

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Israeli Officials Confirm CIA Head's Visit; Meets Meir, Dayan, Eban

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA)--Well placed sources indicated today that the visit to Israel by Richard Helms, director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency may be to confer with Israeli leaders on the global implications of the Soviet penetration of the Middle East, a subject Secretary of State Rogers declined to discuss when he visited Israel last May. Another possible reason advanced for Helms' visit today was the interrogation of recent immigrants from the Soviet Union. Israel has allowed no such interrogation until now on grounds that it might jeopardize the emigration of other Jews from the USSR. A Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed today that Helms was in Israel and that he has already met with Premier Golda Meir, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Foreign Minister Abba Eban. The Ministry made the acknowledgment only after the Helms visit, supposed to be top secret, was leaked to newspapers, apparently from sources in the U.S. The Helms visit is believed to be the first by a CIA head to Israel. CIA directors rarely travel abroad to avoid causing embarrassment to other governments. Some diplomats expressed the view that such a visit was an indication of U.S. interest and commitment in a country that was not likely to go unnoticed.

(In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Bray refused to comment on Helms' visit. He said he had noted the official Israel Government confirmation of Helms' visit but he refused to comment on reports that the visit was to evaluate the military situation in the Middle East.) Observers here noted that Secretary Rogers visited Israel before Moscow and Cairo concluded their 15 year treaty of friendship and cooperation. Since then, Washington may have had second thoughts and Helms' visit may be to make up what was lost by Rogers' failure to discuss the global aspects of Soviet penetration of this region.

## Rabin Accepts Rogers' Assurance On U.S. Diplomat's 'Phantom Memo'

WASHINGTON, June 30 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin accepted assurances from Secretary of State William P. Rogers yesterday that the so-called Bergus "phantom memo" in Cairo did not reflect the position of the U.S. Government and was not meant to reflect the position of the Israeli Government. Gen. Rabin told newsmen that he was "satisfied" after emerging from an hour-long meeting with Rogers, which he had requested, and which was attended by Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Joseph J. Sisco. The questionable memo was from Donald C. Bergus, the senior American diplomatic representative in Cairo, to the Egyptian Government. It proposed an Israeli withdrawal from half of the Sinai peninsula, Egyptian troop crossings of the Suez Canal and an international force to police a United Nations buffer zone. The U.S. informed the Egyptian Government promptly that the memo did not represent the American position. Israeli officials have not been shown a copy of the memo which was brought to light last week by a Washington columnist.

State Department spokesman Charles Bray told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency yesterday that the memo affair did not "pall" U.S. efforts or role in trying to get an interim agreement to reopen the Suez Canal. He declined to comment on statements from informed quarters that the Bergus memo will spur the formalizing of a U.S. position within one or two weeks. At today's press briefing however, Bray advised newsmen to "treat with skepticism" reports that the U.S. would be settling down on paper its own proposals for a Suez interim settlement. Bray added that the U.S. was "focusing on its own point of view" and will be developing and formulating some kind of proposals. He did not envision this as a change in the U.S. role but simply a consequence of reflections after the Bergus memo episode. Diplomatic sources here expect the memo affair to leave its mark on the credibility of the U.S. in the canal negotiations, but not to effect the substance of the talks themselves. They say Israel will be more careful in the future and probably will not be easily persuaded to an American viewpoint, but that the friendship between the two countries "is strong enough to even withstand such a thing."

## Study Asserts Israel Far Behind Arab Nations In U.S. Military, Economic Aid

WASHINGTON, June 30 (JTA)--Israel lags far behind the Arab countries as a recipient of military and economic aid from the United States, according to figures published in the current issue of Near East Report, publication of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee here. The periodical asserts that while Arab countries have received U.S. military grants of \$230 million, Israel received none. In addition, according to Near East Report, Israel has gotten only about one-third the total U.S. economic aid to the Arab countries and only one-seventh the non-military grants. This year's proposed Foreign Military Assistance Act authorizes military materiel and training grants to Saudi Arabia and Jordan among other Mideast states, but none to Israel, the report says. Israel has received \$500 million in economic aid credits for the purchase of military equipment in the U.S. this past year and is presently urgently seeking additional credits of about \$300 million. Near East Report's citation of the low ratio of U.S. assistance to Israel compared to the Arab countries is believed intended to counter efforts by some Senators to repeal the Jackson Amendment to the 1971 Foreign Military Sales Act. The Jackson Amendment, sponsored by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, Washington Democrat, gives the President open-ended authority to authorize military credits to Israel.

