



# daily news bulletin

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Wednesday, May 16, 1973

No. 95

## TWO JEWS FACE SHOW TRIAL IN MINSK

Three Jewish Army Officers Also Face Trial; Minsk Jews Probed By KGB

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA)--A "show trial" will open in Minsk shortly involving Col. Efim Davidovich, a retired Jewish officer of the Red Army, and Gedalya Kipnis, an artist, who is allegedly involved with Davidovich, Jewish sources in Moscow reported today. The sources said that three other Jewish Army officers face charges and that the KGB (secret police) is conducting a wide-ranging investigation of prominent Jews in Minsk.

The charges against Davidovich include disseminating pro-Israel propaganda and Zionist literature, and "other anti-Soviet activities." Davidovich applied for a visa last fall and the KGB investigation began soon afterwards. Since that time, it was reported, he has suffered four heart attacks and his physical condition is poor.

Kipnis, who had an exit visa and was leaving Russia when he was hauled off the train and arrested at the last border check point, is accused of smuggling a letter out of the country. He is also charged with illegal possession of firearms--a pistol he allegedly gave Davidovich.

The sources said the other Jewish officers under investigation are Col. Lev Obshtcher, Col. Nahum Olshanski and Capt. Boris Albut. All three had applied for exit visas but were turned down. Obshtcher and Olshanski are both military academy graduates and hold 15 decorations for their service in World War II. Both were demoted to private and had their pensions suspended three years ago after they criticized official anti-Semitism in the USSR.

Meanwhile, several hundred former Minsk Jews now in Israel have appealed to Sen. Vance Hartke (D.Ind.) to intervene on behalf of Davidovich and Kipnis. A petition prepared by the Public Council for Soviet Jewry here was presented to U.S. Attorney Leon Charney, an advisor to Hartke, who is in Israel on a private visit.

Charney promised to relay the petition to the Senator by telephone and said he would fill in the details of the situation of Minsk Jews when he returns home. Hartke was one of a group of seven U.S. Senators who visited Moscow recently and had a long meeting with Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev.

**PANOV CHARGED WITH ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA, CONTACT WITH FOREIGNERS**  
Father Of Leningrad Trial Victim Told He Must Leave By May 24 Or Be Expelled

LONDON, May 15 (JTA)--Charges of anti-Soviet propaganda and contact with foreigners have been brought against Valery Panov, the ballet dancer who was fired from Leningrad's Kirov Ballet after he applied for an exit visa to go to Israel. Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today that Panov was summoned to the KGB (secret police) headquarters where the charges were presented to him. He refused to sign the charge sheet.

Moshe Mendelevich, the father of Yosef Mendelevich, a Leningrad trial defendant serving a 12-year sentence at a strict regime labor camp, has been ordered to leave the Soviet Union by

May 24, Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today. The sources said the elder Mendelevich was told by the head of the Riga visa bureau that his Soviet citizenship has been revoked and that he must leave for Israel.

He has refused to leave as long as his son is in prison. On May 9 he was visited by police at his home and was warned that if he is not out of the country by May 24 he would be placed on a plane forcibly as a stateless person, the sources said.

## POMPIDOU: FRANCE WILL NOT CHANGE ITS POLICIES TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST

PARIS, May 15 (JTA)--President Georges Pompidou said last night that France is not going to change its policies toward the Middle East, but that his government would continue its efforts to bring about a permanent peace settlement in the region and would "remain faithful to the attitude defined by Gen. de Gaulle."

Pompidou made his remarks in an exchange of toasts with King Faisal of Saudi Arabia at a state banquet held for the visiting monarch at the Trianon Palace in Versailles. He said that a permanent peace in the Middle East will "have to be based upon respect for the territorial integrity of the different states involved and upon resolutions adopted by the community of nations."

He told the guests at the banquet that France had done everything possible to avert the Six-Day War in 1967 and since then "has tried unceasingly and on every level" to find a formula for peace. The French President paid warm tribute to King Faisal and said Saudi Arabia was recognized throughout the Arab world as a moderator.

Faisal and Pompidou held their second round of talks today. Their subjects reportedly included the Middle East and relations between their countries. Faisal arrived here yesterday. He is due to remain in Paris for five days to discuss Saudian oil supplies to France and other Western European countries, and the possible purchase of arms from France.

## IF IT ORBITS, IT MUST BE A UFO

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA)--Scientists are unable to explain an unidentified flying object claimed to have been seen last night in the skies over Israel. Sightings were reported from various parts of Israel and from Lebanon. The object was described as "glowing like a bright star" and was said to have moved in a circular direction with four or five small shining satellites at its sides.

The UFO was observed at about 8 p.m. local time and was visible for only a few seconds. But that was time enough to bring a flood of telephone calls to the Mitzpeh Ramon observatory in the Negev. An observatory spokesman said the object was definitely not the orbiting "Skylab" launched yesterday from Cape Kennedy. He said that there were no immediate clues to its nature.

