



# daily news bulletin

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## VICTOR LOUIS SAYS USSR WILL NO LONGER IMPLEMENT HEAD TAX, BUT LAW WILL REMAIN ON THE BOOKS

TEL AVIV, March 21 (JTA)--Victor Louis, a Soviet journalist with Kremlin connections who visited Israel in 1971, said today that Soviet authorities will no longer implement the law promulgated last Aug. which requires holders of academic degrees to pay a tax based on their educational level if they wish to emigrate. Louis' dispatch from Moscow was published in the newspaper Yediot Achronot. He claimed that while the tax law will not be formally abolished, the head office of the ovir, the Soviet visa bureau, has confirmed that the tax will no longer be collected.

In Washington, several Congressional leaders said today that legislation designed to free Soviet emigration will be enacted by Congress despite the latest reports from the Soviet Union. In New York, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry said the latest Soviet moves are encouraging but the basic emigration problems remain unchanged. See P. 3 for full stories.)

According to reports yesterday from Moscow and other sources, 44 Jews with academic degrees were informed over the past two days that they may leave the country without paying the diploma tax. With one or two exceptions, none of those exempted were "hard core" activists.

### May Refund Taxes Already Paid

Louis' dispatch hinted that Soviet authorities may consider refunding the diploma taxes received from Jews during the six months that the law was implemented. An estimated 300 Jews have paid the tax. Louis said that if a refund is authorized, the money would be turned over to relatives or friends of the Jews who paid the tax and have since left the USSR. The recipients must be living in Russia, Louis said.

The exemptions reported yesterday were seen as a move by Soviet officials to mollify a majority of U.S. Congressmen who support amendments pending in the House and Senate that would deny most favored nation status and other trade concessions to the USSR until it removed restrictions on emigration.

Some sources here regard Louis' report as part of a general Soviet propaganda offensive designed to influence public opinion, particularly in the U.S. Louis is seen by some as an instrument of the Kremlin frequently used to carry out propaganda missions in the West on behalf of the Soviet leaders. Louis visited Israel in the spring of 1971, ostensibly for medical treatment. He met at the time with Simha Dinitz, Premier Golda Meir's political secretary, who is now Israel's Ambassador-designate to the U.S.

### SOUTH AFRICAN DOCTOR, PALESTINIAN IDENTIFIED AS BLACK SEPTEMBRISTS

PARIS, March 21 (JTA)--Two members of the Black September terrorist organization who were arrested Saturday, will be remanded in custody by a State Security Court tomorrow. They were identified today as Dr. Diane Campbell-Lefevre, a 31-year-old South African medical doctor and Jamil Abdel Hakim, 27, a Palestinian. French sources said that the police have little evidence

to charge the physician who was born in Salisbury, Rhodesia and will most probably expel her from France to a country of her choice. Hakim is expected to be charged with using forged documents and illegal entry into France, the sources said.

The two were arrested in the Paris region on the basis of information obtained from two Jordanians who were caught March 15, carrying 30 pounds of explosives in their West German registered car.

Dr. Campbell-Lefevre and Hakim have reportedly admitted belonging to the Black September Organization. Dr. Campbell-Lefevre left for Beirut in 1971 after she obtained her medical degree at Cape Town University. In Lebanon where she worked in refugee camps she became interested in the Palestinian cause and helped El Fatah and other extremist organizations, it was reported.

French police believe that the young South African doctor acted as the Black September local liaison agent in France. They believe she was in charge of "logistics," namely securing accommodations, money and travel documents for Black Septemberists. The Palestinian is believed to have had a lower rank and served mainly as her helper. French police, who have been questioning the pair since their arrest, do not believe a Black September headquarters or any training bases or arms depots exist in France.

(It was reported in London today that Dr. Campbell-Lefevre has been known for some time to the Special Branch at Scotland Yard because of her association with the Palestinian movement. She was also known at St. Ann's Hospital in London where she worked on the medical staff in 1970-71.)

### UNOFFICIAL REPORT INDICATES BARBITURATES, ALCOHOL FOUND IN BLOOD OF LIBYAN AIRLINE PILOT

TEL AVIV, March 21 (JTA)--Israeli toxicologists were divided today over the interpretation of an unofficial report purported to be a laboratory analysis of the blood content of the French pilot of the Libyan airliner shot down by Israeli fighter planes over Sinai Feb. 21. According to the report, traces of barbiturates and alcohol were found in the dead pilot's blood.

