



daily news bulletin

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MORE ISRAELI POWs ARRIVE; EVACUATION OF SICK, WOUNDED FROM SUEZ CONTINUES

LOD AIRPORT, Nov. 19 (JTA)--A group of 33 Israeli prisoners of war arrived from Egypt early this morning bringing to 142 the number of Israeli POWs returned. So far Israel has returned 4550 Egyptian POWs. The latest arrivals--the fifth group of POWs since the exchange began--were delayed by the Egyptians for unexplained reasons and arrived several hours later than expected. They were greeted at the airport by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and his wife, Rachel Dayan. The POWs were then registered, issued fresh clothes and sent home.

Meanwhile, the evacuation of sick and wounded from the town of Suez continued yesterday under Art. 3 of the Israeli-Egyptian cease-fire agreement. The agreement covers all hospitalized persons in the town, and while some are civilians, many are young men of military age and presumably soldiers. All of the evacuees are garbed in the traditional Egyptian white galabaya, a long-gown which makes it impossible to differentiate soldiers from civilians.

The evacuation is being carried out under Red Cross auspices in the presence of Israeli army physicians and UN observers. According to the agreement, the town receives daily supplies of fresh vegetables and other food.

BEN GURION'S CONDITION STILL SERIOUS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 19 (JTA)--No change was reported this morning in the condition of former Premier David Ben Gurion who was hospitalized yesterday after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage which caused partial paralysis. A bulletin issued by Tel Hashomer-Sheba Medical Center said the 87-year-old Ben Gurion passed a quiet night. He was reported conscious but unable to speak. The hospital bulletin described his condition as serious.

Ben Gurion was visited briefly this morning by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. A hospital spokesman said his son, Amos, and his daughters, Renana and Geullah, spent the night at his bedside. Ben Gurion is being treated by his personal physician, Dr. Borislaw Goldman, and Dr. Mordechai Shani, medical director of the hospital.

U.S. ARMS POLICY FOR SAUDI ARABIA CONTINUES; NO COUNTER-EMBARGO SEEN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Despite Saudi Arabia's total embargo on petroleum supplies to the United States, the State Department has not altered its willingness to sell arms to King Faisal's government and it has no "serious study" underway for a U.S. counter-embargo by withholding food shipments to that Arab kingdom.

Department spokesman George Vest expressed these positions today after the Jewish Telegraphic Agency inquired about the current U.S. position on its projected sale of arms of more than \$1 billion to Saudi Arabia. "Before the Yom Kippur War began, the U.S. and Saudi Arabia were holding technical discussions about the project. These have not been 'pursued' since the Arabs attacked Israel Oct. 6, Vest said. "No basic change" has taken place in U.S. policy, he observed, but he added "We will have

to look into all aspects in the days ahead."

Asked to comment on the causeway across the Suez Canal reportedly being constructed by the Israelis, Vest said that "technically" it is not a part of the six-point Egyptian-Israeli agreement. "The best thing we can say," he continued, "is to expect a considerable range of questions to be discussed at the point of negotiations."

Vest said he had "no close, specific information" on the causeway. He reiterated that it would not be helpful to discuss the blockade by Egyptian vessels of the Red Sea strait that prevents access to the Israeli port of Eilat from the outside world.

BEN AHARON SAYS PARTY COLLEAGUES CONSPIRED TO FORCE HIS RESIGNATION

TEL AVIV, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Yitzhak Ben Aharon has accused his colleagues in the Labor Party of conspiring with "hostile elements outside Histadrut" to force his resignation, which he announced last night, as secretary general of Israel's powerful trade union federation. The charge was contained in an 800-word letter of resignation which Ben Aharon submitted to the Histadrut Executive.

He said the campaign to oust him began almost as soon as he took office in 1969. "I endeavored to overcome the conspiracy and the efforts to undermine me from certain groups in my party, some of whom went so far as to join forces with hostile elements outside the Histadrut," he wrote. But, he said, he was forced to resign "because of the force that was crystallized in the Party with the aid of outside elements to stop me from doing my work, seeking to get me involved in marginal complications in order to divert the struggle on matters of principle to a personal level."

Ben Aharon, an outspoken "dove" and a frequent sharp critic of the government's economic policies and Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir's in particular, claimed that he was "punished for fighting for a more equitable division of national resources." Aharon Yadlin, secretary general of the Labor Party, said this morning that Ben Aharon's charges were baseless.

The Histadrut leader's resignation came as no surprise. The view he expressed several months ago, that Israel should voluntarily withdraw from certain administered Arab territories before a peace treaty, was unpopular with a majority of his party.

