

# daily news bulletin

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Thursday, August 10, 1972

No. 155

On U.S. Tour
SOVIET HEALTH CHIEF REJECTS
REQUESTS TO ALLOW U.S. MEDICAL MEN
TO VISIT JEWISH PRISONERS
By JOSEPH POLAKOFF
(JTA Washington Bureau Chief)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (JTA)—Soviet Health Minister Boris Petrovsky declined here today to give firm assurances that American medical men visiting the Soviet Union as members of professional or government delegations could enter any Soviet medical facility or meet with particular patients. A number of Soviet Jewish dissidents are in such facilities and prisons with a variety of illnesses, some incurred after conviction and imprisonment in recent trials.

Dr. Petrovsky, concluding a ten-day visit to major health facilities in the United States as head of a Soviet delegation to which the US government was host, sidestepped questions proposing such assurances from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency during a news conference at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare attended by about 50 newsmen and electronic media technicians.

He was asked whether he had been denied any opportunity to visit any medical facility or meet any
individual, doctor or patient on his tour and he answered he had been "saturated" by the HEW program
and did not seek to add to it. He was then asked
whether similar opportunities would be extended to
American medical men. He replied that "complete
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"describing achievements" were available to medical delegations.

When the JTA reporter observed that Petrovsky had not answered his question, the Health Minister said that he "personally as Minister," receives a great many visitors and this his first question is "What do you want to see?" He added that "we always try to accommodate their requests." He spoke in Russian with a Soviet woman interpreting for him in excellent English.

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Questions directly concerning Soviet Jewish prisoners had previously been put to the Health Minister by representatives of the Alpha Omegadental fraternity, an international group, and the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry. Dr. Norman Buckman, of Silver Spring, Md., asked Dr. Petrovsky why two Soviet Jewish dentists—whom Dr. Buckman identified as Michael Kornblit of Leningrad and Boris Azernikov of Kalinin did not receive "adequate medical care" at Potma prison. Dr. Buckman said the two dentists had been imprisoned because they wanted to emigrate to Israel.

"You are a cardiac specialist," Dr. Buckman told the Health Minister. "We are informed that cardiac patients have to do heavy labor in prison. How do you account for patients having to do this?" Dr. Petrovsky replied that every country has laws and that "even though they are dentists," those who infringe the laws are "still responsible within the criminal code," Indicating he was not aware of the cases Dr. Buckman mentioned, the Health Minister said that "under any condition and any circumstance any Soviet citizen is rendered full medical assistance." Dr. Buckman said the fraternity had 20,000 members in the United States and Europe and added he was chairman of a group set up by the fraternity

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Milton Yadin of the Washington committee, himself a recent emigre from the Soviet Union, asked Dr. Petrovsky questions in English and in Russian. He charged that Sylva Zalmanson, imprisoned on a 15-year sentence, had a "very sick heart" and that Raiza Palatnik "lost her baby" in a prison camp. Yadin also said that both Jewish women were in the Potma camp and that he had received information about their poor physical condition last week via telephone from the Soviet Union. Yadin also asked the Health Minister for information on Lev Yagman and Victor Buglovsky who, he said, also are in the Potma prison.

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ARCHBISHOP PUBLICLY CHALLENGES

MRS. MEIR ON BAN ON VILLAGERS

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The Archbishop made that charge in an open letter in the Jerusalem Post, addressed to Mrs. Meir, in which he also repeated the arguments he had used in a futile meeting with the Premier yesterday in an effort to obtain a reversal of the decision. The villages of Ikrit and Baram were

evacuated in 1948 of several hundred Christian Arab residents and all of its structures leveled, except for its churches, as a security measure. Mrs. Meir told the Archbishop at their meeting that security considerations still prevailed and that the government feared a precedent under which former residents of 20 other evacuated Arab villages would seek permission to return to their homesites.