The report, prepared by the Forensic Medicine Institute laboratory, was sent to France along with other information asked by a French committee that visited Israel last month to investigate the crash. Israeli authorities said today that no official evaluation has been made and cautioned that all interpretations of the report must be regarded with the utmost reservations.

Toxicologists were arguing over whether the pilot's blood content could have influenced his reported erratic actions during a 15-minute period when, lost in Israeli air space, he ignored signals from Israeli fighter planes to land.

According to the reported lab analysis, the pilot's blood contained 0.5 percent of luminal, a barbiturate and traces of alcohol. Dr. George Tajar, of the Forensic Medicine Institute, said the barbiturates were a cumulative compound and the time of their intake could not be determined. He said the alcohol content was, in his judgement,

not above normal.

Other experts, including airline medical personnel, said that the consumption of barbiturates and alcohol has a serious effect on the clarity of thinking. They said pilots are forbidden to consume drugs of any sort within 24 hours of flight time and may not drink any alcoholic beverage later than 12 hours before take-off.

And Then There Was One?

#### TSUR WITHDRAWS FROM PRESIDENTIAL RACE; NAVON AND MANI ON VERGE OF WITHDRAWAL; KATCHALSKI REMAINS

JERUSALEM, March 21 (JTA)--Yaacov Tsur, one of the two front runners in the race for Israel's presidency withdrew today. His principal rival, Deputy Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Navon, may pull out by tomorrow, clearing the way for the candidacy of Prof. Ephraim Katchalski of the Weizmann Institute of Science who has emerged as the choice of some of the most powerful leaders of the Labor Party. A fourth candidate, Supreme Court Justice Eliahu Mani, appeared on the verge of withdrawal.

Prof. Katchalski, a 57-year-old Russian-born biophysicist who is presently visiting the United States, has reportedly agreed to accept the nomination. The Labor Party's 620-member Central Committee will meet in Tel Aviv tomorrow night to select a presidential nominee by secret ballot. The Labor Party's choice is virtually assured of election when the Knesset votes May 25 to choose a successor to President Zalman Shazar.

Navon, a leader of the Sephardic community who is immensely popular in the Knesset, was considered the front runner in the presidential race until yesterday when Dr. Katchalski's name came up publicly for the first time. Navon told reporters today that he was considering his position, adding, "As long as I haven't withdrawn if my candidacy still stands." Informed circles here believe that he will withdraw by the time the Central Committee is ready to vote tomorrow.

Tsur's pull-out came as a surprise. The president of the Jewish National Fund and former Israeli Ambassador to France, Tsur was believed to have been Premier Golda Meir's personal choice for the presidency. But Mrs. Meir said last week that she would not intervene in her party's choice.

It was reported yesterday that Dr. Katchalski was contacted by telephone in Boston by members of a six-man committee of Labor Party leaders assigned the task of recommending a candidate to the Central Committee. It was not known who spoke to the scientist but he is believed to have been contacted by Israel Galili, Minister-Without-Portfolio, who is a member of the Party's inner circle and possibly by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. All but one of the six committee members were reported today to favor Katchalski. The lone holdout was Transport Minister Shimon Peres who continued to back his old friend Navon.

Navon, like Peres, belongs to the Labor Party's Rafi faction. The "afi wing of the Party, accused the Mapai and Ahdut Avoda factions today of deliberately trying to destroy Navon's candidacy because of his Rafi background. Sapir, Galili and others have denied this. But the sudden emergence of Katchalski as a "dark horse" indicated a split within the Labor Party.

#### 2 RESIGN FROM WRITERS UNION

TEL AVIV, March 21 (JTA)--Two prominent

Israeli writers, Amos Oz and Yoram Kanyuk, announced their resignation from the Hebrew Writers Union last night after it voted 70-33 against opening membership to all writers who are citizens of Israel. The vote was taken after a stormy debate over whether to admit Arab and other non-Hebrew writers. The issue was the subject of angry controversy at previous union meetings and a decision was repeatedly postponed until last night.

