



# daily news bulletin

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

Contents copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XLIII - 59th Year

Wednesday, February 11, 1976

No. 29

## PROBE INDICATES ONE OF SEVEN JEWS WHO HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW MAY HAVE BEEN A 'PLANT'; A SECOND JEW, A CHRONIC MALCONTENT By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Investigations into the background of two of seven Soviet Jewish immigrants who returned to the Soviet Union and condemned Israel at an officially staged press conference in Moscow last Friday indicated strongly that one of them may have been a "plant" and the other a chronic malcontent.

The case of Boris Bravstein, who came to Israel in March, 1971 with his wife and mother, has aroused suspicion that he may have been part of an elaborate Soviet plot to discredit Israel in the eyes of other Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate. These suspicions stem from the fact that Bravstein's absorption in Israel was smoother than for many other olim and that when he decided to return to the USSR after a year he was welcomed with open arms, while other yordim who sought re-entry were rejected.

Bravstein's wife gave birth to a son shortly after their arrival in Israel, the first child to be born at an absorption center, and the occasion was one for a feast and festivities at the center.

The Bravsteins soon received a flat in Beersheba and his mother received a flat of her own. He also found a good job as an engineer at the Beersheba branch of the Housing Ministry. He seemed content with his life in Israel until a Kiev newspaper published an article signed by Bravstein in which he denounced Israel and its government.

In 1972, Bravstein returned to the Soviet Union, but unlike many other returnees who were forced to languish in a Vienna ghetto because the Soviet authorities refused to re-admit them, Bravstein received his re-entry visa without delay. He also got back his former flat that was apparently saved for him and was promptly given a job. His new job is at the ovir, the Soviet visa office, where he interviews Jews applying for visas to emigrate to Israel. The belief here is that Bravstein maintained contact with Soviet authorities while he was in Israel.

### The Case Of Kovant

The second case cited is that of Valeri Kovant, a Caucasian Jew who arrived in Israel in August 1972 and was settled in Upper Nazareth. At his request he was re-located in the Arad district of the Negev and got a job with the local authorities on the strength of his claim that he held degrees from Soviet universities. But Kovant refused to work. He sent his wife to work at a restaurant. She subsequently killed herself.

Kovant earned the reputation of a professional complainer and agitator. He participated in a demonstration near the Premier's office in Jerusalem against alleged improper treatment of Soviet Jews in Israel. He returned to the USSR in September 1973.

## RABIN SAYS U.S. ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP CAN WEATHER TRANSIENT DISAGREEMENTS By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Premier Yitz-

hak Rabin declared here today that U.S.-Israel friendship could weather transient disagreements because both nations shared basic common values that bound them together. Rabin made his remarks to an audience of prominent Israelis and American representatives attending a luncheon of the Israel-American Friendship Society. The event was chaired by Jewish Agency Treasurer Leon Dulzin who is president of the Society.

Rabin said his latest visit to the U.S. last month affirmed the shared values that helped mould America's attitude toward Israel. He spoke of their common dedication to democracy, their common Biblical heritage and the fact that both America and Israel were immigrant societies. He said that, travelling across the United States he felt that "regardless of what was written in the press," there was deep sympathy and understanding and readiness on the part of the American people to work together with Israel.

Rabin said the U.S. respected the rights of small nations to make their own vital decisions even when such small states needed American military and economic assistance. He called on Israelis to value, cultivate and foster their relationship with the U.S. "Let us not take it for granted," he urged, "so that even when there are disagreements--and we don't have to accept everything, sometimes we have to be stubborn--let us not say things which bring needless consequences to the relationship."

His remarks appeared to be directed at certain Israeli personages who have sharply criticized the U.S. recently for allegedly pressuring Israel for more concessions and delays in the delivery of military equipment. Rabin told his audience that American Jewry had scored achievements unparalleled in the annals of the diaspora. "They are proud Americans and they are proud Jews and there is no conflict whatsoever," Rabin said.