The Amendment has been criticized by Sen. J. William Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat, who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and, most recently by Sen. Mark Hatfield, Republican of Oregon. Near East Report takes exception to what it calls recent "indivious utterances" by Sen. Hatfield comparing U.S. per capita aid to Israel with aid to South Vietnam. The publication charged that Hatfield "distorts the figures to fabricate an analogy between Vietnam and Israel which is designed to prejudice Israel's cause in the eyes of the American people." The Nixon Administration's delay in responding to current Israeli requests for more arms aid, including more Phantom jet aircraft, and

the Congressional analysis and markup of the military sales and foreign appropriations bills are believed to have prompted the response by Near East Report. But while Israel received only a fractional proportion of the U.S. non-military grants to the Arab countries, on a nation-to-nation basis she did not suffer by comparison. American grants to the Arabs were spread between 9-12 states. Sen. Hatfield's position on the Middle East has been hailed in a recent edition of Action, a newspaper "dedicated to the liberation of Palestine." The paper called his stand "courageous." An earlier issue of Action described the tribute the Federated Organization on Arab-American Relations paid to Hatfield and his staff for their efforts on behalf of "the people of Palestine." The Action articles and other documentation of Sen. Hatfield's Mideast position have come to the attention of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. They include a statement inserted into the Congressional Record in which Hatfield expressed agreement with the proposition that "Zionism today is a form of aggressive nationalism."

### Israel Pays \$2.1 Million To Christian Institutions In Jerusalem For War Damages

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA)--Israel has paid \$2.1 million to 17 Christian institutions in Jerusalem for damage inflicted between 1948-1967 due to wars initiated by Jordan, Foreign Minister Abba Eban reported in the Knesset today. Eban also disclosed data that the Christian population declined by 20,000 through emigration during the 19 years of Jordanian occupation of East Jerusalem, a movement that has halted since Israeli forces captured the city in 1967. Eban provided a lengthy report on the holy places and the status of the Christian communities in Jerusalem in reply to a question from the floor which he was apparently anticipating. He recalled that on June 27, 1967, the Knesset passed a law for the protection of holy places and the Premier declared the shrines of all faiths open to all who wish to pray, without discrimination. In accordance with Israeli policy, Eban noted, the shrines of each faith are controlled by the religious authorities of that faith.

The Foreign Minister noted that the Jerusalem municipality has provided Christian churches and institutions with financial and technical aid for the furtherance of spiritual, artistic and cultural undertakings and to encourage efficient maintenance. Among the institutions which have received such support are the Church of the Armenian Patriarchate, St. Pierre en Gallicantu; the Soeurs de Sion, Ecce Homo Convent; the Franciscan Order; the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate; the Soeurs Blanches; the Knights of Malta; the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Beit Jalla; Notre Dame de Sion and the Monastery of St. John at Ein Karem; the Catholic Church and Community Center at Beit Hanna and the American Institute for Holy Land Studies. Eban reported that the world's first Roman Catholic Institute for Ecumenical studies is now rising on a hill near Jerusalem, a project inspired by Father Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana. Prof. Charles Moeller, of the University of Louvain, Belgium, will head the institution. Construction of a Greek Orthodox church near the Old City walls, which stood unfinished for many years under the Jordanian occupation, is now being completed. The sum of \$175,000 has been allocated for the rehabilitation of the Rockefeller Museum. Christian churches are not subject to taxation and are exempt from customs duties and sales tax. The right of every religious community to maintain its own schools and to determine their curricula is also guaranteed and honored, Eban said. "Our policy is safeguarding the religious, cultural and social life of the city's population and of those who enter its gates, including Christians, Moslems and other pilgrims," he said.

### Tekoa Says Israeli Raid On Lebanese Village Reply To 'Daily Aggression'

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 30 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yoael Tekoa said today that the crossing into southern Lebanon by Israeli soldiers yesterday morning was in response to terrorist attacks on Israeli villages. In a letter to Security Council president Liu Chieh of China, Tekoa said of the two-and-a-half-hour battle within Lebanon that it was the result of "almost daily acts of hostility" from Lebanese soil, "acts of aggression (that) are continuing and have been intensified." He said the Israelis crossed the border "in pursuit after the attackers." Tekoa quoted the Lebanese newspaper Nida al-Watan as reporting that "3,000 armed terrorists entered Lebanon" in February. The agency referred to Israel's "scrupulous observance of the cease-fire on the condition of reciprocity." A Lebanese military spokesman, in reporting the clash yesterday, said the Israelis had been forced "to retreat," but he did not suggest a reason for their move into his country. He said the Israelis suffered "two casualties." Lebanon has protested twice this month to the Security Council over five purported Israeli attacks on Lebanese villages; but she has not requested a special Council meeting.

