

daily news bulletin

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Vol. XXXIX - Fifty-Fifth Year

Friday, September 15, 1972

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The documents published in Le Monde refer to what Aranda described as "gross governmental corruption" in the granting of building contracts and supply contracts to Gaullist elements. It was recalled that President Georges Pompidou dismissed Premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas after the opposition leveled charges of corruption against the government.

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GUN AMNESTY YIELDS 7000 WEAPONS

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He said police were still accepting unlicensed weapons without questioning the owner provided that the latter offered a reasonable excuse for not having turned in the fire arms during August. A reasonable excuse, he said, was illness or absence abroad.

Tougher penalties for the illegal possession of weapons are now in force. Tavor said that more than half the weapons turned in so far were pistols. There were 952 submachineguns, 1770 rifles and 660 hunting rifles. Tavor said that half the persons who turned weapons in had applied for permits which were now under consideration.

IMMIGRANTS BALK AT FLATS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Five immigrant families who arrived from Europe by sea during the past few days staged sit-downs aboard ship at Haifa port because they were dissatisfied with the location of the flats allocated to them by the Absorption Ministry. Four of the families, numbering 21 persons, refused to disembark, Immigrants from France and other European countries insisted on housing in Haifa rather than the flats assigned them in locations east of that city.

Another family, numbering 10 persons, refused to leave another ship and spent two days aboard the vessel after being told that they were to be housed in Ashdod. The family demanded a flat in

Rehovoth. They came ashore only when Ministry officials threatened to withdraw their immigrant permits as the ship was about to sail for France.

CHRISTIANS MOURN MUNICH VICTIMS

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J., Sept. 14 (17A).—Approximately 300 people participated several days ago in a Christian service in memory of the Il Israell athletes murdered in Munich. The service was conducted on the campus of Seton Hall University. Rev. Paul L. Stagg, General Secretary of the New Jersey: Council of Churches, in a keynote address, paid respect to the victims of "this mad terror," expressed solidarity with Jewish people "who have been subjected in our time within the memories of many to genocidal attack," and protested the concerted effort which jeopardizes the existence, integrity, and aspirations of Jewish people to develop their own life and senius.

Rev. Stagg said that the act of terror at the Olympics "is not an isolated act. It is part of a calculated continuing attempt threatening the very existence of Israel." He urged the assembly to "act resolutely and to press our government, the President, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary General of the United Nations to bring every resource to bear on those Arab states which harbor and encourage

terrorists."

Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher. Director of the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Stwides at Seton Hall University, decried the action at Munich and urged the audience to "demand, again and again, through newspapers, Congressmen, Senators, the administration in Washington, even Pope Paul in Rome, that the Arab governments that have been in a state of war with Israel enter into negotiations." Msgr. Oesterreicher also suggested to the audience "that you plant a tree or two in Israel, in memory of the II slain athletes."

ELDERLY JEWS GIVEN AID TO HOLD HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

NEW YORK, Sept. 14 (JTA)-Some 50 eldcrly Jewish residents in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, which once had 200 flourishing synagogues and now does not have any, were able to attend Rosh Hashana services with the help of the Association of Jewish Anti-Poverty Workers, S. Elly Rosen, its director, disclosed today. Through the same special arrangements, Rosen added, the elderly Jews will worship again on Yom Kippur eve and on Yom Kippur.

Rosen said there were still some 2000 elderly Jews living in poverty and fear in Brownsville. Some continued to attend services in the apartment of an elderly Jew until he entered a nursh pome last Purim. Roses asid the association arranged for temporary facilities in the community center of the Van Dyke Houses, a senior citizens low-income housing project. But the elderly Jews were unable to raise enough money among themselves through ticket sales for a cantor and a reader.

Rosen said he approached Rabbi Jack Stern, Jr. of the Westohester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, which provided the additional funds needed for the functionaries. The services were conducted by David Miller, prosident of the Senior Centers of Greater New York. Miller, who is blind, recited the services from memory and blew the Shofar. Torah reading was done by a Lubavitcher rabbi, Yaskov Blotner.

