



daily news bulletin

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TENSION CONTINUES TO MOUNT ON EVE OF MRS. MEIR'S VISIT TO PARIS

PARIS, Jan. 11 (JTA)--French circles have reconfirmed today that none of the foreign premiers due to attend the Socialist International Conference will have any contacts whatsoever with the French government. These circles referred to President Georges Pompidou's press conference Tuesday to stress that the premiers of Austria, Denmark, Israel and Sweden are coming to Paris as members of their political parties and not as heads of government.

It is understood that, contrary to past practice, they will not be greeted by a senior member of the Foreign Ministry upon their arrival here. Pompidou, at his press conference, termed the premiers' presence in Paris during this pre-electoral period as "highly inopportune and interference in French internal affairs." His ire was reportedly provoked by the presence of the Israeli Premier Golda Meir who, Gaullist party officials fear, might help bring Jewish voters to the opposition Socialist-Communist coalition.

Mrs. Meir is expected to arrive here tomorrow afternoon aboard a regular El Al plane. Her exact arrival time is being kept as closely guarded secret, as French police and Israeli security officials fear a possible terrorist attempt. The Israeli Premier is due to attend a small oneg shabbat party tomorrow given by the Israel Embassy staff. On Saturday morning she is due to meet with former French political personalities from the "golden days" of Franco-Israeli friendship.

After attending the Socialist International Conference Saturday afternoon, where she will be greeted by Senate President Alain Poher - himself an opposition leader - she is due to attend a party for local community leaders. She is expected to return to Israel Sunday afternoon.

Demonstrations Being Organized

All details on Mrs. Meir's stay are kept a closely guarded secret. Besides the risk of an Arab terrorist attack, police also fear pro-Arab and extreme left-wing demonstrations during her stay. Both Arabs and Zionists plan, for instance, to demonstrate Saturday afternoon in front of the French Senate Building, where the conference meets. Tension has been further increased by the death of Palestine Liberation Organization representative in France, Mahmoud el-Hamshari. The Union of Arab Students organized today a "solemn guard" round his body which lies in the morgue of the Cochin Hospital. The Union and 12 extremist left-wing organizations also plan a public meeting for tonight to protest his "killing."

The Arab ambassadors in Paris were received this morning by the French Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Andre Bettencourt. They called for better protection for Arabs living in France and for the release by the police of the results of their investigation into Hamshari's death. The death of Hamshari has practically cancelled out comment on the attack against the Jewish Agency building here. Practically none of the local papers continue to report or comment on the attack and police have imposed a complete blackout on the results of their investigation so far. The Jewish Agency building was wrecked Tuesday by a powerful bomb.

SOVIET JEWRY CONFERENCE MAPS PLANS FOR WORLDWIDE ACTIONS

By Melville Mark, JTA Geneva Correspondent

GENEVA, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Fifty Jewish leaders from 13 countries including Israel and the United States met here today to coordinate worldwide efforts to continue to press for action by the community of nations for the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel without the imposition of a "heinous ransom tax." Louis Pincus, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, on whose initiative the meeting was called, told the all-day conference, "We do not set the priorities for Soviet Jewry. They set the priorities, and they want to emigrate."

Pincus stressed at a press conference, that the rights which he and his colleagues were demanding were ones "respected by all civilized nations" and "not only a Jewish right." The Russians, he continued, "must stop trading in human beings and accede to the code of civilized behavior. A person's intellectual property is his own and what the Russians are attempting runs counter to a world striving for greater freedoms not less." Pincus noted that "we are very encouraged on the whole by the moral indignations aroused among civilized peoples throughout the world. We are of the opinion that the Soviet Union is sensitive to world public opinion and the continuation of this moral struggle has enormous consequences for the Jewish people and for humanity as a whole."

Pincus estimated that 100,000 applications had been made by Soviet Jews for emigration to Israel which have so far been refused by the Soviet authorities. He said that 32,000 Soviet Jews had arrived in Israel during 1972 and that statistically some 12 had returned to the USSR and 40 to countries other than the USSR.

Jacob Stein, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who also addressed the meeting, said that American Jewry would step up its action to rescind the ransom tax by bringing trade pressures to bear on the Soviet authorities. A. Kalman, head of the French Jewish community, stressed the disappointment at the refusal of the Soviet authorities to apply any amnesty to Jews in Soviet prisons whose only "crime" is their desire to emigrate to Israel.