### All Nine Kishinev Defendants Convicted, Sentenced To Labor Camps

NEW YORK, June 30 (JTA)--All nine Jewish defendants in Kishinev were sentenced today to labor-camp terms ranging from one to five years, Jewish sources here reported. The heaviest penalty was meted out to David Isorovich Chernoglaz, a 31-year-old agronomist with a wife and year-old child, who was arrested last June 15. Anatoly Moiseyevich Goldfeld was sentenced to four years; the prosecution had asked for five. Hillel Zalmanovich Shur, who went on a hunger strike and was said by the prosecution to deserve three years in prison, received a two-year term. Two-year terms were also meted out to Aleksander Galperin, Abraham Trakhtenberg, Semeon Abramovich Levit, Arkady Volochin and Gari Kirsner. David Rabinovich got a one-year term. Because the trial was held in a Supreme Court, in this case the Moldavian, there are no appeals, but clemency is possible. Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, said the sentences might have been less severe if world public opinion had been stronger. The defendants were charged with anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda and complicity in an alleged skyjacking attempt.

Phillip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, said the organization was "especially incensed" at the sentences. "Political trials against Jewish dissidents...are the Soviet Union's way of continuing a tradition of repression whose roots go back to Czarist times," he said. "The AJCommittee, established as a response to Russian bigotry and criminality, pledges itself to a continued struggle to rescue the Jews who are living under Soviet persecution today." Dr. William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, said the conviction of the Kishinev defendants called for "White House

condemnation" of the "arrogant" Soviet policy of "denying basic human rights." The convictions, he said, were part of the Kremlin's "continuing campaign of intimidating Soviet Jews," and "the political immorality inherent in these trials, arising from the Jews' wish to emigrate, is no internal Soviet matter, but rather a violation of international principles and law." Dr. Wexler, who is also chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, asserted: "The Soviet trials are contemptuous of these international obligations, and our government needs to speak out on this matter."

Richard Maass, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry denounced the sentences as further examples of the Soviet Government's continuing campaign to intimidate its Jewish citizens and to discourage them from applying for emigration to Israel. Urging increased world efforts to halt the trials of Soviet Jews, he called them "horrors of individual and group repression." The Canadian Jewish Congress, in a cable to the Mayor of Kishinev, called the Kishinev trial "reminiscent of the worst excesses of Stalinism and Czarism" and asserted that the nine defendants "committed the alleged crime of wishing to live in Israel." Monroe Abbey, president, and Saul Hayes, executive vice-president, appealed to the Kishinev Mayor to act to let Russian Jews who wished to go to Israel, "including those before the court in Kishinev," to do so immediately. A group of some 30 Russian immigrants who started a hunger strike soon after they arrived in Israel ended their action when the Kishinev verdicts were disclosed. Weakened by lack of food and by a strong sun and heat, the strikers expressed again their protest against verdicts against people whose "sole crime" was that they were Jews.

### Zand Says Only Solution For Plight Of Russ Jews Is Emigration

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA)--Prof. Mikhail Zand believes the struggle for Soviet Jewry must concentrate exclusively on their right to emigrate to Israel, not merely to alleviate the current repression of Jewish cultural and religious freedom in the USSR. In his first public appearance since he landed in Israel five days ago, Zand, a militant Jew, claimed that the only hope for the spiritual survival of Soviet Jewry was in emigration to Israel. Addressing a session of the Zionist General Council, Zand said he took issue with a group of Western rabbis who had suggested the slogan "Let my people live" as a corollary of "Let my people go." He rejected the implications of the former on grounds that the Jewish people could never live as Jews in the Soviet Union. "There is no future for the Jewish people in Russia except assimilation. The future is only here. The fight must be for the right to emigrate, not the right to stay there."

