Show Trial Scheduled For Azernikov; Two Riga Jews Stage Hunger Strike

LONDON, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Boris Azernikov, the 28-year-old Jewish dentist of Leningrad who was arrested Aug. 10 after applying for immigration to Israel, will be subjected to a Russian show trial, according to Jewish sources in Russia. Azernikov, who was detained on attempting to give the authorities the required ovir (affidavit) from abroad, is believed to be the first Soviet Jew to be arrested solely for applying for immigration to Israel. He was charged under Articles 70 and 72 of the code of the Russian Government for the promotion and propagation of the "anti-Soviet" organizations and anti-Soviet activity or membership. He was called as a witness in the Kishinev trial of nine Jews, but his testimony was not used. Russian Jewish sources also reported that three of the Jews convicted in the second Leningrad trial—Solomon (Shlomo) Drezner, Grigory Ilya (Hillel) Butman and Mikhail Korenbil—have been transferred from their labor camp to a Leningrad prison preparatory to their being ordered to testify against Azernikov. But the sources said the three would probably refuse to do so.

On June 15, 1970, a few hours after the alleged Jewish attempt to skyjack a plane from Leningrad to Israel, Azernikov's apartment and office were searched, even though he was in Odessa at the time. He was not arrested, but his fellow vacationer, Lev Naumovich Yagman, was, and was subsequently sentenced in Leningrad to five years for alleged complicity in the reputed plot. Azernikov was later kept in an isolation cell for three days and threatened with punishment ranging from 16 years in prison to death for treason. But the authorities could not link him to the alleged plot, and he was released. But he was watched carefully and questioned constantly by the authorities because he knew many of those arrested and he had Jewish materials in his home. Azernikov testified at both Leningrad trials, both times denying the charges. He was called to Kishinev, but his testimony was not used in that trial, either. He spent 40 days in jail in June, and was arrested Aug. 10, for no apparent reason other than his application and, according to sources, for reprisal for his trial testimony. Sources said Azernikov's arrest pressed another, even harsher anti-Jewish policy by the Soviet authorities.

Meanwhile, two Jews are staging a hunger strike in Riga, Latvia, according to reports. Yerachmiel Trubetsk and Mina Yechielson were reported to have been outside the Ovich since Sunday, in protest against what they call the Ovich's refusal to grant them visas to Israel. In Kharkov, the Ukraino, yesterday, Soviet Jews were assaulted for the second time in recent weeks in the evening newspaper Yechehry Kharkov. The author of both attacks, named Solovoy, singled out Aleksandr Gorbach yesterday as an example of an unworthy Soviet Jew who should be denounced by every Soviet citizen. Gorbach, a 35-year-old engineer, was fined 400 rubles ($444) at his trial last month for alleged participation in unlawful "private undertakings." Gorbach is seeking to go to Israel. There has been no word on the appeal, reportedly scheduled for last Thursday, of Valeriy Kukel, sentenced to three years for alleged anti-Soviet activity.

Bones Of Jews Killed in Babi Yar, Riga Reburied in Israel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA)—A moving ceremony accompanied the reburying this afternoon of bones brought to Israel from Riga last week by three American students and bones from a common grave of Jews in Rumbolt near Riga brought here a few days ago by an elderly Jew. Several hundred people, mainly newcomers from Russia and among them people from Kiev who lost almost their entire families in the Babi Yar massacre in 1941, attended the special funeral officiated by Rabbi Izhak Yedidiah Fried, chief rabbi of the city. The bones were buried in the Nazli Yar Cemetery near the Treblinka memorial, an impressive chimney-like construction from where an eternal smoke rises to commemorate the millions cremated there by the Nazis. Yehoshuah Polanswit, chairman of the Asselet Zion Association (those imprisoned in Russia for Zionist activities) said the Kadish for all those who perished at Babi Yar. People were crying, some women had to be helped so they wouldn't faint. And then it was over. The boxes of those killed in Babi Yar and those killed by the Nazis in Riga in 1941 were symbolically brought to eternal rest in the land of Israel.

