



daily news bulletin

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Thursday, March 8, 1972

No. 48

WAR FEVER GENERATED BY EGYPTIAN NEWS MEDIA; CRACKDOWN ON PEACE GROUPS

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--The war fever being generated by Egyptian news media is believed here to be the result of new political ferment in Cairo involving moderates and hard-liners and growing public disquiet over the magnitude of the Soviet presence in Egypt. The latter stems from the recent revelation that the Russians have established a vast intelligence network in the country.

In addition, there is strong, mainly adverse, reaction to a signed article by Mohammed Hassanein Heikal, editor of Al Ahram, urging Egypt to seek a political rather than a military solution to its conflict with Israel at this time. The Heikal article appeared last Friday and other newspapers and broadcast commentators rushed to dissociate themselves from it. The confusing element is that Heikal, a close confidant of President Anwar Sadat, often reflects government views in his weekly column in Al Ahram.

Premier Aziz Sidky was quoted by Cairo radio last night as saying that Egypt was fully prepared for an immediate battle with Israel. Radio commentators insisted that there was no alternative to liberating Egypt's lost territories by force and claimed that there was no chance now to revive the peace mission of United Nations special envoy Gunnar V. Jarring.

According to press reports from Beirut, Egyptian authorities are cracking down on political elements who have called for a peace dialogue with Israel. Ahmed Hamroush, editor of the weekly, Rose el Yousef, was reportedly fired for expressing such views and replaced by a hard-liner, Ahmed Sharkawi. Sadat meanwhile left today for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. El Fatah leader Yassir Arafat arrived in Cairo from Damascus reportedly to coordinate guerrilla strategy in the aftermath of Israeli raids on terrorist bases in southern Lebanon.

SPECIAL TO JTA

STRUGGLE BETWEEN SEPHARDIM, ASHKENAZIM IN MADRID THREATENS TO SPLIT COMMUNITY

MADRID, March 8 (JTA)--The small Jewish community in Madrid--about 2,000 in a population of over 1.5 million--has rarely been a source of news. This week, the Jews in the Spanish capital let it be known that they were alive and kicking--each other. For years the community has been trying to get itself officially recognized by the Spanish authorities. Its chances were seriously jeopardized, however, by a serious internal dispute which threatens to split the community into two bodies, one Sephardic (Oriental) and the other Ashkenazic (European Jews).

The Sephardim, who number 1,500 against 500 Ashkenazic Jews, hold 75 percent of the seats in the Jewish Community Council. The Ashkenazim, led by former community president Max Mazin, want the by-laws changed to allow the election of a president by the council alone instead of by the entire community as is the current practice.

The issue led to a bitter confrontation at this week's Community Council meeting. Sam Ben Sadon-Laredo, the Sephardic incumbent, refused Mazin official status at the meeting on grounds that he was more than three months behind in his dues. In the ensuing shouting, the 60-man Ashkenazic contingent

walked out. Madrid's rabbi, Benito Garzon, is attempting to get the two sides to reach a compromise, so far without success.

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Rabbi Maurice Lamm, an official of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the Jewish Welfare Board, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that according to Maj. Gen. Will Hyatt, chief of chaplains of the United States Army, there was no information on the number of Jewish POWs, if any, held by Hanoi. Rabbi Lamm said Hyatt had advised him that the Army knows of the "desire and interest" of chaplains of all faiths to visit the POWs, but that no progress on the issue has been made with the North Vietnamese.

Hyatt added, Rabbi Lamm reported, that "all possible resources" to aid prisoners will be "immediately available" once a breakthrough is reached. Rabbi Lamm told the JTA: "No action has been taken (by the Jewish chaplains); no action has been requested (by Washington). The attempt has not been made. There's been no breakthrough, to our knowledge." The Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy is government-sponsored.

Rabbi Wolfe Kelman of the Rabbinical Assembly of America said his organization also had not sought chaplaincy aid to any Jewish soldiers who might be prisoners in North Vietnam. "I've never thought that this was a viable possibility," he explained, adding: "There's one way of not getting it done, and that's to make press statements about it."