## ISRAELIS, ARABS, DISCUSS MIDEAST PEACE AT BOLOGNA CONFERENCE

ROME, May 15 (JTA)--The Bologna Conference for Peace and Justice in the Middle East ended yesterday with an appeal to Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. In a final communique, the conference called on all nations

to work for a peaceful solution in the Middle East on the basis of the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 242. The conference was held over the weekend under the auspices of the Communist controlled Emilia Romagna Regional Administration which has its headquarters in Bologna.

For the first time since the 1967 war, Arab and Israeli delegates together discussed the Middle East problem. Delegations representing Israeli opposition forces sat in the same room with representatives from Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Morocco and Jordan. But one disappointment for the organizers was the absence of any representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization because of recent events in Lebanon.

Israeli Communist Tawfik Toubi agreed with some of his Arab co-delegates that "small but courageous" forces in Israel are firmly opposed to what he called the "expansionist and oppressive" policy of the Israeli government. He said the Israeli opposition had come to Bologna not only in search of solidarity but also to join a common fight for peace.

Other delegations came from the Soviet Union and Soviet-bloc countries; North Korea; North Vietnam and the Vietnamese Liberation Front; the United States and Canada; several European and African countries and a number of left-wing, Third World, trade union and peace organizations.

Toubi accused both the U.S. and Israel of joint responsibility for the failure to apply Resolution 242. He was supported by Knesset member Uri Avneri, who said the rebirth of the Israeli people "cannot and must not rest on the ruins of another people."

The final document alleged that Israel is colonizing occupied territories and adopting measures tending toward permanent demographic and territorial changes in the area and appealed to "parliamentarians and governments of all nations" to seek a political solution to the conflict by implementing UN resolutions. In another measure, the conference sent a telegram to Yasser Arafat, PLO leader, expressing its "solidarity with the Palestine people in the face of attacks by the Lebanese Army."

A special commission proposed that the Bologna conference set up some kind of permanent secretariat to carry forward its work, and the formation of national committees to propagate the need for peace in the Middle East. Although the conference was non-governmental, organizers said several governments and UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim had expressed their interest in being informed about its results.

#### MRS. MEIR CHECKS OUT OF HOSPITAL

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir is expected to return to her office tomorrow after spending five days in the hospital for what was described as a routine medical check-up. Political observers here believe her latest medical report may determine whether or not she decides to remain in office after the national elections next Oct. They said her five-day rest in the hospital gave her an opportunity to consider her next step. Mrs. Meir promised before Israel's Independence Day celebrations on May 7 that she would announce her plans within a week or so.

#### ANCIENT JEWISH CEMETERY DISCOVERED UNDER HIGHWAY

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cemetery on the Mt. of Olives. The lane was closed to protect workers employed by the Religious Affairs Ministry who are digging on the site to uncover additional graves.

Mayor Teddy Kollek said the excavators didn't have a proper license and complained that their digging was interfering with traffic along the road. But he agreed to shut down the lane after he was requested by Mordechai Surkiss, chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee to permit further work on the site.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

JOHANNESBURG, May 15 (JTA)--Thousands of South African Jews participated in celebrations marking Israel's 25th anniversary. An estimated 14,000 attended a rally at the Milner Park Stadium here arranged by the South African Zionist Federation. A crowd of 10,000 gathered at the Goodwood Show Ground in Cape Town for an Israeli display arranged by the Western Province Zionist Council. Other celebrations were heavily attended in Durban, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein and other cities and towns across the country.

Addressing the rally here, the Israeli Consul S. Hoyer expressed his country's appreciation for South Africa's support for a Jewish homeland dating from the Balfour Declaration. He noted that South Africa was one of the first nations to recognize Israel in 1948.

Julius Weinstein, chairman of the SAZF recorded the Jewish community's appreciation of the friendship which Israel has received from successive South African governments over the past quarter century, including the present government. He noted that South Africa's Jewish community was proud of its contributions to Israel through the volunteers who took part in its War of Independence and the olim who have settled there.

Among the most distinguished of the latter are Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban; Michael Comay, Israel's present Ambassador to Britain; and Louis Pincus, chairman of the World Zionist and Jewish Agency Executives. Weinstein noted that South African Jewry has consistently raised more funds for Israel per capita than any other diaspora community.

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#### GOLDA'S SHOPPING BAG NETS \$10,000

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He said that at his meetings with U.S. officials in Washington last week he found that "nothing has changed in the U.S. policy toward Israel no matter what the policy of the oil-producing Arab countries." Eban added that he realized the U.S. need for energy sources but this "does not imply a change of present U.S. foreign policy."

