



# daily news bulletin

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## CONGRESSMEN JOIN PROTEST AGAINST NEW SOVIET TAX ON AID PARCELS FOR JEWISH PRISONERS

NEW YORK, June 14 (JTA)--The Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry today mailed 30 packages to the Soviet Union for families of Jewish "Prisoners of Conscience." The act came as a group of Congressmen and other public officials held a press conference on the steps of New York City's Main Post Office to protest new Soviet restrictions going into effect in the Soviet Union tomorrow on the size and value of parcels being sent into the USSR.

Eugene Gold, chairman of the GNYCSJ, said the new restrictions are designed to further harass Soviet Jews and others who have been denied work after applying for exit visas. Rep. James Scheuer (D,NY) said that the action was a violation of the Helsinki agreement. He and other Congressmen said they would seek legislative action. Richard Rosenbaum, Republican State Chairman, said the New York Republican Committee has asked Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Treasury Secretary William Simon to intervene.

The new regulation will increase the duties on some packages by up to 200 percent, according to Malcolm Hoenlein, GNYCSJ executive director. Other participants in the press conference were Reps. Benjamin Gilman (R,NY) and Herman Badillo and Mario Biaggi, New York Democrats; City Comptroller Harrison Goldin and aides of Sen. Jacob Javits (R,NY) and Reps. Bella Abzug, John Murphy and Benjamin Rosenthal, all New York Democrats.

A similar protest against the new Soviet tax on parcels was held in San Francisco last week by the Ad Hoc Humanitarian Committee, which maintained a one-hour vigil outside of the Soviet Consulate.

## ALLON SEES RENEWED U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE IN MIDEAST

TEL AVIV, June 14 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon believes the United States may resume its Middle East peace initiatives before the Presidential elections in November. The American Administration may want to renew the momentum toward a settlement in order to forestall possible Israeli-Arab friction during the election campaign, Allon said in an interview published today in the Labor Party periodical Mivgan. He said that if such a process was started, it would not necessarily end before the elections.

Allon said that the Labor Party should decide on an initiative toward end-of-belligerency agreement with the Arab states at its convention in December. He said the fact that Egypt, Syria and Jordan did not reject such proposals out of hand when they were made by the U.S. earlier this year was an encouraging sign. He added that a move toward ending the state of war might prove to be the most realistic step toward a full peace agreement.

The Foreign Minister said it should be clear, by now that the Labor Party is ready for far-reaching territorial compromises in the context of a peace treaty with the Arabs. He said such

compromises would have to balance Israel's security needs with Arab aspirations.

## ISRAELIS SAY SYRIA BOGGED DOWN IN LEBANON, LOSING PRESTIGE By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 14 (JTA)--Israeli security circles are watching with interest the difficulties being encountered by the Syrian army in its operations against Palestinian terrorists in Lebanon. A Syrian force trying to reach the Lebanese port of Sidon has been almost completely cut off by the terrorists and Lebanese leftists. Syrian attempts to break through with supplies and reinforcements have failed so far.

According to Israeli sources, the Syrian army does not possess the combat quality it had before the Yom Kippur War although it has been fully rehabilitated quantitatively. The Syrians, moreover, are seen to be facing a crucial decision: whether to increase the size of their forces in Lebanon--which means thinning out their army along the Israeli and Iraqi borders--or ending their involvement in Lebanon by some sort of agreement with the other Arab countries. A move in the latter direction would harm the image of President Hafez Assad who put Syria's prestige on the line in Lebanon. Assad, in fact, appears to be losing popularity in Syria as a result of his Lebanese adventure, the sources said.

## 'Red Line' Questioned

Meanwhile, Israeli circles could not confirm reports that Syrian army units had entered the so-called "Fatahland," the one-time terrorist stronghold in southeastern Lebanon adjacent to the Israeli border. The circles said today that the Syrians may have skirted the northern perimeter of "Fatahland" in an effort to relieve their forces deployed around Sidon. But claims that they entered the region were dismissed here as "psychological warfare" by the PLO in Beirut, possibly aimed at drawing Israeli intervention in the Lebanese conflict.

