



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

Thursday, May 17, 1973

No. 96

EVGENY LEVICH ABDUCTED

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--Evgeny Levich, 24, the youngest son of Prof. Benjamin Levich, was abducted today by unidentified persons while he was on his way to a hospital in Moscow, it was reported by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. A SSSJ spokesman said this was learned after the SSSJ and the Minnesota Committee for Soviet Jewry placed a call to Moscow and spoke to Prof. Vladimir Mash, a Jewish activist.

According to Mash, Levich was on his way to Hospital #1 for treatment for internal disorders when the unidentified persons grabbed him and forced him into a waiting car which sped away. Levich's wife, who was accompanying her husband to the hospital, was left standing on the street.

Friends of Levich checked with the Moscow city police and the army for his whereabouts but were told by both agencies that they had no knowledge of the incident. Levich, an astrophysicist, was ordered inducted into the army after his father met with New York Mayor John V. Lindsay during his visit to the Soviet capital two weeks ago. His induction was pending a determination of his disorders by the hospital.

No further information was immediately available. It is believed, however, that Levich was abducted by Soviet secret police.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today that the appeal of Nikolai Yavor is due to be heard tomorrow. He was recently sentenced to a one-year prison term on charges of hooliganism.

SOVIET JEWISH IMMIGRANTS PETITION NIXON TO WITHDRAW OPPOSITION TO JACKSON AMENDMENT

TEL AVIV, May 16 (JTA)--A group of Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union petitioned President Nixon today to withdraw his opposition to the Jackson Amendment. The group presented their petition to the U.S. Charge d'Affaires Owen Zerhullen at the U.S. Embassy here.

The petitioners urged Nixon to discontinue pressure on American Jewish groups and Congressional leaders to withdraw their support for the Jackson measure. They told Zerhullen that they regarded the Jackson Amendment as a useful tool to ensure the continued emigration of Russian Jews. If the amendment is rejected, they said, nothing would prevent the Soviet authorities from intensifying its oppression of Russian Jews.

American Jewish leaders have never indicated that they were pressured by the White House not to support the Jackson Amendment. However, Nixon and his national security advisor, Dr. Henry Kissinger, have stressed at meetings with Jewish leaders the importance of most favored nation treatment for the Soviet Union as a means of accomplishing the U.S. policy of improved trade relations and detente. The Israeli government has maintained a policy of non-interference in the matter.

BURUNDI BREAKS RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA)--The East-Central African republic of Burundi today became the sixth Black African nation to break off diplomatic relations with Israel. Israeli observers, caught unawares by the move, suspected that

Egypt was behind it. In addition, they believed that the wide-spread poverty in Burundi and its internal social tensions may have induced this landlocked country to accept financial assistance from the Arab world.

An Agence France Presse dispatch from Burundi tonight was the first news Israel had of the break-in relations. Observers believed the timing was planned to coincide with the opening of the meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Addis Ababa. Israel has had no resident ambassador in Burundi for several years and no aid workers there--partly because Burundi was not enthusiastic about seeking aid from Israel and partly because Israel was deterred by the wholesale slaughter of the Tutsis by the authorities there for more than a year.

Burundi is headed by President Col. Michel Micombero, who seized power in 1966. The constitution was suspended in 1966 when the country was still a monarchy. Until independence in 1962, Burundi was the southern half of the former Belgian trust territory of Ruanda-Urundi. About 50 percent of the 3.6 million people are Christians, chiefly Roman Catholic; there are some 25,000 Moslems, and the rests are animists.

BOMB BLAST AVERTED BY ALERT JERUSALEM NEWSBOY

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA)--A Jerusalem newsboy who spotted a suspicious looking parcel in a government office building here early this morning was credited with averting a major disaster. Police said the parcel contained a time bomb set to explode at 7 a.m. when office employees would be arriving for work.

