



# daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 165 West 46th St., New York, N.Y. 10036

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Vol. XL - Fifty-Sixth Year

Wednesday, February 21, 1973

No. 36

## ISMAIL'S VISIT TERMED A 'WELCOME OPPORTUNITY' TO EXCHANGE VIEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A State Department spokesman described the visit to Washington later this week of Hafez Ismail, a high ranking Egyptian diplomat, as a "welcome opportunity" for an exchange of views between Egypt and the U.S. "at an authoritative level of government."

Department spokesman Charles Bray said that Ismail, who is President Anwar Sadat's advisor on security, would arrive here Thursday afternoon and would meet with President Nixon at the White House Friday morning. Ismail will also meet with other top U.S. officials and will lunch with Secretary of State William P. Rogers. Bray said the Egyptian diplomat was bringing "a small party" with him.

Asked if the meeting was sought by the U.S., Bray said it was set up by mutual agreement and worked out during the course of the past week. He declined to comment when asked if Rogers had been aware of Ismail's visit when he remarked at a press conference last Thursday that the U.S. would welcome visits by Egyptian representatives but had no plans to receive any "at this moment." Asked what the Egyptians may have in mind, Bray replied, "further enlightenment" will come after the meeting.

"The State Department spokesman told reporters who questioned him about Ismail's visit that "To say the obvious, the visit is a welcome opportunity for the U.S. to hear such views as Mr. Ismail might care to present on behalf of his own government and for the U.S. to outline our thinking--both at an authoritative level of government."

Bray said in reply to questions that he didn't think it was unusual for a diplomat of Ismail's rank to meet with the President but he cited no precedents for such a meeting. Ismail will be received at the White House just six days before Premier Golda Meir of Israel meets with the President. It was learned here today that Mrs. Meir will address the National Press Club following her meeting with Nixon on March 1.

## EL AL THREATENS TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS UNLESS STRIKE ENDS WITHIN 24 HOURS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 20 (JTA)--El Al threatened to suspend operations today unless a strike by about 120 technical supervisors ends within 24 hours. The strike, which began Sunday, has grounded the airline's fleet of 12 Boeing jets. An urgent Cabinet meeting held last night--to which Premier Golda Meir was flown by helicopter from Haifa--supported El Al management's threat.

The striking workers ignored a Labor Court's back-to-work order yesterday. Their representatives refused to appear in court today to face contempt charges. Judge Yaacob Yilon ordered police to bring them in forcibly for a hearing this afternoon.

A suspension of operations by El Al means that the company would charter aircraft from foreign companies, employ the maintenance crews of other airlines serving Israel, or engage technical supervisors from local airplane factories. The strike by the supervisors has made it impossible to carry out routine maintenance of El Al jets. The

strikers, demanding higher wages, walked off the job while negotiations were in process.

Histadrut is not supporting the strike and has invited the strikers for a discussion. Transport Minister Shimon Peres blamed El Al's frequent labor troubles on the existence of too many workers committees which sometimes act at cross purposes to each other.

El Al, meanwhile, has arranged flights for some 1000 stranded passengers on other airlines. According to the El Al management, the strike is costing IL 1 million a day. The company said it planned a mass furlough of employees and the dismissal of temporary workers if the strike is not over by tomorrow.

## JEWISH ACTIVIST, DAUGHTER, ABDUCTED

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Marina Tiemkin, the 13-year-old daughter of the Soviet Jewish activist, Aleksandr Tiemkin, was taken yesterday from her home in Moscow by force by four people, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reported it learned today. Her father was also taken away. The whereabouts of both remain unknown. Tiemkin's "parental rights" were revoked Jan. 17 by a Moscow regional court after he and his daughter applied for permission to emigrate to Israel.

Permission was initially granted for the two to leave, but Marina's mother brought suit to block her daughter's emigration. Marina, who testified in court that she desires to live with her father in Israel, left a letter in her home before she was abducted that she considers herself an Israeli citizen and wants to live in Israel, the Conference reported. An appeal on the Jan. 17 court order was scheduled to be heard Feb. 22. But, according to the Conference, in view of the abduction of Marina and her father it is doubtful that the appeal will take place.

