



daily news bulletin

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Vol. XXXIX - Fifty-Fifth Year

Monday, December 18, 1972

No. 242

PRO-ARAB DEMONSTRATORS CLASH WITH POLICE; 20 WOUNDED, 300 ARRESTED

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It was the latter demonstration, attended by some 500 people, which violently clashed with several hundred helmeted and baton-swinging riot police. The marchers, led by left-wing leaders Alain Gelsmar and philosopher Michel Foucault, were finally dispersed and many arrested before they managed to reach the Ministry of Justice--their main target. Some of the most violent fighting took place in front of the Jewish Communal Building on the Blvd. de la Bonne Nouvelle.

The other demonstration, dealing more specifically with the Hamshari explosion, did not clash with the police after the organizers announced that they would not try to reach the center of the city. The demonstrators, headed by the Trotskyist leader Alain Krivine, chanted for several hours, "Israelis are murderers," and "Israel withdraw." Huge banners branded Israel as an "imperialist aggressor." Many of the participants, including Gelsmar and Krivine, are Jewish. The same organizers have called for a protest meeting for next Thursday in Paris' huge "Salle de la Mutualite."

CAMBODIA HAS OPENED EMBASSY IN JERUSALEM; SAIGON EXPECTED TO FOLLOW

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The Embassy is being run at present by a charge d'affaires, Son San. The Ambassador-designate Keo Kimson, is in Phnompenh where he is active in the cease-fire negotiations. He is expected early in Jan. There is presently also an economic counselor at the Embassy.

Israeli sources stress that relations with Cambodia have improved recently and cite the Cambodian decision to set up its Embassy in Jerusalem as proof of this. Until now, Cambodia had a non-resident Ambassador accredited to Israel.

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The official, who emphasized that Saigon expects to continue the battle "against Communist aggression," indicated that his government has heard of Israel's paramilitary nahal settlements and may want to adapt them to its purposes. The two countries established diplomatic relations last week and will soon exchange ambassadors.

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later's Office, from the Defense and Foreign Ministries and from circles close to Minister-Without-Portfolio Israel Galili, one of Premier Meir's closest confidants.

Mrs. Meir termed the story "amazing" at today's Cabinet meeting and said the Foreign Ministry was right in denying it categorically. But even as the denials were issued, Israeli sources reported that Palestinian terrorists who were ousted from Jordan by King Hussein in Sept. 1970 have returned and were re-occupying their old bases at Jarash and Ajloun.

The sources said further that the summer visitors from across the border may have been one of the main reasons for the recent increase in terrorist activity in the Samaria district. They said students among the visitors taught terrorists in the region how to manufacture explosives from chemicals obtainable on the open market. Such homemade explosives were discovered recently in two arms caches near Jenin and Nablus.

Jordan Rejects Israel 'Threats'

According to Meched, the government decided to warn Jordan after an incident yesterday morning in which a terrorist infiltrator from Jordan was killed by an Army patrol near the border north of Eilat. It was the first such incident along the Jordan border in some time. It was also noted that Jordan has recently imposed a 15 percent duty on all imports from the West Bank, a set-back for Israel's "open bridges" policy.

Senior sources said today that those developments were not grounds for a warning to Amman. But the Jordanian government ignored the denials and issued a firm rejection last night of Israeli "threats." Jordan radio said in an official statement that "No warnings will prevent us from taking actions which the national interest demands."

Allon In 'Trouble' Over Suggestion

With Mrs. Meir, Moshe Dayan, Abba Eban and Galili disclaiming knowledge of any intended warning, some sources pointed to Deputy Premier Yigal Allon as the party who may have been responsible. Allon, who returned Thursday night from a visit to the United States, is regarded as one of Israel's leading doves.

He is said to be in "trouble" here over his suggestion made in the U.S. that negotiations between Israel and Egypt for an interim Suez settlement and an overall settlement be conducted simultaneously by two different teams. That is not approved government policy. Nevertheless, Allon reiterated the proposal when he landed at Lod Airport. He also said that U.S.-Israeli relations were at an all-time high without America's position in the Arab world being adversely affected.