The Israeli diplomat, who came here to address a State of Israel Bonds man-of-the-year dinner honoring Sam Reitman of Montreal, also met yesterday with Canadian Foreign Secretary Mitchell Sharp. They reportedly discussed recent developments in the Middle East, the situation in Lebanon and Israel's advocacy of direct negotiations with the Arabs. Eban also brought up the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union, Iraq and Syria.

Referring to the announcement Sunday by the Libyan Prime Minister, Col. Muammar el Qaddafi in Tripoli that the projected union of Libya and Egypt would be effected on Sept. 1, Eban told reporters that he was skeptical that the union will ever come about. Should it be accomplished, however, "the union will aggravate, not alleviate" the tensions in the Middle East, Eban said. He observed that while President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is at least willing to talk to some Western powers, the Libyan Prime Minister is intransigent in his position of hostility and supports and encourages extremist movements.

Speaking of the terrorist movements, Eban said Arabs in the administered territories, by and large, feel they are not represented by those who claim to speak in their name. He noted that the terrorists in Jordan have suffered total defeat; in Lebanon, the government is trying to avoid becoming involved in the Middle East conflict; and that Beirut has become the capital of terrorism.

He said that the present demarcation lines "are not sacrosanct" and that Israel is not following a policy "of arbitrary annexation." On the other hand, Eban said, he saw no reason why Israelis should not have the right to live in such places as Hebron.

## SOME 10,000 SOVIET JEWS CAME TO ISRAEL BETWEEN JANUARY AND APRIL

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA)--Moshe Rivlin, director general of the Jewish Agency, said today that some 10,000 Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union reached Israel between Jan.-April of this year. He said between 60-70,000 immigrants were expected to arrive from all countries this year with sharp increases from Argentina and Uruguay.

Speaking of assimilation and the problems of the younger generation, Rivlin said the Zionist movement must stress adult education so that children and youths can absorb Judaism and Zionism in their homes. He expressed satisfaction that over half of the United Jewish Appeal study missions coming to Israel were in the 25-40 age group.

## SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH STUDENT JOURNAL HIT FOR NEW LEFT STANCE

JOHANNESBURG, May 15 (JTA)--Jewish communal leaders here are concerned about attacks made on Israel and the local Jewish community by a small group of Jewish students at Cape Town University who publish, under the sponsorship of the Students' Jewish Association at that university, a student journal, "Strike."

The articles about Israel are of the "New Left" variety, accusing the Jewish State, among other things, of "oppressing" the Arabs. The articles dealing with the local Jewish community criticize communal leaders and the rabbinate for reneging on Jewish ethics by not opposing apartheid, and for allegedly maintaining silence on low wages paid to African workers. They also accuse the South African Jewish Board of Deputies of allegedly climbing down from past attitudes to a position of silence on political issues.

One article in the paper bitterly attacks South African industrialist, Harry Oppenheimer, as a "liberal stooge" who is instrumental in maintaining the prevailing economic structure, which "exploits" African workers. Oppenheimer has in fact been one of the leading figures in urging an improvement of wages, and in raising them in the industries which his companies control.

Interviewed by the local press, D.K. Mann, chairman of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, dissociated the Board from "Strike," saying that it was contrary to the long-established policy of the Board of Deputies to adopt a political stand. Asked about the journal's attitude toward Oppenheimer, Mann said that he certainly did not agree with their views.

## HISTADRUT ELECTIONS SET FOR SEPT.

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA)--The Histadrut Executive, by unanimous approval, set Sept. 11 as the date for the next Histadrut elections in which 1.1 million members of the trade union federation are eligible to vote. The decision, taken Sunday after a week-long debate, represented a victory of Histadrut Secretary General Yitzhak Ben Aharon over elements that wanted the elections postponed until the end of this year or early next year to avoid a conflict with the national and municipal election campaigns this fall. Histadrut by-laws call for elections every four years.

Ben Aharon emphasized that the Histadrut election campaign would not stop him from criticizing the government's economic and foreign policies. He has been one of the most outspoken critics of the government's wage and price policies which, he charged recently, further the interests of the rich at the expense of the poor. He also suggested recently that Israel should relinquish part of the administered territories in the interest of peace. Labor Party Secretary Aharon Yadin warned Ben Aharon last Sunday that he is mistaken if he believes he can carry the Histadrut elections while embroiled in arguments with the government.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX UP 4 PERCENT

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA)--The consumer price index soared by almost 4 percent during April according to official figures released here today. The overall price rise since the beginning of the year is 9.5 percent. The spiraling prices in April were led by frozen meat and other foodstuffs from which the government removed price ceilings to avoid paying increased subsidies. The prices of apartments and clothing also increased during April according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

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# U.S. POSTAL SERVICE ACCUSED OF JOB BIAS; COLPA FILES LAW SUIT

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA)--The U.S. Postal Service, successor body to the U.S. Post Office, was charged yesterday in a suit filed in a federal court with unlawful discrimination which barred observant Jews from employment.