ISRAEL-LATIN AMERICAN TRADE ON RISE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Israel's commerce with Latin America is on the increase. This is reflected in the fact that Israeli exports to these countries doubled in the past three years. A trade survey recently completed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry showed that Israel's exports to Latin America sent from \$8 million in 1968 to \$16 million in 1971.

The survey also indicated that imports rose from \$22 million to \$31 million annually during the same three-year period. The main Israeli exports to Latin America are chemical specialities, metal products, food and electronics. The chief commodity that Israel buys from Latin America is frozen meat, purchased in Argentina, Brazil and Urugusy. Israel also procures coffees from these three countries.

U.S. JET CHARTER SERVICE BUYS THREE BUSINESS JETS FROM ISRAEL

CINCINNATI, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Executive Jet Aviation, Inc. of Ohio, the world's largest business jet charter service, has announced the purchase of three modified Commodore Jet 1123 business aircraft from Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd. The three jets are to be modified according to EJA's specifications to allow quick change conversion from passenger to cargo operation within less than one hour.

A company spokesman said he believed that this is the largest single business jet order announced so far this year in terms of the number of aircraft involved. EJA will take delivery of their first 1123 Commodore in about six months.

Earlier this week the Atlantic Aviation Corp. announced it had signed an agreement in Israel with IAI giving AVC exclusive marketting rights in the United States and Canada for the Commodore-Jet II23 planes. The announcement of the purchase was made by Druce C, Sunbiun, president of EIA, during the 25th National Business Aircraft meeting being held here. EIA will also undertake to train pilots and mechanics for all new Commodore-Jet II23 aircraft sold in this country.

3 OFFER THEMSELVES AS STAND-INS FOR JAILED EROS ARSONISTS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Three Orthodox men have written to Premier Golda Meir offering themselves as "hostages" in place of the two yeshiva students in jail awaiting sentences for the fire-bombing of the Eros sex boutique in Tel Aviv. The three, Menakem Weinbach of Jerusalem, Nathan Greenberg of Jerusalem, and Yehuda Palsy of Ashdod, say they are veterans of the Israel Army. They suggested that the two convicted arsonists, Yisrael Bernat and Shmuel Weissenstern, be released on bail until their sentencing next month, while they take their places in the prison cell. The two arsonists were convicted Aug. 3,

JEWS, LUTHERANS, TO HONOR DANISH KING

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Jews and Lutherans in the nation's capital have joined in establishing the King Christian X Annual Memorial Lecture on Christian-Jewish Relations in honor of the Danish King and his government for their protection of Jews in Denmark during its occupation by Germany in World War II. The announcement of the lectures was made at the Danish Embassy in the presence of Ambassador Eyvind Bartels by Charles Solem, president of the Council of Luther Place Lutheran Church, and Abe Krash, chairman of the Washington Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. The first lecture will be given on Oct. 15 at Luther Place Church by Dr. Samuel Sandmel, provost of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio,

An Historic Development N.Y. FEDERATION, UJA OF N.Y. CREATE PHILANTHROPIC FUND

NEW YORK, Sept. 14 (JTA)—The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, in an unprecedented collaboration, have established the Jewish Communal Fund of New York (JCF) as the "philanthropio bank" to serve the Jewish community in the metropolitan area. This was announced today at a news conference in the offices of the new fund at 745 Fifth Avenue.

This represents the first time that these two major Jewish organizations have united in an effort to take care of the long-term philanthropic objectives of the Jewish community. Its purpose is to receive, manage and distribute charitable contributions from individuals, families and foundations, and also to aid contributors in meeting their long-term philanthropic goals.

Herbert M. Singer, a New York attorney, has been elected president of JCF. Frederic S. Berman, former State Sanator from Manhattan, and New York City Rent Commissioner during the first Lindsay administration, has been named executive vice-president. The announcement was made by Lawrence B. Buttenwieser and Herbert F. Tenzer, presidents, respectively, of Federation and UJA.