## CZECH PRESIDENT, PERSONS IN HIGH MEDIA POSTS, IDENTIFIED AS NAZI COLLABORATORS DURING WORLD WAR II By Mark Segal

LONDON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The President of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Gustav Husak, and persons holding high posts in the communications media in that country, have been identified as active Nazi collaborators during World War II. Husak, who is First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party, was named by the Czech-language monthly "Ceske Slovo" published in Munich, as a collector of funds for the Nazi Hlinka Guard and Hlinka Youth Organization in Slovakia which was governed by a Nazi puppet regime during the war.

The other alleged Nazi collaborators were identified in a survey released by the International Council of Jews from Czechoslovakia (ICJC). One of the most prominent is Jan Kiment, head of the editorial office of the Czech Communist Party daily, "Rude Pravo." Kiment was private secretary to the Nazi director of Kuratorium, a collaborationist organization in Bohemia during the German occupation, according to the ICJC. Prior to taking his post at "Rude Pravo" he edited the Prague periodical "World of the Soviets."

The ICJC reported further that Svatopluk Dolcejs, 53, presently on the Czech Embassy staff in Cairo and Cairo correspondent of Radio Prague,

was editor of the anti-Semitic Prague weekly, "Arijsky Boj" (The Aryan Fight) between 1941-44. During the latter phases of the Nazi occupation that publication issued an "Anti-Jewish Reader" subtitled "Handbook on the Jewish Question in the Czech Lands."

After the war, Dolejs was cleared by the Czech State Security Service and joined the secret police. In 1960 he was put in charge of Arab language broadcasts from Prague and visited Arab countries. When the Dubcek regime was suppressed by the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, Dolejs was given an executive post with Radio Prague. He also contributed to the anti-Semitic, anti-Zionist booklet of Yuri Ivanov under the pen name of Yevgeniy Yevseyev.

The booklet, entitled "Beware Zionism," was first published in Moscow and later translated into Czech and Slovakian and was introduced last year as compulsory reading matter in primary schools in Bohemia and Moravia.

#### Another Top Man Identified

Another top man at Radio Prague is Bohumil Rohacek, 56, who the ICJC identified as the former editor of the Czech Nazi journal "Vlajka" (The Flag). He was a frequent contributor of anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist articles in leading Communist publications. The ICJC identified him as co-author, with Jew-baiter Jiri Bohatka, of an article alleging that Zionists conspired with the Nazi commanders of Resienstadt and other concentration camps to release Zionist Jews and in exchange "handed over non-Zionist Czech Jews for deportation."

The ICJC also named Jan Rybak, literary editor of "Rude Pravo" until his retirement in 1967, as an employee of the "League for Collaboration with the Germans" during the Nazi occupation.

The report from "Ceske Slovo" quoted by the ICJC, said that Husak was involved with the Nazi Hlinka Guard in his capacity as secretary of the Central Federation of Forwarding and Shipping Agents in Slovakia during the war. The funds he collected were applied to pre-military training and reception organizations for Nazi youth and were tax deductible. The ICJC reprinted a letter dated Oct. 20, 1942 to this effect signed by Husak and Dr. F. Weiss, vice-chairman of the Central Federation.

#### SOVIETS CONTINUE PRESSURE ON BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, Feb. 10 (JTA)—Soviet authorities are getting increasingly nervous about the Second World Conference on Soviet Jewry beginning here Feb. 17. This afternoon the Soviet press agency, Novosti, announced a press conference here Thursday featuring former Soviet citizens who had emigrated from the USSR and who decided to return.

From the wording of the Novosti invitation, it is not certain whether the former emigres are the same ones trotted out by the Soviets at a press conference in Moscow last Friday to condemn Israel as a racist society and to express gratitude to the USSR for letting them back.

Over the week-end the Kremlin complained to the Belgian Foreign Ministry that the Brussels conference was an unfriendly act. They were joined by nearly a dozen Arab states, led by Iraq, which threatened to cancel a contract for the sale of phosphates to Belgium if the conference were not banned.

The Belgian Foreign Minister who received a delegation of Arab ambassadors, reminded them that the Belgian constitution permits peaceful conferences of all kinds. He added that those public officials who announced their support of the conference did so in their own capacities and not officially for the Belgian government.

Among the members of the local patrons committee for the conference are six ministers of state, the heads of three major Belgian political parties, five university presidents and the mayors of Brussels and Liege, along with other leading figures in Belgian public life.