Israel's policy of watchful non-intervention has not changed. There has been talk of a "Red Line" which, if breached by the Syrians, would cause Israel to consider an appropriate response. Sources here believe the "Red Line" may refer less to a geographical position than to a certain set of political conditions which may or may not materialize.

## PRESIDENT KATZIR TENDERED LUNCHEON BY BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 14 (JTA)--Prime Minister James Callaghan greeted President Ephraim Katzir today and expressed warm friendship and admiration for the State of Israel and the hope that it would soon attain peace and security. Callaghan was host at a luncheon for the Israeli President and Mrs. Katzir at 10 Downing St. The gathering was attended by about 70 other guests drawn from many walks of life in Britain, including Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland, trade union and Labor Party officials, scientists, artists, sportsmen and representatives of the Anglo-Jewish community.

Speaking on a political level, Callaghan voiced British support for American peace-seeking efforts in the Middle East and reaffirmed his government's readiness to assist in such efforts if the parties agreed. Today's meeting with Callaghan was the second major event of President Katzir's week-long private visit to Britain which began last Friday. Yesterday he and Mrs. Katzir lunched with Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh at Windsor Castle.

Others who attended reported that the Queen showed herself to be well-informed about Israel and deeply interested in that country. They said a lively and friendly conversation was conducted between the two heads of state which included such subjects as the kibbutz movement and the constitutional similarities between the British Monarchy and the office of President in Israel. Tomorrow, President Katzir will be one of four Israeli scientists to participate in a symposium of the Royal Society marking the 70th birthday of British Nobel Laureate Sir Ernest Chain.

#### COALITION TO OPPOSE BILL TO ALLOW P.M. TO FIRE CABINET MINISTERS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--The Cabinet decided by a majority vote yesterday to require all coalition party members to vote against a bill coming up in the Knesset this week that would empower the Prime Minister to fire a Cabinet minister. Only four ministers, Premier Yitzhak Rabin among them, voted in favor of allowing a "free vote" to coalition Knesset-members and ministers.

The measure, to be introduced by Shulamit Aloni, leader of the Civil Rights faction in the Knesset, is doomed to defeat, barring a wholesale rebellion in coalition ranks which is hardly likely. Her bill would enable the Premier to demand a letter of resignation from any of his ministers. If it was not forthcoming within 48 hours, the Premier could dismiss the minister. Rabin had said at a recent press conference that he wished he had the power to fire ministers--a remark that Defense Minister Shimon Peres took to be aimed at himself. Peres was one of the majority of ministers who voted to exercise coalition discipline. Rabin was supported only by Education Minister Aharon Yadin, Police Minister Shlomo Hillel and Minister-Without-Portfolio Israel Galili. The majority position was favored by the ministers of the smaller coalition factions--Mapam, National Religious Party and Independent Liberal Party.

#### SUPREME COURT WON'T ORDER ARMY TO STUDY 1973 ERRORS

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--The Supreme Court declined today to tell the army how to go about assimilating the lessons of the Yom Kippur War. Justice Meir Shamgar ruled that the matter was not one in which the court could intervene, since it was not qualified to say what was or was not a reasonable and acceptable way for the army to approach a military problem.

The court's intervention was sought by Capt. Mordechai Ashkenazi, a prominent critic of the conduct of the October, 1973 war. Capt. Ashkenazi commanded the only position on the Barlev line that did not fall to the Egyptian assault across the Suez Canal on the first day of the war. He applied to the court to order the army to conduct a study of the war's operations and errors. Ashkenazi, as a leader of the post-war protest movement over how the war was conducted, is credited

with having had a role in prompting the resignations of Premier Golda Meir and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan.

#### GOVERNMENT CRACKING DOWN ON TAX CHEATS

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--Former Minister of Agriculture Haim Gvati, a kibbutz movement leader of the Labor Party's Mapai wing, has been named chairman of a new public council established by the Cabinet to advise the government on effective means of cracking down on tax evaders and more efficient tax collection methods. The Treasury's proposal to set up the council was approved at yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz said he would announce later this week other measures he planned to combat tax dodgers and "black money." The so-called "black money" is untaxed income which experts estimate to be in the billions of Pounds. The government's new measures are in response to demands from Histadrut and left-wing circles to demonstrate that it is clamping down on tax cheats in order to justify the heavy new tax burdens imposed on the average wage-earner.

