

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Moscow Police Nab U.S. Newsmen And Jews They Talked To; State Dept. Won't Protest

WASHINGTON, July 21 (JTA)--The State Department said today that it would not protest to Soviet authorities regarding police actions against two American correspondents on successive days in Moscow while they were meeting with unnamed Soviet Jews. The correspondents were James Peipert, of the Associated Press and James Yuenger, of the Chicago Tribune. Inquiries by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency indicated that neither the AP nor the Tribune planned to lodge protests.

According to reports from Moscow, a plainclothes policeman broke into a conversation on Gorky St. July 19 between Peipert and a Soviet Jew. They flashed a red card and ordered Peipert to leave. The plainclothesman seized the Jew by his arms and said "come with me." He told the American newsmen that the matter was none of his business. Yesterday Yuenger was picked up by Moscow police and detained for ten minutes at the police station after he tried to meet a Soviet Jew who was described as "an informant." The Jew was also taken to the police station but was kept apart from Yuenger. State Department spokesman Charles Bray said today that a report on the Peipert incident was received from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow but none on Yuenger's detention. No information was available here on what happened to the two Jews involved.

## Israel Pondering Fate Of Terrorists Seeking Refuge

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--Israeli officials are considering what to do with Palestinian terrorists who have been surrendering en-masse to Israeli forces to escape death or capture at the hands of the Jordanian Army. Fourteen more weary, frightened fedayeen sought refuge in Israeli territory today and eight crossed over from Jordan yesterday bringing the total of voluntary captives to 91 since the mass surrenders began last Saturday. Israeli authorities do not regard them as prisoners of war nor are they placed in the same category as terrorists captured in battle or on sabotage missions. The Defense Ministry reportedly intends to treat them differently. They will not be placed on trial, it was learned although they could be charged with membership in an illegal organization.

Most of the fleeing terrorists were originally residents of the West Bank. Rumors were current today that Israeli authorities planned to set them free and return them to their former homes because they are considered "harmless." Early this morning a group of five terrorists surrendered to Israeli border guards and nine more turned themselves in later, two of them suffering from wounds. Five surrendered yesterday in the Jordan Valley and three at El Hamma after crossing into the Golan Heights from northern Jordan. One of the latter was injured. According to eye-witness accounts, the terrorists approach the Israeli lines timidly. Their usual procedure is to hide in the brush along the banks of the Jordan River until an Israeli patrol passes by when they wave a white flag, usually a strip of underwear on a stick. Only when the Israelis notice them and wave back do they come out of hiding and approach the river bank. They are able to wade across as the river is shallow at this time of year.

Two Arab terrorists were killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Golan Heights yesterday and a third escaped into Syria. No Israeli casualties were reported. Israel lodged another complaint with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) yesterday against new Egyptian overflights in the Suez Canal zone. Israel claimed the cease-fire was violated by a pair of Sukhoi-7 fighter bombers that flew over Israeli positions followed by a pair of MIG-21s.

## U.S. Still Undecided On Jet Sales To Israel

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--The United States so far has not approved Israel's application to purchase 40-odd F-4 Phantom jets. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that "the subject is still being discussed by the two governments but no decision has been taken as yet." No new aircraft supply contracts have been concluded with Washington since the end of last year and the last of the planes under the old contracts have been delivered. Israel is seeking more Phantoms to replace the French-built Mirage jets that were the backbone of its Air Force in the June, 1967 war but which are becoming obsolete. France still maintains its 1967 embargo on aircraft and arms sales to Israel and is still holding 50 Mirages bought and paid for by Israel nearly three years ago. Concern has been voiced in some quarters here that the U.S. may try to take advantage of its position as Israel's only supplier of combat aircraft to exert political pressure to soften Israeli's stand on withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

In Tel Aviv today, an American Jewish leader assured an Israeli audience that "Israel will get all the arms supplies it is asking for, just as in the past." The speaker, Dr. William Wexler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, addressed the Israeli B'nai B'rith Council and spoke of President Nixon's "warm friendship" for Israel. Wexler, who is international president of B'nai B'rith, claimed that of all American presidents, except for Harry Truman, who recognized the Jewish State in 1948, Nixon is the closest to Israel.