The boxes from Rumbolt included a skull with bullet holes in it. Last week, the three students—one Jewish, the other two non-Jewish—on a regular "intourist" tour, decided to drive from Kiev to Levov. On their way they came to Babi Yar where they noticed a group of workmen clearing the land for a new housing project. Watching the construction proceedings they noticed human bones on the ground. They took some of them and returned to the car. Instead of following their original plan to drive to Levov, the students decided to return to Kiev and return to the Babi Yar site the next day. Going deeper in the woods, they found more boxes, including those of children. The students succeeded in smuggling the bones out of the Soviet Union and decided to bring them to Israel for burial. Once in Israel, they handed the boxes over to Rabbi Ptrenkel who, with the consent of the Religious Council, decided on the burial place. Some 100,000 Jews were killed by the Nazis in the woods of Babi Yar during 1941.

McCloskey Does Not Envision Renewal Of Shooting in Mideast This Year

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26 (JTA)—State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said today that he did not anticipate a renewal of the shooting in the Middle East this year, despite the difficulties in reaching even an intermittent cease-fire. Secretary of Defense Rogers has stated that there will be war unless Israel agrees this year to leave all the occupied Arab territories. "The longer it takes to reach an interim settlement," McCloskey said, "the more difficult it will be to reach an over-all settlement, and the possibility for it becomes more and more difficult as time ensues. But we haven't made a judgment that if an agreement is not reached this year there will be an outbreak of fighting. I don't take it to that point." State Department sources said later that failure to achieve an interim agreement would erase all progress to date toward clarification of issues. McCloskey declined comment on criticism by the Israeli Foreign Ministry of his equating Defense Minister Moshe Dayan's
reference to a “permanent” or “established” Israeli regime in the occupied areas with the joint
Egyptian-Libya-Syrian statement vowing no negotiations or peace with Israel. McCloskey had called both

But McCloskey did observe that “on the substance of the matter we did welcome clarifications and
explanations by Minister Dayan after our comment on his statement last week.” McCloskey did not
comment on the conclusion of the two countries’ political consultation in Algiers on Saturday, where
he had issued his clarifications Sunday. Regarding the Arab summit statement, McCloskey said he was
told “underline again as unfortunate the negative aspects of that statement, the more so that it was
issued by the heads of those governments.” He indicated that the Arab communiqué would continue to be
discussed diplomatically by the U.S., probably in Cairo. The State Department representative said that
the visit to Cairo of the U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands, Raymond Middendorf, was just a vacation,
but that Middendorf was not there “insofar as the diplomatic efforts in the Middle East are concerned.”
McCloskey added: “If he did chat with (Deputy Premier Mahmoud) Rifa, he was not assigned to go there
for that purpose.” Egypt broke off formal relations with the U.S. at the time of the 1967 Six-Day War,
but Egyptian-American contacts have continued unofficially.

Hussein Seen Willing To Maintain Cease-Fire Even If Sadat Does Not
JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 (JTA)—King Hussein’s statement yesterday that the cease-fire should be
maintained was interpreted here today by political observers as meaning that Jordan will keep the
cease-fire even if Egyptian President Anwar Sadat orders a renewal of warfare with Israel. Hussein,
during an interview with the Beirut newspaper, Al Nahar, said that an attack on Israel by Arab states
could only lead to a disaster for the Arabs with further loss of territories for them. Political observ-
ors said that Hussein’s statement constituted a threat to Sadat and Hussein may seek a separate inter-
state arrangement with Israel if Arab pressure on him continues. Hussein, in the interview, declared that Arab pressures
on his nation “will neither affect us nor will they make us change our policy,” but “will only increase
the coherence of our ranks and bolster our faith.” This statement was seen here as a response to
boycott threats by other Arab states for Jordan’s massacre of the Palestinian terrorists, Algeria,
Syria and Libya have severed relations with Jordan, and Syria and Iraq have closed their borders with
Jordan and cancelled Jordan’s right to use their airspace. Hussein also declared that he would never
again tolerate the presence of terrorists within Jordan and said that if the other Arab states halted
their pressures “Jordan would be ready to coordinate militarily with the other brothers in the confron-
tation” against Israel. Hussein noted the disaster facing Arab states if they launch a war with Israel
now is due to the fact that they are weak and disorganized.