LABOR STRIFE ERUPTS--AGAIN

Port And Bakeries Hit; Hospitals, Diamond Polishing Industry Face Walk-Outs

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Labor strife flared today on a variety of fronts in Israel and threatened to worsen. Ashdod, the second largest seaport, was paralyzed this morning by a wildcat strike of foremen. A production slowdown by bakery owners in response to new wage demands created long bread queues outside markets and the bakers have threatened to shut down altogether unless the government allows them a substantial price increase.

Medical personnel at public hospitals and clinics gave notice, as required by law, that they will begin a slow-down and possibly a strike in 15 days. And the owners of diamond polishing shops have threatened a general shut-down unless Histadrut calls off a strike that hit one of the workshops yesterday.

The labor troubles at Ashdod pose the most serious immediate problem as they come at the peak of the citrus export season. There are 34

ships docked or waiting for berths at Ashdod and others have been diverted to Haifa where port congestion has again become a serious problem. The Haifa port management blames the Ashdod workers for the conditions.

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Barlev's Test Of Fire

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Only pitta, the flat Oriental bread, is readily available. The bakery dispute is the first major problem confronting Israel's new Minister of Commerce and Industry, Haim Barlev, who took office yesterday. A cartoon in one newspaper depicted the former Israeli Army Chief of Staff as a loaf of bread being shoved into an oven under the caption, "His First Test of Fire."

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BLUMBERG; WORSENING SITUATION OF SOVIET JEWRY COINCIDES WITH NIXON'S CHINA TRIP

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--David M. Blumberg, international president of B'nai B'rith, said that the recent deterioration in the situation of Soviet Jewry coincided with the visit of President Nixon to China. The President's trip to Peking, according to Blumberg, "may be a factor in the Kremlin's reduction of the number of exit visas issued to Soviet Jews and the intensified harassment and arrests."

Soviet authorities, he noted, "may be signaling that the new Chinese-American relationship might jeopardize Soviet Jewish emigration as well as the position of the Jews remaining in the USSR." Currently on a trip to Israel and Europe, Blumberg made the statement in a report to B'nai B'rith headquarters here. The statement also said "the Soviet Union has embarked on a new wave of arrests and harassment of Jews while sharply reducing the number permitted to emigrate." The rate of Jewish emigration dropped from 3,000 in Jan. to 1,800 in Feb., Blumberg said.

He pointed to the arrests of a number of Jews seeking to emigrate from the Soviet Union and the denunciation by Soviet authorities of Vladimir Slepak, a Moscow scientist who lost his job because he applied for an exit visa to Israel. Slepak was charged with being a "social parasite" and threatened with imprisonment. "I believe that world public opinion should respond

to these Soviet actions, which so starkly contradict the humanitarian pretensions of the Soviet Union," Blumberg said.

MANAGEMENT, LABOR WARNED TO HOLD PRICES DOWN

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--Israeli labor and management were warned today against allowing prices to rise unnecessarily. The warning was issued after an emergency meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs and representatives of Histadrut, the Israeli Labor Federation; the employers' associations, and the cooperative movement. They decided that the prices of basic foodstuffs--including bread, frozen meat, sugar and oil--should not be allowed to rise at all and that all other rises must be justified by proof of increased costs.

The meeting was requested by Histadrut general secretary Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, the former Cabinet minister who led the drive to merge the country's labor parties into a single alignment. He was worried by galloping price increases, which have put Histadrut and employers under heavy pressure to raise salaries. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir warned that Israel was in danger of pricing itself out of the world market, a development that he said would require still heavier taxes to siphon off excess purchasing power and direct the cash flow into the subsidization of exports. The Cabinet ministers, employers and workers will continue to meet on the issue.

MRS. TREPPER'S SON SAYS HIS MOTHER EXPECTED IN COPENHAGEN MARCH 25

Her Whereabouts Now Unknown

COPENHAGEN, March 8 (JTA)--Michael Brojde told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that his mother, Mrs. Elisabeth Trepper, would "probably" arrive here March 25. Mrs. Trepper is the wife of Leopold Trepper, the Jewish partisan who led the underground "Red Orchestra" in World War II. The couple, who are aged and ailing, have heretofore been rebuffed in their attempts to leave Poland permanently for Israel.

Brojde said his mother had "probably" already filed her demand for a tourist exit visa, which would allow her to reach Copenhagen via Paris by March 25. "Liuba Trepper-Domb's Paris schedule is to include a press conference," the 31-year-old lecturer at Copenhagen University told the JTA, using the diminutive of his mother's first name. "Then she will return to Poland to be at the side of my 68-year-old father."