## Experts Agree Reopening Suez Would Benefit U.S.

WASHINGTON, July 21 (JTA)--Two former State Department officials today told the House Subcommittee on National Security Policy and Scientific Development that the reopening of the Suez Canal would not be harmful to American interests. William Bundy, Assistant Secretary of State for the Far East from 1964-69, and now a visiting professor at the Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, testified that the reopening of the Suez Canal, in itself, "would not

be adverse to the U.S. national interest." Noting that the trade routes of the Indian Ocean connect East Asia and Europe as well as Africa, South Asia and the Middle East, Bundy said "any interference with them would have significant disruptive effects for several countries." Phillips Talbot, Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East during 1961-65 and currently president of the Asia Society in New York, agreed that U.S. interests would not be harmed by the reopening of the Canal. Talbot noted that the U.S. for years has tried to avoid being completely identified with any one element in the Middle East and therefore losing contact with other elements. He pointed out that this policy has been difficult at times.

Amplifying his remarks to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after his testimony, Talbot said that "sometimes the U.S. was with Israel and sometimes the Soviets are with the Arabs. Sometimes the U.S. is with the Arab Kings and the Russians with the Arab radicals."

### CIA Chief Helms Suggested Israeli Association With NATO, Weekly Reports

PARIS, July 21 (JTA)--"Valeurs Actuelles," a usually well-informed weekly, claimed today that CIA chief Richard Helms suggested during his recent visit to Jerusalem that Israel should be associated in some form with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). According to the magazine, Helms said the U.S. regards Israel as "an alternative" to Cyprus should the latter fall under Soviet influence. The magazine also claimed that the Algerian regime was in direct contact with the Moroccan plotters who tried to overthrow King Hassan II ten days ago. "Valeurs Actuelles" is described as a right-of-center pro-government news magazine.

The newspaper "Le Monde" reported today that fighting has broken out again between the Iraqi Army and the Kurds. According to the paper, a large concentration of Iraqi forces attacked Kurdish strongholds in the Barzan area early this month with artillery and armor. As a result of the renewed fighting, the Kurdish leader, Mullah Mustafa el Barzani called a special council of notables to discuss the crisis and has met with three Kurdish members of the Cabinet sent by President Bakr of Iraq to try to reach an agreement. "Le Monde" said. The paper reported that Iraqi forces continue to occupy the Kurdish area of the country.

### Pompidou Meets With Libyan V.P.

PARIS, July 21 (JTA)--President Georges Pompidou met for an hour today with Vice President Abdel Sallam Jaloud, of Libya. On leaving the Elysee Palace, Jaloud told newsmen that Libya and France are in "complete agreement" on most subjects. Maj. Jaloud has been described as the most outspoken and fanatical member of Libya's ruling military junta. Earlier this week he delivered a tirade against West Germany's friendly ties with Israel while a dinner guest of Foreign Minister Walter Scheel in Bonn. The Libyan assailed Scheel's recent visit to Israel while offering a toast. He warned his host, "Do not forget the huge economic market which the Arab world represents. No West European country can survive without it." He also vowed that "The Arabs will fight till Israel is destroyed even if it takes 20 years." Scheel, contrary to protocol, had to offer a second toast in which he made clear Bonn's position that Western Europe is united in its desire to have friendly relations with both Israel and the Arab world. Jaloud is scheduled to meet here with Defense Minister Michel Debre and Jean de Lipkowsky, the Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

### Knesset Votes Two Measures On Chief Rabbinate

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--The Knesset voted today to pass on to committee two bills dealing with the Chief Rabbinate. One measure provides a six month extension of the expired terms of the present chief rabbi, enabling the incumbents to carry on until Jan. 31, 1972. The second deals with elections of chief rabbis. By a 35-12 vote with ten abstentions, the Knesset rejected a private member's bill aimed at instituting civil marriage in Israel. The bill, introduced by Meir Avizohar of the State List, was supported by his faction, by the Liberals and several members of Mapam. It was opposed by the Labor Alignment, the religious parties, the Free Center and Gahal which assured its defeat. According to Knesset observers, a great many MKs who voted against the bill did so reluctantly and only because of party discipline.