The youngster, who was not immediately identified, noticed the paper and cellophane-wrapped parcel in the Generali Building in downtown Jerusalem at 5:30 a.m. and reported it immediately to police headquarters a short distance away. Sappers dismantled the bomb and police began a search for the perpetrators. They said the bomb was probably planted by terrorists who intended the blast to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence. The Generali Building is a government office block with shops on its ground floor.

EBAN STRESSES THAT DIALOGUE IS ONLY SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban reiterated last night that the only way to solve the Middle East conflict is through a dialogue between the Arabs and Israel, and expressed the hope that the spirit of dialogue, which has succeeded in terminating conflicts in other areas of the world or has developed new relationships between countries, will also prevail in the Middle East.

Eban was the guest speaker at a dinner in the Essex House marking the centennial of the Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun and the 25th anniversary of Israel. The 300 persons attending the event purchased more than \$500,000 of Israel Bonds. Harry W. Baumgarten, president of the congregation, announced this figure and saluted both his congregation and Israel for their achievements throughout the histories of the Jewish State and the congregation.

The Israel diplomat, who focussed on the pos-

itive contributions dialogue could make in settling the Mideast crisis, noted that the growing understanding and harmony between the United States and the People's Republic of China, and between West Germany and East Germany were lessons that were valid in the Mideast. "Triumph comes as a result of direct contacts," not by imposed settlements. He noted, however, that while "progress has been slow" it has "been perceptible. The Arab world has begun to awake to the hopelessness of the military dream."

Referring to the role of the UN in the Middle East, Eban said: "The UN has become not an arena for solving conflicts but an arena for waging them." Israel, continued Eban, is aware that she will have to compromise. "Nobody can be a one hundred percent winner. Negotiation means compromise. Our task is not to destroy any option for peace but to build new and more durable structures."

Eban, detailing achievements of Israel since 1948, declared that they have "overshadowed anything that could have been predicted. Israel is the most powerful small state in human history." What decides Israel's fortunes, he said, is not what Washington, London or the UN say but "what Jerusalem does and what Jerusalem wants." At the same time, Eban claimed, there is no possibility of isolating Israel from the world community. "Israel is in the Times Square of history. To be or not to be is not the question - how to be or not to be is the question," he said.

DEMONSTRATION AT IRAQ MISSION PROTESTS MURDER OF JEWS

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--Some 70 people, most of them members of the American Jewish Congress, demonstrated today in front of the Iraq Mission to the United Nations to protest the murder of five members of the Kashkosh family in Baghdad April 12. The demonstrators carried placards which read "Stop the Murder of Iraqi Jews."

Congressman Mario Biaggi and Assemblyman Albert Blumenthal, both candidates in the New York Democratic Mayoral primary, joined the protestors. Blumenthal, who arrived at the beginning of the demonstration, delivered a letter of protest addressed to Abdul Al-Shaikhly, Iraq UN ambassador. Biaggi attempted to deliver the same protest letter but it was not accepted, apparently after the contents of the letter were read in the Iraq Mission.

The letter read in part: "I believe that no government with any pretense to civilization can permit such acts of mindless vengeance against its own innocent and defenseless population.... The horror of these murders has universal implications. No man of conscience can sit by in helpless silence while innocent civilians are gunned down for no reason except that they are Jews."

Speaking to those present about the murder of Iraqi Jews, Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, said that these murders represent "a sickening descent into barbarism that demands our unremitting condemnation.... world opinion cannot become so injured to violence or allow its sensibilities to become so coarsened as to remain silent and unconcerned in the face of such events."

Rabbi Hertzberg also claimed that "The destruction of Iraqi Jewry obviously has been programmed by Iraqi authorities," and called upon the UN and the Red Cross to investigate these incidents and to prevent their recurrence. At the end of his speech Hertzberg, along with other

members of the Congress tried to deliver a letter of protest to Al Shaikhly but were turned down. During the 45-minute demonstration, employees of the Iraqi Mission peeped out through the window panes.