Zand, a scholar specializing in Oriental languages, obtained the right to emigrate only after considerable anguish and hardship for himself and his family. Earlier this year his activism got him a 15-day jail term for "hooliganism" in connection with demonstrations against the Leningrad and Riga trials. He was fired from his job at the Soviet Eastern Institute. He was granted an exit visa earlier this month only to have it revoked within a few hours on grounds that he had to be investigated for alleged "undesirable activities." His new visa was finally granted only after pressure was brought to bear by the academic communities in the U.S., Israel and other countries. Zand told the Zionist General Council that he and his family were escorted to Moscow airport by 100 friends who asked that he convey their greetings to Israel. He said Russian Jews thanked Jews abroad for their efforts to secure emigration rights. Prof. Zand has joined the teaching staff of Hebrew University as a visiting professor in the Institute of Asian and African studies, the university announced today. He will teach in Hebrew.

### Soviet Newsman's Secret Visit To Israel Seen As Possible Warning To Egypt

BOSTON, June 30 (JTA)--The secret visit to Israel this month by Soviet newsman Victor Louis, who has served as a "middleman" for Soviet authorities on previous occasions, gave rise to speculation that Russia was feeling out Israel on the resumption of diplomatic ties. But knowledgeable Israelis believe that if there was any purpose behind the visit it was more of a warning to Egypt than an overture to Israel, Christian Science Monitor correspondent Francis O'ner reported from Jerusalem today. "Some Israeli officials view his visit as a Russian warning to Egypt that the Soviets could become friendlier toward Israel, should the Sadat government of Egypt 'flirt' with the U.S.," O'ner wrote. (At Moscow airport where he went to greet visiting Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Rief yesterday, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko scorned reports that Russia and Israel were negotiating a resumption of diplomatic relations. Gromyko was quoted as saying that the rumors did not even deserve refutation. Rief will be in Moscow four days during which he will discuss the latest Mideast developments and exchange ratification documents of the new Egyptian-Soviet 15 year treaty of friendship and cooperation.)

The Victor Louis visit to Israel was cloaked in secrecy. The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem admitted it only after stories appeared in the press that Louis had conferred with Simha Dinitz, Premier Golda Meir's political adviser and close confidant. According to O'ner, Israeli skepticism that Louis' trip was a fence-mending excursion on behalf of the Kremlin is based on two considerations: First, Louis does not have the background and experience for such a diplomatic mission and second, the Soviets are not likely to employ "cloak-and-dagger" methods for such a conventional move as resuming diplomatic relations. O'ner reported that Israelis recall that when the Soviet Union desired to resume relations with Israel in 1953 after a nine-month break, the Soviet Ambassador in Bulgaria simply communicated that desire to the Israeli chief of mission in Sofia. Israeli officials believe that this time too, the Soviet government could have found many opportunities for such a diplomatic initiative, O'ner wrote.

### Religious Settlement in Jordan Valley Marks First Ritual Circumcision

TEL AVIV, June 30 (JTA)--Meholah, a religious settlement in the Jordan Valley, celebrated its first ritual circumcision today. The newborn infant, named Yehoshua, is the son of Joseph and Yochaved Cohen. The ceremony was attended by Gen. Mordechai Gur, commander of the northern front.

**Jewish Agency Issues Complete List Of Members Of Executive, Board Of Governors**

JERUSALEM, June 30 (JTA)--The Jewish Agency today published the complete list of members elected to the executive of the reconstituted Jewish Agency and its 40-member Board of Governors, the policy-making body between sessions of the General Assembly. The General Assembly itself will comprise 296 members, half of them representatives of fund-raising bodies in Jewish communities throughout the world and the other half representing the World Zionist Organization. Louis A. Pincus of Jerusalem, as chairman of the General Assembly and the Executive, heads the reconstituted Jewish Agency. Max M. Fisher of Detroit was elected chairman of the Board of Governors; Leon Dulzin of Jerusalem is treasurer and Moshe Rivlin of Jerusalem was elected director general. Of the nine members of the Executive under Pincus, three are residents of the U.S.--Fisher, Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland and Melvin Dubinsky of St. Louis. One, Michael Sacher, is from England. The other five, all residents of Israel, are Dulzin; Dr. Ra'anan Weitz, head of the agricultural settlement department; Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, associate head of the immigration and absorption department; Joseph Klarman, head of Youth Aliyah; and Ezra Shapiro, newly elected chairman of Keren Hayesod. Two New Yorkers were elected associate members of the executive--Philip Bernstein, executive vice chairman of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and Gottlieb Hammer, executive vice chairman of the United Israel Appeal. Ben-Zion Meiri, of Israel, was elected comptroller of the Agency.

