



daily news bulletin

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TWO MORE LETTER BOMBS FOUND; POLICE ISSUE NATION-WIDE ALARM

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Two more letter bombs were found in Israeli post offices today, bringing to ten the number of booby-trapped letters discovered during the past 24 hours. All were mailed from Istanbul, Turkey. The first of today's letter bombs was found in the sorting room at the Haifa post office this morning. The second turned up at Kibbutz Kfar Blun in Upper Galilee, addressed to the fodder factory there. It carried no return address. Both suspected letters were turned over to police who confirmed their explosive content and dismantled them safely.

The first of yesterday's letter bombs was discovered by a veteran mail sorter in the Migdal Haemek post office; it was disclosed today. The suspicious envelope was turned over to police who issued a country-wide alarm when it was found to contain explosives. Some of the letter bombs were addressed to widely known addresses, such as that of Prof. Yuval Neeman, president of Tel Aviv University and the Begged-Or leather goods factory in Migdal Haemek.

But police were puzzled by one of the lethal letters addressed to Dr. Amos Kedar, a physician who moved only recently to Kibbutz Mizra in the Jezreel Valley. His address is not even listed in the telephone directory. Authorities speculated that it may have been passed on to the mailer by a foreign volunteer at the kibbutz.

Police received a flood of calls from frightened Israelis today who found heavy envelopes from Amsterdam in their morning mail. The envelopes turned out to contain circulars and subscription renewal cards from the European office of the New York Times.

MOROCCAN JEWS DENY 'SECRET SOCIETY'

PARIS, Jan. 30 (JTA)--The Jewish community in Morocco is currently up in arms over a news dispatch from the Middle East News Agency in Cairo, announcing "the formation of a secret society by Moroccan Jews for terrorist actions." The agency also says the society seeks to "force Jews to immigrate to Israel."

One of the leaders of the Moroccan community has called the dispatch "a provocation," pointing out that the same news agency recently announced the assassination of an influential Jewish businessman and his family "because the businessman had refused to join this 'secret society.'"

No such massacre has taken place in Morocco. But the Jewish community fears this dispatch may be the prelude to tensions or possible terrorist attacks. Observers in Morocco say the dispatch could be related to the recent agitation in Moroccan universities.

MURDER VICTIM WAS UNDERCOVER AGENT

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA)--The authorities disclosed today that the Israeli who was fatally shot by a suspected Arab terrorist on a street in Madrid last Friday was an undercover agent employed by the government's security services and that his real name was Baruch Cohen. The victim, whose body has been flown back to Israel for burial, was originally identified as Moshe Han-

nan Yishai and was described as a tourist. Funeral services will be held tomorrow.

The circumstances of the Madrid shooting gave rise to the belief that it was the latest incident in a running battle between Arab terrorists and Israeli counter-terrorists which has been going on in various European capitals during recent months. Today's disclosure of the victim's true identity appeared to confirm that belief.

Cohen, born in Haifa in 1936 and educated there, joined Kibbutz Ein Harod in 1952 and the Nahal, para-military settlement corps, in 1953. He joined the government service in 1959 and was employed in the Foreign Ministry and in the security services. Between July 1970 and Dec. 1972 he was a member of the Israel Embassy staff in Brussels.

CONFERENCE CONVENED BY MRS. MEIR ADOPTS \$360 MILLION GOAL FOR 1973

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--The Conference of the Israel Bond Organization convened here by Premier Golda Meir today adopted a \$360 million goal for 1973, slightly less than two-thirds of Israel's \$600 million development budget and slightly under the amount asked for by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir.

Sapir confirmed that a large portion of the Bond proceeds would go toward aiding the absorption of Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union. He said he could not state the precise amount that would be earmarked for that purpose because it was difficult to project how many Soviet Jews would come to Israel this year.

Addressing the 160 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada attending the Bond conference, Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, stressed the need to aid immigrant absorption. He said that if Israel could not provide the newcomers with houses and jobs it would be "a joke" to say that Israel was a place where Jews could live by right.