ISRAEL TO POSTPONE OPENING OF EMBASSY IN SAIGON UNTIL CEASE-FIRE ESTABLISHED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Reliable sources said today that Israel will postpone opening an Embassy in Saigon until a cease-fire agreement is reached between North and South Vietnam. Israel and South Vietnam announced in Nov. that they were establishing diplomatic relations and would exchange ambassadors very soon. The sources noted that Israel's decision to open a Saigon Embassy was made at a time when a cease-fire agreement seemed imminent. When negotiations between the United States and Hanoi deteriorated last month, Israel decided to postpone the move, the sources said.

RANSOM TAX: WORKING OF NEW REGULATIONS

LONDON, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today that the new reg-

ulations on graduates going to Israel have now been in force since Dec. 26 and a preliminary estimate of their working can now be made. Most ovir offices began to apply them on Jan. 1, but in the Lithuanian Soviet Republic they were first applied on Dec. 26. Three basic working periods are taken into consideration in regard to applicants: 25 years, 15 years, and eight years.

Those who worked for 25 years are asked to pay only 25 percent of the tax, which is estimated in accordance with their degree and professional skill. Those who worked 15 years are asked to pay 50 percent of the tax. Those who worked eight years are asked to pay 75 percent of the tax. The basic periods for women are 20, 12 and six years, and the reductions are calculated the same way. Pensioners and invalids are exempted altogether. In some cases, applicants who have university degrees but did no postgraduate work were exempted entirely.

According to the sources, ovir officials have told applicants that the new regulations apply only to the level of the tax, but should not be seen as changes in the rules for the granting of exit visas. It is therefore clear that most people under 40 will not benefit from the new rules, and that the new regulations are still a great handicap because even 50 percent or 25 percent of the tax on most graduates amounts to a sum very few can afford.

KAHANE READY TO RAISE MONEY IN U.S. FOR ARAB DEPARTURE FROM ISRAEL Shazar Denounces JDL Letters To Druze

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the Jewish Defense League, said today that he took personal responsibility for hundreds of letters sent by the JDL to Arabs and Druze in Israel offering to finance their departure if they agree to get out of Israel. Justice Minister Yaacov Shimshon Shapiro said earlier this week that there were sufficient grounds for criminal prosecution of Rabbi Kahane and the JDL for sending the letters. Shapiro reported that Attorney General Meir Shamgar believes that the JDL leader can be prosecuted under the sedition laws which include incitement of hatred among the population.

Rabbi Kahane claimed today that there was nothing illegal about the letters and said that if the police returned his passport he would go to the United States to try to raise money for an "Arab emigration fund" to finance the departure of those Arabs willing to leave.

The JDL's letters to the Druze community were denounced today by President Zalman Shazar. Greeting Druze leaders at his residence on the occasion of the Id el Adha (Feast of Sacrifice), Shazar termed the JDL campaign "disgraceful" and praised Israel's Druze community for its "valuable contributions for the development of the country."

Rabbi Kahane, who faces criminal charges in connection with alleged JDL attempts to smuggle arms out of Israel for a private war against Arab terrorists in Europe, spoke defiantly at a press conference here. He said the JDL sent 700 letters and questionnaires to Arabs and Druze asking if they would agree to leave Israel with the JDL's financial help and that the JDL got 40 affirmative replies and a number of threatening letters. He said that after Shapiro made his remarks in the Knesset about possible criminal proceedings, the JDL mailed 100 more letters.

JEWISH ACTIVIST RESENTENCED WHILE SERVING TERM IN PRISON

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Yankl Khantsis, a Soviet Jewish activist who was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment at the Riga trial in May, 1971, and was due to be released was instead resentenced on Dec.

29, 1972 to a two-year term in a labor camp, it was reported today by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The new sentencing, the NCSJ said, occurred while Khantsis was still in prison in Omutninsk in the Kirov District. The basis for the resentencing was not immediately known. The NCSJ stated that Khantsis has not yet been transferred to the labor camp because of his inability to walk due to a leg disease.

In another development, Malcolm Hoenlein, director of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, reported today that many of the 50 Jews who participated in the sit-in at the Supreme Soviet on Dec. 18 are now being threatened with arrest for "parasitism." Two who are known to have been threatened are Ida Noodle and Boris Zitslovitz, both of Moscow. Hoenlein said.

