

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## **23 PERSONS INJURED, 4 SERIOUSLY, IN BOMB EXPLOSION IN PETACH TIKVA**

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)—A bomb exploded in the Petach Tikva marketplace at about noon today injuring 23 persons, four of them seriously. One of the latter, a pregnant woman, was rushed to Tel Hashomer Hospital and 13 other victims were treated at the Beilinson and Hasharon Hospitals.

The bombing touched off a nation-wide alert. Security forces searched public places for other concealed bombs. The Petach Tikva marketplace was cordoned off and closed for several hours but reopened later in the day after a thorough search. According to police, the bomb consisted of explosives in a metal pipe. It was hidden under a fruit vendor's cart on Baron Hirsch St. in the center of town.

Petach Tikva, five miles from central Tel Aviv, is close to the pre-1967 boundary between Israel and Jordan. Arabs from the administered areas usually throng into the city's market place to sell products. Security forces rounded up dozens of Arabs. A police spokesman said some were held to protect them from angry Israeli stallholders. Stalls were splintered and blood-spattered and piles of fruit were scattered all over the market place.

Meanwhile, an army spokesman reported that a seven-man terrorist cell was uncovered in Gaza. According to the spokesman, members of the cell are suspected of several terrorist acts including a recent arson attempt at the Gaza railroad station.

## **ARGENTINA CONSIDERING EXTRADITING EX-NAZI WAR CRIMINAL TO W. GERMANY**

By Asher Mibashan

BUENOS AIRES, July 6 (JTA)—The Argentine government has agreed to consider a request from West Germany that it extradite a German accused of Nazi war crimes who has been living in Argentina since 1948. The German, Eduard Roschmann, allegedly was the commander of a death camp in the Riga area in which 40,000 Jews were killed.

The government had first issued a statement on July 4 which said it "decided to accept the request" from West Germany to extradite Roschmann. But yesterday, a second statement was released saying "the national government has only agreed to give due process" to the request. Police sources said the 69-year-old Roschmann has not been arrested.

According to official sources, Roschmann entered Argentina in 1948 with a passport in the name of Fritz Wegner. During the war, he was in the Riga area first as an SS assault leader, head of the Jewish section of the security police and then commander of the Riga Ghetto. He was tried in absentia in Hamburg and found guilty of multiple murders carried out between 1941 and 1944.

## **IOSIF BEGUN EXILED TO SIBERIA**

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)—The National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) said today it learned that Iosif Begun, a Jewish emigration activist from Moscow, who last month was sentenced to two years in exile for alleged "parasitism," was ordered to serve his term in the remote town of Magadan, in outer Siberia. Magadan is located

on the sea of Okhotsk, in an area which contains a number of prison labor camps. It is considered part of the broad area known as the "Gulag Archipelago."

Because of the distance it will be virtually impossible for his family to visit him from Moscow, "without a lot of time and a lot of money which," according to Jerry Goodman, NCSJ executive director, "are commodities lacking among Soviet Jewish activist families. Since the trip is long and expensive, the sentence will be especially harsh for Begun's 12-year-old son, Boris, who may not be able to see his father for the next two years."

The NCSJ pointed out that the isolation appears to be designed to keep Begun from the minimum contacts allowed even under Soviet law, while he serves his sentence. Exile in that remote corner of Siberia is considered especially "hard and cruel punishment" and unusual in such instances.

## **U.S. REMAINS OPPOSED TO ISRAEL'S SALE OF Kfir BOMBERS TO ECUADOR**

By David Ettinger

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)—State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said today that the Administration's negative position on the sale of Israel-made Kfir jet fighter-bombers to Ecuador remains "unchanged." He said the sale "would run counter to U.S. policy against the transfer of sophisticated weapons to Latin America," the reason cited when the U.S. vetoed the sale last year.

