



# daily news bulletin

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## BORDER CHECKPOINT AT DOVEV SCENE OF JOYOUS REUNION BETWEEN LEBANESE AND RELATIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Israel's border checkpoint at Dovev went into official operation today as some 50 families from south Lebanon crossed over for a visit of two weeks to a month with their relatives in Israel. The new border post was complete with Ministry of Interior and Customs officials stamping the visitors' passports. Even an improvised bank was set up.

But the real drama came after the villagers went through the official red tape and met their relatives, many of whom they had never seen before. They embraced, kissed, wept and laughed.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese who have been working in Israel received their first pay yesterday. Some complained because it was in Israeli Pounds. The Lebanese, however, are expected to use most of their pay to buy goods they need in Israel. In another development, a group of notables from the Gaza Strip visited the "good fence" yesterday and talked with the Lebanese who came to Israel.

## JNF TO PLANT TREES IN GALILEE TO PREVENT ILLEGAL ARAB SETTLEMENTS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund plans to plant trees on an area of 10,000 dunams (2500 acres) in the Galilee, partly to prevent Arabs from seizing the land illegally.

The problem of unauthorized housing construction by Arab residents on land owned by the government has troubled the authorities for some time now. The concern is not only over large-scale violations of the building and planning codes, but also over the political implications of an increase in uncontrolled Arab settlements, especially in the Galilee where Arabs constitute half of the population.

A special committee, headed by Haim Kubersky, director-general of the Interior Ministry, is now studying the entire issue, including the aspect of illegal building by Jews, which is equally wide-spread.

However, the JNF decision is the first actual action taken to physically prevent Arabs from building on land owned by the government.

At the same time, the JNF is making large-scale investments to improve the land infrastructure in existing settlements. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency have decided recently to double the number of inhabitants in moshavim in the Galilee.

## HOUSE WHERE BUBER LIVED HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY SAVED FROM DEMOLITION By Jon Fedler

BONN, Aug. 23 (JTA)--A house in Heppenheim, West Germany, where Jewish philosopher Martin Buber lived for 22 years, has been temporarily saved from demolition, thanks to protests by a citizens' action group.

The Cultural Ministry of the Federal State of Hessen has declared the house a national monument but the Town Council of Heppenheim, a town of 24,000 residents situated 30 miles south

of Frankfurt, is appealing the decision. The Council has owned the house since 1949 and used it as a youth center. It plans to erect a new district administration building on the site as part of an urban renewal program in the area.

In an effort to appease the protesters, the Council has offered to dedicate a room in the planned building as a "Martin Buber" reading or memorial room with a commemorative plaque outside.

## Adds To Town's Reputation

Buber lived in the house while a professor at Frankfurt University. During that period he and Franz Rosenzweig, the German Jewish philosopher, completed an Old Testament translation from Hebrew to German which won wide acclaim, as well as several other books and pamphlets.

Werner Wirt, 58, leader of the citizens' group, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the house was a fine example of late 19th-century architecture with a beautiful garden, including three elm trees, each over 150 years old. Apart from aesthetic reasons for saving the house, Wirt said that Buber's name "adds to our town's reputation."

"As a history teacher," he added, "I am often asked by my pupils how the Nazis came to power and whether there were any Jews in Heppenheim. It would be very painful to me if the home of such a prominent Jewish person should disappear."

## DAVIDOVICH FAMILY RECEIVES PERMIT

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today that the family of the late Col. Yeffim Davidovich has received an exit permit to emigrate to Israel. Eugene Gold, NCSJ chairman, said this move "represents the culmination of a long struggle, though tragically Colonel Davidovich never lived to see his name on an exit visa." He died of a heart attack on April 24, at his home in Minsk.

Before he died, Gold recalled, Davidovich said, "My life experience brought me to the conclusion that my family and I can live a life worthy of a human being and a citizen only in the Jewish National State....I would not deny the truth, deny my words even if I had to suffer everything from the beginning." Davidovich wrote in one of his numerous appeals to Soviet authorities that, "during one of the KGB interrogations or after it I shall die....Willingly or unwillingly I shall become a martyr, a victim of anti-Semitism."