## JNF SAYS CRITICISM OF ITS OPERATIONS WAS INACCURATE AND MISLEADING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Spokesmen for the Jewish National Fund contended today that much of the criticism of its operations contained in the recently published report of the Zionist General Council's (Action Committee) Comptroller was inaccurate and misleading. Shimon Ben Shemesh, director-general of the land reclamation and development agency, said, however, that the JNF would give serious consideration to recommendations in the Comptroller's report and would correct procedures wherever possible. But "even after we do that, there will still be areas that require improvement," he said.

Louis Pincus, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, said today that he would study the report and would place it before a joint committee of the WZO and the JNF board of directors. Pincus said he "deplored" the allegedly one-sided treatment of the report by certain sections of the press which, he said, could hurt the JNF's reputation.

At a press conference here today, Ben Shemesh said that certain criticisms were valid but implied that the Comptroller's report was not altogether accurate in some of its charges. One charge was that the JNF had no criteria for paying the expenses of its emissaries who travel abroad and had

in fact, paid the travel expenses of wives who travelled with their husbands.

Ben Shemesh said two wives of emissaries had their travel expenses paid and the wife of a third received, in addition, per diem expenses. But he stressed that these were special cases and that the payments had been approved by the JNF's executive committee. Theodor Hatalgi, the JNF's public relations director, disputed the Comptroller's charge that huge stocks of JNF publications were left in storerooms undistributed. Hatalgi said the JNF had produced the publications three years in advance as an economy move. "This was not a mistake, it was planned," he said.

#### ZOA-AZF RIFT REMAINS UNRESOLVED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--The Zionist General Council (Actions Committee) wound up its annual meeting here Friday without resolving a major internal conflict over whether the Zionist Organization of America should be compelled to re-join the American Zionist Federation from which it bolted last year.

A resolution that would have expelled the ZOA from the World Zionist Organization if it remained obdurate was abandoned at the last minute in favor of a compromise proposed by WZO Treasurer Arye Dulzin to refer the issue to the WZO Executive.

Herman Weisman, president of the ZOA and Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the AZF formally pledged to abide by whatever decision is reached by a 2/3 majority of the WZO Executive.

The compromise was adopted after a session lasting into the wee hours of the morning, marked by tension and mutual recriminations between the various Zionist parties. Louis Pincus, chairman of the WZO Executive, seemed adamant on forcing the ZOA back into line in the interests, he said, of building a united Zionist movement in America.

Weisman was equally adamant. He warned the Council not to use "the axe" on the oldest Zionist organization in the U.S. "You cannot build unity with a sledgehammer," he said. Weisman also said there were signs on both sides of a readiness to discuss the issues which led to the split with a view to healing the rift.

The compromise submitted by Dr. Leon Kronitz of Canada, chairman of the Constitutions Committee, was adopted by a majority of the General Council. Hadassah and the World Confederation of General Zionists abstained. Ezra Shapiro, chairman of the World Confederation, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later that it accepted the compromise but disapproved of the way it came about.

#### BERGEN-BELSEN SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES \$250,000 PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--An extensive program of "memorials of spirit in the creative works of arts and letters" was announced in connection with the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising by Josef Rosensaft of New York, president of the World Federation of the Bergen-Belsen Survivors. Centering about the 30th anniversary of the uprising, which will be commemorated April 19, the program of awards, publications and conferences throughout the world will involve an expenditure by the Bergen-Belsen Survivors Association of over a quarter of a million dollars. Twelve distinguished writers have been named as winners of two special Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Awards of \$5000 each and 10 Remembrance Awards of \$2500 each.