JCF To Enhance Charitable Efforts

The two leaders termed the new undertaking "m historic and untone effort in New York Jewish philanthropy, JCF links, in a common long-range charitable funding program, the two completely autonomous organizations, which serve different Jewish needs." Berman explained that JCF, an autonomous organization, had been created to enhance charitable efforts by individuals, their families and private foundations, and, at the same time, give contributors the maximum income tax deductions permitted.

Until recently, he said comparatively few contributors have been able to make provisions for their long-range philanthropic objectives. Those that did generally created their own private foundations. The restrictions of the federal tax reform act of 1969 placed new burdens upon private foundations, making them less desirable vehicles for

maintaining charitable funds,
"JCF," Berman continued, "has been created
for the individual who wishes to commence making
long-range contributions, or for the person who
has had his own private foundation in the past and
now wishes to terminate it because of the restrictive tax law provisions that apply to foundations.
JCF offers contributors maximum tax benefits for
their contributions," With the Jewish Communal
Fund, a contributor will be able to achieve, through
reduction of expenses and increased available charitable deductions, benefits which were not available
through private foundations even prior to 1969.

Will Not Conflict With Annual Campaigns

"A most important facet of JCF's activities," Berman observed, "Is the establishment of an endowment fund from which its board of trustees will make distributions each year to reflect the highest priority of needs, then prevailing, in the Jewish community." JCF is a tax exempt organization, Berman stated, and has been declared by the Internal Revenue Service to be a publicly-supported charity, thus extending to contributors maximum tax benefitts available under present law.

In addition, excess contributions to JCF may be carried forward as tax deductions for up to five years, as opposed to excess contributions to private foundations, which cannot be carried forward and are lest as deductions. Also, Berman explained, there is no tax on JCF investment income, making more dollars available for charitable purposes. Whereas an annual tax of four percent is imposed on private foundations' net investment income.

Berman pointed out that JCF is not intended to conflict with the annual campaigns of either UJA or Federation, which seek funds for present and immediate charitable needs. It may, in fact, he said, aid contributors in fulfilling their obligations to UJA and Federation,

RABBI KLAPERMAN ENDORSES NIXON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 (JTA).-Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry and a past president of the New York Board of Rabbis, has endorsed President Nixon for reelection. The White House released a letter from the New York rabbi to the President, which stated, "I am convinced that your responsiveness to the needs of our citizenry has helped maintain the integrity and stability of our country." He expressed gratitude to the President for his support of Israel and for "your intervention on behalf of Soviet Jewry, whose present plight tears sorely at our hearts."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

LONDON, Sept. 14 (JTA).--King Hassan of Morocos add today that the terrorist murder of il Israeli Olympic athletes in Munich was "disastrous to the cause of the Palesinians." The Arab ruler appeared on a BBC interview, his first ever given to a British media. He said, "We must distinguish between terrorist agitators and genuine fighters for a cause. Those who perpetrated the Munich horror are terrorist agitators. Their Munich misdeed is disastrous to the cause of the Palestinians. But we must remember that it is very difficult to ask all Palestinians to be patient at all times."

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PARIJ, Sept. 14 (1TA)--A street named after Andre Spire, the French Jewish poet who died in 1966, will be inaugurated Sunday in Avaray in central France at a ceremony during which Louis Joxe, Gaullist Depuly and former Minister, will unveil the plaque. Spire's poems and letters will be read by Michel Etcheverry, a member of the Comedie Francaise.

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JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- A total of 120 overseas scientists - a new record - will be at the Weizmann Institute of Science during the coming academic year, Prof. Albert B, Sabin, president of the Institute, announced yesterday. The largest number of visitors, some 69, are coming from the US. Smaller contingents will arrive from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Japan, The Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden and Switzerland.

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GUN AMNESTY YIELDS 7000 WEAPONS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- A month-long amnesty that permitted people to turn in illegally held weapons to police on a no-questions-asked basis yielded 7000 unlicensed fire arms of various types during August, police spokesman Mordechai Tavor announced today. Tavor conceded however that there were still tens of thousands of illegally held weapons unaccounted for though he termed the anmesty a marked success.