A compromise adopted by a vote of 85-11 called for the establishment of a general federation of authors which Arab, Yiddish and other non-Hebrew writers may join as a group or as individuals. The Hebrew Writers Union would be part of the general federation. Aharon Megged was named to head a committee to prepare a founding convention of the authors' federation to be held no later than next Oct.

#### WARSAW PILGRIMAGE; WORK TO BE DONE

By Irving Friedman, Special JTA Correspondent

WARSAW, March 21 (JTA)--Thirty-five young Jewish leaders continued their pilgrimage here today with a visit to the Jewish Institute of Warsaw. The institute, which houses a museum on the Ghetto and various other Jewish works of art, is obviously under-funded and under-staffed. Also housed in the building are the archives of the Polish Jewish community. Most notable are the Ringelbloom papers on the Ghetto. Much of the archive material has yet to be properly catalogued. "Much work must yet be done," said one of the permanent researchers. Some of the material is beginning to crumble with age.

A visit to the last remaining synagogue in Warsaw was most depressing. The shul is in desperate need of repair. Two weeks ago the shul was vandalized and the coe of the ark as well as the ner tamid stolen. The building was so cold that Sabbath prayers were held in a small room in an adjoining building. Most disturbing was a large swastika which was chalked recently on the building.

The group had lunch at the Jewish community kosher canteen, one of 10 in Poland, which serves the elderly pensioners. The group met with these Jews. One 80-year-old woman blessed the group and pleaded with them never to forget they were Jews. Afterwards, the group visited the large Warsaw Jewish cemetery where they paid homage to Isaac Loeb Peretz, the Yiddish and Hebrew writer, and the martyrs of the Ghetto. An old Jew is the caretaker. After he leaves, no one will be left who cares.

#### TERRORIST INVESTIGATIONS LAUNCHED

By Ben Juarez, Rome JTA Correspondent

ROME, March 21 (JTA)--Police said today they believe four briefcases containing submachine guns and grenades found at the Leonardo da Vinci International Airport Monday were brought here by at least three Arabs flying from Tripoli, Libya. They said the suspects have already left the country. The police said they still do not know whether the briefcases were brought here for pickup by a terrorist gang which never kept the appointment or whether the suspects themselves planned a terrorist action but abandoned the weapons because of strict security measures at the airport.

The briefcases were found between chairs at three exit gates. Each contained a sterling submachine gun, four clips of ammunition with 48 rounds to a clip, and a hand grenade and a smoke bomb. Police here do not exclude the possibility that an attack was planned at the airport itself,

where two El-Al airliners were parked at about the time the briefcases were discovered on Monday. However, as is the usual practice, the Israeli aircraft were kept some way away from the main terminal building and surrounded by special anti-terrorist squads.

Suspicion rested on the three Arabs after police questioned all airline and airport employees on duty that day. A Pan American ticket clerk said men carrying briefcases identical to those found had arrived from Tripoli with tickets to Belgrade; one aboard Libyan Arab Airlines and two aboard Alitalia.

The clerk said that after a heated discussion the men asked him to give them seats for Beirut instead of Belgrade. He said his suspicions were aroused when they refused to use the ongoing portions of their tickets but instead changed money and bought new tickets. He thus had no way of checking whether the Arab names they gave were correct. They identified themselves as Jordanians. However, the clerk was able to give police an accurate description of the men. Since there are four briefcases and only three suspects, police say another man may be involved.

Meanwhile, in Rome, police have arrested a second Italian citizen in connection with the bomb destruction of much of an oil trans-shipment center at Trieste last Aug. The man is a 33-year-old art restorer, Pierluigi Manetti. He has no police record and his only known connection with the case, according to police sources, is that his name was found in the address book of a suspected Black September member recently arrested in Paris in the course of a murder investigation.

The other Italian arrested in connection with the case is Ludovico Codella, whose name also was in the diary and was mentioned by a French woman who also is undergoing questioning.

#### CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS PREDICT PASSAGE OF JACKSON AMENDMENT Will Not Be Swayed By Tokenism

WASHINGTON, March 21 (JTA)--Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.) and Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D. Ohio) predicted today that legislation designed to free Soviet emigration will be enacted by Congress despite the hints of relaxation on restrictions coming from Soviet sources. In separate telephone comments to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the two leaders of the legislation bearing their names said that no threat is posed against the Soviet Union but they seek firm assurances that the Soviet government will live up to the Declaration of Human Rights.