Sixteen months later the former Soviet war hero died, still hounded by the KGB. Buried in Minsk in full military uniform, more than 1000 persons attended the funeral. In a letter to the West, Davidovich's widow, Maria, wrote: "Thank you for your consolations in my time of sorrow. I agree to have Davidovich's remains transferred to Israel for burial. Alive or dead he belongs to his people...."

## EGYPT THREATENS TO CALL FOR ISRAEL'S EXPULSION FROM P.E.N. By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 23 (JTA)--The annual congress of P.E.N., the international writers' organization,

opens here tomorrow under the shadow of a bitter row between Israel and Egypt. The Egyptians have threatened to call for the expulsion of Israel, accusing it of "racism." The Israelis, on the other hand, have taken exception to the naming of a notorious anti-Semitic publicist as head of the Egyptian delegation. He is Dr. Anis Mansour, who writes frequently in various newspapers on cultural, historical and religious subjects.

On Dec. 3, 1975, the Cairo journal, Akher Saa, carried one of his articles which contained the statement: "The Jews are guilty, for they injure people.... They poke about in their plight and disturb international security and peace among nations.... The world can only curse the Jews and the day on which He placed them on earth and made them part of His creation."

Attention was drawn to Mansour's article by Aharon Megged, an Israeli author, who attended a P.E.N. executive meeting a few weeks ago. The P.E.N. secretariat protested to the Egyptian P.E.N. center in Cairo about Mansour's article. Its first message was ignored. But in reply to a reminder, P.E.N. was informed that Mansour would head the Egyptian delegation to the annual congress and that he and his colleagues would call for Israel's expulsion.

#### Slim Chance For Approval

Today, the executive was deciding whether to include the Egyptian resolution on the agenda, even though it was tabled long after the appropriate date. Even if it were tabled, the congress circles said, it did not stand a chance of being adopted.

Moshe Dor, Israeli cultural attache in London, said the Egyptian may have taken this step in the belief that attack was the best form of defense. Meanwhile, Mansour had still not arrived at the conference hotel late this afternoon and doubts were growing as to whether he would turn up at all.

Lebanon is the only other Arab country which belongs to the P.E.N. movement. Eastern European countries are represented but the Soviet Union has only observer status. Its team is led by Nikolai Federenko, former Ambassador to the UN Security Council.

Any anti-Israel move, however, will find a far less sympathetic response than in UNESCO. Stephen Spender, who as head of the British delegation, is the Congress's host, was one of several English writers and poets who attacked UNESCO's sanctions against Israel last year. The Israeli delegates are A.B. Yaffe and Chaim Toren.

#### MARK CENTENNIAL OF YIDDISH THEATER

BUCHAREST, Aug. 23 (JTA)--The capital of the Moldavian province, Jassy, was the scene of a remarkable gathering last Thursday. The leaders of the municipality's artistic, cultural and scientific community and a delegation of prominent Jewish writers, poets, artists and journalists came to Jassy to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Yiddish theater.

The reception at the kosher restaurant was given by the Federation of Jewish Rumanian Communities. It was not far from there that Abraham Goldfaden, the father of the Yiddish theater, launched the Yiddish theater with a performance of his own play at Simon Marks' Green Tree Inn.

Rabbi Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania,

in his toast commemorating the event, said "Jewish dramaturgy was only continued by Goldfaden. Its beginning was in our tradition, folklore and song, in the Book of Esther and in the Song of Songs. It was rooted in our spiritual heritage and the Yiddish theater paid respect to this tradition both in terms of language and contest."

#### Event Is A 'Yom Tov'

Rosen said the gathering marked a "yom tov not only for Rumanian Jews and not only for the Rumanian people who provided the facilities to preserve this tradition but also for the Jewish people who are commemorating with pride" the memory of Goldfaden in the building of a Jewish state theater in Bucharest.

From Aug. 10-19 the state theater observed the centennial with successive performances of plays by Sholom Aleichem, S. Ansky, Israel Bercovici and Gotthold Lessing. Bercovici is the literary director and resident playwright of the state theater. His latest production, "The Golden Thread," is devoted to the life and times of Goldfaden.