He said police were still accepting unlicensed weapons without questioning the owner provided that the latter offered a reasonable excuse for not having turned in the fire arms during August. A reasonable excuse, he said, was illness or absence abroad.

Tougher penalties for the illegal possession of weapons are now in force. Tavor said that more than half the weapons turned in so far were pistols. There were 952 submachineguns, 1770 rifles and 660 hunting rifles. Tavor said that half the persons who turned weapons in had applied for permits which were now under consideration.

IMMIGRANTS BALK AT FLATS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Five immigrant families who arrived from Europe by sea during the past few days staged sit-downs aboard ship at Haifa port because they were dissatisfied with the location of the flats allocated to them by the Absorption Ministry. Four of the families, numbering 21 persons, refused to disembark, Immigrants from France and other European countries insisted on housing in Haifa rather than the flats assigned them in locations east of that city.

Another family, numbering 10 persons, refused to leave another ship and spent two days aboard the vessel after being told that they were to be housed in Ashdod. The family demanded a flat in

Rehovoth. They came ashore only when Ministry officials threatened to withdraw their immigrant permits as the ship was about to sail for France.

CHRISTIANS MOURN MUNICH VICTIMS

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J., Sept. 14 (17A).—Approximately 300 people participated several days ago in a Christian service in memory of the Il Israell athletes murdered in Munich. The service was conducted on the campus of Seton Hall University. Rev. Paul L. Stagg, General Secretary of the New Jersey: Council of Churches, in a keynote address, paid respect to the victims of "this mad terror," expressed solidarity with Jewish people "who have been subjected in our time within the memories of many to genocidal attack," and protested the concerted effort which jeopardizes the existence, integrity, and aspirations of Jewish people to develop their own life and senius.

Rev. Stagg said that the act of terror at the Olympics "is not an isolated act. It is part of a calculated continuing attempt threatening the very existence of Israel." He urged the assembly to "act resolutely and to press our government, the President, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary General of the United Nations to bring every resource to bear on those Arab states which harbor and encourage

terrorists."

Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher. Director of the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Stwides at Seton Hall University, decried the action at Munich and urged the audience to "demand, again and again, through newspapers, Congressmen, Senators, the administration in Washington, even Pope Paul in Rome, that the Arab governments that have been in a state of war with Israel enter into negotiations." Msgr. Oesterreicher also suggested to the audience "that you plant a tree or two in Israel, in memory of the II slain athletes."

ELDERLY JEWS GIVEN AID TO HOLD HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

NEW YORK, Sept. 14 (JTA)-Some 50 eldcrly Jewish residents in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, which once had 200 flourishing synagogues and now does not have any, were able to attend Rosh Hashana services with the help of the Association of Jewish Anti-Poverty Workers, S. Elly Rosen, its director, disclosed today. Through the same special arrangements, Rosen added, the elderly Jews will worship again on Yom Kippur eve and on Yom Kippur.

Rosen said there were still some 2000 elderly Jews living in poverty and fear in Brownsville. Some continued to attend services in the apartment of an elderly Jew until he entered a nursh pome last Purim. Roses asid the association arranged for temporary facilities in the community center of the Van Dyke Houses, a senior citizens low-income housing project. But the elderly Jews were unable to raise enough money among themselves through ticket sales for a cantor and a reader.

Rosen said he approached Rabbi Jack Stern, Jr. of the Westohester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, which provided the additional funds needed for the functionaries. The services were conducted by David Miller, prosident of the Senior Centers of Greater New York. Miller, who is blind, recited the services from memory and blew the Shofar. Torah reading was done by a Lubavitcher rabbi, Yaskov Blotner.

ISRAEL-LATIN AMERICAN TRADE ON RISE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Israel's commerce with Latin America is on the increase. This is reflected in the fact that Israeli exports to these countries doubled in the past three years. A trade survey recently completed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry showed that Israel's exports to Latin America sent from \$8 million in 1968 to \$16 million in 1971.