His stock plunged further during the Yom Kippur War. He aroused the fury of the Likud opposition two weeks ago when a newspaper here published remarks attributed to him in an interview in New York that were highly critical of Gen. Ariel Sharon, founder of the Likud. Ben Aharon, who cut short his New York visit and returned to Tel Aviv, denied having made the remarks. There was no indication today who will replace him in the Histadrut leadership post.

HILLEL: SOCIAL PROBLEMS MUST BE MET DESPITE HEAVY BURDEN IMPOSED BY WAR

JERUSALEM, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Police Minister Shlomo Hillel warned today that Israel cannot afford to neglect its social problems despite the heavy military burden imposed by war. "We cannot have security at the expense of narrowing our social gap. The opposite is true. The problems of society and welfare are now more urgent than

ever," the Police Minister said addressing a one-day emergency conference convened here by the Executive of the World Sephardi Federation.

He noted that the government has promised good housing for young couples and its obligation now is more pressing than ever because many of the prospective young recipients of the housing have just fought for the country. He called on world Jewry to share Israel's economic burdens.

The conference was attended by a dozen delegates representing Sephardic communities in the U.S., Canada, Britain, France, Spain, Switzerland and South America. They reported on their fund-raising drives for Israel. The Sephardi Federation in the U.S. has raised some \$10 million. British Sephardim, who were represented here by the Chief Rabbi Haham Solomon Gaon, raised \$6 million. The delegates met with Jewish Agency officials, Knesset members and Cabinet ministers including Health Minister Victor Shemtov. He and Hillel are the only Sephardic members of the Cabinet.

Referring to political matters, Hillel said that Israel had to stand firm and not permit its enemies to obtain in negotiations what they failed to attain by war. He said that even if it were true that peace seems a little nearer, there is still a long period ahead involving struggle and military flare-ups. "If we stand firm, we shall eventually reach a compromise settlement but if we do not, we might find ourselves in a new war," Hillel said.

ADL LEADER SAYS ISRAEL CANNOT DEPEND ON UN FOR ITS EXISTENCE

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--A national Jewish leader said here this weekend that Israel cannot depend upon the United Nations for assuring its existence. Seymour Graubard, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told 500 community leaders attending the 60th anniversary meeting of the ADL at the Waldorf Astoria that the UN is becoming "a fomentor of imperialism, its prestige and machinery being used to subjugate weaker nations to the interests of stronger ones."

Pointing out that liberal organizations have "always defended the UN "against the destructive criticism of the far right," he said "we are now being forced to the conclusion that, in violation of its charter, it has become little more than a political conclave."

Despite the UN's "original noble purpose of dispensing justice," he continued, "the record shows that votes on Middle East affairs flagrantly disregard facts and support the Arabs at about every turn." He cited a number of examples to support this view, including the refusal of the UN to condemn the Arab aggression against Israel on Oct. 6.

Graubard also excoriated the Soviet Union for its role in fomenting the Yom Kippur War. It is "ironic and demonic," he said, that Arab payments to Russia for military hardware "will provide the Soviet Union with the currency it needs so badly to purchase wheat, industrial equipment and advanced computer technology from the U.S. and other Western nations." The goal of East-West trade "as a deterrent to war will be underwritten for the Soviet Union with the proceeds of war," he stated.

**DR. MORRIS EPSTEIN, AUTHOR, EDITOR
AND SCHOLAR, DEAD AT AGE 52**

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Dr. Morris Epstein, professor of English and chairman of the English Department at Yeshiva University's

Stern College for Women, died yesterday at Mt. Sinai Hospital, following a heart attack at his home in Manhattan. He was 52 years old. Dr. Epstein was buried today at Sharon Gardens, Valhalla, N.Y.

A native of Newark, N.J., he was a widely known author, editor and lecturer. He wrote several children's books; edited "World Over" magazine, the bi-weekly publication of the Board of Jewish Education since 1947; wrote scripts for "World Over Playhouse," broadcast on WNBC from 1948 to 1950, and served as managing editor of the "Jewish Education Magazine."

Dr. Epstein was the author of "Tales of Senderbar," a collection of stories forming the Hebrew version of the ancient romantic tale which originated in the East and later transmitted to the West. He was associate editor of the "Samuel K. Mirsky Memorial Volume," was a contributor to the new "Encyclopedia Judaica," and recently completed a comprehensive research effort on the fate of the "lost" 10 tribes of Israel.