Of the 40 member Board of Governors, 20 are Americans: Albert Adelman, Milwaukee; Victor Carter, Los Angeles; Melvin Dubinsky, St. Louis; Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Toledo; Max M. Fisher, Detroit; Edward Ginsberg, Cleveland; Prof. Ben Haipern, Waltham, Mass.; Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, Englewood, New Jersey; Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, New York City; Morris Levinson, New York City; Joseph Meyerhoff, Baltimore; Rabbi Israel Miller, New York City; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, New York City; Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, New York City; Robert Russell, Miami; Samuel Rothberg, Peoria, Ill.; Louis Stern, Essex County, New Jersey; Dewey D. Stone, Brockton, Mass.; Jack Weller, New York City; and Paul Zuckerman, Detroit. The Israeli members of the Board of Governors are: Mordechai Bar On, Leon Dulzin, Hayim Finkelstein, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Raya Jaglom, Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, Joseph Klarman, Moshe Krone, Andre Narboni, Louis A. Pincus, Avraham Schenker, and Dr. Ra'anan Weitz. Of the eight other members of the Board of Governors, two are from Great Britain--Hyam Morrison and Michael Sacher--and one each from: France, Melech Topiol; Switzerland, Dr. Tibor Rosenbaum; South Africa, Judge Israel Malsels; Brazil, Leon Feffer; Argentina, Leon Miroslman; and Canada, Gordon Brown.

**Hassan Assali's ADL, Threatens To Sue U.S. Over Fund Withholding**

WASHINGTON, June 30 (JTA)--Col. Hassan Jeru-Ahmed, director of the Blackman's Development Center, threatened today to sue the Government unless the Department of Health, Education and Welfare rescinds its order to cut off a \$197,847 training grant pending an administrative audit to make sure the funds will not be used to breed bigotry. He accused the B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League, which has charged him with anti-Semitism, of "systematically trying to turn the white and Jewish community against us." Hassan claimed that this has been going on "for more than three years." He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that since 1965 the B'nai B'rith has used its influence to persuade the Stern Foundation and private businessmen not to give money to the Blackman's Development Center which, among other things, runs narcotics/rehabilitation programs. He said that evidence the ADL cited against him consisted of "excerpts from our literature taken completely out of context." Asked for comment on the charges, Seymour Graubard, ADL national chairman, told the JTA in New York that "the documented record is clear and we assume that the federal government will act accordingly."

In a letter to the ADL last week, HEW Secretary Elliot Richardson said Hassan's funds would be cut off pending an audit. However, an official HEW statement said the cut-off had nothing to do with the ADL's charges and that a separate action informing Hassan that his organization would be "monitored" for signs of bigotry had been taken by Deputy Commissioner of Education, Terry T. Bell. In response to a charge by Hassan that HEW violated its own administrative procedures by not holding a hearing before announcing the cut-off, HEW postponed the audit for two weeks to give Hassan an opportunity to get his books in order.

**American, Israeli Investors Funding Seven Inns In Israel**

NEW YORK, June 30 (JTA)--Israeli and American investors will provide the funds to build seven franchised Holiday Inns in Israel with construction of the first beginning in Jerusalem next year and the second in Tel Aviv in 1973. The plans were announced by Kemmons Wilson, founder and board chairman of Holiday Inns, Inc., of Memphis, the world's largest international network of hotels and motels. Participants in the Israeli Holiday Inns franchise agreement include Israeli Inns International, of St. Louis, Mo., Seel Investments and Solel Boneh, the construction cooperative of Histadrut. The largest of the projected Holiday Inns, in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, will have 450 rooms and convention facilities. Israel's first Holiday Inn, to have 120 rooms, is presently under construction at Ein Gedi on the Dead Sea. Other sites selected for future Holiday Inns are Kiryat Shmona, Neve Yam, Ramat Rahel, Gush Etzion and Lydda Airport.

**COLPA Deplores Rockefeller Veto Of Bill For College Religious Absences**

NEW YORK, June 30 (JTA)--The veto by Gov. Rockefeller of a bill which would have required private colleges in New York State to make accommodations for students unable to attend classes on certain days because of their religious requirements was deplored today by the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA). Julius Berman, COLPA president, called the veto an "unfortunate" action which "adversely affects the interests of many New York citizens." Public colleges in the state are already required to make such accommodations for such religious needs of Jewish and other students. In his veto message, Gov. Rockefeller said there was a lack of demonstrated need for such legislation but he referred the matter to the state Division for Human Rights for an investigation on whether similar legislation should be introduced at the 1972 legislative session.