Brojde said the former head of Soviet intelligence in Europe during the Nazi era was now in "quite bad" health. The son said another Trepper son, Eduard, who is in Israel, would stage a hunger strike on behalf of his father's right to emigrate near United Nations headquarters in New York "in the near future." Brojde reported that he had received a letter of encouragement and solidarity from the League Against Anti-Semitism and Racism (LICAR), which also invited him to Paris in the event he wanted to hold a hunger strike there.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Trepper's whereabouts were a mystery. It was learned that a French broadcasting correspondent informed his Paris office that Mrs. Trepper had left Warsaw Saturday night for Western Europe, presumably Paris, but it was impossible to locate her. One theory is that she promised the Polish government not to generate publicity if it allowed her out.

April 30 has been designated as National Solidarity Day for Soviet Jewry.

ROGERS SKIRTS MIDEAST IN REPORT TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--Secretary of State William P. Rogers made the barest mention of the Middle East in his presentation to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today of the State Department's policy and operations report. In the 26-page prepared report Rogers referred to that troubled area with one sentence: "We have worked with some success to keep the Middle East below the flashpoint."

Neither the committee chairman, Sen. J. William Fulbright (D., Ark.), nor any of the eight other members of the 16-man committee present referred to the area in their questioning at the three-hour hearing. The only Jewish member of the committee, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R., N.Y.), did not ask about the Mideast. The only Presidential candidate on the committee, Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D., Me.), was absent.

The virtual absence of mention of the Mideast stirred speculation among some independent observers that a significant negotiation development is under way in the Mideast and that the committee was made aware of this. However, Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State specializing in the Mideast and Southeast Asia, is to appear before the committee tomorrow, and the whole Mideast situation doubtlessly will be subject to questioning.

Rogers told newsmen yesterday that he would not disclose the nature of discussions pertaining to the Mideast. He reiterated what he said in his introduction to the lengthy foreign policy report issued yesterday, that his goal in the Mideast this year is a reopening of the Suez Canal through an interim agreement between Egypt and Israel. Soviet Jewry was not mentioned in any form at today's hearing. However, the Secretary's report implied that the State Department was not asking for any special funds for Israel for Soviet Jewish refugees settling there.

\$8,212M For Refugee Assistance

The Department, Rogers' statement to the committee said, was asking "a relatively modest \$8,212,000 for the migration and refugee-assistance program under which the Department provides assistance to migrants and refugees through contributions from such organizations as the International Governmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) and the UN High Commission for Refugees, and unilaterally through assistance to refugees designated by the President as authorized by law."

At a House subcommittee hearing last Thursday on a bill providing \$85 million for Israel for Soviet refugees, the State Department sympathized with the plight of Soviet Jews but indicated that any funding for them should be considered in the overall assistance being given to Israel. The subcommittee chairman, Rep. Wayne L. Hays (D., O.), directed the Department to submit its views in "a couple of weeks." ICEM at present is supplying some assistance to Soviet Jews en route to Israel via Vienna and Rome.

SOVIET GEORGIA'S CHIEF RABBI SAYS JEWS THERE HAVE NO DIFFICULTY GETTING EXIT VISAS; SYNAGOGUE FUNCTION UNHINDERED

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Yaacob Dabarashvili of the Soviet Georgian Republic arrived here today and reported that the situation of Georgian Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel was not at all bad. The 70-year-old white-bearded rabbi from Koutaisi who speaks modern Hebrew fluently, said there seemed to be no obstacles pre-

venting Georgian Jews from getting exit visas.

He also reported that the Soviet authorities permit Georgian Jews to observe Jewish law and that synagogues are functioning unhindered. Rabbi Dabarashvili had an enthusiastic reunion at the airport with his brother, Michael, who settled in Palestine 50 years ago and whom he had not seen during that time.

Other Soviet immigrants arriving on the same plane told relatives that Soviet police had boarded their train at its last stop in Russia and confiscated electrical appliances and other valuables in the possession of the emigres. They said the police claimed the items were being smuggled because "as workers you could not afford to buy such things."

About 200 immigrants from Western countries, mainly Latin America, arrived today in Haifa aboard the Israeli motorship Dan which they had boarded in Europe for the final leg of their journey. A total of 170 were from Latin America and the largest single group, 155, from Argentina.

Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, greeted the newcomers before they disembarked. He said 3000 immigrants are expected from Latin America this year compared to 2500 last year. Rabbi Kirshblum attributed the increase to Zionist sentiments and the deteriorating economic situation in Latin America which has caused the shut-down of many Jewish schools.

3 JEWISH SCIENTISTS APPEAL TO TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY TO HELP THEM OBTAIN VISAS

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Three Jewish scientists in Moscow who are no longer employed have asked Prof. Yuval Neeman, president of Tel Aviv University, to help them obtain exit visas so they can come to Israel. The three, who described themselves as engaged in theoretical research in physics and chemistry, charged that the Soviet authorities were treating them like "a material possession upon which an embargo can be imposed to prevent it being supplied to one country or another."

The appeal for help was contained in a letter to Prof. Neeman which was read over a telephone connection with Moscow. The letter was signed by Boris Einsbinder, a staff member of the Physical Chemistry Institute of the Soviet Academy of Science; Vladimir Roginsky, a former staff member of the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics; and Serge Gurewitz, a former staff member of the Institute of Nuclear Science.

They said their applications for exit visas were rejected on the official grounds that "experts such as you are needed by the Soviet Union. We cannot supply experts to Israel, a nation hostile to the Soviet Union." The scientists said that the rejection on this basis "is absurd to the extreme as we are theoreticians and our work has an abstract character and no applicable value."

JARRING SEEKS CLARIFICATION FROM TEKOA

UNITED NATIONS, March 8 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoa told newsmen today that Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations' Middle East representative, wants clarifications from him on points discussed by Dr. Jarring with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem. Tekoa indicated that this represented an attempt by the intermediary to renew his peace mission. Tekoa did not say when he would meet with Dr. Jarring.

**JEWS IN SOVIET GEORGIA PERMITTED
BY AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH ULPAN
In Moscow, Leningrad Ulpans Banned**

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Jews in Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, have been permitted by the authorities to establish an ulpan, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported today. There was no immediate explanation of the decision other than that the authorities saw it as a way to undercut the Jewish protest movement there. The Tbilisi ulpan will be run by Gershon and Shalva Tsitsua-shvili. In Moscow, however, three Jewish activists were denied the right to establish one.

In Leningrad, Mikhail (Misha) Klich and Samuel Motzkin, who have been teaching Hebrew in weekly two-and-a-half-hour private classes, were told by revenue service inspectors that they were unqualified to teach because they do not have philology degrees. Klich had left the Technical Institute for Mechanics and Optics, where he was a student, to teach the Hebrew classes. He and Motzkin told the authorities that because they have no diplomas they would forego the one-ruble (\$1.11) fee they have been charging each student per lesson. The authorities, however, gave them one month to discontinue the classes, the SSSJ said.

In Riga, the SSSJ reported, 95 Jews wrote to the chairman of the Journalists Association of the Latvian Republic and to the editors of Izvestia, the Soviet government newspaper, and Tazina. They protested that recent articles attacking migration to Israel were not objective because they ignored the fact that "tens of thousands" of Soviet Jews have left or want to leave. The writers asked permission to hold a conference to give "our opinions" on Jewish culture, the problems of Jews in the USSR, assimilation, anti-Semitism, Zionism, emigration, trials of Jews for political reasons, and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

**HARVARD U. RARE HAGGADAS LOANED
TO B'NAI B'RITH FOR EXHIBITION**

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--A collection of rare and historic Passover Haggadas has been obtained from Harvard University for a special display at the Klutznick Exhibit Hall of the B'nai B'rith building here beginning today. Eighty items from the nation's finest university collection of ancient Haggadas depict four-and-a-half centuries of Jewish history and Hebrew printing. The exhibition was arranged by Dr. Charles Berlin, bibliographer in Judaica and head of the Hebrew Division of the Harvard College Library, which has one of the world's great collections of Judaica.