"We intend to pass the amendment," Jackson said. "There is no compromise with principle. We want to eliminate the issue as a problem." Vanik declared "The language must go in" meaning that the legislation is to be enacted into law. "There is no threat in our legislation," Vanik noted. "There is fear that the Soviets may be seeking to appease the Congress by changing its emigration policy now and then, changing back again when the most favored nation treatment is given to it."

The Congressional leaders were asked for their views after news reports said that the Soviet government has allowed 44 Moscow Jews with academic standing to leave for Israel without paying the education taxes. The waivers were seen "as an apparent effort to placate Congressional critics," according to one Washington observer with close connections with Soviet Embassy officials.

Unprecedented publicity, it was reported, accompanied the waiving of the taxes. Western newsmen were invited to witness interviews between prospective emigrants and the director of the Soviet visa office, Lt. Col. Sergie Fadeyev, in Moscow. A Soviet television crew filmed the interviews.

Jackson, in speaking of the granting of visas in the past few days, declared: "It is encouraging whenever an individual is permitted to leave but these selective waivers cannot assure the Soviets will grant exit visas to the many thousands of others who wish to emigrate. That is why my amendment, which is designed to start and then to maintain a genuinely free flow of emigration, requires semi-annual Presidential reports of compliance."

Under the amendment, the President would be required to report every six months to the Congress on the status of emigration by every country receiving most favored nation treatment from the U.S. under the pending East-West Trade Act. If the Soviet government complies with the legislation, JTA was informed, members of Congress backing the Jackson-Milik-Vanik proposal will not make "a big deal" of the report. "A perfunctory report would be satisfactory," JTA was told by a source intimate with the legislation.

#### LOUIS REPORT EVOKES TEMPERED RESPONSE FROM SOVIET JEWRY GROUP

NEW YORK, March 21 (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry said today that reports that the Soviet Union will not implement the head tax law "reflects the importance of public action on behalf of Soviet Jews." Richard Maass, NCSJ chairman, commented: "We are encouraged by this latest announcement and believe that this is a positive step and, of course, a welcome one. But we must wait and see whether in fact the non-application of the tax will be applied to all Soviet Jews and is not meant as a quick appeasement to mounting pressure which the Soviet Union can again reinstate."

Maass added: "However, the basic emigration problems have not altered and the situation remains the same as it was prior to August 16" when the head tax law was promulgated. "The more fundamental problem of the denial of the basic human right to emigrate without arbitrary restrictions or procedures, and to practice one's religious beliefs freely and without harassment" was not dealt with in the report by Victor Louis, Maass noted.

Israel lags behind the West in the number of university graduates entering the job market each year despite the fact that it has six major institutions of higher learning serving a population of barely three million. Aryeh Gurel, director general of the Labor Ministry told the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday that Israel must gear its economy to absorb more college graduates. He said that 13.6 percent of the American labor force is comprised of college graduates and predicted that only nine percent of Israel's labor force will be made up of graduates five years from now.

Israel's growing self-sufficiency in arms production was reflected in a report today released in Tel Aviv that 54% of the national expenditure for defense is earmarked for the acquisition and development of weapons in Israel. The defense budget has been set at IL 6.4 billion of which 60% is in Israel pounds for arms purchases at home.

U.S.-SOVIET LOANS SIGNED

WASHINGTON, March 21 (JTA)--The U.S. Export-Import Bank and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade today signed two credit agreements entailing U.S. sales of \$199,013,138 to the Soviet Union and also an accord by which the Soviet government guarantees the bank the repayment of credits extended or guaranteed by the U.S. agency to the Soviet Bank for foreign trade (Vneshtorgbank) in Moscow.

A third credit arrangement for sales totaling \$25,937,000 is to be signed Friday, bringing the total for the three agreements to \$225 million. The Export-Import Bank and private American banks will each provide 45 percent of the credits. Vneshtorgbank will put up ten percent in cash.

The Export-Import Bank and Chase Manhattan of New York evenly divided the credits of 90 percent of the \$192,111,000 estimated for the American equipment required for the construction of a plant to produce trucks and engines on the Kama River in the town of Naverenjnaya Chelny, 550 miles east of Moscow. This is a 12-year loan to be repaid in 24 semi-annual installments beginning in 1977.