JUDY AND GAVRIEL IN SPLITSVILLE?

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Judy Silver Shapiro, the social worker from Cincinnati, and Gavriel Shapiro, the Jewish engineer activist she married in Moscow last June, are believed to have separated, according to reports here today. The couple who came to Israel in Oct. after a reunion in Vienna, disappeared from the Beit Giora immigrant absorption center in Jerusalem. Jewish Agency officials said they had no idea where they were or whether they were living together.

Israeli newspapers published a United Press International story this morning claiming that the Shapiros have broken up. One newspaper quoted a Jewish Agency official as saying that they were no longer living together. Other Agency officials refused to comment on the report. "We do not handle the private or matrimonial affairs of our immi-

grants," one official told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

Israeli sources said today that the story of their break-up was probably genuine. They said the couple quarreled publicly in Vienna when Judy wanted to return to the U.S. and Gavriel insisted on leaving at once for Israel. They quarreled again in front of reporters at Lod Airport, the sources said. They described Judy as "bossy" and Gavriel as "quiet but firm."

LOUIS P. ROCKER, ZIONIST LEADER, PRESIDENT OF JTA, DEAD AT 78

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Louis P. Rocker, a long-time Zionist leader in the United States and a president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for several years beginning in 1952, died here last week at the age of 78. Born in Skallit, Austria, he came with his parents to the U.S. at the age of one and had been an Israeli resident since 1960. Mr. Rocker was an honorary vice-president of the Jewish National Fund since 1925 and was treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America from 1937 to 1942. He became a member of the New York Stock Exchange in 1926 and a stock broker in 1952. He was also a treasurer of the Rasco Israel Corp. and the Rasco Financial Corp.; a past president of Young Judea and was associated with Bnai Zion. Mr. Rocker first bought the vessel that later became the refugee ship, "Exodus."

SPY RING 'CAUSED DAMAGE TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY,' POLICE INSPECTOR DISCLOSES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The Arab-Jewish Syrian-directed spy ring "caused damage to Israel's security," but "unfortunately I cannot elaborate," Police Inspector General Shaul Rosolio told newsmen. He was the first top Israeli official to disclose some details of the investigation. He confirmed reports that a Jewish member of the ring, Ehud Adiv, who had visited Damascus several times, had also visited Cairo en route to the Syrian capital.

Rosolio noted that Adiv did not report to Egyptian intelligence and that there was no Syrian-Egyptian cooperation in the operation of the spy ring. He confirmed indirectly that the four Jewish detainees were cooperating with investigators, but that "only at the end will we know if they told us the truth." He stated that the discovery of Jewish participation in an anti-Israel sabotage effort had shocked him deeply.

The affairs are still receiving extensive press coverage, the focus of which is on the Jewish participants in the espionage and sabotage ring. Adiv has been nick-named "Udi the Red" because of his alleged friendship with Danny Cohen-Bendit, the French-Jewish revolutionary student leader who visited Israel in 1968.

Adiv's birthplace, Kibbutz Gan Shmuel of the Hashomer Hatzair movement, has become a target of public hostility much to the chagrin of the kibbutzniks who were stunned by Adiv's defection and who point out that the children of the kibbutz receive a classic Zionist education and upbringing. Adiv hasn't lived at Gan Shmuel for the last three years. But public feelings are running high. One bus driver refused to stop at the kibbutz gates to discharge passengers.

Meanwhile, police investigators who have taken the suspects to their former habitats in a reconstruction of the spy ring's activities, have been told by the Arab Christian ring leader, Daoud Turki, that the group's aim was to bring about a political revolution in Israel and install an Arab-Jewish revolutionary regime.

FORMER STERN GROUP LEADER CHALLENGES MARGARET TRUMAN DANIEL TO SUE HIM FOR ALLEGEDLY SENDING LETTER BOMB

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Natan Yalin-Mor, former head of the underground Stern Group in Palestine, challenged Margaret Truman Daniel today to sue him in any court for allegedly sending a letter bomb to her father, Harry S. Truman, when he was President in 1947.