Early Hebrew printing represented in the exhibit includes the Constantinople Haggada of 1505, another printed in Venice in 1545, and the Bistrowitz (Poland) edition of 1593. The first editions printed in North America (New York, 1837) and in South America (Buenos Aires, 1934) are also displayed, as well as many Haggadas that appeared in Eastern Europe prior to the Communist take-over. There are also Haggadas from Aleppo (1887), Baghdad (1908), Bombay (1887) and Tunis (1925); and non-traditional Haggadas, including some published by Israeli kibbutzim; a bizarre version, known as "Hitler's Haggada," that first appeared in Rabat, Morocco in 1940.

**PIONEER WOMEN'S LEADER URGES
ZOA TO RETURN TO AZF**

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Mrs. Esther P. Zackler, president of Pioneer Women, urged the Zionist Organization of America to reconsider its withdrawal from the American Zionist Federation

"so that together, all organizations can pursue the important task which still confronts Israel and Zionism." Mrs. Zackler stated today that the withdrawal of the ZOA, following on the heels of the 28th World Zionist Congress, "is a disservice to the monumental responsibilities undertaken at the Congress."

In response to the ZOA's charge that it withdrew because the AZF duplicated many of the ZOA's activities, the Pioneer Women's leader stated: "The achievements of the individual Zionist organizations within the framework of the Federation are complemented rather than minimized or duplicated by the Federation." In addition, she noted, the AZF is a vehicle through which various ideological movements within Zionism "can unite on matters which affect all, leaving to each individual movement or organization the opportunity to further its own specific trends."

**MOSHE KITRON, HISTADRUT OFFICIAL,
LABOR PARTY LEADER, DIES AT 62**

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Moshe Kitron, director of the Education Department of the Histadrut Culture and Education Center and formerly a leader of Argentine Jewry, who died here last night at the age of 62 after an illness of several years. Mr. Kitron, who came to Israel shortly after the State was established in 1948, was a prominent Labor Party leader and once served as a Labor delegate to the Zionist Executive Council, the World Jewish Congress and other organizations.

Born in Eastern Europe, Mr. Kitron grew up in Argentina and became secretary of the Argentine Poalei Zion movement. He had close ties with Latin American Jewry, and subsequently became a leading member of the Latin American Association in Israel. His coffin lay in state for two hours today in the Histadrut Executive building.

**EL FATAH MOVES TO FREE MOROCCO
FROM ZIONIST 'CULTURAL DOMINATION'**

PARIS, March 8 (JTA)--The Moroccan branch of El Fatah, the largest Palestinian terrorist organization, has launched a major campaign aimed at "freeing" Morocco from "Zionist cultural domination" and explaining the Palestinian position, it was learned here. Fatah has also initiated a fund-raising drive to help the "resistance fighters," and the Moroccan delegation also organized an art exhibition depicting alleged Zionist influence in that country's art world, Morocco's ultra-nationalistic opposition party, Istiqlal, said in its official organ, Al Alam, that these campaigns will permit Moroccans to become conscious "of the cultural and artistic grip of the Zionists on Morocco."

**CITY OFFICIAL URGES BAN ON SABBATH
ELECTIONS FOR ANTI-POVERTY BOARD**

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Sebastian Leone, Brooklyn Borough President, has urged the City Council to support legislation which would prohibit holding elections for anti-poverty boards on the Sabbath. In a letter to Thomas J. Cuife, chairman of the City Council, Leone expressed "condemnation of any system of government or quasi-government election in this city which would require any person to absent himself from the polls because of religious observance."

A special program dedicating the Warsaw ghetto uprising will be presented on WNYC FM Radio in New York on March 26 from 9-9:55 p.m.



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to these Soviet actions, which so starkly contradict the humanitarian pretensions of the Soviet Union," Blumberg said.

MANAGEMENT, LABOR WARNED TO HOLD PRICES DOWN

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--Israeli labor and management were warned today against allowing prices to rise unnecessarily. The warning was issued after an emergency meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs and representatives of Histadrut, the Israeli Labor Federation; the employers' associations, and the cooperative movement. They decided that the prices of basic foodstuffs--including bread, frozen meat, sugar and oil--should not be allowed to rise at all and that all other rises must be justified by proof of increased costs.

The meeting was requested by Histadrut general secretary Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, the former Cabinet minister who led the drive to merge the country's labor parties into a single alignment. He was worried by galloping price increases, which have put Histadrut and employers under heavy pressure to raise salaries. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir warned that Israel was in danger of pricing itself out of the world market, a development that he said would require still heavier taxes to siphon off excess purchasing power and direct the cash flow into the subsidization of exports. The Cabinet ministers, employers and workers will continue to meet on the issue.

