



# daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XLI - 57th Year

Tuesday, August 6, 1974

No. 150

## **JTA EUROPEAN NEWS BUREAU THREATENED BY 'EXPLOSION AND EXECUTION' BY RIGHT-WING GROUP** By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 5 (JTA)--The European Bureau of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was today threatened with "explosion and execution" by a secret right-wing organization. A man claiming to speak for the organization, "Deliverance," told JTA duty editor Reine Silber, "slogans, explosions and executions. The Jews out of the country." When Ms. Silber told him to repeat the message, he hung up. The JTA informed French security about the threat.

The "Deliverance" group, believed to consist of neo-Nazis, smeared violent anti-Semitic slogans on Paris walls several months ago. Today's threat seemed to indicate that the group was indicating a certain progression in its campaign from slogans to explosions and is now preparing "executions." In recent months the JTA bureau has adopted a number of basic security precautions such as keeping its front door locked at all times and asking all visitors to identify themselves before being admitted.

The explosion which damaged the offices of the Fonds Social Juif Unifié (FSJU), the central Jewish welfare organization in France, here early Saturday morning might also be connected with the JTA which used to be housed in its early days in the FSJU building. Similar explosions also occurred at the same time in front of the offices of two right-wing papers, "L'Aurore" and "Minute." Neither paper is directly connected with either Israel or with Jewish affairs although both papers generally have a pro-Israel policy. Unconfirmed reports said that bombs similar to those which wrecked the FSJU offices and the newspapers were also found near the premises of the state-owned French television and two private radio stations, "Europe Number One" and "Radio Luxembourg."

### **PFLP Deny Bombing Acts**

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) in Paris and Beirut this afternoon denied that their organization carried out the attacks against the FSJU building and against the two French papers. The PFLP spokesmen also denied the authenticity of a communique released earlier today claiming to have been issued by the extremist Palestinian organization.

PFLP spokesmen personally known to a number of French information media called upon the French news agency, Agence France Presse (AFP) bureau in Beirut and on a number of papers in Paris to issue their denial. The earlier communique claiming responsibility for the attacks reached the various papers in the form of a typewritten sheet. Both the AFP and the evening paper "Le Monde" tried unsuccessfully to obtain verbal confirmation as to its authenticity.

French police circles also expressed doubts today that the PFLP carried out the attacks. These circles stressed that "the attack was carried out by amateurs who used gas canisters instead of high powered explosives, Arab

terrorists usually are not short of dynamite, plastic and other more modern means for mass destructions."

Police circles also stated, "The Palestinians would not have rented cars showing driving permits and other means of identification even forged ones but would have stolen the vehicles necessary to carry out the attacks." In all three attacks Saturday rented cars filled with gas containers and plastic detonators were used, police reported. Police also said that "Arab terrorists have never in the past been short of money and would have paid the necessary 2000 francs (about \$400) guarantee in cash and not by way of a check which even if forged could still serve as a possible police clue."

### **Full Investigation Launched**

At the same time, the police are investigating the possibility that left-wing "amateurs" could have been manipulated or influenced by Palestinian extremists. The French police brought back to Paris dozens of members of its political branch who had been on holiday to carry out the investigation.

The deputy head of the French criminal branch, Deputy Commissioner Andre Jobard, is personally handling the investigation. Police circles said that government instructions are to find the culprits "at whatever cost in manpower, time and energy." Government circles here confirmed that Minister of Interior Michel Poniatovsky has ordered a thorough investigation and is being personally informed of all developments.

### **NAZI SYMPATHIZER GIVEN UNIVERSITY POST**

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 5 (JTA)--Amid sharp public protest, a Danish Nazi sympathizer has been named lecturer at the Aarhus University. It was revealed here this weekend, Poul Heinrich Riis-Knudsen, who has never hidden his admiration for Hitler and the Third Reich, is due to begin teaching German literature and language at Aarhus Sept. 1.

The university faculty dean Prof. Ernst Dittmer, said Riis-Knudsen was chosen because he was the best qualified among the four candidates applying for the position. He added that the "political sympathies of our professors" do not concern the university. Last year, Riis-Knudsen was appointed to teach a course in "The Science of Fascism and Nazism," at the university, but public outrage forced the college officials to cancel his appointment.