The two special Warsaw Ghetto Memorial

Awards of \$5000 each were given to Israel's leading poet, Uri Zvi Greenberg, and to Dr. Jacob Robinson, an international jurist who is the outstanding historian of the holocaust. The 10 Remembrance Awards of \$2500 each for works of distinction in the literature of the holocaust were conferred upon two Americans, four Israelis, three Frenchmen and one Norwegian. The American winners are: Daniel Stern of New York, author of the novel, "Who Shall Live, Who Shall Die," (English), and S. L. Shneiderman of New York, author of "When the Vichy Spoke Yiddish..." (Yiddish), dealing with the perished Jewish communities in central Poland.

A major undertaking, made possible by a grant from the Bergen-Belsen Federation, is the definitive comprehensive history of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, now in preparation by a group of historians of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. This will be a companion study to a similar project on armed Jewish resistance against the Nazis recently completed.

An International Conference of Holocaust Studies of some eighty scholars and students will be held in Sept. 1974 at the University of London, jointly sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Jewry and the Remembrance Award Committee. The conference will deal with philosophical and historical implications of the holocaust and the literature of the holocaust.

#### KIDNAPPED JEWISH BUSINESSMAN RETURNED SAFELY AFTER FAMILY PAYS \$1.5 M RANSOM

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 20 (JTA)--A 70-year-old Jewish businessman who was kidnapped Friday, returned safely last night after his family reportedly paid \$1.5 million ransom to the kidnapers. Naum Kacowicz, a former president of the Buenos Aires Jewish Hospital, was abducted while being driven from a slaughterhouse and meat packing plant that he supervises.

Police know of the kidnapping but did not intervene at the request of the family who negotiated in secret with the kidnapers. The abduction of Kacowicz was apparently a purely criminal act without political overtones. The victim, who suffers from a heart condition, was given medication by his abductors on the instructions of his doctor.

#### SOVIET ENCYCLOPEDIA ON ISRAEL CRITICIZED AS 'ERRONEOUS'

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Mikhail Agursky, a Moscow activist and cybernetics engineer, reported that the tenth volume of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia published recently contains an article about Israel of great significance. In a telephone conversation with the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, Agursky said:

"The borders of Israel are outlined there (in the encyclopedia) as those set down by the United Nations in 1947. The Soviet government is known to be making efforts to implement the decision of the UN Security Council of November 22, 1967. On examination, the Soviet government recognizes Israel as having the borders she held just prior to June 5, 1967. Yet the map of Israel published in the encyclopedia raises grave doubts about the sincerity of the position of the Soviet government. If it is a mistake, the competent Soviet bodies must reject the map as the wrong one."

In another development, the SSSJ reported that in a 3000-word article in "Mezhdunarodnaya Zhlzn. V. Bolshakov assafts" "International Zionism" and its "slandorous campaign" of "lies about the persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union." The article, the SSSJ stated, shows sensitivity to protests in Western countries.

### NIXON URGED TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF JEWS IN IRAQ, SYRIA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (JTA)--President Nixon was urged today to intervene personally on behalf of Jews in Iraq and Syria. A resolution will be introduced in the House of Representatives tomorrow calling for an extension of the Attorney General's parole authority so that Jews from those countries can be admitted to the United States. Pennsylvania's two Senators, Hugh Scott and Richard S. Schweiker, and eight Philadelphia area Representatives urged Nixon to intervene personally "to halt the inhuman treatment of Jewish minorities in Iraq and Syria."

In a letter to the President, the bi-partisan group said it recognized that the United States government does not have diplomatic relations with Iraq and Syria and that the State Department has "made substantial efforts" on behalf of the Jews in those two countries. "Now, however," the letter added, "is a time when your personal intervention would be extremely helpful. We urge you to use your good offices, through whatever means you consider appropriate, to aid these helpless persons."

Rep. Edward I. Koch (D,NY) postponed until tomorrow his introduction in the House of a resolution condemning the Iraqi and Syrian governments "for their harsh and inhuman treatment of their Jewish countrymen" and urging extension of the Justice Department's parole authority to admit Jews from those two countries into the U.S. Fourteen other Congressmen from 10 states are co-sponsors of the resolution. Both the letter to the President and the resolution referred to the hangings in 1969 of Iraqi Jews and the reported recent executions in an Iraqi prison of nine or ten Jews.

