



daily news bulletin

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11 KILLED, 46 INJURED IN BUS ACCIDENT One Of The Most Serious in Years

TEL AVIV, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Eleven people were killed and 46 injured last night when an Egged bus traveling from Beersheba to Tel Aviv collided head on with a bus going from Tel Aviv to Gaza on a narrow road near Kibbutz Saad. It was one of the most serious road accidents in Israel in recent years. Both buses were badly damaged. Forty-nine secondary school children were in the bus traveling to Gaza. They were returning from a visit to Tel Aviv, Haifa and Nathanya.

Ambulances and military medical men in the area rushed to the scene and within a short time the injured were taken to Ashkelon Hospital, from where they were flown by helicopters to other hospitals in Israel. Following the accident, Zevulun Hammer, a member of the Knesset from the National Religious Party, asked that a special session of the Knesset be convened to discuss the "highways mortality."

Catholic Theologian Asserts: NO THEOLOGICAL GROUNDS FOR CHRISTIANS TO OPPOSE ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER JERUSALEM OR STATE OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--A German scholar described as the world's leading Catholic theologian has expressed the opinion that there are no theological grounds for Christians to oppose either Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem or the State of Israel itself. The views of Father Karl Rahner, now Professor Emeritus in the theological school of Munich University, are contained in a statement to be published next week in Sh'ma, an independent Jewish publication edited by Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz, a leading Reform scholar. Father Rahner's leading status as a theologian was cited by an official of Herder and Herder, the leading Catholic publishing house, which publishes his writings.

Father Rahner expressed his views in response to an inquiry from Rabbi Borowitz, who is a member of the faculty of the Jewish Institute of Religion, the New York branch of the American Reform Seminary. In a statement explaining the source of the Catholic theologian's comment, Rabbi Borowitz noted that there was a possibility that the status of Jerusalem might come up for debate again at the United Nations General Assembly which opens its fall session on Sept. 21.

Asserting that the Papacy had "intensified" renewed debate, Rabbi Borowitz noted that last May, the official Vatican publication, *Osservatore Romano*, referred to the "Judaization of Jerusalem at the expense of the non-Jewish population," and that last June, Pope Paul VI spoke to the College of Cardinals about Jerusalem's "mysterious destiny" and called for internationalization of the city. Rabbi Borowitz reported he wrote to Father Rahner in an effort to "clear up" the issue of whether control of Old Jerusalem was "a theological problem for contemporary Roman Catholics," specifically whether "the old notions about Jerusalem were to be found in modern Catholic literature and, more important, what his teaching on this topic was."

Christians Accepted Mohammedan Rule

In his reply, the Catholic scholar wrote that

"I cannot see that the return of Jerusalem to Israel constitutes a real theological problem for a Christian, such that matters of faith would compel him to oppose the return." He noted that after the Crusades, "Christians accepted the domination by Mohammedan peoples and states as a fact, without being prompted by their faith to undo that fact." He said "I therefore do not accept the notion that Christians ought to oppose on grounds of faith, the Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem, especially since Christians are well aware of the ties by which the people of the New Covenant are spiritually connected to the Tribe of Abraham."

Father Rahner added that Christian "dogmatic reasons would be grounds for opposing this sovereignty only if there were a decisive objection on theological grounds to the very existence of a Jewish state." He said "I am not aware of such objections or of such a theological problem that Christians have intensively considered in theological terms."

The theologian wrote that he did not know what had prompted the Pontiff to support the internationalization of Jerusalem but suggested that one possible reason was "the desire for a peaceful compromise between Israel and the Arab states and the opinion that the 'holy places' of Christianity would best be safeguarded in this manner." He suggested that there might be differences "about the weightiness of these reasons" but that in any case, they do not in my opinion comprise a real theological problem."

FATHER OF LENINGRAD DEFENDANT SERIOUSLY ILL AFTER BEATING

LONDON, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Abraham Mendelovich of Riga, the elderly father of Yosif Mendelovich, one of the defendants in the first Leningrad trial, is seriously ill in a Riga hospital as a result of the recent attack on him. Jewish sources here reported today.

There have been differing reports on the site and details of the assault on the elderly Jew. The report today gave this version: Mendelovich was walking with his wife when he was attacked by a neighbor, a Latvian named Paitschevsky, who struck the elderly Jew repeatedly with an iron bar, while screaming "I'll teach you where your fatherland is but you will die here." Earlier reports stated Mendelovich was attacked in his apartment. The assailant was arrested but immediately released. Only after repeated protests to police was the assailant rearrested and is now in custody.

