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Justice Dept. Agrees To Allow JDL Defendants Access To Wiretap Logs

WASHINGTON, July 1 (JTA)--The U.S. Department of Justice unexpectedly decided today to comply with a June 18 U.S. District Court ruling to allow the Jewish Defense League gun conspiracy defendants access to the logs of conversations from wiretaps not authorized by court order. The Department agreed to comply, however, only after District Court Judge Jack Weinstein signed a protective order forbidding the parties to divulge the contents of the logs to the press or public. The Judge ordered the Government to show the transcripts to the defendants because otherwise they "would not be able to conduct a meaningful defense." He set a hearing on the legality of the wiretaps for July 6 by which time the defense counsel will have had a chance to inspect the transcripts. The trial is expected to begin soon after the hearing.

The Government's move in compliance with the court order was a break with precedent. In previous cases where wiretaps were not authorized by court order but justified on the basis of national security, the Government has seen fit to appeal court orders to reveal the transcripts. The Government had been expected in the JDL case to refuse to relinquish the transcripts, a refusal which would almost certainly have resulted in a dismissal. The Government would then have been in a position to ask for a re-indictment if the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its favor after hearing arguments on the use of non-court authorized wiretaps next November.

Judge Weinstein delivered his ruling June 18 after a private inspection of the Government wiretap logs. He ruled that there was a "substantial probability" that the tap was illegal, despite the Government's contention that it was "deemed necessary and essential to protect the nation and its citizens against the hostile acts of a foreign power and to obtain information against foreign intelligence activities deemed essential to the security of the United States." No hostile acts or foreign powers were specified. Israeli officials have since ruled out the possibility that any Israeli Embassy officials could have been involved. The transcripts of the wiretaps are said to run several hundred pages. A mystery surrounds them inasmuch as none of the defendants' personal phones were the subjects of the taps. The phones on which wiretaps had been placed belonged to unknown parties who had called or were called by the defendants.

Compensation Plan Approved By E. Jerusalem Arabs, Denounced In Amman

JERUSALEM, July 1 (JTA)--Israel's proposed measure to compensate East Jerusalem Arabs for the property they lost when the Jewish State was established in 1948 drew a cautious but generally favorable response from prominent East Jerusalem Arabs yesterday. But is has been assailed and denounced by the nationalist press in Beirut. Arabs across the border described the Government bill, announced Tuesday by Justice Minister Yaacov Shapira, as a "gimmick" designed to tighten Israel's grip on East Jerusalem and its inhabitants. According to the Jordanian Minister of Information, Adnan Abu Udeh, who comes from Jerusalem, the compensation offer is a "conspiracy" aimed at changing the citizenship of Jerusalem Arabs from Jordanian to Israeli in order "to complete the annexation of the Holy City." Another Palestinian spokesman claimed in Amman that that interpretation was "the only explanation why compensation is offered only to Jerusalem Arabs of all the inhabitants of occupied Arab territory." Nothing in the Shapira measure indicates that East Jerusalem Arabs would have to become Israeli citizens in order to qualify for compensation. East Jerusalem Arabs retain Jordanian citizenship but became legal residents of Israel after the 1967 war and are subject to Israeli law. Arabs in the other occupied territories are not considered residents of Israel and have been allowed to retain the Jordanian legal code. A compensation bill passed by the Israeli Knesset therefore could not be applied to them.

Many East Jerusalem Arabs expressed reservations over the measure yesterday, mainly because they lacked concrete details. They said the news came as a complete surprise. Several prominent East Jerusalem lawyers, among them former Jordanian Defense Minister Anwar Nusseibeh, said they needed time to study the proposed legislation. Mahmoud Abu Zulul, editor and publisher of the Jerusalem Arabic daily Al Kuds, who held property in Tel Aviv and Jaffa that is estimated to be worth millions, expressed reservations about the method of evaluating the property and the means of payment but he thought the bill could provide "a partial settlement of the refugee problem." The measure, which Shapira has cleared with the Premier and Finance Minister, would obligate the Government to pay an estimated minimum of $100 million to Arab residents of East Jerusalem for property they held prior to 1948 in what is now Israeli territory. The compensation would be in the form of 20 year Government bonds.