The basic problem, Pincus said, was to adapt the Israeli economy to the type of Jews waiting to immigrate. He told the delegates that he had been opposed to the recent restrictions on the privileges and incentives granted immigrants but was overruled by the Finance Ministry. Pincus said that the restrictions represented an "appeasement" of circles here who argued the immigrant privileges were at the expense of the settled population.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Alexander Galperin, a 27-year-old engineer from Kishinev, who was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison in June 1971, was released today from jail, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

ISRAELI LEADERS ASSESS JORDAN'S REACTIVATION OF EASTERN FRONT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Israeli sources took the view today that Jordan's agreement to join Egypt and Syria in a reactivation of the Eastern Front and to place its forces under the overall command of an Egyptian general, was less important for its immediate military consequences than for the motivation behind Jordan's action.

at this time.

Some observers here wondered whether the move, announced just 10 days before King Hussein is scheduled to meet with President Nixon in Washington, was intended to strengthen Hussein's bargaining hand by ending his isolation from his fellow Arab leaders. Others said Hussein could be jeopardizing his chances of receiving American financial aid. Most observers agreed that the Jordanian move was a setback to what had appeared until this week to be an improved climate for a Jordanian-Israeli settlement.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan both concurred that Israel would keep a close watch along the Eastern Front -- its line with Jordan extending from the Gulf of Aqaba to the Syrian border -- but stressed that there was no need to re-deploy Israeli forces or revise Israeli strategy at this time.

Jordan's consent to reactivating its front with Israel and placing it under the command of Gen. Ahmed Ismail, the Egyptian military commander-in-chief and War Minister, was announced yesterday in Cairo during a meeting of 18 Arab foreign and defense ministers.

The Eastern Front has been moribund since Sept. 1970 when Hussein's forces decimated Palestinian terrorists in the first of a series of bloody battles that lasted until the summer of 1971. Egypt subsequently broke diplomatic relations with Jordan. Egyptian officials in Cairo said yesterday that Jordan's acquiescence to a revived Eastern Front was a prerequisite for a Jordanian-Egyptian reconciliation. There has been no official reaction by the Israel government to the news from Cairo.

Force Can't Change Situation

Dayan, addressing 160 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada attending a conference of the Israel Bond Organization here called by Premier Golda Meir, observed today that "if Jordan really joins Egypt and Syria in re-establishing what they call the Eastern Front and allows foreign forces to be stationed on their land, it will affect our attitude." But right now, he added, the announced reactivation "is just another Arab statement."

Allon, addressing the same group at a dinner at the King David Hotel last night, said the Israeli government did not want to "overestimate" the importance of the move "because that is exactly what they want us to do." Observing that "we had unified commands in the past and the results are well known," Allon added that he hoped the Arabs would not delude themselves into thinking they can change the situation by force "because they cannot."

Other Israeli sources said yesterday that it was "regrettable that while the world in general is searching for ways to find reconciliation and peace, the Arab states, chiefly Egypt, are making efforts to recreate an aggressive framework which so far has brought nothing but catastrophe to the Arab world."

According to reports from Cairo, one aspect of the reactivated Eastern Front would be the readmission of the Palestinian fedayeen into Jordan, though their activities and deployment would be under the strict control of the Jordanian Army. A press report from Cairo yesterday said that Abu Yusef, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization delegation at the ministers' conference, stormed out of the closed meeting claiming that the plan to reactivate the Eastern Front was a sham. Abu Yusef said the Palestinians would not go along with the plan unless Jordan agreed to a full-scale resumption of guerrilla activities against Israel.

ISRAEL-COMMON MARKET ACCORD SIGNED

BRUSSELS, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Israel and the European Common Market signed an agreement here today freezing tariffs and other trade arrangements between Israel and the three new Common Market member states for an additional year while negotiation of a permanent agreement gets underway. The three new members are Britain, Denmark and Ireland. All do business with Israel, but Britain is a major customer, purchasing \$100 million of Israeli exports annually and exporting a considerably larger amount to Israel.