SYRIA HAS NEW SOVIET-MADE ANTI-TANK MISSILE

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Israeli military sources said today they found evidence that Syria employed a new Soviet-made anti-tank missile during battles Monday along the cease-fire line. They said remnants had been found of the "Saguer," a Russian guided missile that can be launched from mobile bases or from troop carriers. They said the Syrians who operated the missiles failed to score any hits. The missile was unveiled for the first time at the Red Army Day parade in Moscow in 1965, the Israeli sources said. It is a modified and improved version of the older "Schmel" missile.

IONESCU WINS JERUSALEM PRIZE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The 1973 International Jerusalem Prize has been awarded to Eugene Ionescu, the Rumanian playwright and philosopher. The \$2000 prize will be presented to Ionescu by Mayor Teddy Kolek when the biennial Jerusalem International Book Fair is held here between April 25-30. Ionescu is the sixth winner of the award. He was selected by a panel of Israeli men-of-letters for his contributions to the idea of individual freedom in society. Ionescu is the creator of the Theater of the Absurd and has had a universal impact on contemporary drama. One of his best-known plays, "Rhinceros," written in 1959, deals with the dehumanization of man and the struggle against totalitarianism.

ISRAEL BONDS REPORTS RECORD 1972 SALES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The Israel Bond Organization reported that its 1972 campaign produced record sales of over \$280 million in Israel Development Bonds and some \$10 million in other forms of investment capital. Sam Rothberg, general chairman of Bonds, noted that last year's record sales were about equal to the combined total of Israel Bonds sales during the first six years of the organization's activities.

Rothberg is in Jerusalem to prepare for the Prime Ministers Israel Bond Conference scheduled Jan. 28-30. It will be attended by 150 Israel Bond leaders from 75 communities in the western hemisphere. Rothberg said that "since its inception in 1951, total bond sales have amounted to more than \$2.1 billion, of which about \$900 million has already been redeemed." He noted the increasing participation of non-Jewish purchasers in the bond campaigns, including banks, insurance companies, trade unions and pension funds.

POMPIDOU TO DISCUSS SOVIET JEWRY ISSUE WITH BREZHNEV

PARIS, Jan. 11 (JTA)--President Georges Pompidou, who is meeting today and tomorrow with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, is expected to raise the question of Soviet Jewry and to plead for an easing of their exit restrictions. Maurice Schumann, Foreign Minister of France, is accompanying Pompidou. Both officials are due to return to Paris tomorrow night. The French President told French Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan that he intends to raise this issue during his talks with the First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party. Pompidou said this when the Chief Rabbi called on him last week to present the Jewish community's best wishes for the new year.

Pompidou said at the time that he was aware of the situation of Soviet Jewry, and that out of humanitarian considerations, would talk to Brezhnev about it. He recalled that both he and General de Gaulle had in the past often intervened on behalf of Jews subject to persecution or discrimination. It is known that the two Presidents have intervened on behalf of Moroccan and Iraqi Jews and have also raised the subject of Soviet Jewry on a number of occasions.

FIRST ARAB UNIVERSITY IN ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES DUE TO OPEN NEXT YEAR

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--A group of Arab political figures and academicians plan to open the first Arab University in the Israel-administered territories next year, despite opposition from the Jordanian government. Dr. Salem Nashef, Dean of the Tulkarem Agricultural School, said today that the new university will be located in Ramallah and would open its doors for the 1974-75 academic year.

Dr. Nashef is a member of a committee of West Bank Arabs headed by Hebron Mayor Sheikh Mohammed Ali el-Jaabari, which is planning the university. He said the university would open with a faculty in the humanities to be followed by a science faculty. Dr. Nashef said the Israeli authorities have agreed to the appointment of Palestinians now living outside the country to the university's faculty. He said the future board of directors hoped to receive support from various Arab governments but failing that "we can confidently look to other quarters for funds and endowments that will enable us to construct, equip and maintain the campus."

Dr. Nashef was a guest today of Tel Aviv University's "Shiloah" Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies. He reported that Arab education on the West Bank has expanded under the Israeli administration since 1967. According to Dr. Nashef, 90 percent of children between 6-15 now receive an elementary education, a much higher percentage than under the Jordanian regime. He said that although one-third of the West Bank population fled during the Six-Day War, the number of matriculants has risen since then from 3500 to 14,500.