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# In Two-Day Trial MARKMAN GETS THREE-YEAR TERM AT HARD LABOR

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Commenting on the trial, Maass said, "With the cruel and barbaric sentencing...there can no longer be any doubt that Soviet policy, however extensive the recent propaganda attempts by Soviet officials have been, is continuing to reflect the view that Soviet Jews, and particularly Jewish activists, will be stopped." Maass also said that the persecution and hounding of Markman, before his arrest and prior to "this farce of a trial," speaks for itself. Both Markman and his wife had reportedly been harassed in the weeks since his arrest April 29. They had been attempting to obtain a Moscow lawyer and move the trial to Moscow, where foreign journalists would be present, Maass explained that "Soviet officials counted on the rel-

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The NCSJ is sending letters and telegrams to all their constituent agencies and local communities, to legal associations and individual lawyers, as well as US government officials. Telegrams have gone to Pres. Nixon and the State Department protesting the conviction. Many have expressed fear that the evidence gathered at Markman's trial will be used at further trials of Jewish activists in Moscow, the NCSJ said.

The NCSJ had reported previously that a Soviet telephone operator had testified at the trial that she had overheard Markman giving "slanderous information" about the Soviet Union during an alleged telephone conversation with Israel. The defendant was reported at the trial to have said that anti-Semitism did exist in the Soviet Union.

## Protest Soviet Trials POLICE EVICT JDL MEMBERS FROM FINNISH EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Some 30 members of the militant Jewish Defense League were forcibly evicted by the police from the Finnish Embassy today after they invaded the Embassy offices demanding a halt to all Russian trials against Jews. Police had to drag out the activists after all attempts by Embassy officials to persuade them to leave quietly failed, and in the process police detained 10 of the members for resisting eviction. The Finnish Embassy has represented the interests of the Soviet Union since relations between Israel and Russia were ruptured during the Six-Day War.

The JDL militants said they staged the invasion in response to this morning's news of a renewed wave of trials against Jews in Russia, especially that of Vladimir Markman, the Soviet activist who went on trial yesterday in Sverdlovsk on charges of hooliganism and engaging in anti-Soviet propaganda. One of the JDL youths rang the Embassy bell, and as the door was opened, all 30 pushed their way in, declaring they intended to remain in the office until Russia discontinued the trials.

In another JDL development, Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the JDL, now residing in Israel, announced the establishment of a Jewish Identity Center in Jerusalem, a school which he said was designed for foreign youth instructors to teach JDL principles to other youths upon returning to their country. Rabbi Kahane also told a news conference that some 22 young people from the United States and Canada between the ages of 17 and 22 would take part in the first course, to be held in Jerusalem. The curriculum will include Jewish history, the Holocaust, Jewish "Resistance," and Zionism and "Hebrew Power." Kahane also said the JDL plans to start a course for Israeli youth shortly.

Gen. Chaim Laskoff, former Israeli Army Chief of Staff, has been named ombudsman for the Army. He will deal with complaints by or against servicemen, and military institutions.

## SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADERS PROTEST TO BRITISH ENVOY OVER LONDON PLO OFFICE PLAN

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Representatives of South African Jewry have advised the British ambassador here of the Jewish community's concern over the planned opening in London of an office of the Palestine Liberation Organization. A joint delegation of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the South African Zionist Federation handed Sir Arthur Snelling a memorandum charging that "the activities of such an office will only serve to promote and incite further wanton acts of murder, terrorism and hijacking against innocent men, women and children of all nationalities and religious persuasions, not only in Israel but in many other countries, and on aircraft."

Sir Arthur, according to the delegation, repeated his government's position that it is not illegal to establish an office in Britain "to promote the cause of the Palestinian people in the United Kingdom." The bureau, he reiterated, would not have official or quasi-official status or immunity, any illegal activities would be halted, and personnel deemed to be engaging in or planning such activities would be deported or denied admission to the country.