### **WAR GAMES IN JUDEAN DESERT**

TEL AVIV, Aug. 5 (JTA)--The Israel Defense Force has been conducting war games in the Judean Desert. Echoes of the "battle" which started yesterday and is expected to conclude today could be heard in Jerusalem. Defense Minister Shimon Peres and Gen. Mordechai Gur, Chief of Staff, today watched part of the exercise which included a combined infantry and armor attack with air force support.

### **ALLON: WAR POSSIBLE BUT NOT INEVITABLE**

NEW YORK, Aug. 5 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told a group of American Jewish leaders today that while a new Middle East war is possible it is not inevitable. He said that while preparing for war Israel must also seek to avert a war by political means. Allon's remarks were made at

an off-the-record meeting with members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations at the Jewish Agency office here just before his departure for Israel. The Israeli official, who had been in the United States since July 28, reported on his meetings in Washington with Administration and congressional officials.

According to a source, Allon stressed that the United States has no Mideast peace plan and will not try to impose a settlement on Israel. He said his meetings with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger, Treasury Secretary William Simon and Vice-President Gerald Ford had been very good, constructive, useful and fruitful with satisfactory results. Allon reportedly said that "some of these results are already in my pocket" and expressed confidence that the others were being considered favorably.

Allon said that thanks to the special relationship the United States enjoys with Israel, the U.S. is the only power with which all Mideast countries are willing to negotiate. He said the American airlift during the Yom Kippur War convinced the Arabs that the U.S. would not sacrifice Israel and thus opened the way for peace talks. Allon stressed that there was no truth to the rumor that the U.S. had asked Israel to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization.

#### U.S. Concerned About Soviet, Syrian Jews

The Israeli official said he had discussed the issue of Soviet Jews with Kissinger, Ford and Senators Henry M. Jackson (D.Wash.) and Jacob K. Javits (R.N.Y.), among others, and declared that the Administration cares about the fate of Soviet and Syrian Jews.

Asked about the U.S. plan to give Egypt nuclear reactors, Allon reportedly said Israel feels Egypt has not yet exhausted its other power resources but that if the U.S. did not give the reactors other nations would. He said Israel wants to see that stringent safeguards are enforced to prevent the reactors from being used for military purposes.

When he was asked about the National Religious Party joining Premier Yitzhak Rabin's coalition government, Allon reportedly said he would like to have the NRP in the government but asked why it had been willing to join former Premier Golda Meir's Cabinet but then had insisted on different conditions for joining Rabin's government. "With all our arrogance and 'shvitz' we in Israel are not able to decide religious questions without consulting all streams of Judaism," a source quoted Allon as saying.

Among those attending the meeting were leaders of the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bond Organization, National Conference on Soviet Jewry and Writers and Artists for Peace in the Middle East. Earlier in the day Allon met in an off-the-record briefing with editors of major metropolitan dailies in the office of the Israeli Consulate and appeared on the NBC-TV "Today" show.

#### ISRAEL SEES AMBIVALENCE IN EGYPT'S POLICY ON WEST BANK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA)—Egypt would not object if the next round of the Mideast peace talks involved Israel and Jordan rather than Israel and itself, well placed observers here believe. They add, however, that Egypt would not tolerate too long a postponement of a second round of talks between itself and Israel. The Is-

raeli observers do not believe that Egypt has as yet clarified its position on the future talks with the U.S. and Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy will be doing so in Washington shortly.

The observers commented on reports emanating from sources here in Jerusalem who feel that an Israel-Jordan negotiation is now to be considered the likeliest next step and that Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in effect agreed to this likelihood without either of them fixing a definitive position on this issue of priorities or on the possible scenarios for a West Bank settlement.

Commenting on Fahmy's statement yesterday that the West Bank should be returned to the Palestine Liberation Organization rather than to Jordan, the well placed Israeli observers said this was a further example of Egypt's deliberate ambivalence over the West Bank-Palestinian question. (Fahmy said yesterday that the West Bank would never again fall under Jordanian civilian or military rule. He made the statement to Said Kamal, deputy chairman of the PLO's political department.)