Soviet Intelligence In ME Reportedly Discussed By Helms On Israel Visit

TEL AVIV, July 1 (JTA)--Richard Helms, director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, left Israel today with his 12-member entourage after a series of top secret meetings with Israeli officials, including Premier Golda Meir, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Foreign Minister Abba Eban. His immediate destinations are believed to be Turkey and Iran. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today that the CIA chief was invited to Israel by Dayan when the latter met him on a visit to Washington last year. According to informed sources, Helms and his aides held working sessions with Israeli officials for the past few days. One of the major subjects said to have been discussed was the expansion of Soviet intelligence in the Mideast. The USSR is believed to be operating what was described as an advanced intelligence device in this area. That fact, coupled with increased activity by known Russian agents, has indicated to some circles that Moscow may be planning an important move. Helms' visit to Israel was supposed to be top secret until it was leaked to news sources in the United States

this week. The Foreign Ministry admitted yesterday that Helms was in Israel. Last night he met with former Premier David Ben-Gurion. Helms visited Sharm el-Sheikh. He was entertained by U.S. Ambassador Walworth Barbour yesterday and on Tuesday attended a party in his honor given by Gen. Dayan. Helms took off in a CIA-owned Boeing 707 jet from a runway close to the Lydda Airport terminal which was heavily guarded by Israeli security personnel. This morning's four-hour strike by airport employes did not effect his departure. Helms' jet was serviced by personnel provided by Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd., a private firm.

Israeli Absorption Officials Deny Widespread Loans To Immigrants For Cars

JERUSALEM, July 1 (JTA)--Israeli officials responsible for immigrant absorption explained some of their problems and replied to criticism at a session of the Zionist General Council here last night. Hillel Ashkenazi, director general of the Absorption Ministry, said that more than $3.5 million had been loaned to new immigrants out of a special fund last year. He admitted that 400 newcomers had received loans to buy cars, but said they represented only a tiny fraction of the 42,000 immigrants who arrived. The Absorption Ministry has come under criticism for loaning money to immigrants from affluent countries allegedly to purchase cars or luxury flats. Uzi Narkiss, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department heatedly denied that the Agency's emissaries abroad gave prospective immigrants false information about conditions in Israel. Ashkenazi said one of the most difficult problems in absorbing newcomers was employment. He said the Ministry operated a retraining program for hundreds of immigrants each year and that a survey showed that 70 percent were satisfied with their jobs at the end of a year's stay in Israel. Mrs. Faye Schenk, of New York, president of Hadassah, U.S. and Mrs. Sidney Shipton, of Britain, complained that persons over 30 were appearing in their countries as youth representatives. Narkiss reported that in certain countries such as Chile, the Jewish Agency's investment to encourage immigration was failing because of inactivity by the local communities.

The General Council today approved a $35 million budget for the World Zionist Organization for fiscal 1971-72 and a $25 million budget for the operation of the WZO's land reclamation agency, the Jewish National Fund. A $4.2 million budget was approved for the operations of the Keren Hayesod, the WZO's fund-raising arm outside of North America. In a resolution on Jews in the diaspora the Council appealed to the free world to join in denouncing the "shameful oppression of the Jews in the Soviet Union" and pledged to continue to fight for their right to emigrate to Israel. The Council also expressed "anguished concern" for the fate of Jews "degraded and persecuted" in the Arab countries, particularly Syria. In other final resolutions the Zionist Council expressed its solidarity with Israel, hailed the unity of Jerusalem and expressed concern over the large scale Soviet penetration of the Middle East. Moshe Rivlin, executive director of the reconstituted Jewish Agency, was elected by the Council today as an associate member of the Zionist executive. Rivlin, 46, served as Israel's Consul General in New York from 1952-58.

State Dept. Urges 'Reserve' About Reports Of U.S. Plans For Israel Link

WASHINGTON, July 1 (JTA)--State Department spokesman Charles Bray advised the press today to treat "with reserve" reports about any United States initiative to fit Israel into some kind of western defense framework. The reports, which emanated from unidentified sources in Israel, were to the effect that Israel be incorporated into a loose defense framework with the United States, Western Europe, Iran and Turkey. Bray described the sources as "unusually cloudy." He did not deny the reports. Some sources here linked the reports with the unusual visit of Richard Helms, Central Intelligence Agency head, to Israel, which ended today. The sources here said they had been informed that Israeli officials purportedly were concerned about the "possibility" of a Soviet naval blockade and that one of Helms' assignments on his Israeli visit was to evaluate Israeli intelligence data on that "possibility." Another report circulating here was that one of the purposes of Helms' visit was to reassure the Israelis that, despite delays by the Nixon Administration in answering recent requests for additional arms, the Administration still supported Israel's security. Those sources said the Helms' visit was leaked as an effort to strengthen the picture of United States-Israeli cooperation.