Yalin-Mor, who after the Six-Day War was a founder of the Movement for a Federated Palestine, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Mrs. Daniel's claim, in her recently published biography of her father, "Harry S. Truman," that the Sternists attempted to assassinate Truman with a letter bomb was a falsehood. He said she could sue him for saying that as well.

In her book, Mrs. Daniel wrote that a number of cream-color envelopes arrived at the White House in 1947 addressed to the President and members of his staff. She said they were found to contain "powdered gellignite, a pencil battery and a detonator rigged to explode the gellignite" when the envelope was opened.

No Motive To Assassinate Truman

Mrs. Daniel attributed the letter bombs to the Sternists but did not indicate why the bombs were attributed to the Stern Group. A similar report was published in a 1949 book, "Dear Mr. President," by Ira R. T. Smith and Joe Alex Morris. The book, recounting Smith's experience as a White House staff mail reader for 50 years, contended that the Stern Group claimed responsibility for the letter bombs.

Yalin-Mor told the JTA that his group had no motive to assassinate Truman who it regarded as infinitely more sympathetic to the Zionist cause than his predecessor, Franklin D. Roosevelt. He readily acknowledged that the Sternists resorted to letter bombs but insisted that they were sent only to British leaders during the waning years of the Palestine Mandate and not to any other nationals. He said there was nothing to be gained from driving other sympathetic nations into the arms of the British.

The terrorist activities of the Stern Group and its sister organization, the Irgun Zvai Leumi, during the years immediately preceding Israel's independence in 1948 were publicly condemned by official Zionist leaders. But impartial observers here have tended to dismiss Mrs. Daniel's attribution of the White House letter bombs to the Sternists as unrealistic and uncharacteristic of the Stern Group's activities at the time.

ARREST 20 SUSPECTED MEMBERS OF TWO SABOTAGE RINGS IN WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The arrest of 20 suspects believed to be members of two sabotage rings was disclosed today. The arrests were made in the Samaria region of the West Bank. One ring of 14 Arabs was captured in northern Samaria in possession of weapons and explosives. They were believed to be operating under orders from Syria passed on to them by travelers crossing the Jordan River bridges.

The second group consisting of six members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine was centered in the West Bank town of Kalkilya and is believed by police to have been responsible for recent bombings in the area.

Three weeks of quiet on the Syrian border was broken Friday when mortar shells were fired from Syrian territory in the vicinity of Nabal Golan in the Golan Heights. The mortars exploded in a field. No casualties or damage was reported and Israeli forces

withheld fire. The shells were fired in two volleys and it is believed that two terrorist groups were involved but they were unaware of each other's activities. An Israeli patrol discovered improvised bazooka shells and several mines in the area which were de-fused.

A small bomb detonated at the Nablus Labor Exchange last Friday without causing casualties or damage. Another explosive charge was discovered in the town slaughterhouse with a note attached from the PFLP. The charges were the first found in Nablus since Aug. 1971.

RENE MAYER, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE, DEAD AT AGE 77

PARIS, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Rene Mayer, who died here Wednesday night at the age of 77, was one of the three French Jews who had served as their country's Prime Ministers. The others were Leon Blum and Pierre Mendes-France. Though the grandson of Chief Rabbi Michel Mayer of Paris, Mr. Mayer showed little interest in Jewish affairs. For a time he served as a member of the Paris Jewish Consistory Committee and was a vice-president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle but took no active part in the work of these two organizations.

Born of a non-Jewish mother, the former Marthe Dupont, he entered politics during the occupation of France when General de Gaulle appointed him Minister of Transport and Naval Affairs in the Algiers Free French Government. In the post-war period, he served as Minister of Finance (1947), Defense (1948), and Justice (1949). Appointed Prime Minister Jan. 8, 1953, his government only lasted four months. After this, he devoted himself mainly to European affairs and his business career in which he was closely associated with the Rothschild bank and its president, Baron Guy de Rothschild.