Prices Still Soaring; Builders Asked To Maintain Pre-Devaluation Prices
TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Prices are still soaring in Israel as people continue to attempt purchas-
ing items which retain pre-devaluation prices. Nevertheless, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, speaking at
the Labor Alignment Economic Committee, noted that the devaluation has created less turmoil than
anticipated. Meanwhile, government price controllers continued to inspect shops and services, finding
in several cases that prices were above the prescribed level. There still remains some confusion
concerning prices of commodities which have not yet been revalued. Constructors and contractors were
asked to maintain the pre-devaluation prices on homes, however, the Contractors Association claimed
that new prices of imported basic materials compels them to demand higher prices accordingly.

Kemp Wants General Assembly To Deal With Emigration Rights Of Soviet Jews
WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Rep. Jack Kemp wants the United Nations General Assembly conven-
ing in New York to call the issue of the emigration rights of Soviet Jews and persons “forcibly detained in any
nation.” The New York Republic reported. Kemp, in a letter to the President and other members of
the House of Representatives Education and Labor Committee, released a statement written by him in
Warsaw in which he wrote that he had requested the U.S. ambassador to the UN, George Bush, to
place the matter on the Assembly’s agenda. If placed, he wrote, “it would be a first” in the Assembly’s
history. In his statement from Warsaw, released in Washington by his office, Kemp said he de-
cided to push for the General Assembly discussion after conferring with leaders of the American Jew-
ish Conference on Soviet Jewry and Bush in New York before his departure abroad. Kemp is a co-
sponsor of the legislation calling on the U.S. government to issue 30,000 special visas to Russian Jews and
is also a co-sponsor of a resolution calling on the Voice of America to broadcast in Yiddish to
Russian Jews. After he completes his visit to Poland and Southeast Asia, Kemp plans to visit Israel
where he expects to talk with Russian emigres and review military and political matters.

15 Black Panthers Brought To Trial; All Plead Not Guilty
JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Fifteen of the Black Panthers, detained after Monday’s demonstra-
tion, were today brought to trial in the Jerusalem Magistrate Court and pleaded not guilty. Five were
remanded in custody and 10 were released on bail. The prosecution is to begin its case next week.
Most prominent Panther leader Reuben Abravall, was today remanded for five days for his part in leading
Monday’s demonstration. Four more Panther members were remanded for five days and three for six
days. The police are still looking for two of the Panther leaders for whom warrants have been issued but
who are still at large; the organization’s chairman, Saadia Marciano, and its secretary, Charlie
Bitton.

Israel To Work On Scientific Projects With African, Latin American Nations
TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Israel is planning a number of joint scientific projects with African
and Latin American nations. This disclosure came from Foreign Minister Abba Eban in his address to
the closing session of the International Conference on Urbanization and Development of Underdeveloped
Countries held at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot. These projects include the establishment of a
Microbiology Institute in Aids Abarana sponsored jointly by the Ethiopla and Jerusalem Universities
and a Biomedical Institute in another African state. In addition, a survey of arid zones will be conduc-
ted by Israelis and Latin American countries, while institutions for regional planning and development
will be established in Brazil by that country and Israel.
JDL, HRA Officials Confer On Problems Of Jewish Poverty

NEW YORK, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Thirty-five members of the Jewish Defense League, including national chairman Rabbi Meir Kahane, arrived unannounced yesterday afternoon at the offices of the city's Human Resources Administration to protest city "indifference to Jewish poverty." HRA officials conferred with a 10-member JDL delegation and agreed to initiate a series of meetings on the problem. The first meeting was to be held next Tuesday. Joseph Aguyao, special assistant to Julius Sugarman, head of the HRA and Commissioner of Social Services, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that although the JDL'sers had arrived unannounced, there was "no disturbance of any kind." He called the meeting with the JDL delegation a "highly productive consideration of valid issues...very, very critical concerns." He said there was "no pressure or anything."