The accord was signed at ceremonies at the Val Duchesse castle by Foreign Minister Abba Eban of Israel and Belgian Foreign Minister Renaat Van Elkslande, president of the EEC Council of Ministers. It safeguards such vital Israeli exports as citrus juices and extracts to the United Kingdom. The agreement will become effective on Jan. 1, 1974.

During the ceremonies Eban stressed that Israel is ready to cooperate with the European Economic Community and prepared to work within the framework of the Mediterranean free trade area. Van Elkslande said the accord "aims to contribute to the economic and social development of the Mediterranean area on the basis of full respect for the autonomy of each partner." Eban is due to return to Israel tomorrow.

ISRAEL BUSINESS TRAVEL TAX CRITICIZED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--An American investor said here today that the Israeli travel tax on business trips was "curtailing the development of business" in Israel and urged the government to drastically reduce or cancel the tax. "I think the tax is too high," said Victor Carter, chairman of the American Council of the third Prime Minister's World Economic Conference for Israel which opens here May 27. Carter addressed a press conference following a meeting of the Council praesidium called here to plan the May conference. The gathering will be attended by 1000 delegates, about half of them from the United States, according to Avraham Agmon, director general of the Finance Ministry. The theme of the meeting will be how to help Israel's industry reach its goal of doubling exports every five years.

Carter, a Los Angeles businessman and member of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Board of Directors, called for higher and more uniform standards of quality control in Israeli manufacturing and for more reasonable taxation on manufacturing equipment imported from abroad.

A mezuza has been placed at the entrance of Rio de Janeiro's new modern theater. It is believed that this is the only theater in the world with a mezuza. The theater was built by Adolfo Bloch, publisher of the Illustrated weekly, "Manchete," and other magazines.

United Hias Service reported Friday that 18 Jewish emigrants, comprising three family units from the Soviet Union and one family each from Rumania, Hungary and Egypt arrived at Kennedy Airport on two separate flights during the week. The newcomers were reunited with families in Ohio, Michigan and New York. The 11 arrivals from the USSR entered the U.S. through the parole authority of the U.S. Attorney General.

The Israeli Defense Ministry announced that it would allocate IL 18 million to improve defense and security facilities at settlements on the Golan Heights.

PRODUCER ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR AIRING SMITH BROADCAST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Officials of the New Jersey Council of Churches and the Mutual Broadcasting System told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that sole responsibility for the Gerald L.K. Smith broadcast carried by MBS and later by the Defense Department's Armed Forces Radio and Television Service rested with the man who produced the program, William Bertenshaw. Bertenshaw, an independent radio and tv producer of Maplewood, N.J., accepted the responsibility.

This emerged from JTA telephone interviews with Hal Wagner, director of the MBS special events and public service programs in Washington, James Roberts, the New Jersey Church Council's director of radio and television in East Orange, N.J. and Bertenshaw.

The program aroused angry protests in the Jewish community after the JTA revealed last Friday that the Smith broadcast was picked up from MBS by the AFRTS and transmitted to its 492 stations serving some 2 million U.S. servicemen all over the world. Smith, a professional anti-Semite and white racist with a 40-year record of hate-mongering, used the broadcast to promote his "Christian shrine" at Eureka Springs, Ark., as a substitute for Christian holy places in Israel which he alleged were "marred and scarred."

Church Council Not Associated With Series

The broadcast was one of a series of "public service" programs produced and packaged by Bertenshaw under the general title, "Suggested Solutions." Roberts informed the JTA that he had told Bertenshaw last Sept. to delete the association of the New Jersey Council of Churches from his series after the American Jewish Committee in St. Louis complained about a program that featured Smith's wife. Roberts emphasized that the Council had been associated with only the first four programs in Bertenshaw's series, about three years ago. But apparently, the producer continued to use the Church Council credit at the tag end of the show.