In the second agreement, Export-Import Bank and Wells Fargo Bank of New York and Wells Fargo Bank of San Francisco will each provide 45 percent of the total of \$6,893,138 to be used by the USSR to construct a plant which will produce tableware and dishware for consumer use. This is to be repaid in 20 semi-annual installments beginning in 1976. The location of the plant was not announced.

The third agreement, due to be signed in 1973, will have the Export-Import Bank extending 45 percent of the \$25,937,000 in U.S. sales of 500 submersible electric pumping units to Machinimport, a Soviet importing firm. Seven American private banks will extend an equal amount of credit. Repayment is to be in 14 semi-annual installments beginning in 1974.

The signings at the Export-Import Bank offices here were conducted as strength developed on the Hill in favor of the pending legislation in both houses of Congress that would forbid such agreements by the U.S. agency unless the Soviet government adheres to free emigration. Support for the Jackson amendment grew to 76 Senators today when Sen. Peter Domenici, freshman Republican from New Mexico, became a sponsor. He was the second Republican in two days to join the list. Sen. Hiram L. Fong of Hawaii announced his sponsorship yesterday.

PROJECT AIMS TO RELATE U.S. JEWS TO SOVIET JEWISH PRISONERS

NEW YORK, March 21 (JTA)--The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported today that its Prisoner of Conscience Medallion Project has met with tremendous success throughout the country. The project, begun a few months ago, is part of an on-going effort to involve American Jews with Soviet Jews in meaningful one-to-one relationships through phone calls, telegrams and letter writing. Families, schools, synagogues and organizations are encouraged to contact individual Soviet Jews in need of help. The method of involvement in this project is through the purchase of medallions in the shape of a Magen David.

On one side of the medallion appears the name of a Jew incarcerated in a Soviet prison,

with the words "USSR Prisoner of Conscience" engraved underneath; the other side has a smaller-sized Star of David entwined by a lock and chain, with the words "Let My People Go" on its border in English and in Hebrew. The medallion was originally designed by the Southern California Council on Soviet Jews.

A spokesman for the SSSJ expressed hope that "this project will continue to involve more American Jews in the lives and struggle of Soviet Jews in a more personal and meaningful way." Medallions are available from Jewish activist groups around the country.

INTERMARRIAGE, MIXED MARRIAGE, CLARIFIED

NEW YORK, March 21 (JTA)--In a letter to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, Rrof. Moshe Davis of the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Jewry, clarified his remarks on intermarriage made at a seminar session of the B'nai B'rith's Board of Governors meeting in Tel Aviv and reported in the March 14 JTA Daily News Bulletin.

Prof. Davis said his views on the subject originally appeared in the Dec. 1968 issue of the Jewish Journal of Sociology. "In that study, I differentiate between intermarriage and mixed marriage," he told the JTA. "In the former, namely intermarriage, one of the partners adopts the faith of the other before marriage in the attempt to achieve a religious unity in the family. This is not so in the case of mixed marriage in which both partners continue in their respective faiths and do not regard their religious differences as a basic obstacle to the totality of their marriage aspirations."

Prof. Davis noted that his remark that Jewish family life can be maintained and perpetuated even in mixed families "refers only to those cases where religion and family unity prevails."

EFFORT MADE TO STYMIE ISRAELI ATTENDANCE AT PHILOSOPHICAL CONGRESS

NEW YORK, March 21 (JTA)--The International Philosophical Congress, which convenes every fifth year, is next scheduled to be held in Varna, Bulgaria, in Sept. 1974. It has been a rule that the host country must commit itself in advance to allow all qualified participants into the country.

According to a well informed source, a problem has arisen concerning the entrance of prospective participants from countries which do not have diplomatic relations with Bulgaria. Israel is one of those nations. The question is particularly important because apparently the Congress is interested in having Israelis attend. There is a rather active philosophical life in Israel and Israelis participate in international scientific gatherings including philosophical conventions.

The source noted that the board of directors of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies, the board responsible for international congresses, has decided that visas for Israelis must be obtained in Israel. The Bulgarian members of the board agreed. As alternatives to visas being obtained in Israel, it was suggested that prospective Israeli participants get their visas from third countries or else on their arrival at the airport in Sofia. Israelis have rejected these suggestions contending that what is involved is a matter of principle and that the proposals, furthermore, are not technically feasible, the source said.