#### Playing Both Sides Of The Street

The Fahmy statement certainly did not accord with last month's joint communique by King Hussein of Jordan and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt which recognized the Jordanian king as representative of all the Palestinians living "in Jordan"—with the implication that this included the West Bank. However, the observers here recalled, the day after the communique was issued, Fahmy qualified it by introducing a note of ambivalence as regards the question of West Bank Palestinian representation. Subsequently, Sadat declared again that the West Bank was a "deposit in Hussein's hands." Now Fahmy appears to be on another wave-length tending towards the PLO position.

The observers feel that Egypt is deliberately adopting this ambivalent posture, seeking on the one hand to advance politically in concert with Jordan and with U.S. support and sympathy, while intent on the other hand on not falling out with the PLO or its more radical supporters among the Arab states. Egypt's ultimate hope is still to bring about a united Egypt-Syria-PLO position in advance of Geneva—and to somehow bring Hussein into that united front by healing the rift between him and the PLO.

#### U.S. FIRMS TO HELP EGYPT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5 (JTA)—Nineteen American construction and engineering executives are in Egypt for three days of talks on the possibility of American companies participating in Egypt's development and reconstruction program. According to reports reaching here, David Baker, a Commerce Department official who is leading the group, announced today in Cairo that an American consortium has agreed in principle to work on a proposal to carry out Egypt's \$700 million petrochemical program.

But Baker reportedly refused to name the firms in the consortium or the companies that are considering participating in five other projects being discussed with the Egyptians. Talks have begun on a chemical and fertilizer complex at Suez, together with a pipeline worth \$250 million; a \$100 million refinery at the Mediterranean terminal of the projected pipeline and a \$15 million sheet and plate glass plant. Baker reportedly said the U.S. firms were concerned mainly with big projects which would most likely be carried out as joint projects.

## **FAHMY SEEKING TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN FRANCE AND EGYPT**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 5 (JTA)—Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy met here today with French Foreign Minister Jean Sauvagnargues for the first session of the joint Franco-Egyptian commission designed to strengthen economic ties between the two countries. Tomorrow Fahmy is due to meet with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

Officially, the Egyptian minister is here to discuss increased Franco-Egyptian economic and technical cooperation. Actually, the talks, according to reliable sources, are dominated by the Middle East political situation.

According to these sources, Egypt is eager to find out if the new French government intends to continue the pro-Arab policy carried out under late President Georges Pompidou. The new government, in power since May, has not yet clearly defined its position and Egypt apparently fears possible changes in its Middle East attitude.

### **Suspicious Of Pro-Israel Ministers**

Arab suspicions were aroused by the new government's silence on this subject and by the presence in the Cabinet of five ministers, including Minister of Interior Michel Poniatovsky, known for their pro-Israeli sympathies. Another of these ministers is Minister of Justice Jean Lecanuet who has often in the past publicly opposed France's pro-Arab policy which he described "one-sided and not balanced."

Fahmy is also expected to confer with French officials on France's and Western Europe's possible roles in the coming stages of the settlement of the Middle East crisis, especially within the framework of the Geneva conference.

Political circles here say that Fahmy has also raised the Palestinian question. Arab diplomats say that the Egyptian minister will also ask France to take the lead in "turning West European declarations of support of the Arab cause into concrete acts." Arab League Secretary-General Mahmoud Riad called for such acts at the end of the European-Arab dialogue which took place here last week.

### **Sadat Has Message For Giscard d'Estaing**

French circles also say that the two ministers, Fahmy and Sauvagnargues, will also try to improve Franco-Egyptian relations which have reportedly cooled off in recent months. According to authoritative French sources, Paris was "hurt" at the brusque way in which Cairo "forgot its West European ties and turned to Washington for advice and help."

The French also resented the fact that earlier this year Fahmy visited Washington and a number of European capitals but avoided consultations in Paris. The Egyptians, on the other hand, felt that Paris was not giving them the political backing which they expected and did not try and play an active role at the Geneva peace conference.

Fahmy will hand over to Giscard d'Estaing a personal message from Egyptian President Anwar Sadat when he will meet with him tomorrow morning at the Elysee Palace.

### **ISRAEL FACES NEW CHALLENGES**

TEL AVIV, Aug. 5 (JTA)—"We shall be facing tests and challenges unlike any that we have faced in the past," Gen. Moshe Peles, commander

of the Armored Corps, told a graduating ceremony of Armored Corps officers somewhere in the Sinai yesterday. He explained that the reversations of the Yom Kippur War and the subsequent battles of attrition have scarcely died down when Israel is again faced with the possibility of a new war.