Civilian Air Traffic In Israel Halted For Four Hours By Strike

TEL AVIV, July 1 (JTA)--Civilian air traffic was halted for four hours this morning as employes of the Civil Aviation Authority struck against the Transport Ministry which they charged was not carrying out clauses of their contract. Heated negotiations went on all night in a futile attempt to avert the walk-out which began at 6 a.m. local time and ended at ten. There was no information as to whether the workers' complaints had been satisfied. Meanwhile, flights scheduled to take off during the early morning hours were postponed. Israel bound planes were halted at Rome, Athens and Nicosia. Planes arriving during the walk-out landed safely but porters refused to unload passengers' baggage. In some cases the passengers stormed the aircraft to get their luggage. The striking workers made an exception for two planes arriving with new immigrants. One of them brought more immigrants from Soviet Russia, among them families from Riga, Wilna, Odessa and the Georgian Republic and one ish emigrants with academic degrees a heavy sum to pay for the free education they received in the USSR. According to the new arrivals, holders of degrees would be charged about $1,100 for each year of study at a Soviet institution of higher learning. The plan has not been implemented to date.

Some West Bank Arabs Now Allowed To Visit Israel Without Special Permits

JERUSALEM, July 1 (JTA)--The military government announced today that West Bank Arabs may visit Israel beginning tomorrow without special permit. The order applies only to residents of the Samaria-Judaea areas, not the Gaza Strip. Residents of the Golan Heights have been free to enter Israel without permits for some time. Day laborers will still require working permits but not entry permits. The order does not allow the entry of vehicles without permit. The visits are restricted to the hours of 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. Visitors may not remain in Israel overnight. West Bankers will not be permitted to enter any other areas under Israeli military government without special permission.

USIA Hearings End Without Mention Of Appeals For VOA Yiddish Broadcasts

WASHINGTON, July 1 (JTA)--Appropriations hearings before the United States Information Agency ended yesterday without mention of recent requests for Voice of America broadcasts in Yiddish to the Soviet Union proposed in recent weeks by Jewish organizations and several Congressmen. The event also was marked by complaints by two Boston Jewish leaders of non-cooperation on the matter by Sen. Edward Brooke, Massachusetts Republican. The complaints were made by Henry Feuerstein, who came here on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee On Voice of America Broadcasting, and by Rabbi Samuel J. Fox, president of the Massachusetts Council of Rabbis. Feuerstein said he came here to ask the Senator to ask USIA director Frank Shakespeare about his refusals to consider Yiddish broadcasting.

Feuerstein said the Senator's office had instructed him to send some pertinent information on the question and that "it would be taken care of." He said that when he learned that the material he sent had not arrived, he brought a list of questions to the Senator's office and that he had been given to understand that the questions would be asked at the hearings. Rabbi Fox told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he had been "given the definite impression" that the questions would be asked at the hearings. Marilyn Dexheimer, one of the Senator's legislative assistants, told the JTA that unless the Senator personally approved the questions, they would not be asked in his absence, adding that the Senator was not able to attend the hearings and could not be reached to approve the questions. Feuerstein charged that the Senator's office had stalled him and "as it turned out, never intended to ask the questions."

Israel's Chief Rabbinate Urges All Jews To Avoid Abortions

NEW YORK, July 1 (JTA)--The Israeli Chief Rabbinate has sent an appeal to Jews all over the world to avoid abortions because they are "contrary to Jewish religious law." A letter signed by Rabbi Akiva Gottlieb, chief secretary of the Rabbinate in Jerusalem, will be presented tonight to a meeting sponsored by the Long Island Right to Life Committee, a group comprised of Catholics, Protestants and Jews opposed to legalizing abortions. The text of the letter was made available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today by Rabbi David Hollander, vice president of the Rabbinical Alliance of America, an association of Orthodox rabbis. It reported on a conference on the problem of abortions sponsored by the Israeli Chief Rabbinate at which abortions were denounced as "the taking of human life" and "a threat to national security." The letter assailed "woman activists who, supposedly for the sake of improving the circumstances of families with many children, are urging women to employ various means to limit their birth." The letter claimed that "while there is a struggle to bring immigrants from other countries to Israel, there is a reckless attempt to reduce the population internally."