The State Department spokesman was responding to reporters' questions following reports today that Israel had re-submitted its request for permission to sell the 24 Kfirs to Ecuador and that the State Department and the Pentagon were re-considering the matter. According to the reports, the U.S. had suggested that Israel re-submit its request after appeals from Ecuadorian officials who urgently want the Israel-made combat plane.

Ecuador's need for the Kfirs was reportedly conveyed to President Carter by Mrs. Rosalynn Carter on her return from a Latin American tour last month during which she visited Quito. Ecuadorian officials reportedly told her they needed the supersonic Kfirs because the Soviet Union has delivered advanced Sukhoi-20 fighters to Peru, Ecuador's neighbor on the south, with which Ecuador has been involved in territorial disputes for generations.

A spokesperson for the First Lady said Mrs. Carter did not intercede with the President for the sale but was simply "a channel of communication" to him. The Kfir is the first fighter plane of Israel design and manufacture. But its sale to other countries requires U.S. approval because the plane is powered by an American-made engine.

## **BEGIN TO PRESENT CABINET WITH 'IDEAS' FOR MIDEAST PEACE SETTLEMENT HE HOPES TO CONVEY TO PRESIDENT CARTER**

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin will brief his Cabinet Sunday on the "ideas" for a Middle East peace settlement that he will convey to President Carter when they meet in

Washington July 19-20. They contain far-reaching flexibility on political borders and security frontiers provided that the Arabs accept a genuine, lasting peace with Israel, including open borders, the Jerusalem Post reported in an exclusive story today.

According to the Post, Begin will present "ideas" rather than concrete proposals to the President but these will constitute his views. They are understood to deal with all of the points raised recently by President Carter--the definition of peace, territorial withdrawal and the Palestinian question. The ideas were drafted by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in close consultation with Begin and the Premier will shape them into a final draft in consultation with Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, the Post said.

Meanwhile, Sen. Jacob K. Javits said here yesterday that Begin must be prepared to discuss specifics with the President, not just procedures. The New York Republican, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, visited Israel briefly on an official Middle East trip. He left for Amman, Jordan yesterday. Javits noted that Carter has already discussed the specifics of a possible Mideast settlement and said "It would be conducive to good relations with the U.S. if Mr. Begin did so as well."

According to the Jerusalem Post, if the Arab concept of a settlement does not go beyond a mere ending of the state of war, Begin will suggest a series of interim settlements that could lead to a final comprehensive settlement at some later time.

#### Will Contain Much Of Dayan's View

The Post said the ideas which will be presented to the Cabinet contain much of the Dayan doctrine with respect to territorial pull-backs. Dayan has spoken in the past of withdrawals from large pieces of land on the Golan Heights and in Sinai, demilitarized zones and a joint presence in certain strategic areas.

On the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, Dayan reportedly favors a semi-autonomous civil administration with an Israeli security presence. According to one unconfirmed report, the question of Israel's jurisdiction or sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza Strip was left open pending negotiations with the Arabs in general and Jordan in particular.

Javits said before he left Jerusalem that he was not carrying any messages from Israeli leaders to Arab officials. He said he visited Israel as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee in order to convey "the U.S. scene" to its leaders and to understand the thrust of opinion among government officials and the public.

In that connection, the Senator said he was impressed by the unanimous feeling in the government, the opposition and perhaps the public that control of large sections of the West Bank by Israel was "essential to security." During his visit, Javits met with Begin, Dayan and Weizman and with leaders of the opposition Labor Alignment and Democratic Movement for Change.

#### Begin, Sadat Agree On Geneva Talks Date

Meanwhile, Begin and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt appeared to be in agreement today that the Geneva peace conference should be reconvened in October. Yesterday, Begin suggested Oct. 10, a date shortly after the end of the Jewish High Holiday season, and Sadat was quoted as saying in an interview that this was an "encouraging sign."

October was originally mentioned by Begin. Sadat responded favorably in a speech in Libreville, Gabon on Monday but reiterated Arab demands that the Palestine Liberation Organization be a partici-

pant in peace negotiations. Israel is adamantly opposed to any PLO role.