4000 WORKERS ON 24-HOUR STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Four thousand workers of the Mekorot water company went on a 24-hour strike today to protest government plans to sell certain affiliates of the State-owned company to Histadrut's giant construction cooperative, Solel Boneh. The strike did not affect Israel's water supply as the workers agreed to a request by Minister of Agriculture Yosef Almog to man the pumping stations, though on a reduced Saturday schedule.

Almog has proposed the sale of the Mekorot affiliates because of their accumulated losses. The affiliates are engaged in land reclamation work and build dams and reservoirs. The Mekorot workers say the sale would give Solel Boneh a monopoly in these fields and would cause employees of the sub-companies to lose their jobs.

CATHOLICS DENY BORMANN COMPLICITY

BONN, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Roman Catholic sources in Munich have again denied that the Catholic church helped Martin Bormann, Hitler's wartime deputy, to flee Germany at the end of World War II. Documents belonging to a former Hitler aide, Viktor Brack, published Friday, sought to prove that Bormann had enough funds to escape and did not need the help of the Roman Catholic church. The documents, in the possession of 85-year-old suffragan Bishop Johannes Neuhaeusler, indicate that Bormann and his brother, Albert, escaped via Spain in May 1945.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin December 25, due to the Christmas holiday.

FEW JEWISH COLLEGE STUDENTS WON OVER TO CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The current surge of Christian evangelism is finding few converts among Jewish college students, a B'nai B'rith survey of 80 American campuses disclosed yesterday. The study, conducted by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations to assess the "extent and significance" of the Jesus movement at colleges with proportionately large Jewish enrollments, found only a "negligible percentage" of Jews attracted to fundamentalist appeals, although "some form of missionary activity" was reported at 50 of the schools.

The findings, released at the annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith policy-making Board of Governors, challenged recent estimates that as many as 7000 Jewish youths are being converted to Christianity each year. Dr. Alfred Josepe, Hillel national director, described such claims as "zealously overblown" for Jewish college students. "While aggressive Christian proselytizing inherently constitutes a threat," the present reality of Jewish student reaction "does not justify some of the rising fears and alarm in the Jewish community" Dr. Josepe declared.

He rejected the contention of Jewish spokesmen who have intimated that the rise in evangelism is "making the campus a Jewish disaster area." The study was conducted in two separate samplings, the first taken late in the spring semester, in which 15 campuses reported known Jewish conversions to Christianity. A few large institutions--the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania and UCLA--listed "25 to 30." The others reported "one," "two" or "fewer than five."

Little Allure For Jewish Youth

A follow-up survey during the fall term, covering 60 of the same schools showed that the missionizing efforts of such groups as "well-organized, and well-founded" Campus Crusade for Christ, which adopts a conventional campus style, and "Jesus Freaks" which makes its appeal to young, counter-culture, holds little allure for the 400,000 Jewish youths at American colleges.

The findings, compiled by Dr. Samuel Z. Fishman, a Hillel assistant national director, noted that the Jesus movement is directed to "the campus at large, not specifically Jewish students" but that the widespread publicity given to "Jews for Jesus" groups has created a false impression of extensive Jewish conversion. The evangelical movements, the study added, generally function "outside the pale of university campus ministries and, almost always, represent a theological, financial and personal challenge to the established ministry."

Hillel directors at the schools surveyed said that anti-Semitism was not "an identifiable factor" in any of the missionary programs. The most intensive activity by the Jesus movement is taking place at West Coast schools, the study reported. Campuses on the eastern seaboard are next in popularity. "Virtual inactivity" was reported by many schools in the south and southwest, a region where fundamentalist denominations are strong. The study noted that Hillel directors have initiated programs of counteraction, generally through lectures presenting Jewish views of Jesus. One Hillel director reportedly conducts sessions for Jewish students on "everything you've wanted to know about Jesus and were afraid to ask."

CHANUKA IN JAIL REPORTED BY PRISONER

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (JTA)--An essay written by

a Soviet Jew imprisoned in a Moscow jail during the recent Chanuka holiday was reported to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry by a Moscow activist. In this moving work, the author portrays how six Soviet Jews celebrated the holiday with the assistance of a prison cook and doctor.