Dr. Epstein was also a drama and book critic for radio station WEVD in N.Y., and was a member of the editorial advisory boards of "The Jewish Digest" and "In Jewish Bookland." He joined the faculty of Stern College for Women in 1955 and was promoted to full professor and department chairman in 1966. He received his BA from Yeshiva University in 1942, MA from Columbia University in 1944, and Ph.D. from New York University in 1957.

He served as president of the Yeshiva College Alumni Association and the American Jewish Public Relations Society, and was also literary editor of the publications board of the Board of Jewish Education. He was honored by Yeshiva U. in 1962 and 1964, and by NYU in 1958.

ISRAELI, EGYPTIAN OFFICERS MEET AGAIN Soviet Officers Integrated into UNTSO

TEL AVIV, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Senior Israeli and Egyptian officers held their fifth meeting today at kilometer 101 on the Subz-Cairo road and scheduled another meeting for Thursday. As at the previous meetings, the Israeli delegation was headed by Gen. Aharon Yariv and Egypt was represented by Gen. Mohammed Gemassi.

Today's meeting was closed to the press. Egyptian newspapers played it up as a crisis meeting and headlined stories that Egypt will not resume talks until Israel returns to the Oct. 22 cease-fire lines. It was learned, however, that the Oct. 22 lines were not on the agenda. The subjects discussed were the continuing prisoner of war exchange, supplies to Egypt's encircled Third Army and the town of Suez and the evacuation of sick and wounded from Suez--about 1240 persons--which was completed late today.

(At the UN, meanwhile, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has ordered the integration of 36 Soviet officers into the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) and has instructed the UNTSO commander, Gen. Ensio Sillanvuo of Finland, to add 28 more American officers to the eight already serving with the group. Waldheim announced earlier that Sillanvuo, who was confirmed last week as commander of UNEF, would be replaced as UNTSO chief. He said he had asked the Irish government to make available the services of Col. R.W. Bunworth for that post. The integration of Soviet officers into UNTSO is the first time this has happened.)

Aleksandr Levinson of the Moldavian SSR, is under investigation for "parasitism," according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. He applied for emigration in 1972 and renounced his citizenship last August. A trial is imminent the NCSJ said.

DORON REFUTES CHARGES THAT ISRAEL PURSUES POLICY OF ANNEXATION, SETTLEMENT

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 19 (JTA)--The comparatively modest extent of Jewish settlement in the administered Arab territories since 1967 was cited here today to refute "allegations of a policy of annexation and settlement" contained in the report of the three-nation Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories. Addressing the General Assembly's Special Political Committee, Israeli Ambassador Jacob Doron noted that since 1967, 42 Israeli settlements with a combined population of 4200 have been established in the administered areas.

Of the Jewish population, 1050 are in Nahal--military-agricultural settlements--and are soldiers on active duty, Doron said. "So far only 3150 Israeli civilians have been allowed to take up residence in the area" and these constitute 0.3 percent of the population which consists of over one million Arabs, the Israeli Ambassador pointed out. The committee which submitted the report consists of Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Yugoslavia and Somalia. They do not have diplomatic relations with Israel and have consistently demonstrated pro-Arab bias, according to Doron. He noted that Somalia has in fact declared itself to be in a state of war with Israel. The Israeli envoy said that since 1968, the Arab population in the administered territories has increased by 87,300--more than 27 times the number of Israeli civilians who went to live there in the same period. "Since mid-1967, Israel has permitted some 50,000 Arabs to return to the areas as permanent residents," Doron said.

"The report also attempts to create the impression that the administered areas are being used for the absorption of Jewish immigration. Again this is a deliberate misrepresentation of the facts," Doron said. "Since 1968, more than 200,000 immigrants have settled in Israel, but...only 3150 Israeli civilians have gone to live...in the administered areas, and the percentage of new immigrants in this figure is not substantial," he said. According to Doron's breakdown of Jewish settlements in the administered territories, there are 15 settlements in the Golan Heights with a population of 1100 Israelis against a non-Israeli population of 8000 Druze; in the southern part of the Sinai peninsula, inhabited by less than 8000 nomadic Bedouin, there are three settlements with 600 Israelis. In the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai which have a population of 390,000 Arab residents, seven Israeli settlements have been established, including five which are Nahal bases.