#### NETUREI KARTA URGE UN: INTERNATIONALIZE JERUSALEM NOW

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--The Jerusalem municipality's insistence that the Neturei Karta move its kosher chicken slaughter house from the crowded Mea Shearim quarter to an industrial suburb in compliance with a city ordinance has prompted an appeal by the anti-Zionist sect to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Two Neturei Karta leaders, Uri Blau and Moshe Hirsch, the latter a former resident of New York, urged in a letter to Waldheim that the UN implement without delay its resolution of Nov. 29, 1947 calling for the internationalization of Jerusalem. "Just don't talk about it, do it," they wrote.

The internationalization of Jerusalem was part of the UN resolution partitioning Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. The resolution was never implemented because of the invasion of Palestine by Arab armies on May 15, 1948, the day after Israel declared its independence. The Neturei Karta charged in their letter to Waldheim that "when the Jerusalem municipal court nullified the municipality's injunction to close down the slaughter house, the municipal health department ordered livestock dealers to withhold their supplies from Mea Shearim dealers, thus snuffing out the lifeline of meat nourishment for thousands of helpless families."

#### NAVAL DISPLAY TOO COSTLY FOR ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres informed the Cabinet yesterday that Israel would be unable to participate in the international naval and maritime display in New York harbor next month because it could not afford the cost. He said that Israel could spare only two naval vessels because of security needs for the American Bicentennial event, but the overall cost of sending them would amount to IL 2.5 million. Therefore, he regretfully decided against Israel's participation, Peres said.

MEXICO CITY (JTA)--The Culture Committee of the Central Jewish Committee has announced the creation of three annual \$1000 awards to writers and editors of books in Hebrew, Yiddish and Spanish.

## HUC-JIR HIT DENIAL OF SEAT TO REFORM RABBI ON JERUSALEM RELIGIOUS COUNCIL

NEW YORK, June 14 (JTA)--The Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion has denounced the denial of a seat on the Jerusalem Religious Council to Rabbi Moses C. Weller as "a travesty as well as an affront to the Reform and Progressive Movements in Judaism." Rabbi Weller, a member of the Movement of Progressive Judaism, had been selected by Israel's Independent Liberal Party to represent it on the Jerusalem religious body. But his appointment was summarily cancelled last month by Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Rafael who overrode the previous approval of his Ministry's director general.

"The sole reason given was Dr. Weller's membership in the Movement of Progressive Judaism," the HUC-JIR Board of Governors said in a resolution adopted at a recent meeting. The resolution cited "Rabbi Weller's respect for other expressions of faith among all our brothers in the House of Israel" and noted that "He has concretized his love of Israel by aliyah and by personal sacrifice and the loss of his two beloved sons in the struggle for Israel's survival. Rejecting him on the grounds given is a travesty as well as an affront to the Reform and Progressive Movements in Judaism which number 1,250,000 souls in Israel, America and throughout the world," the resolution said.

## DULZIN SAYS DROP-OUT PROBLEM HURTS EMIGRATION FROM USSR

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--Leon Dulzin, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, has reported that 60 percent of the Jews presently leaving the Soviet Union are going to countries other than Israel and if this rate of "neshira" (drop-out) continued, the future of Russian-Jewish emigration to Israel would be in jeopardy. Dulzin told a Rotary Club meeting in Tel Aviv that he and other Israeli leaders would be discussing the drop-out problem shortly with the heads of HIAS and the Joint Distribution Committee. Both agencies render assistance to the emigrants.

Dulzin said that the HIAS and JDC leaders have been asked to be present at the Jewish Agency's General Assembly to be held here next month. He said that of the 130,000 Soviet Jews who emigrated in recent years, 12,000 went to countries other than Israel and 8000 who came to Israel subsequently left for other countries. But the drop-out rate now has sky-rocketed to 60 percent, Dulzin said. He estimated that there are presently 170,000 Jews waiting for exit visas in the Soviet Union.