The four hour debate over sending the bills on the chief rabbinate to committee was low keyed but bitter. Sharp criticism was leveled against the Rabbinate and the Government over their handling of the issue and also against the character of the religious status quo in Israel. The bills were opposed by the State List, Haelem Hazeh, the Rakach Communist faction and an independent MK, Shalom Cohen.

### Gaza Strip Families Ready To Quit Camps

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--Israeli sources close to the Military Government said today that Arab families in the Gaza Strip refugee camps are starting to respond to Israeli efforts to get them to move to better quarters. Several families from the Jebaliya camp, a hotbed of crime and terrorist activity, have already transferred to new dwellings in the area. The sources indicated that many more families may be willing to leave the camps for work villages or agricultural settlements. The refugee camp population in the Gaza Strip now numbers 200,000 with Jebaliya, the largest of the camps, containing 42,000.

### Jewish Male Choir Of London May Visit USSR

LONDON, July 21 (JTA)--A Jewish impresario, Victor Hochhauser, said here today that he hoped to arrange a visit to the Soviet Union by the well-known Jewish Male Voice Choir of London. Plans are still tentative, he said, but he has received "an encouraging reply" from the Soviet Ministry of Culture for a tour next year. Hochhauser said he opposed demonstrations against artists because they are "quite useless, counterproductive and positively harmful." He pointed out that many of the Russian musicians who have visited Britain are Jewish and that he had in the past sent British Jewish artists to the USSR. "Music, at least, provides an endeavor where there is some common ground," Hochhauser commented. Asked if all 45 members of the London choir welcomed a Russian tour, the impresario said he assumed they were "in harmony."

### Soviet Supreme Court Rejects Appeal By 9 Jews Convicted In Leningrad

LONDON, July 21 (JTA)--The Supreme Court of the Russian Republic yesterday rejected an appeal for mitigation of the sentences of nine Jews convicted in the second Leningrad trial last May of complicity in an alleged aerial hijack plot. The prisoners were not present in the court to hear the verdict which was given to their lawyers. Apart from their wives, no other relatives or friends were admitted to the hearing. A group of Jews, some of whom had come from Leningrad, waited on the pavement outside the court for the results. Admitted to the courtroom by special pass were several "members of the public." They reportedly shouted to the wives of the convicted men, "Don't you like the sentences? You ought to be shot." The nine Jews were sentenced on May 20 as follows: Gilya Butman, 10 years; Mikhail Korenbliit, seven years; Lassaal Kamitasky and Lev Yagman, each to five years; Vladimir Mogilever, four years; Solomon Preizner, Lev Korenbliit and Victor Boguslavsky, three years each; Viktor Shitlhan, one year. (Jewish sources in New York had reported erroneously Monday that the appeal hearing in Moscow was postponed until July 27.)

### 1,500 Jews And Christians Press MPs For Resolution On Soviet Jews

LONDON, July 21 (JTA)--Deputations of Jews and Christians from all over Britain converged on Parliament yesterday to lobby for a motion now before the House of Commons which would put on record this country's abhorrence of the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. Some 1,500 persons, including Christian ministers, members of the Council of Christians and Jews, human rights leaders and trade union officials met with more than 300 MPs of all parties. Many MPs reportedly promised to write to the Prime Minister asking for his personal intervention with Soviet leaders. The mass lobbying effort was initiated by the Board of Deputies of British Jews and organized by the Association of Jewish ex-Servicemen.

The resolution before the House has been signed to date by 316 MPs, more than half the membership. It "deplores the refusal of the Soviet Government to permit Jews to leave Russia in accordance with recognized human rights; its persecution of those Jews who wish to emigrate to Israel and its refusal to permit Soviet Jews freely to practice their religion and to maintain their culture." The resolution "Calls upon Her Majesty's Government to use its best endeavors to secure and ensure respect" for the human rights of Jews in the USSR. Six members of the Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewish Prisoners gained entry last night to a reception in the Guildhall for visiting members of the American Bar Association. They distributed leaflets pleading the case of Benito Bruchbein, a Moscow Jew arrested by the KGB--Soviet secret police--June 14 after a search of his flat. Members of the committee said afterwards that they had spoken to some of the guests and were promised support.