The JDL charged that Jews represent 13 percent of New York's poor but receive less than 2 percent of anti-poverty funds; that 15 of the 26 official anti-poverty areas of the city have "sizeable" Jewish populations but only two have "proper Jewish representation on local community corporation boards," and that some "pockets of Jewish poverty" are denied anti-poverty funds. The JDL rejected "Establishments of Channel Ponzi schemes by groups, and demanded that the HRA, report on the problem be made public. Aguyao told the JTA that he agreed with Rabbi Kahane that the problem existed and that there was no effective anti-poverty money being made available to alleviate it. He said that since the HRA received, documented evidence on the matter from the JDL and the Association of Jewish Anti-Poverty Workers, it would be better able to "make a case again to Washington" for increased funds relieving the plight of the poor.

Aguyao added that Sugarman is continuing to decline comment for now on the Aug. 18 charge by S. Elly Rosen, director of the Association of Jewish Anti-Poverty Workers, that Sugarman was "destroying our neighborhoods" by "dumping multiple fatherless families" there and leaving the areas ripe for block-bust, unsuccessful landlords who seek to make profits on the black neighborhoods. Rosen's charge was made while Sugarman was on vacation, but the HRA chief has since returned here. Last night, Rabbi Kahane announced the JDL's intention to arm residents of the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn, launch a fleet of radio car patrols and post armed sentries in stores to prevent further acts of violence against the residents. He said that while the JDL was interested chiefly in protecting Jews, "we will make these patrols inter-racial, because there are Negro residents of this neighborhood who suffer from hoodlumism too." He spoke after inspecting the home of Beno Spleiwek, a 60-year-old candy store owner who was shot to death last Friday by two gangmen who were angered because he had no apple pie. The victim's wife, Helen, 49, who was critically wounded, has identified the gunmen as two black youths.

Hadassah Delegates Fast For Soviet Jewry; Call Emigration Rights Top Priority Issue

CLEVELAND, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Over 2,000 Hadassah delegates who have been meeting here in a four-day national convention, began their final day today without breakfast. A fast in behalf of Soviet Jewry replaced breakfast. Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, conducted the prayer service, and a display of the food served Soviet Jewish prisoners of conscience in the "Strict Regime" prison camps, where they are incarcerated, was displayed. Mrs. Max Matzkin, Hadassah Zionist Affairs chairman, presented a resolution on Soviet Jewry stating that "Hadassah considers the freedom of Soviet Jews to live as Jews at home or to emigrate to Israel a priority item on the Zionist agenda." Rabbi Miller said that "Women have played an outstanding role in the continuing campaign by Soviet Jews within their Jewish identity and rights. The heroic names of the imprisoned Ruth Aleksandrovich, Ratza Paliatnik and Sylva Zalmanon Kuznetsov are an inspiration to the thousands of Russian Jews who have become the major force in determining their own fate. The ten nameless Jewish women who demonstrated recently at the entrance of the Moscow Film Festival added their voices to the 10,000 who were inscribed on letters and petitions requesting visas for emigration to Israel. This is a truly Jewish Fim Lib movement to which we all subscribe. It marks the changing relationship of the Soviet Jews to their Jewishness and the best hope for their survival and the achievement of their goals."