HEAVY FINES IN SIGHT FOR ILLEGAL LABOR BROKERS; AMENDMENT PROPOSED TO LAW

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Illegal labor brokers are in for stiffer penalties under a proposed bill initiated this week by the Labor Ministry to curb the flow of unregistered workers from the administered territories into Israel. Under a proposed amendment to the Employment Services Law--soon to be introduced in the Knesset--persons engaged in supplying unregistered workers from the areas to Israeli employers would be subject to heavy fines--five times those now prescribed by law.

Beyond this the employers would be fined IL 100 a day for each worker who is kept on the job. Anyone operating a vehicle carrying unregistered workers to an employer can be considered as violating

the law unless he can prove his passengers have been referred by an official Labor Exchange.

Meanwhile, Aharon Sasson, secretary of the Jerusalem Construction Workers Union, charged that Arab sub-contractors from the West Bank are competing unfairly for building jobs in the capital. He said that more than 70 of these contractors are making 1500 unregistered workers available to Jerusalem builders. Because they don't enjoy the social benefits and protection afforded by law, they work for less money and thereby harm the organized workers, Sasson said.

According to Moshe Shaleff, director of the Jerusalem Labor Exchange, there are 8000 Arab workers from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip working in Jerusalem.

ARABS TO FILE FOR COMPENSATION DESPITE OPPOSITION BY LEADERS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Most Arab residents of East Jerusalem are expected to file claims for their lost property under an absentee property compensation bill now before the Knesset, despite exhortations against the measure by local Arab leaders. Claims for Arab property abandoned in Israel will be admitted as soon as the Knesset approves the measure which passed its first reading this week. The cost to Israel has been estimated unofficially at between \$100-\$300 million.

East Jerusalem residents were reluctant to comment publicly on the bill. The reaction of the local Arab leadership, however, was to reject it out of hand as a political move intended to gain Arab recognition of Israel's sovereignty over East Jerusalem. One Arab leader told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that anybody who accepts compensation "is a traitor."

East Jerusalemites need the money, however, and are expected to overlook the political implications of accepting the Israeli offer. The most serious complaint seems to be against the form of compensation. While claims of up to IL 10,000 will be paid in cash, most of the claims will exceed that sum and will be compensated for with four percent State of Israel Bonds.

SUSPECTS CARRIED AMERICAN PASSPORTS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Haifa police disclosed last night that two passengers from the Italian liner Messapia who were detained for questioning yesterday carried American passports. The passengers were identified as Linda Mahfouz, 26, and Joseph Haddad, 40. Because their names are of Arab origin, they were questioned in connection with four suspected Arab terrorists who were removed Tuesday from the Messapia at Famagusta, Cyprus, and flown to Lebanon. No link was found and the detainees returned to their ship which sailed last night.

The Messapia's passenger manifest contained only the surnames of the four suspects who carried Afghanistani passports and were bound for Israel. They were listed as Darwish, 30; Jannedin, 31; Khshala, 28 and Nauruz, 24. According to reports from Cyprus the four were planning to commit a major act of sabotage in Israel during their one-day stay and to escape aboard the ship when she sailed. They apparently decided to abandon their mission when they became objects of suspicion of Cypriot police who boarded the vessel at Famagusta, reportedly on a tip from Israeli sources.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

WHO IS IN LINE FOR PRESIDENT?

MANY ARE EXPECTING, FEW CAN DELIVER

By David Landau, JTA Jerusalem Bureau Chief

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--With President Zalm Shazar due to end his second and final term of office in April, speculation has been mounting in Israeli government circles as to his possible successor. Presidents are elected by the Knesset for four years, with a possible second term of a further four years. Several names are being bandied about. The "favorite" at the moment is Jewish National Fund Chairman and former senior diplomat Yaacov Tsur.

There had been some talk this winter of enacting a special law to enable Shazar to remain in office for a further year, but the prospect of this happening has dimmed recently. Shazar left observers here agape last Sunday when he told a New York audience of American Zionist Federation leaders that U.S. Jews should support Rabbi Shlomo Goren and the National Religious Party. Presidents of Israel are not expected to make public statements on controversial issues--and certainly not in support of political parties. Shazar, now 83, will almost certainly step down in April, ending a distinguished career as journalist, author and public figure.