### MOVES CONSIDERED TO CURB MISSIONARIES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--An informal discussion of the troublesome question of Christian missionary activities in Israel was held here yesterday. Justice Minister Yaacov Shimshon Shapiro and Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, the Minister for Religious Affairs, met with Knesset members representing six political factions to explore the feasibility of devising legislation to curb missionarying.

Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren urged several days ago that the government take firm measures to curb the activities of missionaries, particularly the "Jews for Jesus" followers; some of whom are born or converted Jews who have obtained Israeli citizenship. The National Religious Party and the Agudat Israel factions had demanded a general Knesset debate on the problem. The Labor Party and Gahal demurred on grounds that it would elicit a harmful reaction from the Christian world. They maintained that it was preferable to act quietly and informally at this stage.

Dr. Warhaftig said the problem was not with the major churches but with the smaller ones, such as various Baptist sects which proselytized among Jews. He said missionary activities always increased at times of increased immigration. He alleged that missionaries penetrate immigrant absorption centers and campuses and seek out lonely people and people with adjustment problems. He proposed a revision of Israel's Law of Return to exclude "Jews for Jesus" followers.

The Justice Minister said he opposed legislation against missionaries per se. He observed that evangelism was a basic tenet of the Christian

church and that Israel, as a tolerant democracy, must accept this. However, he added, if missionaries were found to be exploiting poverty and offering material inducements to poor Jews, legislation could be devised to curb them.

Shapiro said his ministry was working on laws that would tighten control over foreigners buying land in Israel which might also have a controlling effect on missionaries. He said that just because a Jew said he believed in Jesus did not mean he was a Christian. That remark brought angry shouts of protest from Shlomo Lorincz of the Agudat Israel and Kalman Kahane of the Poale Agudat Israel.

The missionary issue has been raised in the Cabinet by the NRP. The NRP-controlled Interior Ministry is reportedly taking steps to oust "Jews for Jesus" members when their tourist visas expire. It is also planning to revoke the citizenship of Israel-born members of the sect and others who allegedly obtained conversion to Judaism under false pretenses.

### ISRAEL-CANADA SIGN \$25.6M PACT

OTTAWA, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Dr. Theodore Meron, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, assisted by Amos Bergner, deputy managing director of Bank Ha-poalim of Tel Aviv, and Menachem Lachat, Israel's trade commissioner to Canada, yesterday signed a new financial agreement with the Export Development Corporation of Canada providing for long-term credits amounting to \$25.6 million to the Israel Electric Corporation for Eshkol C and D thermal power stations in Ashdod. Alastair W. Gillespie, Canada's Minister of Trade and Commerce, signed the agreement on behalf of his government.

Dr. Meron noted that this is the second major contract between the EDC and Israel in recent weeks. At the end of Dec. a \$10 million agreement was signed providing financial support for purchasing new passenger and baggage handling equipment, navigational and flight control service equipment for Lod Airport and rolling stock for Israel's state railway.

The Israeli envoy said yesterday that the EDC "has performed an important role in the encouragement of Canadian exports to Israel." He added that the agreements express a growing awareness in Canada of a market in Israel and a similar awareness in Israel of the potential opportunities in Canada. "The steady increase of exports in both directions," Dr. Meron said, "is encouraging and will also help to stimulate more Canadian companies in Israel."

Ray Wolfe, president of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce, who participated in yesterday's ceremony, was credited with playing a major role in developing the trade agreements between the two nations.

### ALMOGI: ARAB LABOR FROM TERRITORIES A PERMANENT FACTOR IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 20 (JTA)--Labor Minister Joseph Almogi told the Knesset yesterday that Arab labor from the administered territories must be regarded as a permanent factor in Israel. He said, however, that if the economic condition of the territories was improved, the workers would prefer to find jobs closer to home.

Almogi said that the Six-Day War had lifted the economic "iron curtain" which formerly separated Israel from its surroundings. He noted that both hawks and doves in Israel envisaged a peace settlement that would allow workers to cross Israel's borders freely in both directions.