The British envoy pointed out that the PLO maintains offices in the United States, Yugoslavia, and China; that it is opening one in the Soviet Union; that it has legal representatives in the Arab League offices in Britain and Chile, and that it sends representatives to Arab summit meetings and the United Nations General Assembly. (The New York PLO office was wrecked by a bomb on Oct. 7, 1970.)

According to Sir Arthur, there is a long tradition in Britain that political organizations at odds with governments with which Britain has friendly relations are allowed to operate in Britain as long as they do so within the law. This policy was applied, for example, in the cases of Biafra and Bangladesh, he said. The Jewish delegation was led by I.A. Maisels, general chairman of the Zionist Federation. He was accompanied by H.S. Liebgott and J. Daleski, chairman and president of the Zionist Federation, and D.K. Mann and M. Porter, chairman and president of the Board of Deputies.

# 19 Jewish Immigrants 10 FAMILIES ARRIVE IN NEW YORK FROM USSR, POLAND, RUMANIA

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Nineteen Jewish immigrants, comprising 10 family units from the Soviet Union, Poland and Rumania, arrived at Kennedy International Airport today, Gaynor I, Jacobson, executive vice-president of the United Hias Service announced. The United Hias Service assisted all the newcomers in their migration to the United States.

Four of the family units will be resettled in the Greater New York area, one in Cedar Grove, N.J., and the others in Chicago, Philadelphia, Albany and Columbus, Ohio. The migrants include Mr. and Mrs. Simion Schneider and their daughter Maya from Riga, Mr. and Mrs. Moise Schor of Rumania and Mr. and Mrs. Mendel Tune and their son Mark from Pinsk. The Schors were reunited with their daughter and son-in-law, Drs. Simona and Salviu Cohan of New York City, and Tune was reunited with his brother Joe of Brooklyn, after a separation of 26 years.

Among those at the airport to greet the new arrivals were: Harold Friedman, president of United Hias; Carl Glick, chairman of the executive commit-

tee and treasurer of United Hias; Herbert Tenzer, president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York; and Mrs. Ben S. Marcus and Mrs. Herbert J. Dreifuss, chairmen of the women's division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. United Hias Service is a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

### NIXON-SADAT MESSAGE EXCHANGE DOWNGRADED BY U.S. OFFICIALS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Both the White House and the State Department sought today to minimize the significance of the exchange of messages between Presidents Nixon and Sadat on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian revolution. The exchange was made public today in Cairo more than two weeks after President Nixon sent his congratulations on July 23 to Sadat who responded with an equally cordial message of thanks.

Some observers here interpreted the disclosure and its timing as another indication of Sadat's desire to improve relations with the United States following his July ouster order to Soviet military advisors. But the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was specifically cautioned by an authoritative source at the White House that the message exchange should not be over-rated. Later, State Department spokesman John King told newsmen that "no great significance" should be attached to the exchange. He pointed out that a similar message was sent last year to Cairo on the 19th anniversary.

### KOLLEK, KOL CLASH ON RATE OF TOURIST VISITS TO JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Tourism Minister Moshe Kol denounced Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek today for a suggestion by the Mayor that tourists should be discouraged from visiting Jerusalem. The Mayor said, in a recent talk to the city's Economic Club, that the city could not handle the rising number of tourists who spend time in Jerusalem during their Israeli tours. Kol said the Tourism Ministry would never agree to Kollek's proposal.

Kol said he disagreed with Kollek's suggestions for a tax on tourists or for a freeze on the number of hotel rooms being built in Jerusalem. Kol disputed an "intimation" from the Mayor that the Israeli government was building 4000 hotel rooms in the capital, declaring that "we are building only 1520 rooms, less than half the number the Mayor mentioned."

Citing an interview in the London Times in which Kollek reportedly reasserted his view that tourists should be dissuaded from visiting Jerusalem, Kol said hotel rates would rocket if hotel construction was slowed. Kol also rejected Kollek's argument that new hotels necessarily would do harm to the capital aesthetically.