### Government Pushing Anti-Strike Measures

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--With labor strife mounting in Israel, Labor Minister Joseph Almog yesterday gave a green light by Premier Golda Meir yesterday to push through legislation intended to curb wild-cat strikes. Almog's bill, known as the Workers and Employers Organization Act, would make it illegal to strike in defiance of union authority or of a collective agreement. It would also deny strike status to slow-down and other job actions regarded as a breach of contract. Yitzhak Ben Aharon, secretary general of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, said yesterday that he was prepared to consider Almog's bill in principle. The proposed legislation is under study by Histadrut's trade union department. Another bill proposed by the Labor Minister calling for compulsory arbitration by the government in any labor dispute affecting essential services, has been set aside for the time being.

Mrs. Meir held an informal party for family and close friends at her home here last night. The Premier was celebrating the 50th anniversary of her arrival in Palestine from the United States as an immigrant aboard the American steamship Pochahontas, a World War I German war prize.

### Cologne Prosecutor Investigating Attack On Bundestag Member Accused In Deportations

BONN, July 21 (JTA)--Mrs. Beate Klarsfeld, a Jewish woman who faces trial in Cologne in connection with an alleged attempt to kidnap a former Gestapo official, returned to Cologne voluntarily from Paris yesterday to give information in another case involving World War II Nazi activities. Mrs. Klarsfeld responded to a summons from the State Prosecutor's office investigating an attack by French youths two weeks ago on the office of Ernst Achenbach, a Bundestag member of the Free Democratic Party. Achenbach is alleged to have relayed information from the German administration in Paris to Berlin relating to the deportation of Jews. His resignation has been demanded in some quarters. The prosecutor is trying to ascertain whether Mrs. Klarsfeld was connected with the attack. She is accused of trying to kidnap the former Gestapo chief in Paris, Karl Lischka for the purpose of returning him to France to stand trial as a war criminal.

### New Inflationary Trend In Israel

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--Currency in circulation in Israel increased by nearly 15 percent in the last six months, Treasury sources disclosed. They said the cause was mainly deficit budgeting by the government, which borrowed more than \$350 million from the Bank of Israel during April, May and June. Official circles said there was no alternative to new taxes, which will remove from the economy the inflationary purchasing power put into it. Estimates are that the new taxes will be designed to secure an additional \$175 million-\$255 million per year.

### Youth Aliya Expanding Education Program

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--The Jewish Agency's Youth Aliya Department has announced an expansion project to provide an education in Israel for children of parents in Western countries who cannot immigrate but who "want to save their offspring from assimilation." The project will require additional funds from the Jewish Agency, according to Joseph Klarman, chief of the aliya department, who estimated that some 100,000 Jewish children from the U.S. alone can be expected in Israel for at least one year's studies.

## Rabbi Warns Mixed Marriages Undermine Jewish Continuity

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--Mixed marriages, by which 70 percent of the offspring are lost to the Jewish community, can undermine Jewish continuity, according to Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national director of the Interreligious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee. In a radio talk here he said: "The issue is far from a parochial one. The survival of the Jewish people as an identifiable community transmitting the ideals of the Covenant of Sinai is either of paramount value or of no value. Marriages which result in undermining Jewish continuity are ultimately acts of group suicide--and suicide, either of individuals or of the group, is prohibited by Jewish tradition." How, Rabbi Tanenbaum asked, "can one justify a demand to allow Soviet Jews to perpetrate their religious continuity, when mixed marriages here are resulting in 70 percent of the children being lost to the Jewish community?"