#### VATICAN SAYS ITS MIDEAST POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED IN ANY WAY

PARIS, Feb. 10 (JTA)—The Vatican newspaper, "Osservatore Romano," said today that the Vatican's position on the Middle East and the Palestinian problem "has not changed in any way." The statement, in effect, disavowed Vatican endorsement of a communique released after the recent Moslem-Christian conference in Tripoli, Libya, attended by a Vatican delegation, which affirmed the rights of the Palestinian people to return to their "homeland," meaning the territory now Israel.

Vatican sources in Rome, contacted by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said the "Osservatore Romano" report fully and completely represents the position of the Vatican. The sources appeared highly embarrassed by the communique which totally supported the Arab side in the Middle East conflict with the implication of Vatican endorsement of that position. They told the JTA that the Vatican delegation "was not empowered to reach political decisions" and should not have done so.

Don Vigilio Levi, deputy director of "Osservatore Romano" explained the background of the Tripoli communique in a front page commentary today. He said that Cardinal Sergio Pignedoli, who headed the Vatican delegation to the Tripoli conference, was shown the communique "at the very last minute," implying that he had no chance to change it.

Pignedoli explained the circumstances himself last week. He said that the document was prepared in Arabic and that he did not know, until it was presented to him, that it contained an unqualified endorsement of the Arab position. He said he repudiated any alleged support of it on the Vatican's part.

#### CLERICS SCORE CHRISTIANS, JEWS FOR INDIFFERENCE TO PLIGHT OF ISRAEL

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (JTA)—Two Christian theologians argued today that not only Christians should be criticized for being indifferent to the plight of Israel but so should many Jews. The Rev. Malcolm Boyd, a Protestant minister and author, and Msgr. John Oesterreicher, director of the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, made these charges during an all-day conference on "The Importance and Difficulty of Israel in Christian-Jewish Dialogue," sponsored by the American Zionist Federation.

Boyd said that when the security of Israel is in danger, as it is now, the safety of all Jews is in jeopardy. "It would be helpful if Jews in America realized this and stopped being indifferent," he declared. He said many Christians are unconcerned because they see no concern on the part of their Jewish neighbors. Oesterreicher, a leading Catholic supporter of Israel, said that it is

claimed that Israel, Zionism and Judaism are one, yet not all Jews are Zionists and many are either indifferent or even hostile toward Israel.

He said that a conference such as today's, which was held at the America-Israel Friendship House, was really a "dialogue of the converted." What are you going to do about the people on the outside?" he asked. He noted that before he speaks to a Jewish group he asks that each member of the audience bring a gentile neighbor, but they usually do not.

Boyd and two other speakers in the session, which dealt with "Zionism: Jewish-Christian Perspectives," said that anti-Zionism was a disguise for anti-Semitism. Father Edward Flannery, of the United States Bishop's Conference's Secretariat for Christian-Jewish Dialogue, said that most of the Christian critics of Israel can be traced to "some sort of anti-Semitism, at least unconscious." He said many in the Christian community disguise anti-Semitism with a false concern for the Arabs.

Flannery said that the Christian community should be the first to rejoice over the creation of the State of Israel because of its legitimacy as a "liberation movement, the greatest in history" and because of the responsibility of Christians for the persecution of Jews. He said a good Christian attitude toward Israel is the acceptance of the "existence of Israel within secure borders and a commitment to the survival of Israel."

#### Concern And Weak Spot

Dr. Emil Fackenheim, professor of philosophy at the University of Toronto, said that Zionism today is the "proposition that the homelessness of the Jewish people, where it exists, has to come to an end." He said after the Holocaust it is the responsibility of every Jew and every decent person to be a Zionist. "One doesn't have to live in Israel to be a Zionist, one does not have to be a Jew to be a Zionist," he said.

Fackenheim charged that there is a plot afoot started first by the Soviet Union at the United Nations in 1967 and then taken over by the Arabs to steal the Holocaust from the Jews by claiming that the Jews today are the Nazis and the Palestinians are the victims, the Jews. He said that many Christians who have a concern for many of the evils of the world have "a weak spot when it comes to Jews," and do not include Jews in their areas of concern. He said that if Jesus was alive today he "would be living in Israel or in any case would be a Zionist."