Among the speakers at last week's commemoration were Ion Taranu, president of the Arts Council, V. Vilcu, director of the Rumanian National Theater and Frantz Auerbach, director of the Jewish State Theater. The gathering in Jassy was followed by a performance given by the theater in Bucharest.

#### ALMOGI SUGGESTS STEPS TO REVAMP SYSTEM OF EMISSARIES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Yosef Almogi, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, has proposed revamping the system of emissaries overseas by paring their numbers and selecting them according to stricter standards. Almogi, reporting to the Executive on his just concluded tour of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, also proposed that the reorganization of the network of emissaries include more coordination with local Israeli diplomatic missions and Embassies, the Jewish communities and the Zionist Federations.

Almogi noted that a stronger and more effective functioning of emissaries could be achieved if there is a senior official acting as a central emissary to coordinate and supervise the work of the other emissaries. He said these changes should be taken immediately in view of the situation in each of the countries he visited. He reported, that for the first time an aliya center has been set up in Argentina to operate in all the Jewish communities.

Leon Dulzitz, treasurer of the WZO Executive, said the time is ripe now for an intensified aliya campaign in the Latin American countries.

#### 3-YEAR SENTENCE FOR ARAB CHARGED WITH BEING IN SERVICE OF TERRORISTS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Youssef Yaakub Roffah, a 43-year-old Arab receptionist at a Jerusalem hotel, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment and to an additional three years suspended sentence on charges that he was in the service of Arab terrorists who planned to kidnap a top Israeli security official. Roffah, who was sentenced last Thursday by a military tribunal in Lod, confessed to the charges.

According to the prosecution, he had also relayed information to the terrorists about a top security official who was living in the hotel. The

terrorists planned to kidnap the security official and hold him hostage until Israel released Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, currently serving a jail sentence for aiding terrorists.

Another charge against Roffah was that he recruited drivers for cars carrying explosives. The court handed down a relatively light sentence, taking into consideration Roffah's cooperation in the investigation and the fact that he is the father of six children. He is a resident of Beth Hanina near Jerusalem.

The tribunal also ordered the detention of Amjtj Omari, 20, of Kalandia, who is suspected of placing an explosive charge near a Jerusalem bus station. He was injured when a bomb he planned to place in another public place exploded in his hands last June.

#### B'NAI B'RITH ACCUSES SOVIET LECTURER OF RAMPANT ANTI-SEMITISM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 (JTA)--B'nai B'rith has cited the activities of an official Soviet propagandist, a professional public lecturer and writer, who accuses Zionists of being anti-Semites bent on world domination as evidence that "anti-Semitism remains very much a Kremlin political ploy." David M. Blumberg, B'nai B'rith president, charged Dr. Valery Yemelyanov, an academician and a member of the "Znanie (Knowledge) Society," with "promoting uninhibited anti-Semitism" in his government-sanctioned lectures and writings.

The Znanie Society conducts public lectures, a popular activity in the Soviet Union. According to a Communist Party journal, some 20 million lectures reached more than a billion persons in a single year.

Blumberg said that Yemelyanov's career as a lecturer is sponsored by the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, giving "an official imprimatur to his rabid anti-Semitism." Yemelyanov, posing as a "scientific specialist" on Zionism, has described the Zionist movement as possessing "strictly secret frameworks" that include "almost all the presidents and parliaments of the developed capitalist countries, and especially those of the U.S."

Blumberg said that in "similar absurdities," Yemelyanov claimed that "80 percent of the economy and 95 percent of the mass media in the capitalist world are Zionist-owned," that Zionists are the secret owners of foreign oil companies in Arab lands, and that the Torah was the "blackest book" ever written.

#### Protest To Soviet Ambassador

Blumberg, who said B'nai B'rith would protest Yemelyanov's lectures and writings to the Soviet Ambassador, noted that the Russian's lectures were exposed by the Soviet Jewish underground. Recent Soviet emigres, Blumberg stated, say that lectures "are a powerful force in the Soviet Union, much more believable than the press." Blumberg also said that Yemelyanov's propaganda was spotlighted by the Palestine Liberation Organization in an interview published by "Falastin al-Thawra" (Free Palestine), in Beirut.