## Lubavitch Students Begin 'Torah Peace Corps' Campaign

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--One hundred senior rabbinical students of the Lubavitcher Yeshiva left New York today on their annual mission of spreading "Torah Judaism" to hundreds of communities across the United States, Canada and Mexico. The mission is part of the Lubavitch summer "peace corps" program now in its 23rd year. Students will also visit communities in Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador. The participants, aged 17-24, volunteer three or four weeks of their vacation to making contact with local Jews. They distribute Lubavitch literature, gather facts on the quality of local Jewish life and offer help in matters of Jewish education or in any personal or communal matter.

## Jewish Journalists Mark Anniversary of Stalin Purge

LONDON, July 21 (JTA)--The Association of Jewish Journalists and Authors of Great Britain met here last night to observe the 20th anniversary of the execution of 23 prominent Jewish poets and writers in the Soviet Union during the Stalin era. The meeting denounced anti-Jewish, anti-Israel resolutions adopted at the recent Congress of Soviet Writers. The Association also urged Soviet authorities to grant exit visas to the widow and son of Poretz Markish, one of the victims of the Stalin purge.

## WIZO Members Support Soviet Jewish Mothers

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--Members of the Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) demonstrated at the International Red Cross offices here in solidarity with the new immigrant mothers from Russia who have been attempting to obtain permits for their children to join them in Israel. A petition was given to the local Red Cross representative for transmission to IRC headquarters in Geneva.

## Brooklyn JCC Urges Boycott Of Japanese Firms

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--The Jewish Community Council of Brooklyn adopted a resolution today urging Americans not to purchase Toyota cars or travel by Japan Air Lines because of those firms' alleged compliance with the Arab boycott of Israel. The resolution made the point that the Nissan Motor Co. of Japan, manufacturer of the Datsun car, has changed its policy toward trade with Israel and was not included in the boycott call. State Supreme Court Justice Abraham J. Multer, Council president, said that JAL had failed to follow through on a 1967 agreement to open discussions on a mutual air agreement with Israel because of the Arab boycott. According to Multer, Toyota denied cooperation with the Arab boycott in 1968 but nevertheless refused to do business with Israel.

## Rabin Enrolled In Labor Party; Entry Into Politics Seen

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--Does Israel's Ambassador to Washington plan to enter politics? That question was being asked here following the announcement that Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin has formally enrolled as a member of the Labor Party in its Tel Aviv branch, the largest in the country. The announcement said that Rabin's application was received recently and was immediately accepted. Observers here said it was significant in view of Rabin's impending return home and his likely appointment to a ministerial post. Rabin was Chief of Staff of Israel's armed forces during the Six-Day War.

## Memorial For Late Dr. Sheba

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--A memorial service for Dr. Chaim Sheba, Israel's first Minister of Health, who died last month, was held by the Manhattan Guild at the American-Israel Culture Foundation. Dr. Sheba was the creator of Tel Hashomer Hospital in Tel Aviv, which was renamed the Chaim Sheba Medical Center last week. Rehavam Amir, Israel's Consul General in New York, spoke of his friendship with Dr. Sheba which began during their army days in Israel's War of Independence in 1948. Other speakers included Dr. Leo Davidoff, an American neuro-surgeon, and Mrs. Annette Nadler, president of the Manhattan Guild, which sponsors the Medical Center's Pediatric Department.

## E.M. Genechowsky, NRP Leader, Dies At 68

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--Funeral services were held at Zichron Meir cemetery in Bnei Brak yesterday for Eliyah Moshe Genechowsky, a former Knesset member of the National Religious Party who died at the age of 68. Genechowsky was born in Poland and lived in Antwerp for many years where he founded the Tachkemoni School. He was also founder of the Hashomer Hadati and Hehalutz Hadati, religious Zionist movements in Poland. He settled in Palestine in 1932 and served in the first and second Knessets.

## Dr. Jacob Steinberg, Co-Founder Of AJCongress, Dead At 84

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Dr. Jacob I. Steinberg, a co-founder of the American Jewish Congress and the Keren Hayesod--Palestine Foundation Fund--who died here at the age of 84 after a long illness. Dr. Steinberg, a former national president of Bnei Zion, the American Zionist fraternal order, was born in Rumania and emigrated to the United States in 1902. He was graduated as a dental surgeon from New York University in 1930.