The civil suit against the public agency was brought in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York by attorneys of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), on behalf of a religious Jewish postal worker who was fired from his job because of his inability to work from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday.

The action arose when the plaintiff, a new employee at the Long Island Post Office, requested that he be assigned to a tour of duty that would not require him to work on his Sabbath. According to COLPA, the postal authorities refused and cited a collective bargaining agreement that all work assignments be made in accordance with a formula based on seniority on the job. The plaintiff, thereupon, absented himself whenever he was scheduled to work at a time which was in conflict with Sabbath observance and was fired.

The complainant, represented by COLPA volunteer attorneys Sidney Kwestel and Nathan Lewin, charged that the failure to accommodate was a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunities Act of 1972.

## BIAGGI CHARGES CITY AGENCIES NEGLECT JEWISH POOR

WASHINGTON, May 15 (JTA)--Congressman Mario Biaggi (D/R/C-NY) today charged city agencies are treating the "Jewish poor as second class citizens and have neglected their need for too long." This situation, he noted, has been brought into focus "by congressional testimony which indicates widespread discrimination against members of the Jewish faith and other ethnic groups in the poverty areas."

At the same time, Biaggi said he supported "continued and enlarged funding" for the Metropolitan New York Coordinating Council on Jewish Poverty, an organization created to insure services for the Jewish poor.

Biaggi, who is one of four candidates running in the New York Mayoral Primary, asserted that if elected "I would rely on the Jewish community to help my administration develop data and services to help needy Jews in our city." Part of this effort, he said, would be funding for additional Jewish community action programs such as those developed on the Lower East Side and on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx.

Among other proposals for helping the Jewish poor, Biaggi called for: additional senior citizen centers within communities where poverty prevails - and expansion of government rent subsidies and social service programs; expansion of existing Day Care Centers to meet the needs of the Jewish poor; and restructuring of the Community Action Program, now administered by the Council Against Poverty through the Community Development Agency.

"As presently structured, the Community Action Program is obviously designed to care for the needs of selected poor people to the exclusion of other poor persons," Biaggi said. "I would end the policy of designating poverty areas -- and seek to provide community offices for ev-

eryone, concentrating locations in areas of greatest need. This would eliminate present government requirements facing poor people who live outside designated poverty areas."

## SCREENING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED FOR TAY-SACHS DISEASE, HYPERLIPIDEMIA

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA)--A genetic screening program to test for two serious hereditary diseases among the Jewish population of Westchester will take place on May 20 and June 3, it was announced today by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the National Genetics Foundation.

The two hereditary disorders are Tay-Sachs disease, which affects primarily Jewish children and causes their death by the age of three or four, and hyperlipidemia, which is marked by high levels of cholesterol in the blood and may cause heart attack in the prime of a person's life. It affects Jews and non-Jews alike. The screening is designed for the 55,000 members of the Westchester Jewish community who are between 18 and 45 because they are in the main reproductive years.

The screening sessions will be held at the following locations: May 20 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Solomon Schechter School of the Heritage Synagogue, 20 Soundview Ave., White Plains. June 3 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Free Synagogue of Westchester, 500 North Columbus Ave., Mount Vernon.

The screening, which involves taking a small blood sample, is designed for members of the Westchester Jewish community because Tay-Sachs affects American Jews 100 times more often than it does non-Jews. Hyperlipidemia affects Jews and non-Jews with the same frequency but it is being included in the program because a single blood sample can be used to detect both diseases.

After the blood samples are taken from the people who take part in the tests, they will be analyzed by physicians at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, who will mail the results to all participants. The Einstein medical team will offer genetic counseling to those found to be Tay-Sachs carriers or affected by hyperlipidemia.

People who wish to take part in this important health test are urged to make an appointment by calling (212) 430-2516 or (212) 265-3166.

## EBAN, WALDHEIM, CONFER ON MIDEAST

UNITED NATIONS, May 15 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban and United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim held a breakfast meeting at Waldheim's home today, a UN spokesman reported. The meeting lasted one and a half hours and the two diplomats reportedly had a "general discussion" including Waldheim's Middle East report, the general Mideast situation and the upcoming Mideast debate in the Security Council.

Present at the meeting was Israel's UN Ambassador, Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs, Ephraim Evron, and Roberto Guyer, Under-Secretary General. Eban will not be here for the Council debate; it was reported. The opening date has not yet been set. According to unconfirmed reports here the Arabs want the meeting on June 5, the day on which the Six-Day War started in 1967.

Arabs, Communist, Socialist, and Christian delegates to a pro-Palestinian conference in Brussels agreed that the only solution to the Mideast problem is the formation of a single Palestinian nation - including Israel.