The survey also indicated that imports rose from \$22 million to \$31 million annually during the same three-year period. The main Israeli exports to Latin America are chemical specialities, metal products, food and electronics. The chief commodity that Israel buys from Latin America is frozen meat, purchased in Argentina, Brazil and Urugusy. Israel also procures coffees from these three countries.

U.S. JET CHARTER SERVICE BUYS THREE BUSINESS JETS FROM ISRAEL

CINCINNATI, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Executive Jet Aviation, Inc. of Ohio, the world's largest business jet charter service, has announced the purchase of three modified Commodore Jet 1123 business aircraft from Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd. The three jets are to be modified according to EJA's specifications to allow quick change conversion from passenger to cargo operation within less than one hour.

A company spokesman said he believed that this is the largest single business jet order announced so far this year in terms of the number of aircraft involved. EJA will take delivery of their first 1123 Commodore in about six months.

Earlier this week the Atlantic Aviation Corp. announced it had signed an agreement in Israel with IAI giving AVC exclusive marketting rights in the United States and Canada for the Commodore-Jet II23 planes. The announcement of the purchase was made by Druce C, Sunbiun, president of EIA, during the 25th National Business Aircraft meeting being held here. EIA will also undertake to train pilots and mechanics for all new Commodore-Jet II23 aircraft sold in this country.

3 OFFER THEMSELVES AS STAND-INS FOR JAILED EROS ARSONISTS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA).—Three Orthodox men have written to Premier Golda Meir offering themselves as "hostages" in place of the two yeshiva students in jail awaiting sentences for the fire-bombing of the Eros sex boutique in Tel Aviv. The three, Menakem Weinbach of Jerusalem, Nathan Greenberg of Jerusalem, and Yehuda Palsy of Ashdod, say they are veterans of the Israel Army. They suggested that the two convicted arsonists, Yisrael Bernat and Shmuel Weissenstern, be released on bail until their sentencing next month, while they take their places in the prison cell. The two arsonists were convicted Aug. 3,

JEWS, LUTHERANS, TO HONOR DANISH KING

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Jews and Lutherans in the nation's capital have joined in establishing the King Christian X Annual Memorial Lecture on Christian-Jewish Relations in honor of the Danish King and his government for their protection of Jews in Denmark during its occupation by Germany in World War II. The announcement of the lectures was made at the Danish Embassy in the presence of Ambassador Eyvind Bartels by Charles Solem, president of the Council of Luther Place Lutheran Church, and Abe Krash, chairman of the Washington Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. The first lecture will be given on Oct. 15 at Luther Place Church by Dr. Samuel Sandmel, provost of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio,

An Historic Development N.Y. FEDERATION, UJA OF N.Y. CREATE PHILANTHROPIC FUND

NEW YORK, Sept. 14 (JTA)—The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, in an unprecedented collaboration, have established the Jewish Communal Fund of New York (JCF) as the "philanthropio bank" to serve the Jewish community in the metropolitan area. This was announced today at a news conference in the offices of the new fund at 745 Fifth Avenue.

This represents the first time that these two major Jewish organizations have united in an effort to take care of the long-term philanthropic objectives of the Jewish community. Its purpose is to receive, manage and distribute charitable contributions from individuals, families and foundations, and also to aid contributors in meeting their long-term philanthropic goals.

Herbert M. Singer, a New York attorney, has been elected president of JCF. Frederic S. Berman, former State Sanator from Manhattan, and New York City Rent Commissioner during the first Lindsay administration, has been named executive vice-president. The announcement was made by Lawrence B. Buttenwieser and Herbert F. Tenzer, presidents, respectively, of Federation and UJA.

JCF To Enhance Charitable Efforts

The two leaders termed the new undertaking "m historic and untone effort in New York Jewish philanthropy, JCF links, in a common long-range charitable funding program, the two completely autonomous organizations, which serve different Jewish needs." Berman explained that JCF, an autonomous organization, had been created to enhance charitable efforts by individuals, their families and private foundations, and, at the same time, give contributors the maximum income tax deductions permitted.