Despite the hardships, the prisoners prayed, "Blessed by You our Lord who has given us this holiday, this jail, this huge ark, this greatest comfort, You, who have let us understand how difficult and wonderful it is to be a Jew. Bless us Yochanan ben Mattityahu. Help us Shimon ben Mattityahu. Defend us Yehuda ben Mattityahu."

The essay continued in part: "Can there be a Chanuka without song? Never. And the great prison became a magnificent hall while the round bars turned into microphones. For two hours the gloomy hall served up our songs, falling into dust the alien words and answering us with the silence of a super state. But we knew that Israel stood with us and so there was a place to sing to. Chag samayach. The year 5733. December. This year in Jerusalem."

SEVERAL HUNDRED RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

MONTREAL, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Several hundred protesters joined the nine presidents of leading Canadian Jewish organizations to form a human candelabra Thursday afternoon in front of the office of Aeroflot, the Soviet tourist agency, in downtown Montreal over the plight of Soviet Jews. The organizations whose presidents participated included the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Allied Jewish Community Services, the Canadian Zionist Federation and B'nai B'rith.

The flame commemorating the 25th anniversary of Israel presented to the Montreal Jewish community by the Israeli government was used to light the nine torches which were carried by the nine presidents acting as a "human menorah." A telegram addressed to Soviet President Nikolai V. Podgorny on the occasion of the Human Rights Day was dispatched by the CJC leaders Sol Kanee, president, and Saul Hayes, executive vice-president. In the telegram the CJC leaders stressed the necessity for the Soviet government to permit emigration for Jews who wish to go to Israel, and to end harassment through taxes or otherwise of future emigrants.

The Israel Consulate in Hong Kong has warned Jewish families to guard against possible attempts by Palestinian agents to kidnap their children, according to news reports reaching London. The families have been privately told that wherever possible to escort their children personally to and from schools and other public facilities.

Soldiers whose families are in need will have their mandatory three years of military service reduced by 3-6 months so that they may enter the civilian labor market to help support their families, it was announced today in Tel Aviv. The decision followed a recommendation by a special committee appointed to study the possibility of shortening military service. The committee found, however, that it was premature to consider reducing military service by three months for all draftees. That proposal will be reviewed in 1974.



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Israeli sources said today that the story of their break-up was probably genuine. They said the couple quarreled publicly in Vienna when Judy wanted to return to the U.S. and Gavriel insisted on leaving at once for Israel. They quarreled again in front of reporters at Lod Airport, the sources said. They described Judy as "bossy" and Gavriel as "quiet but firm."

LOUIS P. ROCKER, ZIONIST LEADER, PRESIDENT OF JTA, DEAD AT 78

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Louis P. Rocker, a long-time Zionist leader in the United States and a president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for several years beginning in 1952, died here last week at the age of 78. Born in Skalit, Austria, he came with his parents to the U.S. at the age of one and had been an Israeli resident since 1960. Mr. Rocker was an honorary vice-president of the Jewish National Fund since 1925 and was treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America from 1937 to 1942. He became a member of the New York Stock Exchange in 1926 and a stock broker in 1952. He was also a treasurer of the Rasco Israel Corp. and the Rasco Financial Corp.; a past president of Young Judea and was associated with Bnai Zion. Mr. Rocker first bought the vessel that later became the refugee ship, "Exodus."

SPY RING 'CAUSED DAMAGE TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY,' POLICE INSPECTOR DISCLOSES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The Arab-Jewish Syrian-directed spy ring "caused damage to Israel's security," but "unfortunately I cannot elaborate," Police Inspector General Shaul Rosolio told newsmen. He was the first top Israeli official to disclose some details of the investigation. He confirmed reports that a Jewish member of the ring, Ehud Adiv, who had visited Damascus several times, had also visited Cairo en route to the Syrian capital.