Hertzberg Says Jerusalem Status To Be Studied By Fulbright Senate Committee

JERUSALEM, July 1 (JTA)--The Foreign Relations Committee of the U.S. Senate has decided to investigate all aspects of the status of Jerusalem, it was reported here today by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, of Englewood, N.J., who said he was invited to testify before the committee. Rabbi Hertzberg, a member of the Jewish Agency Executive and a visiting professor at the Hebrew University, said he could not obtain further details of the investigation.

Israeli Patrol Again Crosses Into Lebanon Pursuing Terrorists

TEL AVIV, July 1 (JTA)--An Israeli patrol invaded Lebanon again today in pursuit of a terrorist gang it intercepted near Margaliot in Upper Galilee. A military spokesman said the patrol penetrated Lebanese territory to a distance about two miles from the village of Akeb. One terrorist was assumed to have been killed and another injured in the skirmish. There were no Israeli casualties.

NEWSBRIEFS

TEL AVIV, July 1 (JTA)--The Ministry of Tourism accused certain travel agents in France yesterday of overbooking students for summer work programs at Israeli kibbutzim. But the Ministry promised that all of the students registered would be brought to Israel and places found for them. The Ministry conceded that some kibbutzim had aggravated the situation by cancelling invitations to foreign students. A Ministry spokesman said if work could not be found for all of the registrants at kibbutzim, they would be assigned to archaeological teams in various parts of the country.

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JERUSALEM, July 1 (JTA)--A Hebrew University botanist, using a method practiced by the Israelites over 3,000 years ago and later by the Nabateans and Byzantines, has proven that bountiful crops can be grown in the arid reaches of the Negev. The University announced today that Prof. Michael Evnari will head a desert farm project at Wadi Mashmash which will serve as an international training and information center for arid soil farming.

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BRUSSELS, July 1 (JTA)--A statement on the Middle East drafted by the six member nations of the European Common Market in Paris May 10 was criticized yesterday by Arieh Eliav, former secretary general of the Israel Labor Party, addressing the conference of Socialist parties of the European Economic Community here. The document, which called for Israel's withdrawal to its pre-June, 1967 borders was described by Eliav as "unbalanced." He said he hoped the resolution of the Council of the Socialist International, adopted at Helsinki, would serve as a guideline for the Socialist parties of the ECC on the Mideast.

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TEL AVIV, July 1 (JTA)--Israel has reached an agreement to import two-thirds of its annual sugar consumption from an un-named East African country through the port of Eilat. The imports, amounting to about 60,000 tons a year, will increase the operation of Eilat's port by 25 percent. The first sugar consignments are expected to arrive in August. Eilat, on the Gulf of Aqaba, is the only Israeli port with direct access to the Red Sea. Hitherto it has functioned mainly as an export center. Trucks bringing outgoing cargo usually returned northwards empty. Beginning in August they will be carrying sugar.

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW

THE SCHOOL AID RULING - AS SEEN BY THE DAY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

By GEORGE FRIEDMAN, JTA Staff Reporter

NEW YORK, July 1 (JTA)--Fears for the future and renewed criticism of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York were expressed by leaders of three of the Hebrew day schools which may lose considerable sums if the state's aid-to-private-school program is voided by Monday's Supreme Court decision. The Court ruled 8-1, with Justice Byron R. White dissenting, that public aid to private schools for secular purposes constituted "excessive government entanglement with religion." Rabbi Sholom Rephun of the Manhattan Day School, whose "very little government aid" totals $7-8,000 a year for textbooks and record-keeping, called the outlook "frightening." He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "The problem is extremely severe" (Hebrew day) schools are struggling for a few cents more than ever before." Thus far, he said, the New York Federation has not provided sufficient aid.