Doron reported that 17 settlements have been established in Judeaea and Samaria (West Bank), 11 of them, numbering 350 Israelis in the sparsely populated Jordan Valley border region. In the area near Hebron, 800 Israelis have re-established two former Jewish settlements, one at Kiryat Arba and the other in the Etzion bloc. He noted that the Etzion settlers were mainly the children of those killed when the Jordanian army overran and destroyed the settlements in 1948. The settlers at Kiryat Arba, adjacent to Hebron, are restoring a Jewish community that had lived in the region continuously for more than 2000 years until massacred by Arabs in 1929, Ambassador Doron said.

PERES: PEACE CONCLAVE MAY BE DOOMED IF 'RADICAL ELEMENTS' PARTICIPATE

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--Shimon Peres, Israel's Transportation and Communications Minister, said Friday that an Arab-Israeli peace conference in Geneva might be doomed if "radical elements" like Libya and Iraq will participate. Speaking at a press conference at the Israeli Consulate here, Peres asserted that a factor in a successful peace conference is "Soviet restraint." If the USSR will continue to supply the Arabs, Peres said, "I am afraid that the Arabs' temper won't stand the temptation of starting up another war." Peres, who is here for a United Jewish Appeal fund-raising campaign, said that the peace conference, reportedly to open next month, will deal first with "disengagement" of the Israeli and Arab armies.

Answering a question on the Bab el Mandeb blockade, Peres said that the blockade "will be tested rather soon by Israel," by sending an Israeli ship into the area. Peres contended that the cease-fire is not limited to the ground and includes air and sea as well, and because of that Israel believes the blockade will be lifted. Asked if the government has to participate in a peace conference before the elections, Peres hinted that the timing of the conference is not solely in the hand of Israel. "We have a partner to the negotiations. If we did not have a partner I can assure you that the war and the negotiations would not be a problem at all," he said.

Peres said, in response to a question about Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's speech in Peking suggesting a U.S. treaty guaranteeing Israel's security, that Israel did not receive "any concrete plan" from Washington "nor did we receive the exact wording" of Kissinger's speech. The Israelis, Peres continued, would like to see Israel's security guaranteed by Israel itself. Pointing out that the war cost Israel as much as \$6 billion, Peres said that the Israeli economy is "deeply affected" as a result of the war. He reported that Israel absorbed some 5000 new immigrants during the last month and said that efforts to reactivate the economy are under way. Peres expressed deep concern as to the fate of Israeli POWs in Syria. "We are concerned because the Syrians treated the POWs in a 'terrible way,'" he said. * * *

NEW YORK (JTA)--Soviet Jewish activists in four Soviet cities went on a hunger strike Monday to protest the trial of Aleksandr Feldman in Kiev. Feldman, who had applied months ago for a visa to Israel, is charged with "malicious hooliganism." His trial was set for today according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The NCSJ said the 24 hunger strikers in Moscow, Leningrad, Novosibirsk and Tbilisi issued a statement charging that Feldman was brought to trial only because of his desire to live in Israel. In another development reported by the NCSJ, 13 Moscow Jews warned that they would protest by "all legal means" if they do not receive an answer to their visa applications by Dec. 1. * * *

NEW YORK (JTA)--A major Black weekly newspaper, the Amsterdam News, said that the election of Abraham Beame as mayor of N.Y. could pave the way for a Black mayor the next time. "In some circles," Simon Anekwe wrote, "the Beame victory, heavily backed by Blacks, was seen as ultimately paving the way for a Black man to become mayor of New York."

JTA TO RECEIVE STEPHEN S. WISE AWARD FOR 'DISTINGUISHED SERVICE'

Kellog, Cummings Also Receiving Award

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--The Jewish Telegraphic Agency will receive the 1973 Stephen S. Wise Award of the American Jewish Congress at a dinner Dec. 9 at the Pierre Hotel. The JTA disseminates news of the Jewish communities throughout the world on a 24-hour basis and through its daily news bulletins published in English, French and Spanish. It maintains bureaus in this country, Europe, Great Britain, South America, Canada and South Africa.

In addition to its news bulletin in this country, the JTA also publishes a Weekly News Digest, Community Reporter, Features and News Dispatches which are sent to individual subscribers, the Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish press and to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations and government agencies here and abroad. The Agency will be cited for "distinguished service as an essential instrument of news and information to the Jewish community at home and abroad." William M. Landau, JTA president, will accept the award on behalf of the JTA.

The AJCongress also announced that Assistant Secretary of State Francis L. Kellog, and philanthropist Nathan Cummings will also receive the Stephen S. Wise Awards the same evening. Kellog, who was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of State for Refugees and Migration Affairs in 1971, will be cited for "distinguished contributions to the movement and resettlement of persecuted and homeless refugees around the world."