In the interview, Yemelyanov claimed that "Russian Zionists" were conducting "anti-Semitic terror designed to provoke Jews to emigrate. Zionism and anti-Semitism are 'two sides of the same medal,'" he said. Yemelyanov called for a world coalition, led by the Soviets and Arabs to combat Zionism. The struggle would be "extraordinarily bloody," he predicted. Blumberg

said B'nai B'rith would continue to monitor Yemelyanov's writings and lectures.

#### PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE LEADERS MEET WITH RUMANIAN OFFICIALS

BUCHAREST, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who completed a visit here last week at the invitation of the Rumanian government, met with top government officials who were reported to have shown understanding of the problems of Jewish life in Rumania and on reunification of Rumanian Jewish families by emigration.

The invitation came less than a month before U.S. Senate hearings, starting Sept. 8, on renewal of most-favored-nation status for Rumania. The Rumanian record on emigration must be certified annually by the President under the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the 1974 Trade Act. Schindler, who was accompanied by Yehuda Hellman, Conference executive director, said on his departure from New York that he would discuss with Rumanian government officials the record of Rumanian Jewish emigration in recent months.

The two Jewish officials, who were also guests of Rabbi Moses Rosen, the Chief Rabbi of Rumania, met with V. Gigla, the Deputy Foreign Minister; Gheorghe Menciuc, head of the Department of Cults; Stefan Andrei, Secretary of the Rumanian Communist Party Central Committee; and Deputy Prime Minister Ion Patan. They were accompanied at the meetings by Rosen. The meetings were described as having taken place "in a cordial atmosphere."

Schindler and Hellman also visited synagogues, Talmud Torah classes, old-age homes and other social aid offices of the Rumanian Federation of Jewish Communities, of which Rosen is president. Meetings for the two Jewish officials were arranged with Jewish leaders in several communities outside of Bucharest.

#### MOSHE MAYERSON DEAD AT 83

MONTREAL, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Funeral services for Moshe Mayerson, a former legal advisor to the Canadian Jewish Congress, were held today. He died yesterday at the age of 83. Mayerson, who was an expert on the rights of minorities in Canada, was the author of "Germany's War Crimes in World War I." Born in the Ukraine, he came to Canada at an early age and served in the Canadian army in World War I.

#### 2000 ATTEND BEIGIN MEETING

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Menachem Beigin, a leader of the Likud, warned here yesterday that the proliferation of Nazi publications in this country must be taken seriously in view of the Nazi experience in Europe. Beigin addressed some 2000 persons who crowded Metro Cinema at a meeting organized by the Revisionist-Herut Party. He also called for international sanctions against hijacking, warned that the PLO threats to destroy Israel should be taken literally and noted that Mideast peace will come when the Arabs convince themselves that they cannot subdue Israel. He also stated that the survival of Christians in Lebanon is due to the aid provided by Israel.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--President Ephraim Katzir was reported in good condition at Hadassah Medical Center Monday after having a prostate gland operation Sunday.

# ORT SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING IN JERUSALEM AIDED BY \$4 MILLION PLEDGE BY WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (JTA)--A gala ceremony will mark the official dedication Sept. 14 of the ORT School of Engineering on the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, it was announced by Ruth Eisenberg, president of Women's American ORT who will lead a nationwide delegation.

Among those attending the dedication ceremony will be Israeli President Ephraim Katzir, Education Minister Aharon Yadin, Labor Minister Moshe Baram, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, and Hebrew University President Avraham Harman. In addition to the Women's American ORT delegation, there will also be ORT representatives from Switzerland, Britain, other "ORT nations" and major contributors.

Mrs. Eisenberg said that the ORT School of Engineering, toward whose construction Women's American ORT has pledged \$4 million, will "maintain the very highest theoretical and pedagogic standards; will contain the most sophisticated equipment; will employ the finest teachers available and will engage in the most highly advanced didactic and production methods."

She stated that the ORT School of Engineering "will fulfill a vital need in Israel: it will train practical engineers--that level of engineering which stands between theoretical engineering and the factory foreman. In our world of developing technology," she said, "the practical engineer plays a central role in production: he transmits pure engineering concepts into practical engineering processes."