"Only the vigor and strength of the Israel Defense Force and of the entire nation will make the enemy recognize and accept our existence," Peled declared. "The right combination of quantitative power and human professional quality will deter the enemy and will prove decisive when the call comes." One of the graduates was a young Druze officer and his parents and other relatives were among the people attending the ceremony.

### **YEHUDA HAEZRAHI, WRITER, ADVOCATE OF A BEAUTIFUL JERUSALEM, DEAD AT 54**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA)—Funeral services were held yesterday for Yehuda Haezrahi, a writer and one of the most consistent campaigners for a beautiful Jerusalem, who died Friday night at the age of 54. As the leader of the Jerusalem branch of "The Council for a Beautiful Israel," Mr. Haezrahi devoted his last years to an uninterrupted battle for the preservation of the beauty of the capital, inveighing against the intensive developments of skyscrapers and modern hotels which were obliterating buildings of historical value.

Described by many as the "Don Quixote of Jerusalem," he stubbornly led the battle for architectural beauty from his Jerusalem stone-built home in one of the city's older neighborhoods.

I first came across the name of Yehuda Haezrahi when I was 10 years old. At the time, he was one of the editors of what was then a very successful radio satire program patterned after Jerome K. Jerome's "Three Men in A Boat." Mr. Haezrahi projected the image of a witty, cynical writer. But when I met him again some 15 years later and got to know him I discovered a very sensitive, perhaps even sad person. Somewhat absent-minded, he could sit for hours on end and complain at length about the damage being done to the city he loves so much.

The Jerusalem-born Mr. Haezrahi was recently engaged in writing a book of his impressions of the Yom Kippur War. The book was a compilation of articles dealing with the human side of soldiers at war. His last published article, "Dying Upright," dealt with nature, with Jerusalem and with the ailing forest in Bab el-Wad along the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road. He was the author of many books and plays and was the winner of the Akum Prize for literature and the Agron Prize for journalism.

### **AFL-CIO COUNCIL BACKS ISRAEL**

CHICAGO, Aug. 5 (JTA)—The Executive Council of the AFL-CIO today urged the United States government to provide "all necessary assistance" to Israel. "Israel, the only viable democracy in the Middle East, faces economic problems possibly more threatening than the military attacks upon her by her neighbors," the Council said in a statement issued during its two-day meeting here.

"No nation, however large or small, can survive economic hemorrhage indefinitely without the unstinting support of free nations everywhere. To do less is to encourage the military and economic aggression of Israel's tormentors, a motley although wealthy band of international brigands." Yehoram Meshel, secretary-general of Histadrut, is attending the conference at the invitation of AFL-CIO President George Meany.

## SOVIET JEWS AND WHALES: ARE BOTH ENDANGERED SPECIES?

NEW YORK, Aug. 5 (JTA)--Rep. John M. Murphy (D.N.Y.) raised eyebrows among some of his Jewish constituents when they received a yes-no questionnaire he mailed out last week inconspicuously juxtaposing Soviet Jews with whales. The congressional questionnaire, which dealt with such issues as impeachment, inflation, amnesty, abortion, housing and foreign policy, listed the following question under foreign policy:

"Do you think that the United States should use trade to influence foreign policy in other countries, as in the case of Jewish emigration from Russia, and the overkilling of whales by the Japanese?" Several Jewish constituents called the Jewish Telegraphic Agency editorial office here wondering whether the juxtaposition signified in Murphy's mind that Soviet Jews, like the whales, are an endangered species.

### Other Troublesome Questions

Some callers also noted that two other questions under foreign policy were also troublesome. One question asked: "Do you feel that we should provide arms to Israel if it is necessary to do so in order to maintain the balance of power in the Middle East?" The next question asked: "Do you feel that we should provide arms to Arab countries to maintain the balance of power in the Middle East?" Several callers noted that the phrase, "if it is necessary to do so," in the first question was omitted in the next question, thus implying that arms for Israel may not be a necessity. Murphy was not immediately available for comment.