Jewish sources also reported that a hearing by the Supreme Court of the Russian Soviet Republic on an appeal by Valeriy Kukul, a 33-year-old Sverdlovsk engineer, sentenced to a three-year prison term for alleged slander against the Soviet Union, has been postponed again apparently indefinitely. The hearing opened Tuesday but was postponed until today because the chief prosecutor was ill. Kukul, who had publicly proclaimed Israel as his fatherland and demanded permission to emigrate, was arrested last March and tried and sentenced last June 15.

CUSTOMS OFFICIALS END STRIKE AT LYDDA

TEL AVIV, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Customs officials

at Lydda Airport returned to their jobs today after a Tel Aviv district court ordered them yesterday to return to work under penalty of prison terms. The order marked the first time in the history of Israel that a court intervened in a labor dispute. Copies of the court order were delivered by messengers on scooters to the 135 customs inspectors at the airport who held a hurried meeting and decided to resume work.

It was noted that the back-to-work order was issued only against customs officials at the airport and not against similar inspectors at the Ashdod port, where the continued walkout has brought a paralysis of the harbor. Ships scheduled to load or unload are being diverted to Haifa. The Lydda inspectors have a contract which does not terminate until next April.

In a related development, a spokesman for 400 Israeli civil servants working for the military government in Judea and Samaria in the occupied West Bank said they would all quit their jobs and return to positions from which they are on loan to the West Bank military command if more military trials are held of strikers. The spokesman, Yisrael Lippel, made the announcement after an emergency meeting last night of the civil servants held in the headquarters of the Histadrut in Jerusalem.

The issue developed when the military command refused to rescind suspended sentences against 26 customs officials among the civil servants who had struck in sympathy with their colleagues at Lydda Airport and Ashdod. The 26 strikers returned to work when they were threatened with implementation of sentences previously suspended. A demand was approved at the meeting, supported by the other customs inspectors, that the sentences be dropped entirely and that such civil servants should not be subject to military law.

SCHROEDER OPPOSES MILITARY ARMS TO ISRAEL FROM WEST GERMANY Limit Relations Between Two Nations

TEL AVIV, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Gerhard Schroeder, chairman of the West German Bundestag Foreign Affairs Committee and former Minister of Defense, said here last night that his country should not supply military equipment to Israel. Schroeder told a press conference that he favored continuing close relations between West Germany and Israel but would prefer to see them limited to economic and cultural matters. "Israel should seek military aid from countries less involved with their past," he said, adding that the issue was very delicate. The West German diplomat is visiting Israel at the government's invitation. The invitation brought protests from various groups because of Schroeder's past membership in the Nazi Party and the SA (Storm-troopers).

A Haifa student, Gideon Spiro, demanded that Schroeder be detained for trial in Israel as a Nazi war criminal. Israel's Attorney General Meir Shamgar refused to act on this demand. Asked by newsmen about the charges against him, Schroeder said, "I did not come to Israel to discuss my biography. There is nothing in my past activity--public or personal--that could prevent me from accepting the invitation of the Israeli government to visit Israel." Schroeder has been accused of refusing to send gas masks to Israel during the tense period prior to the 1967 Six-Day War. He was then Defense Minister. Schroeder explained last night that gas masks were in short supply in the West German Army at the time, but said he had not objected to taking them from the civil defense network to send to Israel.

DENY GEN. YARIV MET WITH LAIRD

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 (JTA)--The Department

of Defense has denied that Gen. Ahron Yariv, Chief of Israel's Military Intelligence, met with Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird here two weeks ago. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Jerry Friedhelm told newsmen yesterday that Yariv conferred with intelligence officials and others at the Pentagon but not with Laird.

Friedhelm spoke in response to newsmen's questions following a report in yesterday's Washington Post by columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak that when Yariv "conferred privately" with Laird, "two weeks ago in the Pentagon, Laird was firm against more Phantoms" for Israel. Friedhelm would not give details of Yariv's discussions and would not answer newsmen's questions on Laird's attitude toward further shipments of Phantom jet fighter-bombers to Israel.