SHAZAR DUE IN U.S. AFTER LEAVING OFFICE

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar will visit the United States on behalf of the Israel Bond Organization shortly after he leaves office May 24, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today from reliable sources. His successor, Israel's fourth President, is Prof. Ephraim Katzir who will take the oath of office on May 24.

Shazar, who will be 84 next Oct., took office on May 21, 1963 and after 10 years as a public figure may find retirement difficult, sources close to the President said. He is known to be considering offers from various organizations and institutions to serve as their honorary president. The government has reportedly rented an HL2500 per month flat for President and Mrs. Shazar in the Talbich quarter of Jerusalem where they will move after leaving the official Presidential residence. He will also have a government-supplied car, chauffeur and secretarial staff at his disposal.

On Saturday night, Shazar was presented with a jubilee book of Biblical research honoring him on his retirement and highlighting his career as President and outstanding Judaica scholar. The presentation was made at his weekly Bible study circle which was attended by 200 delegates to the first International Bible Congress. The 770-page volume containing 44 articles is titled "Zer Ligvurot" (A Garland for Years of Strength) and was produced by the World Bible Society and the Dropsie University of Philadelphia.

PEACE GROUPS, LEFT-WING ORGANIZATIONS, SHIFT SIGHTS TO MIDEAST SITUATION

PARIS, May 16 (JTA)--The cease-fire in Vietnam has focused the attention of various peace groups and French left-wing organizations and personalities on the Middle East. A number of groups that had been actively campaigning to end the war in Vietnam have now organized as "Middle East Peace" movements. These groups, however, are identifying with the Palestinians rather than with Israel.

Prominent French leftists joined some 5000 Arabs and other demonstrators who marched through central Paris last Saturday night to protest against "Zionism and Arab reaction." Leftist leaders Alain Krivine and Alain Geismar, both Jews, led the march from the Place de Bastille to the Pere Lachaise Cemetery where the French representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mahmud el Hamshari is buried. He died last Jan. of wounds he suffered when a bomb exploded in his home.

Hamshari's widow was also in the line of march which passed through a Jewish quarter. There were no clashes or incidents between the residents and the marchers who carried Palestinian flags and huge photos of Hamshari.

Another manifestation of concern for the Middle East was a quarter page advertisement that appeared Sunday in Le Monde calling for the return of the Palestinian refugees "to their homeland from which they were chased." The ad was signed by 85 French intellectuals, including the philosopher, Jean Paul Sartre. They rejected "the accusation of anti-Semitism" which they said "is levelled at all those who oppose the policies of the Tel Aviv government."

LINDSAY PRESENTS LESS THAN OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF SOVIET JEWS GAINING RIGHT OF EMIGRATION IN NEAR FUTURE

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--Mayor John V. Lindsay presented today a detailed report on his visit to the Soviet Union May 3-9, more than half of the 15 closely typed pages of which were devoted to the problems of Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate. He stated in the report that while the Soviet regime was responsive to world opinion, "We should not be optimistic that all, or even most, of the disputed cases involving Jewish professionals and scientists can be satisfactorily resolved in the near future."

At another point, the Mayor's report stated: "The truth is, I believe, that no matter how far the Soviets may be willing to move, there still will be many difficult cases left to deal with. We must all be realistic about that prospect and not confuse any softening or accommodation on their part with their basic reluctance to face the fundamental issue of freedom to travel and emigrate."

Lindsay's less than optimistic assessment of the prospects of Jews and other Soviet nationalities gaining the basic right of free emigration in the near future was tempered by his finding that Soviet Jews were bearing up remarkably well under the tension and uncertainty of their daily existence and that "they frankly believe that the more public attention they receive, the more their chances for emigration increases and the less likely they are to suffer coercion." He said that "support and encouragement of a serious and responsible nature from America is absolutely vital to their survival."

During his stay in Moscow, Lindsay reported, he raised the Jewish problem in his talks with Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin and also discussed it with Deputy Minister of Interior Boris T. Shumulin and other officials.

