore ideas for reopening the Suez Canal. Albert told AIPAC that "your mission is the most important mission in the world, one which is joined in by right thinking people around the world." He said that "no settlement of the Middle East problem can be made that leaves it impossible for neighbors to take care of their neighborly problems." Boggs declared that "Israel has every right to negotiate face-to-face with its adversaries. Despite our aid to Israel we don't have the right to dictate peace to Israel."

Ford, who drew applause on several occasions, declared that "Israel, the victim of aggression, is entitled to reasonable claims for new and secure boundaries." He added that "we must exercise great care to avoid unwitting collaboration with Moscow and impose a settlement upon Israel." Ford also scored Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman J. William Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas. Without naming him, Ford referred to Fulbright's recent speech at Yale in which he denounced Israel for allegedly resorting to "Communist baiting humbuggery." Ford declared "it is tragic that such a self-proclaimed peace advocate has undermined the prospects of a real Arab-Israeli settlement by tacitly encouraging the Soviet Union and Arab extremists to desist from a genuine peace and to continue a great military escalation in the hopes of forcing their will upon Israel." Referring to the Jews in the Soviet Union, Ford said he saluted "the brave Jews," who "stand up to the Soviet secret police." Ambassador Rabin expressed the gratitude of the government and people of Israel to President Nixon and the Congress for the assistance "rendered to us over the years gone by, and not least during the past year." Noting that Israel is 23 years old but "4,000 years deep," Rabin said that there can be no understanding of Israel's views in political discussion "unless they are measured against the background of our national experience, our achievement, and our hardships." Irving Kane, Cleveland lawyer, was reelected AIPAC chairman.

## Israel Asks U.S. To Get Soviet Commitment Its Troops Will Not Cross Canal

JERUSALEM, April 29 (JTA)--Israel has asked the United States to obtain a Soviet commitment that no Soviet troops would cross the Suez Canal after an Israeli pullback, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned tonight from a very reliable source. The request, it was understood, was one of the subjects discussed here yesterday evening by Premier Golda Meir and U.S. Ambassador Walworth Barbour. Israel, it is understood, feels that an Egyptian promise that no Soviet troops would cross the canal would be worthless without a clear Soviet commitment to that effect. Such a commitment pertains to the situation that would arise after an Israeli withdrawal from the eastern bank of the canal as part of an interim settlement under which the waterway would be reopened. In a broadcast interview today, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir said that it was essential in any interim solution that Israeli withdrawal not extend beyond a point from which the Israelis could not see any activity in and along the canal. Another essential condition, Sapir said, was that Israel have freedom of navigation all along the canal once it is reopened. As far as terms for an over-all settlement, Sapir said he had a peace "map"--but only in his mind, not on paper. Regarding his personal future, the minister said he would not be a candidate for another term. He also insisted that if he were offered the Premiership, which earlier reports considered likely, he would emphatically decline it. Referring again to his peace "map" Sapir said that it was in line with the rest of the so-called oral doctrine of the Labor Party--a united Jerusalem, a territorial link to Sharm-el-Sheikh and the Jordan River as Israel's security border with the Gaza Strip to remain under Israeli control.

## SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW

## PELED OPTIMISTIC ABOUT INCREASED EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS

By GEORGE FRIEDMAN, JTA Staff Reporter

A prediction that Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union will reach record numbers this year was made this week in an exclusive Jewish Telegraphic Agency interview by Natan Peled, Israel's Minister of Immigrant Absorption since last year. He said the exodus this year will exceed the 3,000 of 1969, and discounted reports that the exit door would be nailed up following the Soviet Communist Party Congress. There has been "no decrease whatsoever" since the Congress closed, he said. The 57-year-old Peled, himself Russian-born (he changed his surname, Friedler, to the Hebrew word for steel), remarked that the Soviet authorities are themselves uncertain on the issue and have "no definite policy" on it. (This observation contradicted the widely held view that the Kremlin is essentially opposed to letting out citizens who may bolster the Israeli Army.) Peled contended that the emigration approval to "hundreds" of Soviet Jews to date represents "not a major policy decision" but an experiment. He rejected the idea that the Kremlin is letting out the activists and will shut the door after they leave; for every activist who departs, he said, five or 10 others take his place. Peled, who strongly endorses diaspora demonstrations for Soviet Jewry, reported a dialogue he had on the matter with Meir Wilner, head of Israel's pro-Moscow Rakach Communists. Wilner, he said, expressed that "many" Soviet Jews want to leave, but that the government, to Wilner's apparent discomfort, "Let them go and the question will be closed."