State Department sources confirmed Friedhelm's denial. The Israeli Embassy told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Ariv was in the United States to address the Hadassah convention in Cleveland. The Evans-Novak column, entitled "Nixon's 'No' To Israel" also said that the President "is simply not interested in maintaining Israel forever as the most powerful country in the Middle East at the cost of losing all U.S. bargaining power with Egypt." This was deprecated by a State Department source close to the Middle East situation.

UNLIKELY BORMANN WAS SOVIET AGENT

BRUSSELS, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Roger Gheusens, a Belgian expert on World War II, expressed skepticism today about reports that Martin Bormann, Hitler's deputy, had been a Soviet agent. That theory was offered by Reinhard Gehlen, a former Nazi general who reportedly defected to U.S. intelligence near the end of the war. The theory is contained in Gehlen's memoirs, due to be published shortly. Gheusens made public some of its contents. Gheusens, co-author of a book, "Great Spies of Our Times," wrote in an article in the newspaper Le Soir, that the theory was "highly unlikely."

He stressed that Bormann had applied "in the most implacable way," Hitler's orders for a scorched earth policy in the East and particularly in Russia, a policy which included the massacre of civilians and war prisoners. Stories that Bormann survived the final Russian attack on Hitler's bunker in Berlin and fled to South America have surfaced repeatedly since the end of the war. Gehlen wrote that Bormann died in 1969. Bormann is presumed to be living in Paraguay.

SYRIAN SOLDIERS CROSS INTO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Officials reported today that Syrian soldiers staged two infiltrations into the Golan Heights this morning. One group of 10 soldiers, spotted west of the cease-fire line in the southern section of the Heights, opened small arms fire at Israeli troops. The fire was returned and the invading soldiers retreated across the border into Syria. Later, a Syrian soldier was seen on the Israeli side of the line and Israelis fired at him. The two incursions were the first by Syrian military units in a long time although some shells were fired across the line last week. These, however, the officials said, might have been from Arab terrorists. Later an Israeli patrol on the northern sector of the Heights found two anti-vehicle mines and an explosives charge on a road. The mines and explosives were defused. There were no Israeli casualties in any of the incidents. Yesterday, terrorists planning to sabotage a telephone pylon near Hebron were killed by their explosives, officials reported.

EBAN DEFENDS ISRAEL'S FOREIGN AID PROGRAM TO UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban defended last night Israel's foreign aid program in underdeveloped countries and said it should continue even in countries that voted against Israel at the United Nations and other international bodies. Addressing a conference of government officials and company directors involved in aid programs to some 70 countries, Eban said Israel was involved in aid, trade and commercial activities in developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Mediterranean Europe.

He said that more than \$10 million is spent yearly on foreign aid but every dollar spent generates six more dollars so that the impact of Israel's aid is far larger than the sum suggests. Eban said that apart from the economic and humanitarian aspects of the aid program, Israel was trying to offset the adverse balance at the UN. Israel has established her own network of bilateral ties while the Arabs have failed to make any significant dent in Israel's presence in Africa, even after the Six-Day War, Eban said. He expressed surprise that the aid program should still need to be defended in Israel. It was attacked by the opposition Gahal faction just before the Knesset's summer recess. Critics called the program a waste of effort.

There was criticism at last night's meeting by those who favor foreign aid in principle but contend it is not being implemented properly. Critics said there is no real follow-up once a project is completed. Another point was that Israel's aid program was spread too thin in a vain effort to be everywhere at once. It was reported at the meeting that 600 governmental and 400 private experts were engaged in projects in 70 countries last year. At the same time, 1,600 trainees from about 90 countries were taking courses in Israel.

HARD FOR MOSCOW JEWS TO GET VISAS

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Vladimir Slepak, a Soviet Jewish activist who has been trying for several years to get permission to leave the Soviet Union, told a radio audience here last night, via a telephone call from Moscow, that it is now very difficult for Moscow Jews to get exit visas. He said only one or two visas are granted each month to Muscovite Jews, though many want to emigrate. The call was initiated by Slepak's friend, Avraham Shifrin, a 47-year-old wood sculptor who left Russia for Israel a year ago. Shifrin was a guest on "The Bernie Herman Show," broadcast over WCAU-AM.

During the program, the 37-year-old Slepak, who speaks English, said he was glad to hear from Shifrin and that each call, each letter and each postcard "helps us to leave and to be strong." When Shifman asked about his own 24-year-old daughter, Larisa, who was not allowed to leave Russia with him and is still in Moscow, Slepak said she is waiting for permission to emigrate. Slepak also said that Sylvia Zalmanson Kuznetsov, now serving a 10-year prison sentence, is very sick.