Nevertheless, Begin welcomed Sadat's response yesterday. He said that "Any positive reaction on the side of the Arab leaders to Israeli suggestions will be received here with blessings." But he cautioned that "In the final analysis it is the content (of the talks) not the date" which is important. He said he would tentatively propose October 10 which takes into consideration the Jewish holidays.

(In Washington, U.S. officials reacted cautiously to the apparent Israeli-Egyptian agreement on a timetable. State Department spokesman John Tattner said yesterday that "We welcome positive indications of the desire to get the negotiating process started." But he added that any discussion of such details as the date would have to await further talks with Middle East leaders, including Begin who will meet with Carter in Washington July 19-20.)

#### U.S. BASE IN ISRAEL DENIED

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)--Press reports that the U.S. was considering setting up a naval or air base in Israel were denied yesterday by White House Press Secretary Jody Powell. "There is no truth to that report," he said. "We are not considering asking for any naval base or any other kind of military base in Israel." Earlier in the day the State Department also rejected the reports as "sheer speculation."

Meanwhile, President Carter would prefer to see a Middle East settlement negotiated "directly and bilaterally" between the Arab countries and Israel with "minimal involvement" by the United States. Carter expressed this view in a letter to Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal (D. NY) which was released here today.

"Nothing would please me more than to see this procedure lead to success with minimal involvement by the U.S.," the President wrote. "This may be the last opportunity for many years to bring the parties together multilaterally and with our influence." According to Carter, "If any Arab countries are willing to negotiate directly and bilaterally with Israel, I don't know of it." He added: "Obviously, any agreement reached will have to be acceptable to all nations involved."

#### DISCUSSION OF MORE JEWISH SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK MUTED

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--The Ministerial Settlement Committee of the new government held its first session yesterday but avoided discussing the delicate and highly controversial matter of more Jewish settlements on the West Bank. It was learned that committee chairman Gen. Ariel Sharon decided to postpone any such discussion until after Premier Menachem Begin returns from his meetings with President Carter in Washington July 19-20.

Likud has proposed the establishment of new towns on the West Bank with an eventual Jewish population of 150,000. The Gush Emunim wants to establish some 12 new settlements immediately in the Judea and Samaria regions and is pressing the government for speedy authorization.

Gush leaders conferred with Sharon Monday. They said that the core groups for six settlements are ready to move in immediately and once approved by the government they would prepare the groundwork for additional settlers who would require various facilities such as schools. Sharon

reportedly said he did not react to the Gush program.

Some observers said that by "not reacting" Sharon was trying not to draw attention to settlement plans on the West Bank prior to the Begin-Carter talks. The U.S. Administration is strongly opposed to further Jewish settlements in the administered territories and has stated that Israel must withdraw from territories captured in the Six-Day War in order to achieve a peace settlement with the Arabs.

The Gush leaders will meet next week to coordinate their settlement program with members of the Ministerial Settlement Committee. They expect the Begin government to support their plans.

#### **CARTER REASSURES JEWISH LEADERS OF U.S. SUPPORT OF ISRAEL**

By David Ettinger

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)—President Carter today "reassured" a large delegation of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that "there was no deviation" from his support of Israel, according to the chairman of the Conference, Rabbi Alexander Schindler.

"We were particularly pleased with the definition of peace," Schindler told newsmen after the more than hour-long meeting in the White House which he termed a "very fruitful, helpful and frank discussion." He said the President stressed that a Mideast peace means to him the normalization of relations, the absence of economic and propaganda warfare and the establishment of trade, human contacts and cultural exchanges.

Schindler said the delegation of more than 20 Jewish leaders "expressed our apprehension" about some of Carter's recent statements on the Mideast which he told the President "could be 'misinterpreted' as a 'blueprint to be imposed' as well as raise Arab expectations.