### FOREIGN ARABS VISIT TECHNION

HAIFA, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Fifty university students and professionals from Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait visited the Technion last Tuesday for three hours, the Israel Institute of Technology reported today. The students and professionals, in Israel under the Defense Department's summer visitors program encouraging such travel, toured several advanced facilities, including the Computer Center and its IBM 370/165, the Middle East's most powerful computer; physics laboratories featuring electronic teaching equipment and the Hydraulic Engineering Center.

Worst Disaster, Says Fisher

CJF SAYS \$2 MILLION IN AID

PLANNED BY FEDERATIONS FOR

FLOOD-HIT WILKES-BARRE COMMUNITY

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--More than \$2 million in financial aid will be provided by the Jewish Federations of America to the flood-devastated Jewish community of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Max M. Fisher, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, announced today. He said the assistance program was worked out in consultation with the Jewish Federation of Wilkes-Barre and the CJF and approved by the CJF executive committee.

Fisher, who visited the Wilkes-Barre community with Philip Bernstein, CJF executive vice-president, said that of the community's 1600 Jewish families, 1300 were evacuated and that fewer than 100 have since returned to their homes. Most of the 800 Jewish business enterprises, including offices of Jewish professional men and women, were either

damaged or destroyed, he said.

He said the approval and the speed with which the aid was given indicated the deep concern of the American Jewish community for the plight of the people and institutions of Wilkes-Barre, which he said was the hardest hit of the communities struck by storm Agnes last June. The CJF immediately asked Jewish Federations to approve and transmit their grants. Even before that official action, he said, \$250,000 had been committed by the first ten

Federations to respond.

The CJF president said the program for Wilkes-Barre was projected to meet the Jewish community's needs over a two-year period--individual needs, continuation of Jewish communal services, restoration of Jewish institutions and initial interest payments for business loans. The minimum total to meet these needs amounts to \$2,396,396, and, of that amount, the Wilkes-Barre Jewish community is undertaking to provide \$295,000, according to the CJF, which is coordinating national assistance to Wilkes-Barre and to the storm-ravaged communities in Pennsylvania and New York State.

More than 200 families have been given immediate counseling and special financial aid and the Jewish Federation's business and industry committee made loans totaling almost \$500,000 in the first seven days of its work. Caseworkers have been provided by Jewish agencies in Philadelphia, New York, Essex County, N.J., Pittsburgh and Baltimore. The aid projections are based on the direct experience of the CJF team of experts who have been working with the Jewish community to define the aid needed on both a short and long term basis. The experts are James Young, CJF director of small cities services, Herbert Katzki of the Joint Distribution Committee, Max Pearlman of the Chicago Jewish Federation, and Mrs. Mollie Spector of the Philadelphia Jewish Family Service.

Describing the Wilkes-Barre Jewish community as "a tragic picture of devastation," Fisher said "nothing can describe the damage we saw there. It's the worst disaster in America's history and the worst destruction was in the Jewish business and residential areas." He added that "we saw houses swept off their foundations and crushed. People have mortgages on homes that do not exist. The furnishings of many are a total loss--just heaps of debris. The machinery of factories is caked with mud--rusted or crushed, as are the buildings. The synagogues, schools and community center suffered the same way and must be repaired and rebuilt. Jewish families, their livelihoods, their community, must be restored."

Fisher said the Wilkes-Barre Jewish commun-

ity was determined to do everything possible through its own resources to help its people and reconstruct the community. He added that the Wilkes-Barre Jewish Federation had resumed operations with the help of the CJF team and that it had set up special emergency committees on individual assistance, business and industry and institutional and organizational requirements, all of which he said are now in operation. Fisher pointed out that whatever special Jewish help is being given and planned is to meet special needs not met by the government, the Red Cross and other agencies and is in no sense a substitute for them.