Rosolio noted that Adiv did not report to Egyptian intelligence and that there was no Syrian-Egyptian cooperation in the operation of the spy ring. He confirmed indirectly that the four Jewish detainees were cooperating with investigators, but that "only at the end will we know if they told us the truth." He stated that the discovery of Jewish participation in an anti-Israel sabotage effort had shocked him deeply.

The affairs is still receiving extensive press coverage, the focus of which is on the Jewish participants in the espionage and sabotage ring. Adiv has been nick-named "Udi the Red" because of his alleged friendship with Danny Cohen-Bendit, the French-Jewish revolutionary student leader who visited Israel in 1968.

Adiv's birthplace, Kibbutz Gan Shmuel of the Hashomer Hatzair movement, has become a target of public hostility much to the chagrin of the kibbutzniks who were stunned by Adiv's defection and who point out that the children of the kibbutz receive a classic Zionist education and upbringing. Adiv hasn't lived at Gan Shmuel for the last three years. But public feelings are running high. One bus driver refused to stop at the kibbutz gates to discharge passengers.

Meanwhile, police investigators who have taken the suspects to their former habitats in a reconstruction of the spy ring's activities, have been told by the Arab Christian ring leader, Daoud Turki, that the group's aim was to bring about a political revolution in Israel and install an Arab-Jewish revolutionary regime.

FORMER STERN GROUP LEADER CHALLENGES MARGARET TRUMAN DANIEL TO SUE HIM FOR ALLEGEDLY SENDING LETTER BOMB

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Natan Yalin-Mor, former head of the underground Stern Group in Palestine, challenged Margaret Truman Daniel today to sue him in any court for allegedly sending a letter bomb to her father, Harry S. Truman, when he was President in 1947.

Yalin-Mor, who after the Six-Day War was a founder of the Movement for a Federated Palestine, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Mrs. Daniel's claim, in her recently published biography of her father, "Harry S. Truman," that the Sternists attempted to assassinate Truman with a letter bomb was a falsehood. He said she could sue him for saying that as well.

In her book, Mrs. Daniel wrote that a number of cream-color envelopes arrived at the White House in 1947 addressed to the President and members of his staff. She said they were found to contain "powdered gellignite, a pencil battery and a detonator rigged to explode the gellignite" when the envelope was opened.

No Motive To Assassinate Truman

Mrs. Daniel attributed the letter bombs to the Sternists but did not indicate why the bombs were attributed to the Stern Group. A similar report was published in a 1949 book, "Dear Mr. President," by Ira R. T. Smith and Joe Alex Morris. The book, recounting Smith's experience as a White House staff mail reader for 50 years, contended that the Stern Group claimed responsibility for the letter bombs.

Yalin-Mor told the JTA that his group had no motive to assassinate Truman who it regarded as infinitely more sympathetic to the Zionist cause than his predecessor, Franklin D. Roosevelt. He readily acknowledged that the Sternists resorted to letter bombs but insisted that they were sent only to British leaders during the waning years of the Palestine Mandate and not to any other nationals. He said there was nothing to be gained from driving other sympathetic nations into the arms of the British.

The terrorist activities of the Stern Group and its sister organization, the Irgun Zvai Leumi, during the years immediately preceding Israel's independence in 1948 were publicly condemned by official Zionist leaders. But impartial observers here have tended to dismiss Mrs. Daniel's attribution of the White House letter bombs to the Sternists as unrealistic and uncharacteristic of the Stern Group's activities at the time.

ARREST 20 SUSPECTED MEMBERS OF TWO SABOTAGE RINGS IN WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The arrest of 20 suspects believed to be members of two sabotage rings was disclosed today. The arrests were made in the Samaria region of the West Bank. One ring of 14 Arabs was captured in northern Samaria in possession of weapons and explosives. They were believed to be operating under orders from Syria passed on to them by travelers crossing the Jordan River bridges.

The second group consisting of six members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine was centered in the West Bank town of Kalkilya and is believed by police to have been responsible for recent bombings in the area.