## INTER-MARRIAGE RATE REPORTED AT 60% IN PARTS OF LATIN AMERICA

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--A World Zionist Organization official reported today that the inter-marriage rate is soaring in Latin America, reaching 60 percent in some places. Haim Finkelstein, head of the WZO's education department who just returned from a five-week tour of Latin America, said in a report to the WZO Executive that he was particularly discouraged by the apathy of many local Jews to this situation.

Finkelstein reported on the progress of a number of educational projects conducted by his department in Latin America, including a Jewish teachers' training college in Argentina which, he said, would be taken under the wing of Tel Aviv University and become a full-fledged academic

institution. Within three years it will have an enrollment of 300 students. Some from the provinces will be accommodated in the college's dormitories, Finkelstein said.

## DAYAN FOR PULL-OUT FROM W. BANK TOWNS

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has proposed that Israel announce it will pull its troops out of West Bank towns in a unilateral gesture aimed at an overall peace settlement with the Arabs. Dayan told Tel Aviv University students, however, that Israel must retain possession of the Jordan River valley and of the mountain ranges that transverse the West Bank from north to south. He said those areas were vital for radar and electronic early-warning devices. Meanwhile, Dayan said that while Israel holds on to positions considered essential to its security, it should limit its presence on the West Bank and remove all interference in the life of the local Arab populace.

## DUMP BEIGIN MOVEMENT IN LIKUD

TEL AVIV, June 14 (JTA)--A movement appears to be developing within Likud for the retirement of its veteran leader Menachem Beigin. Beigin, who heads the party's Herut faction, has been asked, in several articles and pamphlets published recently, to step down so that others may become spokesmen for the non-Labor opposition.

These suggestions are emanating from personalities in the Liberal and Free Center factions of the Likud coalition. Prior to the establishment of Likud after the Yom Kippur War, the Liberals and Herut comprised the Gahal alignment which was in opposition to the Labor Alignment. Col. (res.) Yaacov Agassi, a member of the Free Center's political committee, wrote this week that "with all due respect to Beigin, he has to vacate his place as leader of the opposition after failing eight times to bring the opposition to victory" in national elections. The Jerusalem branch of the Liberal Party published an article by Chaim Dinnerman who said that many do not regard Beigin as a political leader but rather as an idealist who cannot change his views to fit changing conditions.

## CANADIANS URGED TO OPPOSE USE OF TELEPHONES TO SPREAD BIGOTRY

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, June 14 (JTA)--Attorney General Roy McMurtry of Ontario has called on public figures to speak out against the use of telephone facilities to propagate anti-Semitism and other bigotry. Speaking before the lawyers' division of the Israel Bond drive, McMurtry noted that Toronto residents can dial taped messages that attack Jews and Blacks.

"To me it is intolerable that the facilities of a public monopoly such as the Bell System should be available to hate-mongers and bigots for the propagation of their slander," he said. "But the Bell Telephone Co. says there is nothing we can do under existing law." The Attorney General said he had proposed legislation to alter this situation. But, he stressed, "laws alone cannot do it" and public figures must speak out. "Minding your own business is no virtue at all when liars and bigots are poisoning the air. To keep quiet is to hand them a victory," he said. McMurtry's campaign posters were defaced with Swastikas when he ran for office eight months ago.

**SPECIAL REPORT****ZIONISM IN ACTION -- OR HOW TO GIVE U.S. NEWSMEN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ISRAEL**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--"We want you to understand why we react the way we do." This is how Bill Levine explained to a group of American news and media people on their first day in Israel why they had been invited and what their hosts hoped to achieve during their visit. Bill Levine is a top official at the World Zionist Organization's information department. He periodically organizes tours for U.S. mediamen to Israel. Last March's tour was his fifth.

Judging by the "feedback" reaching him, in terms of articles, radio casts and TV programs produced by the tour participants since their return home, and in terms of personal letters from them to him, Levine can say proudly that the tour was a resounding success. "The tour was all I expected--and more," wrote Robert Zimmerman of the "San Diego Union" in a warm letter to Levine. The 34 participants in the March tour all represented middle-order media which have an interest in world affairs in general and in the Mideast in particular but which would not normally have correspondents stationed in the region. Only five of them were Jewish. Some of the others had only the scantest knowledge of or contact with Israel, Judaism or their local Jewish communities before the tour.