QUEENS JEWISH COUNCIL SAYS
READY TO ACCEPT COMPROMISE IN
FOREST HILLS HOUSING DISPUTE

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Dr. Alvin Lashin-sky, past president of the Queens Jewish Community Council, said today the Council was willing to accept "a compromise that the community would accept" in the controversy over an 840-unit low-income housing project now under construction in the predominantly Jewish Forest Hills section of Queens. He said he viewed the Cuomo report, issued last month which suggested halving the number of apartments, as "a beginning in the quest for understanding and compromise" of the controversy but he also accused Mayor John V, Lindsay of "not acting in good faith" in the dispute.

Lashinsky said that the mayor has "absolutely refused" to meet with the Council. He also attacked Lindsay for the "acceleration of building" on the project. He claimed that construction on the site was now taking place day and night. "This is a ploy on the mayor's part to get as much as possible done," Lashinsky said. "People out here (in Queens) are beginning to say that there will be no compromise on the mayor's part. They feel they're being used as pawns."

The compromise plan was submitted July 26 to Mayor Lindsay by Mario M. Cuomo, an attorney named by the mayor to investigate the disputed project and propose revisions which might be acceptable to both proponents and opponents of the currently scheduled 840-family apartments

in three 24-story buildings.

Dr. Stanley Dacher, executive vice-president of the Council, called on the mayor "to realize that this project has become a symbol not only to the Jewish community but to the entire middle class, as to whether they have any future left in this city." He concluded that the Cuomo report, "if followed to its logical conclusion, actually makes a very strong case for 'no project at all," a situation which Lashinsky said the Council preferred. But Lashinsky maintained that the Council was ready to begin negotiations for a compromise, provided Mayor Lindsay would meet with its representatives.

Lashinsky said that the Council was willing to give Mayor Lindsay "reasonable time" to come to a decision in the controversy, but warned that "if the project goes up, I and others out here will see that this project is hung as an albatross around the mayor's neck for his political life, which will be short."

The first reunion of alumni of Young Judaea and of Junior Hadassah will be held in New York Aug. 20 at Hadassah's national convention. Young Judaea, organized in 1909, is the oldest Zionist youth movement in the United States, stressing recreation and Jewish culture in a Zionist framework. Junior Hadassah, organized in 1920, concentrates on child care, especially Palestinian orphans.



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ative isolation of the city of Sverdlovsk to cover up what is a platant and gross travesty of the word 'justice.''

He further said, "We fear now, that based on this conviction, in the remote town of Sverdlovsk, a broad 'conspiracy plot' may be charged against others. Soviet officials, who believed they would bury this case and set an example for other Jews, are mistaken. We are asking prominent individuals...to make it clear to Soviet officials that this type of 'star-chamber' procedure can no longer be covered up."

The NCSJ is sending letters and telegrams to all their constituent agencies and local communities, to legal associations and individual lawyers, as well as US government officials. Telegrams have gone to Pres. Nixon and the State Department protesting the conviction. Many have expressed fear that the evidence gathered at Markman's trial will be used at further trials of Jewish activists in Moscow, the NCSJ said.

The NCSJ had reported previously that a Soviet telephone operator had testified at the trial that she had overheard Markman giving "slanderous information" about the Soviet Union during an alleged telephone conversation with Israel. The defendant was reported at the trial to have said that anti-Semitism did exist in the Soviet Union.

## Protest Soviet Trials POLICE EVICT JDL MEMBERS FROM FINNISH EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Some 30 members of the militant Jewish Defense League were forcibly evicted by the police from the Finnish Embassy today after they invaded the Embassy offices demanding a halt to all Russian trials against Jews. Police had to drag out the activists after all attempts by Embassy officials to persuade them to leave quietly failed, and in the process police detained 10 of the members for resisting eviction. The Finnish Embassy has represented the interests of the Soviet Union since relations between Israel and Russia were ruptured during the Six-Day War.

The JDL militants said they staged the invasion in response to this morning's news of a renewed wave of trials against Jews in Russia, especially that of Vladimir Markman, the Soviet activist who went on trial yesterday in Sverdlovsk on charges of hooliganism and engaging in anti-Soviet propaganda. One of the JDL youths rang the Embassy bell, and as the door was opened, all 30 pushed their way in, declaring they intended to remain in the office until Russia discontinued the trials.