Wagner said that MBS "found out" only last Friday that the New Jersey Church Council was no longer associated with the series. "It was news to me," he said. Bertenshaw said that he couldn't recall whether he had informed MBS of the NJCC's request to be dissociated from the series. He said, however, "In regard to this program neither MBS nor the New Jersey Church Council have any responsibility. I taped the program. I take full responsibility for the broadcast."

Referring to Smith, Bertenshaw claimed, "I personally knew nothing about the guy" when he produced the program. "But I know now," he added. He said "I would not have put the show on if I had the background I have now." He said that his series also included a program about Israel.

Wagner told the JTA that there was no directive prohibiting Smith's appearance on the MBS network but that "he could not appear as a guest on the public service programs." He said that MBS did not dictate guests to Bertenshaw.

WALDHEIM MAY TAKE MIDEAST INITIATIVE

By Yitzhak Rabi, JTA UN Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 30 (JTA)--Kurt Waldheim, UN Secretary General, "will take a personal hand in the search for a Middle East settlement just as soon as he judges the time is ripe," according to informed sources at the UN. These sources say that Waldheim will know better when that point has been reached after he sees how the proposed proximity talks between Israel and Egypt turn

out. Israel already has said it is ready to participate in these talks but Egypt is holding back.

At his Jan. 8 news conference Waldheim expressed a willingness "to do something in this field (Middle East) and you can be sure that I shall not hesitate to take the necessary initiative as soon as I consider it useful and helpful." Expressing caution, Waldheim said at the same news conference: "Such actions have to be prepared very carefully and thoroughly before concrete suggestions or proposals are put forward."

Waldheim also is not denigrating the idea of a peace conference to find a solution to the Middle East conflict. "All this has to be clarified within the next few weeks and I hope to be able to make up my mind," he said at the news conference.

End Of Jarring Era?

His intention to take a personal role in a possible settlement of the Middle East dispute and his talk about a peace conference suggest the possibility that Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring will finish his mission in the Middle East. Dr. Jarring himself, according to persistent rumors in the UN, would like to step down, feeling he has done as much as he can and obtained little.

In addition, it has been learned that Dr. Jarring and Waldheim do not have the same high confidence in each other that Dr. Jarring and former Secretary General U Thant enjoyed. Another fact that indicates an end to the "Jarring era" is that there was no reference to Dr. Jarring at Waldheim's last news conference, where he proposed his willingness to search for a Middle East settlement. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli mission to the UN, but it is known that the Israelis are not happy about the present situation and would welcome a new initiative.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the UN denied a Cairo report that Waldheim will visit some Middle East capitals in May on his way to Addis Ababa for the Organization of African Unity summit meeting. Next month Waldheim is to visit capitals in the Far East. In an answer to a reporter's question, the UN spokesman said that Waldheim would not stop in any Middle East country while enroute to Addis Ababa.

JEWISH AGENCY PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA)--The Jewish Agency provided high school scholarships for 94,500 Israeli students last year, it was reported Sunday at a planning meeting for the Agency's General Assembly which opens here next week. The scholarships, amounting to \$17 million, were awarded to youths in need of financial assistance to continue their education. Free education is provided only through the ninth grade.

According to the report, 71,000 students received full scholarships and 6700 received scholarships amounting to 20-percent of their tuition costs. Tuition was paid for by the parents of another 32,500 high school students. One of the items on the Assembly's agenda will be the amount of money to allocate for nursery schools and high school scholarships in the Jewish Agency's next budget.

The U.S. Coast Guard has invited Israel Aircraft Industries to participate in international tenders to supply it with a special type of aircraft. The invitation followed inspection of Israel's Jet Commodore plane by Coast Guard experts who found it suitable for Coast Guard needs. The USCG is seeking 43 aircraft.