Slepak did, however, have some good news. He said that another prominent Jewish activist, Alexander Patlach, a 35-year-old dentist, has been granted permission to leave for Israel with his family. Shifman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he believes that Patlach, who has been trying to get a visa for more than five years, was finally granted one because he has been very active recently, openly criticizing the government and communicating with people abroad. Shifman said there is speculation that Soviet authorities have refused to give Slepak, an engineer and former physicist, a visa because he used to work on secret government sci-

Shifman, who had been a lawyer, was arrested for Zionist activities during the early 1950's and was sentenced to death. The sentence was commuted to 25 years in prison and he was released in 1963 after serving 10 years. He was prohibited from practicing law after his release. He developed gangrene in his right leg while in a damp prison camp and it had to be amputated. He is visiting the United States on behalf of Maoz (Fortress), an Israeli organization of recently arrived Soviet emigrants. Shifman's appearance on the radio program was arranged by the Philadelphia Council for Soviet Jewry.

PFLP SAYS NO COMPROMISE WITH JORDAN

LONDON, Sept. 9 (JTA)--The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, an extremist terrorist group, has denounced a declaration of other guerrilla groups to attend a conference in Saudi Arabia called in still another effort to end Jordan's crackdown on guerrillas operating from Jordanian territory. It was reported here today from Beirut. PFLP representatives said at a news conference in Beirut that the group would not be bound by any agreement emerging from the meeting this week in Jidda and denounced as "cowardly" the decision of the other guerrilla leaders to attend.

Ten of the 13 members of the Palestine Liberation Organization executive committee approved participation in the talks. The two PFLP representatives walked out of the meeting. They said the goal of the guerrilla movement in Jordan should be to topple King Hussein, not to negotiate with him on terrorist demands for bases and freedom of movement.

SEVEN JDL'ERS CHARGED WITH BOMB PLOT

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Seven Jewish Defense League members were arrested and indicted yesterday on charges of conspiring to bomb the offices of the Soviet export-import agency, Amtorg Trading Corporation, on April 2. Two of the defendants were also charged with attempting to bomb on June 12 the Soviet Mission's estate in Glen Cove, Long Island. Police found the bomb on the estate before it could go off but a bomb damaged the office of the Soviet trade agency.

Six of the defendants were taken into custody by agents of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Treasury Department and by city policemen. The seventh defendant, Avraham Hershkowitz, is currently serving a five-year term in the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. on charges in connection with an alleged attempt to hijack an airplane last Sept. Five of the defendants were released in \$10,000 personal bond after posting 10 percent of that amount. The sixth defendant was released on his own recognizance.

JEWISH STUDENTS PROTEST NYU POLICY

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Jewish students at New York University announced an escalation of tactics after several unsuccessful attempts to convince the school's administration to close the university for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Robert Ratner, a spokesman for Bnei Israel, the group leading the struggle, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that pleas to the administration officials and alumni have brought no change in school plans to hold classes those days. The escalation will be in the form of a demonstration Saturday. Ratner said he expects at least 50 students to picket the opening of freshmen orientation on the Uptown campus. The group also plans to give the students and parents attending the convocation leaflets explaining the lack of consideration the school shows its Jewish students by holding High Holiday school sessions.

**SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL, AJCONGRESS
URGE END OF DEATH PENALTY**
File Brief With Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress and the Synagogue Council of America, which represents the country's major Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbinical and congregational bodies, today asked the Supreme Court to abolish the death penalty as a violation of the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against "cruel and unusual punishment." In a friend-of-the-court brief, the Jewish organizations said their opposition to the death penalty was based "on the demands of contemporary American democratic standards" and was also rooted "in ancient Jewish tradition."

They cited Talmudic sources to show that as a practical matter, conviction in a capital case was "virtually impossible" under Jewish law. The law brief is addressed to four capital punishment cases which the Supreme Court will hear in its October term. Two of the four cases deal with imposition of the death penalty for nonhomicidal rape. The other two involve capital punishment imposed for murder. The Jewish groups urged the court to rule the death penalty unconstitutional in cases of nonhomicidal rape even if the justices were unwilling to declare it a disproportionate punishment for murder.