Prisoners in "strict regime" camps are given no sugar or fats and are not allowed to receive food parcels from the outside. The diet totals about 1,200 calories—half the daily requirement for a person at active labor—and is particularly low in fat and Vitamin A. Dr. Mary C. McLaughlin, New York City's Health Commissioner, whose agency did an analysis of the diet, has charged that "the severe nutritional restrictions!" in the Soviet Strict Regime prison camps "exact a heavy toll on the prisoners, leaving them open to skin and lung infections, muscle waste and mental breakdown." She added that "A health maintenance diet for a person at active labor, nine hours a day, in a cold climate, would require 2,800 calories." Dr. Arnold Bender, noted English nutritionist at the University of London Medical School, likened this diet to that provided in Nazi concentration camps during World War II. "The purpose of such a diet is the same," he said, "to weaken the mental and physical health of the inmate as to destroy their will to live. This strict regime diet is, beyond a doubt, a deliberate attempt to slow death through starvation."

The Hadassah convention resolved that the conference will call upon its members to: engage in every appropriate action to influence the Soviet government to grant to its Jewish citizens the same rights with respect to their religion and cultural life as are accorded to other Soviet nationalities and religious groups; free the Jewish Prisoners of Conscience; stop the illegal arrests; and grant exit permits to the Jews who wish to go to Israel.

JNF Marks 70th Anniversary; Pincus, Tsur Say JNF Must Retain Land

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 (JTA)—The official medal marking the 70th anniversary of the Jewish National Fund was pinned on Premier Golda Meir's dress tonight by JNF chairman Jacob Tsur. The occasion was an audio-visual "Voice of the Land" ceremony last presented by the JNF 24 years ago on Mt. Scopus. Mrs. Meir was the main speaker, as she was in 1947 when she was acting head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department. Her theme was that Israel must be strong and steadfast in facing the challenge of survival: "In separate comments, Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and Tsur, responding to recent suggestions that the JNF sell its land to the State of Israel instead of leasing it to tenants, said the JNF must retain ownership of its land because the State also serves non-Jews."
Haddassah To Raise $1,250 Million Over Last Year's Quota; 5,000 New Members

CLEVELAND, Aug. 25 (JTA)—During a period of economic recession and when the membership of many women's organizations in falling off, Haddassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, has pledged to raise more than $1,250,000 over last year's quota, and announced 5,000 new members, raising the membership figure to 326,000. This was announced here at the final session of the national convention. Mrs. Max Schenck, national president who was re-elected for her fourth term, released the 1971-72 quota of $1,267,355. Mrs. Nathan D. Perlman, treasurer, explained how the quotas are allocated for Haddassah health, educational, rehabilitation, and land reclamation services as follows: In Israel, the Haddassah Medical Organization, which operates the Haddassah Hebrew University Medical Center, $7,000,000; Youth Aliyah, which operates 287 children's villages and day centers caring for 12,000 children annually, $5,100,000; Haddassah-Israel Education Services which include the community college and Comprehensive Coeducational High School in Jerusalem, $2,000,000; Activities for Young Judea and Israel Work-Study Programs, $200,000; Jewish National Fund, land reclamation, $700,000; and Haddassah Women's Zionist Organization of America in the United States, $2,517,355.

Mrs. Perlman explained that this money is raised entirely by volunteers in about 1,400 chapters and through wills, bequests, and other large gifts and grants from foundations and the government. Last year, Haddassah received $4,65 million in United States aid funds from the federal government. Haddassah has no professional fund-raisers, and 96% of every dollar raised goes directly to services, she stated. Mrs. Israel Udan, membership chairman, announced an unprecedented increase in membership from 320,000 in 1970 to 325,000 in 1971. She credited two major factors for this marked increase: the need to support Israel's domestic service in which Haddassah plays a major role; and the growing sense of Jewish identity among American Jewish women. Mrs. Schenck also announced the appointment of Aline Kaplan of New York as executive director of Haddassah. Miss Kaplan succeeds Hannah Goldberg, who has been executive director since 1963, and now has been appointed special assistant to the president. The change becomes effective on September 1.