If the state's schoolaid law is voided, Rabbi Rephun continued, aid to yeshivas would be "cut down at a time when costs go up," posing "a very serious problem and threat" to the Manhattan Day School, which is "not a school for the rich." Rabbi Rephun--whose present educational quarters recently suffered extensive vandalism, a year before a scheduled relocation--said he could understand the Supreme Court's reasoning. The principle of church-state separation is an important one, he admitted--"but so is Jewish survival." Thus, "we certainly would look for any kind of alleviation within the law." But the rabbi added: "Anyone with a sound business mind would have said never to open day schools."

Similarly, the principal of the Yeshiva High School of Queens said his school stood to lose $30,000 in administrative and registration aid next year if the state law was struck down. That would be an increase over this year's $16,000 in aid, said Rabbi Simcha Teitelbaum. The seven-year-old institution, "completely independent" the past four years, headed into last fall with an $80,000 deficit. Even its fundraising dinners leave it $50,000 poorer, Rabbi Teitelbaum told the JTA. Meanwhile, the Queens Yeshiva's student body has risen from 40 to 400, and of last fall's 180 freshman applicants only 100 could be accepted. Non-scholarship students--some 35 percent of the total--pay the school $1,175 a year each, but it costs $1,400 to educate each one over that period. Rabbi Teitelbaum too is critical of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, pointing out that it allots $1 per yeshiva child per year. By contrast, the Federations in Chicago and Los Angeles contribute $250 and $125 per child, he said. The New York Federation has "completely ignored" the Hebrew day schools, Rabbi Teitelbaum charged. "They just don't understand our situation," he elaborated. "They claim that they understand it, but understanding it and paying for it are two different things."

Rabbi Moshe Malinowitz, head of the Yeshiva of Forest Hills and president of the National Association of Hebrew Day School Administrators of America, sees the Supreme Court decision and its possible ramifications in New York State as a situation of "the gravest concern." This year, he advised the JTA, "we began to stem the tide of rising costs at some of our schools, even with minimal state aid," but without that aid "the spiral of rising costs would continue." In that circumstance, he said, "Even the middle-class parent will be reduced to pauperhood if he wants to send the child to day school. He'll face the unpleasant prospect of appearing before tuition committees in the quest for scholarships." Rabbi Malinowitz commented that "we fail to understand why Federation of New York doesn't follow the pattern of the rest of the country" and "subsidize directly" the yeshivas here. He also called on such organizations as the American Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Committee to "use their influence with the very powerful forces they represent" and rally as much community support for the day schools as they do for fighting church-state abrogations.

A New York Federation spokesman reiterated that it is up to the Board of Jewish Education to determine the allotment of Federation moneys it receives. "There's nothing more Federation can do," he said. A spokesman for the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds recalled that the CJF board recently reached a "consensus on the urgent need" of the yeshivas and on the "dire financial circumstances" of "many" of them. While Federation aid to Jewish education has been "growing rapidly" the board noted, "Jewish education costs have been rising precipitously." The CJF spokesman said that since "every local Federation is different," the CJF cannot dictate an over-all funding policy. All it can do, he said, is "study the problem" and recommend action to the local Federations.

AJCongress, Civil Liberties Union Plan Suits In Six States On School Aid

NEW YORK, July 1 (JTA)--The U.S. Supreme Court's decision this week barring state aid to parochial schools will be the basis of suits to halt such aid in six states which the American Jewish Congress and the American Civil Liberties Union announced they would sponsor today. Attorneys for the two groups said suits would be filed in Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Vermont challenging recently enacted purchase-of-services programs, voucher plans, tax credits and teacher salary supplements. Leo Pfeffer, special counsel of the AJCongress and ACLU legal director Melvin Wulf, contended that no form of aid to elementary and secondary parochial schools beyond textbooks and busing was permissable under the opinion handed down by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger Monday. The attorneys challenged a statement by New York Senate Majority Leader Earl Brydges Monday that the state's new law allocating $33 million to pay part of the salaries of teachers of secular subjects in non-public schools was constitutional. They said the provisions of New York law "differed in no substantial way from those struck down in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Connecticut." A suit attacking the law as unconstitutional will be filed within the next ten days in Federal Court here. The attorneys argued that "the entire thrust" of the Supreme Court decision "is to deny government aid to sectarian schools." They described the decision as an "extremely broad one."

No Monday JTA Bulletin Will Be Published Because Of The Holiday