#### 25% FOREIGN AID HIKE FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR IS UNDER A CLOUD

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The Senate Foreign Relations Committee's increase of the foreign aid package for the current fiscal year by 25 percent came under a cloud today when the State Department said that the Administration is reviewing "the impact" of the increase.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D, Minn.), announced to the Senate last week that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Joseph J. Sisco had agreed in his conversations with them that the aid package was to be increased by one-quarter to take into account the three-month transitional period of July 1-Sept. 30 between the end of fiscal 1976 on June 30 to the beginning of fiscal 1977 Oct. 1. The increase was proposed by Sen. Clifford Case (R, N.J.).

Today, however, State Department spokesman Robert Funseth announced that the "Administration is presently reviewing its position of the impact of the transitional quarter on the security assistance package, including the Middle East." He said that "when the Executive branch completes its review, we will be in touch with Congress."

Under the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's authorization bill, now before the Senate, Israel and some 50 other countries are to receive an additional 25 percent in recommendations for this fiscal year. In the case of Israel this would mean an increase from \$2.25 billion to \$2.81 billion, and for Egypt an increase from approximately \$700 million to \$875 million. Humphrey reported his discussions with Kissinger and Sisco on the Senate floor during the presentation of the bill.

#### Speculation About Disagreements

Funseth said Humphrey had phoned Kissinger and "discussed technical aspects" of the aid package, however, he added, the "Administration has not completed its review." Asked if the Administration has changed its mind and is now pulling back from its agreement with the Senate committee's leadership, Funseth said he was "not aware" of that and noted that there were "lots of contacts" that included other parts of the Administration.

His remarks immediately raised speculation that the White House is not in agreement with Kissinger and Sisco and that President Ford has suspended, at least temporarily, Kissinger's authority to handle the aid package along the lines of the agreement reported by Humphrey.

When asked if Kissinger had mis-stated the Administration's position or whether the Administration had changed its position since then in view of the Senate record showing that the Administration supported the Case amendment, Funseth said "I'll have to check into that point." Funseth emphasized that the Administration's review was not concerned with Israel alone but with the "whole aid package including the Middle East."

#### KLARSFELD SCORES GERMAN INJUSTICE

PARIS, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld, sentenced yesterday by a Cologne court to a two-month suspended prison sentence, charged German justice here today with "injustice and lack of determination in pursuing Nazi war criminals." Klarsfeld returned to Paris last night from Cologne where a criminal court imposed the two-month sentence for having tried to kidnap former Paris gestapo chief Kurt Lishka in March 1971.

The Cologne court issued an arrest order after the unsuccessful kidnap attempt which was served to Klarsfeld last week when he came to Frankfurt to ask the local state's attorney for criminal proceedings against Fritz Merdsche who served during the Nazi occupation as gestapo chief in the city of Orleans.

Klarsfeld said he had gone to Frankfurt "in the name of countless Jewish children who could not come. They have been arrested and murdered by Lishka." He added, "We act not out of vengeance but guided by a sense of justice."

Jewish and resistance organizations in France have energetically protested against Klarsfeld's symbolic sentence. Protest letters and petitions have been sent to the West German Embassy here. In Israel, a protest was lodged with the German Ambassador by the Public Council for the Support of Beate Klarsfeld, Serge's wife, who has also been involved in hunting down Nazi war criminals.

# EXPERT WARNS 'FREE MARRIAGE' GROWING, BEING ACCEPTED ON CAMPUSES AMONG JEWISH STUDENTS; WOMEN SEEKING MOTHERHOOD BUT REJECTING MARRIAGE

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Feb. 10 (JTA)--An expert on Jewish communal life has warned, in an assessment of forces affecting the modern Jewish family, that there has been "a great growth and acceptance" of "free marriage" on campuses among Jewish students to the point where "even parents are beginning to accept it."

The assessment was made by Prof. Gerald R. Bubis, director of the Los Angeles school of Jewish communal service of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, during a visit here last week for an experimental effort to cope with the dwindling "togetherness" and dwindling Jewishness of the American Jewish home. The experiment involved five young couples and their children from each of the five Reform synagogues in the Miami area.