In another JDL development, Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the JDL, now residing in Israel, announced the establishment of a Jewish Identity Center in Jerusalem, a school which he said was designed for foreign youth instructors to teach JDL principles to other youths upon returning to their country. Rabbi Kahane also told a news conference that some 22 young people from the United States and Canada between the ages of 17 and 22 would take part in the first course, to be held in Jerusalem. The curriculum will include Jewish history, the Holocaust, Jewish "Resistance," and Zionism and "Hebrew Power." Kahane also said the JDL plans to start a course for Israeli youth shortly.

Gen. Chaim Laskoff, former Israeli Army Chief of Staff, has been named ombudsman for the Army. He will deal with complaints by or against servicemen, and military institutions.

## SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADERS PROTEST TO BRITISH ENVOY OVER LONDON PLO OFFICE PLAN

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Representatives of South African Jewry have advised the British ambassador here of the Jewish community's concern over the planned opening in London of an office of the Palestine Liberation Organization. A joint delegation of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the South African Zionist Federation handed Sir Arthur Snelling a memorandum charging that "the activities of such an office will only serve to promote and incite further wanton acts of murder, terrorism and hijacking against innocent men, women and children of all nationalities and religious persuasions, not only in Israel but in many other countries, and on aircraft."

Sir Arthur, according to the delegation, repeated his government's position that it is not illegal to establish an office in Britain "to promote the cause of the Palestinian people in the United Kingdom." The bureau, he reiterated, would not have official or quasi-official status or immunity, any illegal activities would be halted, and personnel deemed to be engaging in or planning such activities would be deported or denied admission to the country.

The British envoy pointed out that the PLO maintains offices in the United States, Yugoslavia, and China; that it is opening one in the Soviet Union; that it has legal representatives in the Arab League offices in Britain and Chile, and that it sends representatives to Arab summit meetings and the United Nations General Assembly. (The New York PLO office was wrecked by a bomb on Oct. 7, 1970.)

According to Sir Arthur, there is a long tradition in Britain that political organizations at odds with governments with which Britain has friendly relations are allowed to operate in Britain as long as they do so within the law. This policy was applied, for example, in the cases of Biafra and Bangladesh, he said. The Jewish delegation was led by I.A. Maisels, general chairman of the Zionist Federation. He was accompanied by H.S. Liebgott and J. Daleski, chairman and president of the Zionist Federation, and D.K. Mann and M. Porter, chairman and president of the Board of Deputies.

# 19 Jewish Immigrants 10 FAMILIES ARRIVE IN NEW YORK FROM USSR, POLAND, RUMANIA

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Nineteen Jewish immigrants, comprising 10 family units from the Soviet Union, Poland and Rumania, arrived at Kennedy International Airport today, Gaynor I, Jacobson, executive vice-president of the United Hias Service announced. The United Hias Service assisted all the newcomers in their migration to the United States.

Four of the family units will be resettled in the Greater New York area, one in Cedar Grove, N.J., and the others in Chicago, Philadelphia, Albany and Columbus, Ohio. The migrants include Mr. and Mrs. Simion Schneider and their daughter Maya from Riga, Mr. and Mrs. Moise Schor of Rumania and Mr. and Mrs. Mendel Tune and their son Mark from Pinsk. The Schors were reunited with their daughter and son-in-law, Drs. Simona and Salviu Cohan of New York City, and Tune was reunited with his brother Joe of Brooklyn, after a separation of 26 years.

Among those at the airport to greet the new arrivals were: Harold Friedman, president of United Hias; Carl Glick, chairman of the executive commit-

tee and treasurer of United Hias; Herbert Tenzer, president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York; and Mrs. Ben S. Marcus and Mrs. Herbert J. Dreifuss, chairmen of the women's division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. United Hias Service is a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

### NIXON-SADAT MESSAGE EXCHANGE DOWNGRADED BY U.S. OFFICIALS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Both the White House and the State Department sought today to minimize the significance of the exchange of messages between Presidents Nixon and Sadat on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian revolution. The exchange was made public today in Cairo more than two weeks after President Nixon sent his congratulations on July 23 to Sadat who responded with an equally cordial message of thanks.