Wrote Ray Spahr, of the Miami Valley Broadcasting Corp of Dayton, Ohio: "I gained tremendous admiration for the Jewish people of Israel. My particular background has not led me into contact with many people of your faith. The only Jews I knew here in Dayton are merchants in the downtown stores and the late Rabbi Rustlander...."

Apart from the direct and immediate result of the trip--in the form of journalistic output--several of the participants were able to share their experiences of Israel with interested groups and organizations in their home towns. Spahr wrote to Levine from Dayton that he had "given talks on my trip to three different groups, and will probably do more if invited...." Lynn Haney of Cleveland, coordinator of radio and television for the local Catholic diocese, spoke to the Cleveland Zionist Federation about her Israel trip, and also addressed student groups in a number of campuses in the Cleveland area.

**Impressed By Diversity Of Views**

On a professional level, one outstandingly successful outcome of the tour has been a ten-part television series produced by Don Smith, executive producer of WAGA-TV of Atlanta on various aspects of Israel. He filmed the footage during his visit, and found it so worthwhile when he returned that he is screening it during the six p.m. prime time news, with repeats the following lunchtime. Each program is anchored onto the story of a Georgian now living in Israel. But in effect the series covers several areas of Israeli life.

Smith writes: "What we hope to do with the series is expose our viewers to aspects of life in Israel and present an accurate picture of Israel's relations with her neighbors and her military strength." A writer on the Milwaukee Labor Press, Patsy Cashmore, reported back to Levine in Jerusalem that she had written a column on the trip and was planning a series on the Histadrut,

with a particular focus of women's activities in it.

Articles and programs which use the information and insights made available to the tour members during their visit are of course Levine's most satisfying record of a job well done. He says the group members were particularly impressed by the across-the-spectrum range of opinion to which they were exposed and this colored their view of the entire trip.

Visiting the new moshav of Dikla in the Rafiah area early in the trip, they were treated to an anti-government harangue by the fiery Herut-faithful secretary of the settlement. Levine and other officials accompanying them said nothing. And that, says Levine now, looking back, is what impressed them most: "Our silence, our obvious desire to show them as broad a range as possible of Israel's politics and problems."

**GOVERNMENT WILL OFFER GUSH SQUATTERS CHOICE OF SETTLEMENT AREA THIS WEEK**

JERUSALEM, June 14 (JTA)--The government will begin negotiations with the Gush Emunim this week over an alternative settlement site for the 150 squatters now encamped at Kadum in Samaria. The Gush insist on remaining in "the heart of Samaria." The government is expected to offer them settlement opportunities on the eastern ridge of the Samaritan highlands overlooking the Jordan Valley or on the extreme western edge close to the pre-June, 1967 lines. This would be in accordance with the so-called Allon Plan for the West Bank which, though never formally adopted by the Cabinet, has constituted a guide for the government's settlement policies.

The Cabinet decided on May 9 that the Gush squatters must leave Kadum. If they reject an alternate settlement site, they will be removed by force if necessary according to the decision. The government will be represented at this week's negotiations by Minister-Without-Portfolio Israel Galili, chairman of the ministerial settlement committee. Political observers expect that National Religious Party Minister Ze'evulun Hammer and MK Yehuda Ben Meir of the NRP's "young guard" will act as go-betweens with the Gush leadership, at least during initial contacts.

**YORDIM RETURNING, ALMOGI REPORTS**

TEL AVIV, June 14 (JTA)--Yosef Almogi, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, reported yesterday that over 800 persons representing some 90 families who left Israel have returned during the first five months of this year. He said that 150 Jews of Moroccan origin were among the returnees. The majority were from France, however, and others returned from the United States and Canada.

Almogi made the report to a delegation of Sephardic Jewish leaders from abroad who are on a fact-finding mission to Israel. The group was particularly disturbed by a report in Haaretz last week that a substantial number of Israelis who had immigrated here from Morocco were planning to return to that country or had already left. Almogi said the report was a gross exaggeration. He said only a few families were involved and there was no definite information that any of them had actually gone to Morocco. Meanwhile, a delegation of French Jews who visited Morocco reported in Paris that they found no "yordim" there from Israel.