Three weeks of quiet on the Syrian border was broken Friday when mortar shells were fired from Syrian territory in the vicinity of Nabal Golan in the Golan Heights. The mortars exploded in a field. No casualties or damage was reported and Israeli forces

withheld fire. The shells were fired in two volleys and it is believed that two terrorist groups were involved but they were unaware of each other's activities. An Israeli patrol discovered improvised bazooka shells and several mines in the area which were de-fused.

A small bomb detonated at the Nablus Labor Exchange last Friday without causing casualties or damage. Another explosive charge was discovered in the town slaughterhouse with a note attached from the PFLP. The charges were the first found in Nablus since Aug. 1971.

RENE MAYER, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE, DEAD AT AGE 77

PARIS, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Rene Mayer, who died here Wednesday night at the age of 77, was one of the three French Jews who had served as their country's Prime Ministers. The others were Leon Blum and Pierre Mendes-France. Though the grandson of Chief Rabbi Michel Mayer of Paris, Mr. Mayer showed little interest in Jewish affairs. For a time he served as a member of the Paris Jewish Consistory Committee and was a vice-president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle but took no active part in the work of these two organizations.

Born of a non-Jewish mother, the former Marthe Dupont, he entered politics during the occupation of France when General de Gaulle appointed him Minister of Transport and Naval Affairs in the Algiers Free French Government. In the post-war period, he served as Minister of Finance (1947), Defense (1948), and Justice (1949). Appointed Prime Minister Jan. 8, 1953, his government only lasted four months. After this, he devoted himself mainly to European affairs and his business career in which he was closely associated with the Rothschild bank and its president, Baron Guy de Rothschild.

4000 WORKERS ON 24-HOUR STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Four thousand workers of the Mekorot water company went on a 24-hour strike today to protest government plans to sell certain affiliates of the State-owned company to Histadrut's giant construction cooperative, Solel Boneh. The strike did not affect Israel's water supply as the workers agreed to a request by Minister of Agriculture Yosef Almog to man the pumping stations, though on a reduced Saturday schedule.

Almog has proposed the sale of the Mekorot affiliates because of their accumulated losses. The affiliates are engaged in land reclamation work and build dams and reservoirs. The Mekorot workers say the sale would give Solel Boneh a monopoly in these fields and would cause employees of the sub-companies to lose their jobs.

CATHOLICS DENY BORMANN COMPLICITY

BONN, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Roman Catholic sources in Munich have again denied that the Catholic church helped Martin Bormann, Hitler's wartime deputy, to flee Germany at the end of World War II. Documents belonging to a former Hitler aide, Viktor Brack, published Friday, sought to prove that Bormann had enough funds to escape and did not need the help of the Roman Catholic church. The documents, in the possession of 85-year-old suffragan Bishop Johannes Neuhaeusler, indicate that Bormann and his brother, Albert, escaped via Spain in May 1945.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin December 25, due to the Christmas holiday.

FEW JEWISH COLLEGE STUDENTS WON OVER TO CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (JTA)--The current surge of Christian evangelism is finding few converts among Jewish college students, a B'nai B'rith survey of 80 American campuses disclosed yesterday. The study, conducted by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations to assess the "extent and significance" of the Jesus movement at colleges with proportionately large Jewish enrollments, found only a "negligible percentage" of Jews attracted to fundamentalist appeals, although "some form of missionary activity" was reported at 50 of the schools.

The findings, released at the annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith policy-making Board of Governors, challenged recent estimates that as many as 7000 Jewish youths are being converted to Christianity each year. Dr. Alfred Josepe, Hillel national director, described such claims as "zealously overblown" for Jewish college students. "While aggressive Christian proselytizing inherently constitutes a threat," the present reality of Jewish student reaction "does not justify some of the rising fears and alarm in the Jewish community" Dr. Josepe declared.

He rejected the contention of Jewish spokesmen who have intimated that the rise in evangelism is "making the campus a Jewish disaster area." The study was conducted in two separate samplings, the first taken late in the spring semester, in which 15 campuses reported known Jewish conversions to Christianity. A few large institutions--the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania and UCLA--listed "25 to 30." The others reported "one," "two" or "fewer than five."