Some observers here interpreted the disclosure and its timing as another indication of Sadat's desire to improve relations with the United States following his July ouster order to Soviet military advisors. But the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was specifically cautioned by an authoritative source at the White House that the message exchange should not be over-rated. Later, State Department spokesman John King told newsmen that "no great significance" should be attached to the exchange. He pointed out that a similar message was sent last year to Cairo on the 19th anniversary.

### KOLLEK, KOL CLASH ON RATE OF TOURIST VISITS TO JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Tourism Minister Moshe Kol denounced Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek today for a suggestion by the Mayor that tourists should be discouraged from visiting Jerusalem. The Mayor said, in a recent talk to the city's Economic Club, that the city could not handle the rising number of tourists who spend time in Jerusalem during their Israeli tours. Kol said the Tourism Ministry would never agree to Kollek's proposal.

Kol said he disagreed with Kollek's suggestions for a tax on tourists or for a freeze on the number of hotel rooms being built in Jerusalem. Kol disputed an "intimation" from the Mayor that the Israeli government was building 4000 hotel rooms in the capital, declaring that "we are building only 1520 rooms, less than half the number the Mayor mentioned."

Citing an interview in the London Times in which Kollek reportedly reasserted his view that tourists should be dissuaded from visiting Jerusalem, Kol said hotel rates would rocket if hotel construction was slowed. Kol also rejected Kollek's argument that new hotels necessarily would do harm to the capital aesthetically.

### FOREIGN ARABS VISIT TECHNION

HAIFA, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Fifty university students and professionals from Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait visited the Technion last Tuesday for three hours, the Israel Institute of Technology reported today. The students and professionals, in Israel under the Defense Department's summer visitors program encouraging such travel, toured several advanced facilities, including the Computer Center and its IBM 370/165, the Middle East's most powerful computer; physics laboratories featuring electronic teaching equipment and the Hydraulic Engineering Center.

Worst Disaster,' Says Fisher

CJF SAYS \$2 MILLION IN AID

PLANNED BY FEDERATIONS FOR

FLOOD-HIT WILKES-BARRE COMMUNITY

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--More than \$2 million in financial aid will be provided by the Jewish Federations of America to the flood-devastated Jewish community of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Max M. Fisher, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, announced today. He said the assistance program was worked out in consultation with the Jewish Federation of Wilkes-Barre and the CJF and approved by the CJF executive committee.

Fisher, who visited the Wilkes-Barre community with Philip Bernstein, CJF executive vice-president, said that of the community's 1600 Jewish families, 1300 were evacuated and that fewer than 100 have since returned to their homes. Most of the 800 Jewish business enterprises, including offices of Jewish professional men and women, were either

damaged or destroyed, he said.

He said the approval and the speed with which the aid was given indicated the deep concern of the American Jewish community for the plight of the people and institutions of Wilkes-Barre, which he said was the hardest hit of the communities struck by storm Agnes last June. The CJF immediately asked Jewish Federations to approve and transmit their grants. Even before that official action, he said, \$250,000 had been committed by the first ten

Federations to respond.

The CJF president said the program for Wilkes-Barre was projected to meet the Jewish community's needs over a two-year period--individual needs, continuation of Jewish communal services, restoration of Jewish institutions and initial interest payments for business loans. The minimum total to meet these needs amounts to \$2,396,396, and, of that amount, the Wilkes-Barre Jewish community is undertaking to provide \$295,000, according to the CJF, which is coordinating national assistance to Wilkes-Barre and to the storm-ravaged communities in Pennsylvania and New York State.