In his assessment, in which he contended that there had been a noticeable improvement in the Jewish family, Bubis catalogued the "good news" and the "bad news" he had found in his visits to various parts of the country in connection with the observance this year of the centennial of the HUC-JIR, the Reform seminary-school.

In discussing the acceptance of "free marriage" on campuses, Bubis said the Jewish parents were accepting it, "however reluctantly," and that the parents were even beginning "to talk openly about their children who are engaged in it." He cited as another negative development a still small but growing number of Jewish women who declare "they don't want to get married but still want to have children and go looking for a likely male to father them."

Another group, he said, is made up of couples who "don't believe in children. They are in the avant garde in the zero population of the Jewish community." There are also, he said, Jews in communes, "some of whom want a Jewish life, others who don't." He asserted also that there was a growing number of Jewish widows and "single parent" families, "including homes from which the wife has walked away, leaving the kids for the father to raise."

He argued that "the synagogue has to become sensitive to this, to help children and their parents in whatever family situation they find themselves."

## There Is Also 'Good News'

Bubis said that the "good news" is that "most people want to have families and, if the marriage doesn't work the first time, they try, try again." In the experimental effort, he met with the 25 couples and their children at a Sabbath eve dinner and innovative service, prepared largely by him at a Friday evening at Temple Israel. He followed this up with a discussion on the Jewish family with the same couples at Saturday morning services at Temple Beth Shalom.

He explained that the goal was to have the families take back what they had learned to other families in their synagogues in an effort to restore the warm Sabbath atmosphere to the home and family from which, he said, it has all but vanished; or to form small havurot--fellowships--an innovation which has been spreading in Reform congregations with stress on experimentation and intimacy in worship meetings.

He said his "workshop" with the 25 Reform families was for both educators and families and

that he believed it could be successful. He said young Jewish parents remember their warm family ties when they were children and are concerned because it is "missing" for their children. He added, "so many young couples are looking for ways to a Jewish life and are crying for it."

## Searching For Identity

The children brought to the Friday evening workshop at Temple Israel ranged from five years old to the teens. After the regular Friday evening Reform service, including the Sabbath candle lighting, blessing over the wine and the Sabbath bread, and recitation of grace, the children and their parents went into a special room for the service, which Bubis has titled "A Search for Identity."

The children and their parents sat in small circles with the "reader"--Bubis--whose role was to start activities and not officiate. The service consisted of readings by the parents and children from various sources, Biblical and modern, with a single theme--the search for identity--and traditional prayers, including the Sh'ma.

Bubis said the innovative service was sprinkled with melodies ranging from the Hasidic to familiar liturgical chants. At the end, the participants rose to recite the Kaddish in the original Aramaic and, for the final verse, the participants, arms on each other's shoulders, swayed as they sang. Bubis said efforts would be made at each of the Reform congregations, to continue the approach he had tested during his visit.

## TROUBLE AT THE TEMPLE MOUNT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10 (JTA)--Two dozen Arab high school students were arrested yesterday after they threw stones at police during the second day of demonstrations against Jewish prayer services on the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem. Police said that all was quiet today and the students' call for a mass general strike by East Jerusalem Arabs drew no response.

The demonstrations began peacefully Sunday when about 500 East Jerusalem high school students gathered on the Temple Mount to protest the acquittal by a local magistrate of a group of Betar activists who conducted a prayer service there recently.

The Temple Mount is the site of the Mosque of Omar and the El Aksa Mosque, two of the holiest shrines of Islam. Jewish religious services are barred there by law in order to avoid provocations. But the members of Betar, a militantly nationalist youth group, defied the ban and their exoneration by the local court was seen by the Arab youths as an alteration of the status quo.

The government has already appealed the magistrate's decision to a higher court. Police Minister Shlomo Hillel said last week that police would continue to enforce the ban on Jewish religious rites at the Moslem holy place.

## JNF TO GIVE BG AIRPORT FACELIFT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund has begun planting trees along the roads approaching Ben Gurion Airport, with the aim of giving Israel's international gateway to the world a bit of a facelift. Species include full grown oaks which are being transplanted from old established nurseries around the country. Travelers and native Israelis often remark how stark and unattractive is the first glimpse of Israel, which is flat and, in the main, treeless.