## Will Have 2500 Students

The ORT School of Engineering in Jerusalem, when fully completed, will house a student body of 2500, and will comprise an area of 194,000 square feet. The school will offer top level courses in environmental engineering, electronics engineering, computer science and data processing engineering, instrumentation engineering and mechanical engineering.

It will include its own electronic computer; a closed-circuit TV and distribution center, an industrial training workshop to demonstrate and test modern industrial methods, up-to-date lecture halls, demonstration rooms, workshops, laboratories, resources centers and a pilot-plant for chemical processing.

Graduates will be specialists in industrial electronics, servo-mechanisms and automation, television, tele-communications, medical electronics, industrial circuitry, computerization, industrial chemistry and bio-chemistry, instrumentation and atomic reactor technology.

## At The Apex Of ORT-Israel Network

Mrs. Eisenberg said that the new ORT School of Engineering will "stand at the apex of the ORT-Israel network, which is comprised of 380 training units throughout the length and breadth of the country, a teaching staff of some 2300 and an annual student enrollment of nearly 50,000. Since its establishment in 1949, ORT-Israel has graduated 135,000 Israelis. Over a quarter of a million Israelis, or 1/6 of the work force, have received ORT training in schools in other countries prior to their immigration.

Mrs. Eisenberg stated that the first section of the School to be completed "is the School of Electronics Engineering Building." She said

that "there is a natural connection between Israel and the burgeoning field of electronics which depends on advanced technology and sophisticated skills. The electronics industry requires little in the way of natural resources which are scarce in Israel, but much in the way of technical knowledge and skilled workmanship, to which Israel has ready access. ORT, by providing a dynamic, innovative vocational education network, is helping greatly to build the nation's economy."

## MELECH RAVITCH DEAD AT 83

MONTREAL, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Funeral services for Melech Ravitch, the dean of Yiddish poets, will be held here tomorrow. He died Saturday night at the age of 83. The author of more than 20 volumes of poetry, memoirs and cultural history studies, his first volume was published in 1912. He edited many important Yiddish journals and contributed to scores of Jewish publications throughout the world.

Born as Zacharia Chona Bergner in Radymno, Poland, Nov. 7, 1893, Ravitch went to work at an early age as a bank clerk. He served in the Austrian Army during World War I.

Deciding to devote his life to the culture and literature of Yiddish, Ravitch became secretary of the Jewish Writers Society and leader of the "Hallastra" (gang), a group devoted to experimental offbeat poetry. He founded several prestigious literary journals and was the author of a volume of expressionist poems.

In the period between the two world wars, Ravitch travelled widely throughout the world warning that the Jews of Poland and Eastern Europe must flee to avoid the coming conflict that he foresaw. He came to Montreal in 1934 and for many years was the editor of the literary pages of the Jewish Daily Eagle. He also wrote a three-volume autobiography.

Ravitch long proposed canonization of a new bible which would contain the 2000-year spiritual history of the Jewish people just as the Old Testament and the Talmud were anthologies of the earlier Jewish experience.

## SOL NODEL DEAD AT 63

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (JTA)--Sol Nodel, one of the world's leading artist-illuminators, died here yesterday at the age of 63. Funeral services will be held tomorrow. He was the recipient of numerous international awards and his works have been displayed throughout the world. Born in Washington, D.C., Nodel's works are in collections in five Royal Houses of Europe and the Far East and are represented in permanent collections in the National Archives in Washington, the Herbert Hoover Museum, Harry Truman Library, Library of Congress and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Hyde Park Library.

A Life Fellow of the British Royal Society of Arts, his works are owned by American Presidents, and American religious, political and artistic figures. Nodel was elected to the Hall of Fame and his stained glass windows creations are to be found in St. Louis, New York and New Jersey.

Nodel was president of Congregation Shaare Zedek in New York, chairman of the Committee of Arts for the United Synagogue of America and of the Commission Synagogue and the Commission of Synagogue Relations of the New York Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. He was a member of Bnai Zion and B'nai B'rith. In addition he was the author of several books and a violinist.