MRS. TREPPER'S SON SAYS HIS MOTHER EXPECTED IN COPENHAGEN MARCH 25

Her Whereabouts Now Unknown

COPENHAGEN, March 8 (JTA)--Michael Brojde told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that his mother, Mrs. Elisabeth Trepper, would "probably" arrive here March 25. Mrs. Trepper is the wife of Leopold Trepper, the Jewish partisan who led the underground "Red Orchestra" in World War II. The couple, who are aged and ailing, have heretofore been rebuffed in their attempts to leave Poland permanently for Israel.

Brojde said his mother had "probably" already filed her demand for a tourist exit visa, which would allow her to reach Copenhagen via Paris by March 25. "Liuba Trepper-Domb's Paris schedule is to include a press conference," the 31-year-old lecturer at Copenhagen University told the JTA, using the diminutive of his mother's first name. "Then she will return to Poland to be at the side of my 68-year-old father."

Brojde said the former head of Soviet intelligence in Europe during the Nazi era was now in "quite bad" health. The son said another Trepper son, Eduard, who is in Israel, would stage a hunger strike on behalf of his father's right to emigrate near United Nations headquarters in New York "in the near future." Brojde reported that he had received a letter of encouragement and solidarity from the League Against Anti-Semitism and Racism (LICAR), which also invited him to Paris in the event he wanted to hold a hunger strike there.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Trepper's whereabouts were a mystery. It was learned that a French broadcasting correspondent informed his Paris office that Mrs. Trepper had left Warsaw Saturday night for Western Europe, presumably Paris, but it was impossible to locate her. One theory is that she promised the Polish government not to generate publicity if it allowed her out.

April 30 has been designated as National Solidarity Day for Soviet Jewry.

ROGERS SKIRTS MIDEAST IN REPORT TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--Secretary of State William P. Rogers made the barest mention of the Middle East in his presentation to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today of the State Department's policy and operations report. In the 26-page prepared report Rogers referred to that troubled area with one sentence: "We have worked with some success to keep the Middle East below the flashpoint."

Neither the committee chairman, Sen. J. William Fulbright (D., Ark.), nor any of the eight other members of the 16-man committee present referred to the area in their questioning at the three-hour hearing. The only Jewish member of the committee, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R., N.Y.), did not ask about the Mideast. The only Presidential candidate on the committee, Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D., Me.), was absent.

The virtual absence of mention of the Mideast stirred speculation among some independent observers that a significant negotiation development is under way in the Mideast and that the committee was made aware of this. However, Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State specializing in the Mideast and Southeast Asia, is to appear before the committee tomorrow, and the whole Mideast situation doubtlessly will be subject to questioning.

Rogers told newsmen yesterday that he would not disclose the nature of discussions pertaining to the Mideast. He reiterated what he said in his introduction to the lengthy foreign policy report issued yesterday, that his goal in the Mideast this year is a reopening of the Suez Canal through an interim agreement between Egypt and Israel. Soviet Jewry was not mentioned in any form at today's hearing. However, the Secretary's report implied that the State Department was not asking for any special funds for Israel for Soviet Jewish refugees settling there.

\$8,212M For Refugee Assistance

The Department, Rogers' statement to the committee said, was asking "a relatively modest \$8,212,000 for the migration and refugee-assistance program under which the Department provides assistance to migrants and refugees through contributions from such organizations as the International Governmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) and the UN High Commission for Refugees, and unilaterally through assistance to refugees designated by the President as authorized by law."

At a House subcommittee hearing last Thursday on a bill providing \$85 million for Israel for Soviet refugees, the State Department sympathized with the plight of Soviet Jews but indicated that any funding for them should be considered in the overall assistance being given to Israel. The subcommittee chairman, Rep. Wayne L. Hays (D., O.), directed the Department to submit its views in "a couple of weeks." ICEM at present is supplying some assistance to Soviet Jews en route to Israel via Vienna and Rome.