More than 200 families have been given immediate counseling and special financial aid and the Jewish Federation's business and industry committee made loans totaling almost \$500,000 in the first seven days of its work. Caseworkers have been provided by Jewish agencies in Philadelphia, New York, Essex County, N.J., Pittsburgh and Baltimore. The aid projections are based on the direct experience of the CJF team of experts who have been working with the Jewish community to define the aid needed on both a short and long term basis. The experts are James Young, CJF director of small cities services, Herbert Katzki of the Joint Distribution Committee, Max Pearlman of the Chicago Jewish Federation, and Mrs. Mollie Spector of the Philadelphia Jewish Family Service.

Describing the Wilkes-Barre Jewish community as "a tragic picture of devastation," Fisher said "nothing can describe the damage we saw there. It's the worst disaster in America's history and the worst destruction was in the Jewish business and residential areas." He added that "we saw houses swept off their foundations and crushed. People have mortgages on homes that do not exist. The furnishings of many are a total loss--just heaps of debris. The machinery of factories is caked with mud--rusted or crushed, as are the buildings. The synagogues, schools and community center suffered the same way and must be repaired and rebuilt. Jewish families, their livelihoods, their community, must be restored."

Fisher said the Wilkes-Barre Jewish commun-

ity was determined to do everything possible through its own resources to help its people and reconstruct the community. He added that the Wilkes-Barre Jewish Federation had resumed operations with the help of the CJF team and that it had set up special emergency committees on individual assistance, business and industry and institutional and organizational requirements, all of which he said are now in operation. Fisher pointed out that whatever special Jewish help is being given and planned is to meet special needs not met by the government, the Red Cross and other agencies and is in no sense a substitute for them.

## QUEENS JEWISH COUNCIL SAYS READY TO ACCEPT COMPROMISE IN FOREST HILLS HOUSING DISPUTE

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 (JTA)--Dr. Alvin Lashinsky, past president of the Queens Jewish Community Council, said today the Council was willing to
accept "a compromise that the community would
accept" in the controversy over an 840-unit lowincome housing project now under construction in
the predominantly Jewish Forest Hills section of
Queens. He said he viewed the Cuomo report, issued last month which suggested halving the number of apartments, as "a beginning in the quest
for understanding and compromise" of the controversy but he also accused Mayor John V, Lindsay of "not acting in good faith" in the dispute.

Lashinsky said that the mayor has "absolutely refused" to meet with the Council. He also attacked Lindsay for the "acceleration of building" on the project. He claimed that construction on the site was now taking place day and night. "This is a ploy on the mayor's part to get as much as possible done," Lashinsky said. "People out here (in Queens) are beginning to say that there will be no compromise on the mayor's part. They feel they're being used as pawns."

The compromise plan was submitted July 26 to Mayor Lindsay by Mario M. Cuomo, an attorney named by the mayor to investigate the disputed project and propose revisions which might be acceptable to both proponents and opponents of the currently scheduled 840-family apartments

in three 24-story buildings.

Dr. Stanley Dacher, executive vice-president of the Council, called on the mayor "to realize that this project has become a symbol not only to the Jewish community but to the entire middle class, as to whether they have any future left in this city." He concluded that the Cuomo report, "if followed to its logical conclusion, actually makes a very strong case for 'no project at all," a situation which Lashinsky said the Council preferred. But Lashinsky maintained that the Council was ready to begin negotiations for a compromise, provided Mayor Lindsay would meet with its representatives.

Lashinsky said that the Council was willing to give Mayor Lindsay "reasonable time" to come to a decision in the controversy, but warned that "if the project goes up, I and others out here will see that this project is hung as an albatross around the mayor's neck for his political life, which will be short."

The first reunion of alumni of Young Judaea and of Junior Hadassah will be held in New York Aug. 20 at Hadassah's national convention. Young Judaea, organized in 1909, is the oldest Zionist youth movement in the United States, stressing recreation and Jewish culture in a Zionist framework. Junior Hadassah, organized in 1920, concentrates on child care, especially Palestinian orphans.