Tsur, increasingly mentioned as a suitable successor, is 66. Born in Vilna, he represented the Jewish Agency and then the Israel government in many difficult diplomatic tasks culminating in his six years as Ambassador in Paris during the 1960s. Tsur is urbane and well educated and would, it is widely felt, represent Israel with honor and credit.

There is, however, widespread feeling that an Oriental Jew should be elected as President this time--as the ultimate proof that there is no communal discrimination in Israel. Eliahu Sasson, the distinguished diplomat who conducted the Rhodes peace talks in 1949, would be the first Sephardic choice--but he is unfortunately in poor health.

Debits And Credits Of Hopefuls

Knesset Speaker Israel Yeshayahu, who is acting President in Shazar's absence, would be a natural choice by virtue of his position, but it is unlikely that the Knesset will choose him. He has far from excelled as Speaker; his ultimate test (and failure) came last Monday when he failed to control the "revolt of the small factions" and pandemonium reigned in the House for some 13 hours.

Yeshayahu, 62, born in Yemen, is well versed in the Bible, but otherwise his education shows grave lacunae, particularly in his ignorance of foreign languages. His great achievement was organizing the "Magic Carpet" airlift immigration of Yemenite Jewry in 1949.

Until last year Justice Minister Yaacov Shimshon Shapiro, 70, was thought to be a likely candidate, but his career was somewhat tarnished during the Netivei Neft Sinai oil affair and, although he resumed his Cabinet seat fully rehabilitated three months after he resigned, the aftermath of the affair would seem to lessen his chances. Shapiro was a leading lawyer and served as Attorney General during the 1950s. He is one of the few intellectuals at the Cabinet table, at home equally in Jewish and secular disciplines.

A Sephardi who will probably make the Presidency next time if not this time is Deputy Knes-

set Speaker Yitzhak Navon of the ex-Rafi wing of the Labor Party. Scion of an old established Jerusalem family, he is cultured and elegant, an able parliamentarian with a fine wit. But at 51 he is considered by many to be too young for the august position of President of the State (where the Prime Minister is 74). Navon narrowly lost to Yeshayahu in the poll for the Knesset Speaker last year and observers here predict a great future still ahead of him.

Another candidate sometimes mentioned is the State Controller Itzhak Ernst Nebenzahl, 65. He was a law professor in Germany before coming to Israel in 1932 and is a member of the family which controls the multi-million Hollander Trading Company. Before becoming Controller in 1962, he served as honorary Swedish Consul in Israel and holds one of Sweden's highest honors. His chances for the Presidency are impaired by his early association with the NRP. The Labor Party is expected to insist on a candidate from its own ranks.

ORT MAY ESTABLISH SCHOOL IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA)--ORT, Organization for Rehabilitation through Training, will send its chief of operations and other members of its central staff to investigate the feasibility of establishing an ORT school in the U.S. This was announced by Mrs. David M. Goldring, national president of Women's American ORT.

The proposed ORT school will primarily serve a segment of the Jewish poor, probably in a major American metropolis such as New York, Chicago or Miami. There are some 800,000 Jews in the U.S. who live in poverty. However, the school would also reach out to the broader community and would, she said, serve as a model for the establishment of other non-ORT vocational schools in the country.

Mrs. Goldring said that in addition it is planned that an ORT "task force" would come to the U.S. and be available as a consulting body for all groups interested in education--on a federal, state and local level, public or private. She said that, in all probability, the model ORT school would be a high school patterned after ORT high schools in highly developed countries. The school would meet the educational requirements of whatever particular community it is located in and would be geared to actual job opportunities--not only at the present time, but in terms of changing technological directions and needs.

Mrs. Goldring stated that one reason for the decision to establish an ORT presence in the U.S. was the discovery in recent years of pockets of Jewish poverty in the country--a discovery which shocked Europeans. For the first time in history, the Jews of the U.S. were looking to a non-American Jewish organization for assistance, she said.

The Labor Alignment received a slight setback and the Gahal opposition advanced in the first elections held by the newly formed needle trade, textile and leather workers union. Labor polled 60 percent against 23.5 percent for Gahal. In other recent trade union elections, Labor won 63 percent while Gahal received only 16-17 percent of the ballots. Votes were cast by 18,300 union members, about 61 percent of the membership.

Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, met yesterday with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to discuss the plight of Jews in Arab countries. There were no details about the discussion.