SOVIET GEORGIA'S CHIEF RABBI SAYS JEWS THERE HAVE NO DIFFICULTY GETTING EXIT VISAS; SYNAGOGUE FUNCTION UNHINDERED

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Yaacob Dabarashvili of the Soviet Georgian Republic arrived here today and reported that the situation of Georgian Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel was not at all bad. The 70-year-old white-bearded rabbi from Koutaisi who speaks modern Hebrew fluently, said there seemed to be no obstacles pre-

venting Georgian Jews from getting exit visas.

He also reported that the Soviet authorities permit Georgian Jews to observe Jewish law and that synagogues are functioning unhindered. Rabbi Dabarashvili had an enthusiastic reunion at the airport with his brother, Michael, who settled in Palestine 50 years ago and whom he had not seen during that time.

Other Soviet immigrants arriving on the same plane told relatives that Soviet police had boarded their train at its last stop in Russia and confiscated electrical appliances and other valuables in the possession of the emigres. They said the police claimed the items were being smuggled because "as workers you could not afford to buy such things."

About 200 immigrants from Western countries, mainly Latin America, arrived today in Haifa aboard the Israeli motorship Dan which they had boarded in Europe for the final leg of their journey. A total of 170 were from Latin America and the largest single group, 155, from Argentina.

Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, greeted the newcomers before they disembarked. He said 3000 immigrants are expected from Latin America this year compared to 2500 last year. Rabbi Kirshblum attributed the increase to Zionist sentiments and the deteriorating economic situation in Latin America which has caused the shut-down of many Jewish schools.

3 JEWISH SCIENTISTS APPEAL TO TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY TO HELP THEM OBTAIN VISAS

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Three Jewish scientists in Moscow who are no longer employed have asked Prof. Yuval Neeman, president of Tel Aviv University, to help them obtain exit visas so they can come to Israel. The three, who described themselves as engaged in theoretical research in physics and chemistry, charged that the Soviet authorities were treating them like "a material possession upon which an embargo can be imposed to prevent it being supplied to one country or another."

The appeal for help was contained in a letter to Prof. Neeman which was read over a telephone connection with Moscow. The letter was signed by Boris Einsbinder, a staff member of the Physical Chemistry Institute of the Soviet Academy of Science; Vladimir Roginsky, a former staff member of the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics; and Serge Gurewitz, a former staff member of the Institute of Nuclear Science.

They said their applications for exit visas were rejected on the official grounds that "experts such as you are needed by the Soviet Union. We cannot supply experts to Israel, a nation hostile to the Soviet Union." The scientists said that the rejection on this basis "is absurd to the extreme as we are theoreticians and our work has an abstract character and no applicable value."

JARRING SEEKS CLARIFICATION FROM TEKOA

UNITED NATIONS, March 8 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoa told newsmen today that Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations' Middle East representative, wants clarifications from him on points discussed by Dr. Jarring with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem. Tekoa indicated that this represented an attempt by the intermediary to renew his peace mission. Tekoa did not say when he would meet with Dr. Jarring.

JEWS IN SOVIET GEORGIA PERMITTED BY AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH ULPAN In Moscow, Leningrad Ulpans Banned

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Jews in Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, have been permitted by the authorities to establish an ulpan, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported today. There was no immediate explanation of the decision other than that the authorities saw it as a way to undercut the Jewish protest movement there. The Tbilisi ulpan will be run by Gershon and Shalva Tsitsua-shvili. In Moscow, however, three Jewish activists were denied the right to establish one.

In Leningrad, Mikhail (Misha) Klich and Samuel Motzkin, who have been teaching Hebrew in weekly two-and-a-half-hour private classes, were told by revenue service inspectors that they were unqualified to teach because they do not have philology degrees. Klich had left the Technical Institute for Mechanics and Optics, where he was a student, to teach the Hebrew classes. He and Motzkin told the authorities that because they have no diplomas they would forego the one-ruble (\$1.11) fee they have been charging each student per lesson. The authorities, however, gave them one month to discontinue the classes, the SSSJ said.