Until recently, he said comparatively few contributors have been able to make provisions for their long-range philanthropic objectives. Those that did generally created their own private foundations. The restrictions of the federal tax reform act of 1969 placed new burdens upon private foundations, making them less desirable vehicles for

maintaining charitable funds,
"JCF," Berman continued, "has been created
for the individual who wishes to commence making
long-range contributions, or for the person who
has had his own private foundation in the past and
now wishes to terminate it because of the restrictive tax law provisions that apply to foundations.
JCF offers contributors maximum tax benefits for
their contributions," With the Jewish Communal
Fund, a contributor will be able to achieve, through
reduction of expenses and increased available charitable deductions, benefits which were not available
through private foundations even prior to 1969.

Will Not Conflict With Annual Campaigns

"A most important facet of JCF's activities," Berman observed, "Is the establishment of an endowment fund from which its board of trustees will make distributions each year to reflect the highest priority of needs, then prevailing, in the Jewish community." JCF is a tax exempt organization, Berman stated, and has been declared by the Internal Revenue Service to be a publicly-supported charity, thus extending to contributors maximum tax benefitts available under present law.

In addition, excess contributions to JCF may be carried forward as tax deductions for up to five years, as opposed to excess contributions to private foundations, which cannot be carried forward and are lest as deductions. Also, Berman explained, there is no tax on JCF investment income, making more dollars available for charitable purposes. Whereas an annual tax of four percent is imposed on private foundations' net investment income.

Berman pointed out that JCF is not intended to conflict with the annual campaigns of either UJA or Federation, which seek funds for present and immediate charitable needs. It may, in fact, he said, aid contributors in fulfilling their obligations to UJA and Federation,

RABBI KLAPERMAN ENDORSES NIXON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 (JTA).-Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry and a past president of the New York Board of Rabbis, has endorsed President Nixon for reelection. The White House released a letter from the New York rabbi to the President, which stated, "I am convinced that your responsiveness to the needs of our citizenry has helped maintain the integrity and stability of our country." He expressed gratitude to the President for his support of Israel and for "your intervention on behalf of Soviet Jewry, whose present plight tears sorely at our hearts."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

LONDON, Sept. 14 (JTA).--King Hassan of Morocos add today that the terrorist murder of il Israeli Olympic athletes in Munich was "disastrous to the cause of the Palesinians." The Arab ruler appeared on a BBC interview, his first ever given to a British media. He said, "We must distinguish between terrorist agitators and genuine fighters for a cause. Those who perpetrated the Munich horror are terrorist agitators. Their Munich misdeed is disastrous to the cause of the Palestinians. But we must remember that it is very difficult to ask all Palestinians to be patient at all times."

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PARIJ, Sept. 14 (1TA)--A street named after Andre Spire, the French Jewish poet who died in 1966, will be inaugurated Sunday in Avaray in central France at a ceremony during which Louis Joxe, Gaullist Depuly and former Minister, will unveil the plaque. Spire's poems and letters will be read by Michel Etcheverry, a member of the Comedie Francaise.

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JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- A total of 120 overseas scientists - a new record - will be at the Weizmann Institute of Science during the coming academic year, Prof. Albert B, Sabin, president of the Institute, announced yesterday. The largest number of visitors, some 69, are coming from the US. Smaller contingents will arrive from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Japan, The Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden and Switzerland.

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COPENIAGEN, Sept. 14 (ITA).—Representatives of five Norwegian parliamentary parties wrote today the Soviet government protesting the tax imposed on educated emigrants. Former Prime Minister Per Borton was among the signatories.

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NEW YORK, Sept. 14 (JTA)--Kurt Waldheim, UN Secretary General, told a Rotary olub luncheon today that the recent escalation of incidents "both in and related to the Middle East conflict" should not "distract us from the absolute necessity of continuing the search for a peaceful solution."