Peled, in the United States under the auspices of the American Zionist Federation for speeches keyed to Israeli Independence Day, said there were no problems in providing housing for the constantly arriving Soviet Jews. There was also no worry, he said, about such activists' joining Israel's anti-Meir radical faction, since "very few get actually involved" in Israeli politics. As for Soviet Jewish emigres who return home because they become dissatisfied with life in Israel--because they miss their relatives or don't like their work or whatever--they are "very, very rare." The former minister to Bulgaria and ambassador to Austria, holder of one of the two Mapam portfolios in the Israeli Cabinet, said his party agreed with Premier Golda Meir that the solution of the Middle East imbroglio lies in "territorial compromise." Why, he was asked, should Israel give up any of the Arab areas acquired through victory in war? "Because we want peace and we are ready to pay a price for a peace settlement"; besides, all that Arab land and all those Arabs on it would threaten the "Jewish character" of the state. Peled criticized Egypt for demanding total Israeli withdrawal prior to the drawing up of a peace treaty, but he denied that what he called the "non-negotiable" status of Jerusalem was either an "ultimatum" or a "precondition."

As he explained it: "The problem of Jerusalem is not a problem of negotiations or discussions. All Israelis consider Jerusalem a unified city." The religious rights of all are and will be guaranteed "within the framework of a unified Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty," he continued, but that setup is not a precondition because "there are certain points regarding Jerusalem that are negotiable." An interim Mideast solution providing for a reopening of the Suez Canal would be "quite a good idea" for Israel despite its obvious strategic advantages to the Soviets and the Egyptians, the personable Israeli official observed. That is because it would be a first step toward peace, and additionally, "you cannot envisage the closing of the Suez Canal forever." Peled said Israelis consider President Nixon "quite friendly" regarding Israeli security needs, though they fear he may subject them to territorial "pressures." But, he added, "There is readiness in Israel to face such pressures. Israel is not prepared to give up what it considers its vital interests." The Mapam minister called Mrs. Meir "a very popular and a very strong leader," but would not speculate on whether she or Defense Minister Moshe Dayan will be interested in the Premiership when the brass ring comes around again in 1973. As to reports, denied by Israeli higher-ups, that Mrs. Meir favors Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir as her successor, Peled conceded that "I feel he is a candidate."

## Year-Round Daylight Saving Bill Withdrawn To Accommodate Orthodox Jewry

ALBANY, N.Y., April 29 (JTA)--A bill to extend daylight saving time throughout the calendar year, introduced by Senator Roy M. Goodman, was withdrawn this week by the Senator "in response to an appeal from Agudath Israel of America which had disclosed that this measure would create a major problem for religious Jews." "I feel conscience-bound to withdraw my bill out of consideration for the Orthodox Jewish community." Goodman's bill, introduced at the initiative of Consolidated Edison, aimed to relieve New York's power shortage. However, Orthodox Jews would have suffered from its impact, because the earliest time when morning prayers can commence is one hour before sunrise. During the winter months, when prayers normally cannot begin before 6:15 a.m. (EST), advancing the clock for one hour would have meant that the observant Jew would first be able to begin his morning prayers at 7:15 a.m. As these prayers last from 30 - 50 minutes, it would have created a difficult situation for the religious Jews whose employment requires their presence prior to 8:00 or 8:30 a.m. In commending Goodman for withdrawing this bill, Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel who met with the Senator, pointed out that Senator John Marchi had two years ago withdrawn a similar measure that he had introduced after Agudath Israel had brought its religious implications to his attention.

## Chile State U Signs Agreement With Four Israeli Universities For Technical Cooperation

SANTIAGO, April 29 (JTA)--Chile State University has signed an agreement with four Israeli universities for "technical cooperation" it was announced here today. The Israeli universities cooperating in this unprecedented program will be the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, the Haifa Technion and the Weizmann Institute. Chile's government newspaper, "Lanacion," today published an article saluting Israel's 23rd Anniversary of Independence, and noted Israel had made remarkable progress in the fields of agriculture, education, industry, foreign commerce and science. Jewish communities here will celebrate Yom Haatzmaut this weekend.