### SEEK COALITION ON SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, Aug. 5 (JTA)--The Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry will seek to form a "new coalition" of clergymen of all faiths, labor and business leaders and civic and fraternal organizations in its programs on behalf of Soviet Jewry, Eugene Gold, the new chairman of the Conference announced today. Gold, Kings County (Brooklyn) District Attorney, has been elected to succeed Stanley H. Lowell, who is now chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Gold, in announcing plans to form the new coalition, said its goal will be "to give added dimension to the resolve of overwhelming numbers of Americans to tear down barriers to free emigration by Soviet Jews and others, and to help end the Soviet government's campaign of intimidation and terror." Gold said that passage of the Jackson Amendment, legislation that would deny trade concessions to the USSR until it drops barriers to free emigration, also will receive high priority by the New York Conference.

### BAR MITZVAH CEREMONIES IN HAITI

STAMFORD, Conn., Aug. 5 (JTA)--Religious history was made in the island of Haiti in July. For the first time in the annals of that Caribbean island a rabbi officiated at two Bar Mitzvah ceremonies. Veteran residents vaguely recall that sometime in the past a Bar Mitzvah took place, but without an ordained clergyman. But last month Rabbi Samuel Silver of Temple Sinai, Stamford, Conn. conducted two separate worship services. At each of them a youngster participated in the service and received a blessing from the officiant.

The first Bar Mitzvah was for David Fleisch-

mann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Fleischmann originally from Germany. Since fleeing Hitler, the Fleischmanns have resided in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Dominican Republic. The second 13-year-old to be Bar Mitzvahed was Richard Salzmänn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Salzmänn. The Bar Mitzvah's father, who came to Port au Prince from Vienna several decades ago, is a prominent businessman and is a cousin of Rabbi Silver. Attending both events was the Israeli Ambassador to Haiti, Zeev Bashan. The entire Embassy staff was also on hand.

With about 20 Jewish families residing in Haiti there is no Jewish congregation and no regular worship services. Rabbi Silver sent the youngsters their assigned readings in writing and on tape. The boys were tutored by Samuel Cohen, a former Israeli who now resides in Haiti.

### MESHEL URGES ISRAEL-ARAB 'BRIDGE'

NEW YORK, Aug. 5 (JTA)--Yeruham Meshel, secretary-general of Histadrut, called on the two world superpowers to allow Israel and her Arab neighbors to build a "bridge of unity" in the Middle East. "Then you will see," Meshel said, "Israel and her neighbors will create a strong and united front through the creation of a Middle East Common Market." Meshel spoke this weekend at a luncheon meeting of the board of directors of the National Committee for Labor Israel. Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, president of the Committee, introduced the newly elected head of Histadrut.

Meshel told the organization leaders representing Labor Zionist, trade union and other supporters of Histadrut, that "Israel will never accept an artificial peace. It is therefore unfortunate that we have not been able to speak directly to the Arab states. After (U.S. Secretary of State Henry A.) Kissinger's visit to Damascus, (Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei) Gromyko came to Syria and Israel felt an immediate change in the climate of relations." He said that his message to American labor leaders and the U.S. Senators whom he is scheduled to meet this week will be "to use their influence to see that the superpowers do not interfere in peace negotiations."

Meshel told the meeting that Israel relies "on the freedom loving people of the world to understand our problems and stand by us." In particular, he added, Israel greatly appreciates the help of the American labor movement under AFL-CIO president George Meany "who again proved their friendship with expressions of aid during and after the Yom Kippur War. The beautiful blue skies over Israel are again clouded by war as the Soviet Union is pouring vast military supplies into Syria. Yet, it is possible to avoid another war, and if a lasting peace does come, Israel and her neighbors can enjoy tremendous progress by creating a strong united front in the form of a Middle East Common Market."

### 1500 YOUTHS IN MACCABIAH JAMBOREE

MONTREAL, Aug. 5 (JTA)--Some 1500 boys and girls were participants in the largest Maccabiah Jamboree this year from July 30 to Aug. 2 in the Fitzroy Harbor Park, Ottawa region. The jamboree was organized by the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Canadian Zionist Federation under the direction of Haim Haham, its national director. The jamboree provided for a series of important sport activities. In addition, a team of six Israelis, specialists in music and dance, offered instructions in arts to the young campers. The jamboree brought together for the first time young Jews from across Canada in a spirit of unity and Jewish identification.