The brief amicus, filed today, was written by Leo Pfeffer, special counsel of the AJCongress. The two organizations noted that their brief was "not addressed to international crimes such as genocide." In arguing against the constitutionality of the death penalty, the two organizations asserted that the Supreme Court "can and should determine whether any form of executing the death penalty is consistent with our present standards of civilization and humaneness." The Jewish groups also asserted that there is considerable scholarly opinion concluding that the death penalty has no more deterrent force than life or long-time imprisonment and that its imposition may even be more cruel than if it were an effective deterrent.

**DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN TO PRESENT
\$75,000 RELIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
Marks 75th Birthday By Giving

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Dr. Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun and former world chairman of Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, will mark his 75th birthday by presenting a gift instead of receiving one. His birthday gift to the congregation which he served as rabbi for 42 years from 1918 to 1960, will be a \$75,000 Religious Scholarship Fund which he personally raised among congregants and friends. The fund will provide 100 free scholarships annually in the B'nai Jeshurun afternoon religious school. The congregation will rededicate the six-story Community Center adjoining the synagogue.

A religious service honoring Dr. Goldstein will be held in the synagogue on Saturday morning, September 26 and will be followed by a small reception. At that time, Dr. Goldstein will present the Scholarship Fund to Rabbi William Berkowitz, his successor in the pulpit, and to Charles H. Silver, congregation president. Dr. Goldstein's career, spanning a period of 53 years, has encompassed a broad spectrum of activities, including the presidency of the major Jewish organizations in the United States, both of a religious and secular nature. As a committed Zionist, who played an influential role in the establishment of the State of Israel, he has made his home in Jerusalem since his retirement from the congregation at the end of 1960.

For the past decade, he has served as world Chairman of Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, based in Jerusalem. He resigned from this post last June to devote himself to Torah - study and writing. He plans to write several books which were started and temporarily laid aside, dealing with aspects of Jewish life with which he has been associated. His 75th birthday has brought Dr. Goldstein two honors - a Doctorate in Hebrew Letters from Dropsie University in Philadelphia, his native city, and a Doctorate in Philosophy from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, his adopted city. He is the founder of Brandeis University and received an honorary degree from that institution. His book, "A Century of Judaism in New York" is considered a basic research text on American Jewry from 1825 to 1925.

UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM PLANNED

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--A unique educational program involving American adults as students and Israeli scholars as teachers will start in New York City on Oct. 6. It will subsequently spread to seven other cities across the United States, and conclude two years from now in Israel. Titled the America-Israel Education Program in Contemporary Jewish Civilization, it is co-sponsored by the American Jewish Committee and the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Participating groups are being organized by AJCommittee chapters in Hartford, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Dallas, Los Angeles, Essex County (New Jersey), and in New York.

The two-year course consists of a series of lectures and seminars based on four books that cover the development of the Jewish people and Jewish philosophical thought from the post-Holocaust period of the 1940's to the present day. The books are: "Flight and Rescue: Eriqah" by Yehuda Bauer; "Israelis and Jews: The Continuity of an Identity" by Simon Herman; "An Introduction to Contemporary Jewish Thought" by Nathan Rotenstreich; and "Metamorphosis of the Jewish People" by Moshe Davis.

Each of the authors, all of them members of the faculty of Hebrew University, will visit the United States at some time during the next two years to launch discussions of his book in each of the communities participating in the program. Each group will then spend four to six sessions discussing the book with the help of a trained group leader. The four scholars will also hold seminars and study tours in Israel during the summers of 1972 and 1973 for members of the participating groups throughout the United States who wish to pursue the study of Judaism, historical and contemporary, in the Jewish state.

The America-Israel Education Program in Contemporary Jewish Civilization was developed by AJCommittee's department of Jewish Communal Affairs under the direction of Yehuda Rosenman. "This program represents in concrete terms an integration of several areas of AJC interest," Rosenman explained. "It provides opportunities for meaningful education of our members on the subject of contemporary Jewish thought and Jewish life. It is an expression of our general interest in Israel. And finally, it is in line with our belief that specific cultural exchange between American Jews and Israeli Jews will benefit both groups."

AWARD TO ISAAC STERN

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 (JTA)--Isaac Stern, the world celebrated violinist, will be honored by the America-Israel Culture Foundation at its annual dinner Dec. 15. Stern will be the 1971 recipient of the King Solomon Award.