Six JDL Members, Including Kahane, Go On Trial For Violating D.C. Law

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 (JTA)—Rabbi Meir Kahane and five other members of the Jewish Defense League of the New York City area went on trial today in Superior Court of the District of Columbia for congregating on June 25 within 500 feet of the Soviet Embassy, in violation of a district law. The other defendants are Michael Dov-Bleich, 18, a student at Yeshiva Torah V'ores; Brooklyn; Tuvia L. Finkel, 20, a student at Kingborough Community College, Brooklyn; Kenneth J. Gomlick of Flushing, N.Y.; and Gene Kleinheider, 18, a student at New York University. A similar charge against Joseph Rosen of New York was dropped because the arresting officer is no longer a member of the Washington police force. The defendant is being tried before Chief Judge Harold Greene of the District's Superior Court. The defendants are represented by Nathan Lewin and Martin Sterenbuck of Washington. Lewin pointed out that the statute under which the defendants are being prosecuted was enacted in 1938 after protests were staged in front of the German Embassy, when Germany was under the Nazi regime. All the defendants are presently free on personal bond. Commenting on the charge, Rabbi Kahane told JTA, "We are charged with putting the Soviet government into public odium. We cannot put them in public odium since they are already in public odium by their treatment of Jews."

New Yiddish Repertory Theatre To Be Launched In Nov.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25 (JTA)—A new Yiddish Repertory Theatre will be inaugurated in November by Ben Bonus at the Anderson Theatre on Second Avenue. Bonus, a producer and actor of classical and folk Yiddish theatre in this country and abroad, is lining up a group of talented actors to join him in his new repertory. Bonus, who appears on Broadway, Hollywood and TV, Mina Bern, Raisel Bozyk, Smulik Goldstein, Bernard Bauer and Eli Rubinstein. Bonus will create his Yiddish Art and Repertory Theatre in the tradition of the Yiddish Art and Repertory Theatres that have historically flourished in New York City, which were established by such outstanding performer-impressarios as Jacob P. Adler, Rudolph Schildkraut and Maurice Schwartz. Bonus said his aim and purpose is to present classical Yiddish works which have consistently appealed to a theatre-going audience. The plays will be updated and presented with music. The goal to present at least three shows a season in New York, and in addition, to tour them for several months in all major cities of this country was projected by Bonus. A further aim in presenting these works now is to give a new generation of theatre-goers the opportunity and pleasure of viewing these fine works of the theatre. All plays will be presented in Yiddish, with English narrative.

Haffkine Memorial Plaque Unveiled in Bombay By India's President

BOMBAY, Aug. 25 (JTA)—A memorial plaque for the late Dr. Waldemar Mordecai Haffkine was unveiled at the Grant Medical College here by Indian President Shri Girl. A large and distinguished gathering attended the ceremony. Dr. Haffkine, a native of Odessa, was educated in France. He later came to India and discovered vaccines to combat cholera and the Plague. The Indian College has commemorated him out of gratitude for the countless lives his vaccines have saved. In addition to the Indian President, the ceremony was addressed by Shri Shettim Samuel, chairman of the Indian Committee for the Haffkine Memorial, and by an American, Mrs. Edythe Lutskor, the late doctor's biographer. Dr. Haffkine was born in Odessa, Russia in 1860 and died in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1930. The International and Indian Committees for the Haffkine Memorial were established last year on the 40th anniversary of the doctor's death.

Amman Radio Says West Bank Mayor's Meeting Organized By Israel, Terrorists

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 (JTA)—The Jordanian radio last night sharply criticized the meeting of West Bank mayors held last week at Beit Sahur near Bethlehem to discuss West Bank economic problems. After several days of silence on the subject, an Amman radio commentator described the meeting as having been organized by "Israel and the Palestinian terrorist groups." He added that both are interested in forming a Palestinian state on the West Bank. Israel, he commented, is interested in a puppet regime so that later she can negotiate with it the refugee question. The terrorists, he continued, want a state on the West Bank after having failed in their attempt to take over the East Bank, that is, Jordan itself.