Cummings, of New York and Charlevoix, Mich., a life governor of the Jewish General Hospital of Montreal, a trustee of Mt. Sinai Hospital, a governing life member of the Art Institute of Chicago and an honorary trustee of the Metropolitan Museum, will be cited for "distinguished achievement and inspiring leadership in strengthening Israel and Jewish communal life in the United States." A special tribute will be presented at the dinner in memory of the late Frank Abrams, long-time national treasurer and honorary vice-president of the AJCongress.

JEWISH YOUTH POWER ASSERTS ITSELF

GASTONIA, N.C., Nov. 19 (JTA)--Jewish power asserted itself here while Israel fought to defend itself against the Arab aggressors. In this small town with 60 Jewish families of a population of some 26,000, the seventh graders of the Temple Emanuel Religious School decided to respond to Israel's call for help. Cindi Wishniefsky, the school's principal, described what happened. The students discussed various ideas and finally decided to hold a "bowl-a-thon for Israel." Each member of the class spent hours calling friends and relatives, Jews and non-Jews in the community asking them to pledge money for each pin a student would knock down in three games of bowling. The money raised would be sent to help Israel.

"Hours of phone calling for the pledges, bowling for the scores, collecting the money, and arranging for it to be sent to Israel, were performed with the efficiency and business-like attitude of the Ford Motor Company," Ms. Wishniefsky stated. "Only its board of directors were: Steven Katzenstein, Marci Wishniefsky, Stephi Rauch, Ilene Silverstein, Jack Levinson, Bonnie Spencer, Barry Allweiss and Mark Lazarus. Chairman of the Board was their teacher Barry Dolin. The pins fell, the children laughed and the parents watched a Mitzvah take place, as

these fine youngsters raised 1200 plus dollars for Israel. That's Jewish Power!

DEMAND PROBE INTO POSSIBLE ARAB BLACKMAIL OF U.S. OIL COMPANIES

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--A leader of the Jewish Labor Committee called this weekend upon "any appropriate agency of government--the Congress or administrative--to launch an immediate probe into whether United States oil companies are being blackmailed into paying for pro-Arab and anti-Jewish propaganda in the United States."

Jacob Sheinkman, first vice-president of the JLC and general secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, AFL-CIO, told 500 delegates attending the JCL's 40th anniversary convention at the Hotel Roosevelt, that "if large corporations are now admitting that they illegally contributed to political campaigns, let us ascertain right now whether in the Arab oil campaign to keep Americans cold, there is not also a blackmailing of American oil companies to help defray the costs of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish propaganda in this country."

Sheinkman said that several pro-Arab propaganda groups in this country "have publicly admitted that they are seeking financial assistance from American oil companies. The question is: are they? If so, from whom and how much?"

JNF RESTORING WAR DAMAGED REGIONS

NEW YORK, Nov. 19 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund is now engaged in the urgent task of restoring the war-damaged frontier regions of Israel, it was announced by JNF president Meyer Pesin. He received a report from Jerusalem sent by Shimon Benshemesh, Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael director-general, which reveals that "the infrastructure built in recent years by the JNF along the post-1967 borders--settlements, roads, forests and groves--played an important role in strengthening the security of the rear in time of war. So did our heavy equipment which had been placed at the disposal of the army. We are now waiting for at least part of this equipment to be returned in order to heal the wounds inflicted by the war upon some of the settlements and roads, and to resume the operations which were under way till the very eve of Yom Kippur."

Benshemesh, who stated that the JNF Land Reclamation Department "is all set for repairing of roads and settlements damaged by the war," also reported:

"We are going to employ some 500, or maybe even more, young volunteers from abroad both in the planting of new forests and in the rehabilitation of the forests destroyed by enemy action, especially in the regions of Menashe (on the southwest outskirts of Emek Yezreel), Biryat (near Safed) and Kiryat Shemona, Tel-Hai and Kefar Giladi (along the Lebanese frontier in the eastern part of the Upper Galilee)."

At the biennial meeting of the JNF here, Pesin was re-elected national president for the next two years. Abram Salomon, executive vice-president, announced that in the last fiscal year ending Sept. 30, \$6,299,566 was raised, as compared to \$5,019,503 for the preceding fiscal year. He emphasized that the administrative expenses of the JNF in the past two years had decreased.

Ambassador Yosef Tekoah was reported today by a Mount Sinai Hospital spokesman to be in "satisfactory condition." The spokesman said Tekoah was transferred from the intensive care unit to a regular room in the hospital. The spokesman could not say when Tekoah would leave the hospital.