In Riga, the SSSJ reported, 95 Jews wrote to the chairman of the Journalists Association of the Latvian Republic and to the editors of Izvestia, the Soviet government newspaper, and Tazina. They protested that recent articles attacking migration to Israel were not objective because they ignored the fact that "tens of thousands" of Soviet Jews have left or want to leave. The writers asked permission to hold a conference to give "our opinions" on Jewish culture, the problems of Jews in the USSR, assimilation, anti-Semitism, Zionism, emigration, trials of Jews for political reasons, and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

HARVARD U. RARE HAGGADAS LOANED TO B'NAI B'RITH FOR EXHIBITION

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--A collection of rare and historic Passover Haggadas has been obtained from Harvard University for a special display at the Klutznick Exhibit Hall of the B'nei B'rith building here beginning today. Eighty items from the nation's finest university collection of ancient Haggadas depict four-and-a-half centuries of Jewish history and Hebrew printing. The exhibition was arranged by Dr. Charles Berlin, bibliographer in Judaica and head of the Hebrew Division of the Harvard College Library, which has one of the world's great collections of Judaica.

Early Hebrew printing represented in the exhibit includes the Constantinople Haggada of 1505, another printed in Venice in 1545, and the Bistrowitz (Poland) edition of 1593. The first editions printed in North America (New York, 1837) and in South America (Buenos Aires, 1934) are also displayed, as well as many Haggadas that appeared in Eastern Europe prior to the Communist take-over. There are also Haggadas from Aleppo (1887), Baghdad (1908), Bombay (1887) and Tunis (1925); and non-traditional Haggadas, including some published by Israeli kibbutzim; a bizarre version, known as "Hitler's Haggada," that first appeared in Rabat, Morocco in 1940.

PIONEER WOMEN'S LEADER URGES ZOA TO RETURN TO AZF

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Mrs. Esther P. Zackler, president of Pioneer Women, urged the Zionist Organization of America to reconsider its withdrawal from the American Zionist Federation

"so that together, all organizations can pursue the important task which still confronts Israel and Zionism." Mrs. Zackler stated today that the withdrawal of the ZOA, following on the heels of the 28th World Zionist Congress, "is a disservice to the monumental responsibilities undertaken at the Congress."

In response to the ZOA's charge that it withdrew because the AZF duplicated many of the ZOA's activities, the Pioneer Women's leader stated: "The achievements of the individual Zionist organizations within the framework of the Federation are complemented rather than minimized or duplicated by the Federation." In addition, she noted, the AZF is a vehicle through which various ideological movements within Zionism "can unite on matters which affect all, leaving to each individual movement or organization the opportunity to further its own specific trends."

MOSHE KITRON, HISTADRUT OFFICIAL, LABOR PARTY LEADER, DIES AT 62

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Moshe Kitron, director of the Education Department of the Histadrut Culture and Education Center and formerly a leader of Argentine Jewry, who died here last night at the age of 62 after an illness of several years. Mr. Kitron, who came to Israel shortly after the State was established in 1948, was a prominent Labor Party leader and once served as a Labor delegate to the Zionist Executive Council, the World Jewish Congress and other organizations.

Born in Eastern Europe, Mr. Kitron grew up in Argentina and became secretary of the Argentine Poalei Zion movement. He had close ties with Latin American Jewry, and subsequently became a leading member of the Latin American Association in Israel. His coffin lay in state for two hours today in the Histadrut Executive building.

EL FATAH MOVES TO FREE MOROCCO FROM ZIONIST 'CULTURAL DOMINATION'

PARIS, March 8 (JTA)--The Moroccan branch of El Fatah, the largest Palestinian terrorist organization, has launched a major campaign aimed at "freeing" Morocco from "Zionist cultural domination" and explaining the Palestinian position, it was learned here. Fatah has also initiated a fund-raising drive to help the "resistance fighters," and the Moroccan delegation also organized an art exhibition depicting alleged Zionist influence in that country's art world, Morocco's ultra-nationalistic opposition party, Istiqlal, said in its official organ, Al Alam, that these campaigns will permit Moroccans to become conscious "of the cultural and artistic grip of the Zionists on Morocco."

CITY OFFICIAL URGES BAN ON SABBATH ELECTIONS FOR ANTI-POVERTY BOARD

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Sebastian Leone, Brooklyn Borough President, has urged the City Council to support legislation which would prohibit holding elections for anti-poverty boards on the Sabbath. In a letter to Thomas J. Cuife, chairman of the City Council, Leone expressed "condemnation of any system of government or quasi-government election in this city which would require any person to absent himself from the polls because of religious observance."

A special program dedicating the Warsaw ghetto uprising will be presented on WNYC FM Radio in New York on March 26 from 9-9:55 p.m.