Problem More Basic Than Education Tax

Reporting on his two lengthy meetings with leading Jewish activists in Moscow, Lindsay said those meetings "were not clandestine or secret." They were held with the full knowledge of Soviet officials who in no way interfered. Lindsay was accompanied on his Soviet visit by Seymour Graubard, national chairman of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, and Jay L. Kriegel, Special Counsel to the Mayor, who participated in his meetings with Soviet Jews.

Lindsay stressed that while he could not discuss the specifics of those meetings, his reports represent his overall findings. He said that after the suspension of the education tax "in response to American pressure" the focus of the emigration issue switched to the "more basic" problem of the "procedures and standards used by the Soviet government in reviewing requests to emigrate and the treatment of citizens who make such requests."

The procedure is "complex" and "cumbersome" requiring the applicant to produce six major documents. The nub of the problem, however, Lindsay reported, is "a complete absence of any formal, written policy or guidelines in regard to emigration. Consequently," his report continued, "there is no precise set of regulations against which one can evaluate the decision in particular cases. This, above all, is why the system seems capricious, arbitrary, and discriminatory--despite Soviet denials that discrimination is practiced," the report said.

Lindsay noted that it was evident that Soviet policy attempts to restrict the departure of the

better educated and skilled Jews who live in major cities while allowing increased departures by Jews who are elderly, non-professional and living away from the major urban centers.

Terms For Refusal Subject To Abuse

"It was advised that the grounds for refusal (of a visa) are three fold: 1) recent military service or anticipated service; 2) work in a research institute; and 3) knowledge of state secrets," Lindsay said. Observing that the major difficulty and source of confusion is the third reason, Lindsay reported:

"Since there are no formal, written guidelines, the terms are not precise and the concept is 'subject to grave discretionary abuse.' 'Not in State interest' is the phrase most often used and obviously has the broadest potential scope. It could cover individuals of important or critical skill and training even if their work is not classified or related to national security."

The Mayor's report continued: "To the extent that the Soviets seek to limit the number of well educated and highly skilled Jewish professionals who emigrate, this ground for rejection is clearly the sharpest tool." He also noted, "There are other cases where the grounds of rejection are considerably more tenuous, and some in the field of culture where there would seem to be no basis whatsoever regardless of how broad the standard of 'State interest' might be interpreted."

Lindsay said that "Soviet officials tried to soften somewhat this policy by explaining that a denial because of 'knowledge of State secrets' or 'national security' could be changed 'in a few years' when the knowledge was no longer secret or critical.

"At another point," Lindsay reported, "it was said that the whole problem of Jewish emigration is under 'active study.' All this tends to confirm some slight flexibility on this issue as well as some understanding of American interest--and it demonstrates that such interest has had some impact."

Jews Have New Sense Of Pride

Lindsay said that the reasons Jews themselves gave for wanting to leave the Soviet Union included "a new sense of pride and identification resulting from Israel's triumph in the Six-Day War" and their response "to a new climate in the Soviet Union that has stimulated them to want to assert a desire for certain basic rights and individual freedoms."

Underlying Soviet restrictions, Lindsay said, "is a basic official hostility to Israel, the goal of almost all applicants, so that emigration is generally seen as a disgraceful act at best and, at worst, treason." He added, "The Soviet Jewish citizens with whom we met showed great strength and patience despite the extraordinary strains and tension which are the condition of their lives."

Zeldan Atashi, 33, a Druze serving as Consul for Information at the Israel Consulate in New York, says he is convinced that Jews and non-Jews can live together in Israel but he cautioned against ignoring the problems that exist. "There is still the remnant of mistrust between Jew and non-Jew in Israel," Atashi told about 250 persons at a dinner meeting at the Washington Hebrew Congregation sponsored by the Youth Committee for Peace and Democracy in the Middle East. "It is a continual problem we must face and deal with," he said. "Nevertheless, eighty percent of the non-Jews in Israel are completely loyal, and proud to be Israelis."