Little Allure For Jewish Youth

A follow-up survey during the fall term, covering 60 of the same schools showed that the missionizing efforts of such groups as "well-organized, and well-founded" Campus Crusade for Christ, which adopts a conventional campus style, and "Jesus Freaks" which makes its appeal to young, counter-culture, holds little allure for the 400,000 Jewish youths at American colleges.

The findings, compiled by Dr. Samuel Z. Fishman, a Hillel assistant national director, noted that the Jesus movement is directed to "the campus at large, not specifically Jewish students" but that the widespread publicity given to "Jews for Jesus" groups has created a false impression of extensive Jewish conversion. The evangelical movements, the study added, generally function "outside the pale of university campus ministries and, almost always, represent a theological, financial and personal challenge to the established ministry."

Hillel directors at the schools surveyed said that anti-Semitism was not "an identifiable factor" in any of the missionary programs. The most intensive activity by the Jesus movement is taking place at West Coast schools, the study reported. Campuses on the eastern seaboard are next in popularity. "Virtual inactivity" was reported by many schools in the south and southwest, a region where fundamentalist denominations are strong. The study noted that Hillel directors have initiated programs of counteraction, generally through lectures presenting Jewish views of Jesus. One Hillel director reportedly conducts sessions for Jewish students on "everything you've wanted to know about Jesus and were afraid to ask."

CHANUKA IN JAIL REPORTED BY PRISONER

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (JTA)--An essay written by

a Soviet Jew imprisoned in a Moscow jail during the recent Chanuka holiday was reported to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry by a Moscow activist. In this moving work, the author portrays how six Soviet Jews celebrated the holiday with the assistance of a prison cook and doctor.

Despite the hardships, the prisoners prayed, "Blessed by You our Lord who has given us this holiday, this jail, this huge ark, this greatest comfort, You, who have let us understand how difficult and wonderful it is to be a Jew. Bless us Yochanan ben Mattityahu. Help us Shimon ben Mattityahu. Defend us Yehuda ben Mattityahu."

The essay continued in part: "Can there be a Chanuka without song? Never. And the great prison became a magnificent hall while the round bars turned into microphones. For two hours the gloomy hall served up our songs, falling into dust the alien words and answering us with the silence of a super state. But we knew that Israel stood with us and so there was a place to sing to. Chag samayach. The year 5733. December. This year in Jerusalem."

SEVERAL HUNDRED RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

MONTREAL, Dec. 17 (JTA)--Several hundred protesters joined the nine presidents of leading Canadian Jewish organizations to form a human candelabra Thursday afternoon in front of the office of Aeroflot, the Soviet tourist agency, in downtown Montreal over the plight of Soviet Jews. The organizations whose presidents participated included the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Allied Jewish Community Services, the Canadian Zionist Federation and B'nai B'rith.

The flame commemorating the 25th anniversary of Israel presented to the Montreal Jewish community by the Israeli government was used to light the nine torches which were carried by the nine presidents acting as a "human menorah." A telegram addressed to Soviet President Nikolai V. Podgorny on the occasion of the Human Rights Day was dispatched by the CJC leaders Sol Kanee, president, and Saul Hayes, executive vice-president. In the telegram the CJC leaders stressed the necessity for the Soviet government to permit emigration for Jews who wish to go to Israel, and to end harassment through taxes or otherwise of future emigrants.

The Israel Consulate in Hong Kong has warned Jewish families to guard against possible attempts by Palestinian agents to kidnap their children, according to news reports reaching London. The families have been privately told that wherever possible to escort their children personally to and from schools and other public facilities.

Soldiers whose families are in need will have their mandatory three years of military service reduced by 3-6 months so that they may enter the civilian labor market to help support their families, it was announced today in Tel Aviv. The decision followed a recommendation by a special committee appointed to study the possibility of shortening military service. The committee found, however, that it was premature to consider reducing military service by three months for all draftees. That proposal will be reviewed in 1974.