However, Schindler stressed "there is no difference in the goal we both pursue, mainly the goal to achieve peace in the Middle East." When asked whether he thought that Carter's recent actions had conflicted with his campaign statements, Schindler said, "No." He said he agreed with the President's statement that a solution to the Palestinian problem must be found. He said neither Jerusalem nor the West Bank were discussed today.

#### **Peace Possible In A Few Months**

At the outset of the meeting, newsmen heard Carter tell the Presidents Conference delegation that there was a chance a Middle East peace could be achieved "within the next number of months." He said the U.S. continues to unwaveringly support Israel while at the same time there had to be open, frank and sometimes disputed discussions between the two countries.

Carter said that he had outlined concepts that will be difficult for the Arab leaders to accept. "It is accurate to say that a year or two years ago, just to commit themselves to permanent peace and a recognition of Israel's right to exist was a difficult thing for some of them," Carter said.

Schindler told newsmen he hoped that Carter and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin would establish good relations when they meet here July 19-20. "The meeting is billed as an opportunity to understand their differences and to speak to each other frankly," he noted. "There is no reason Mr. Begin and the President should not get along. They share many things in common as personalities. They are essentially honest men, strong men and committed." Schindler added that the two leaders also share a sense of the mystic.

#### **ADL DENOUNCES NAMING OF EX-NAZI TO WEST GERMANY'S PARLIAMENT**

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)—The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today revealed that a former member of Hitler's elite SS was seated in the West German Parliament last week and called the appointment "an offensive and insensitive act of deep concern." According to Lawrence Leshnik, director of ADL's European affairs department, Hans Wissebach of Marburg, who served in Hitler's personal SS division, "Leibstandarte," and even now maintains the SS affiliation, was named to the Bundestag by the Christian Democratic Union to replace Walter Wallmann, who was elected Mayor of Frankfurt.

Leshnik said that Wissebach, an attorney, is an active participant in HIAG, the SS Mutual Aid Organization. He was guest of honor at the HIAG meeting held in Saar, Oct. 31, 1976 and attended the group's spring meeting this year. In 1972, he made a speech calling for an SS monument to be erected in Marienfels.

"What is particularly shocking," Leshnik said, "is the lack of reaction to the appointment by the German public." Only two German newspapers made any comment at all—both expressed outrage. In the Bundestag itself, the Social Democratic Party and the Free Democratic Party opposed the appointment but the Christian Democratic Union refused to withdraw it.

#### **TIDE ENDS SEXUALLY SEGREGATED BEACH**

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)—A long-standing controversy involving the legality and esthetics of a sexually segregated beach was at least temporarily settled over the July Fourth weekend when the fences dividing the area were washed away by the tide barely two hours after they went up. The barrier was put up by a Long Beach Orthodox community with the approval of City Manager Laurence Farbstain to provide a special swimming area in accordance with strict Orthodox Jewish law.

Despite criticism of the concept by City Council members and Councilman Robert Leslie's charges that Farbstain was "courting the Orthodox vote" and had acted illegally in granting permission without the authorization of the City Council, Farbstain maintained that his actions were neither political nor illegal. He said he had consulted informally with members of the City Council and had found almost unanimous approval.

Rabbi Lazar Kahanov of the Young Israel of Long Beach synagogue had requested that the beach be segregated, as the 1000 Orthodox Jews in this city of 35,000 could not take full advantage of the waterfront because of religious beliefs, according to Farbstain. "We hope to try again next year," the rabbi said. "But we're going to build a sturdier fence."

BRUSSELS (JTA)—The organizations of Belgian war veterans and former Nazi camp detainees have protested against the holding of a pro-Nazi ceremony at the German cemetery of Lange-mark, in western Flanders, attended by various extreme right organizations from Belgium and West Germany and an important delegation of former members of the SS Langenmark Division Corps. The division, set up by Hitler during World War II, included several Belgian collaborators from the Flanders region.

# EXHIBIT BY SOVIET JEWISH ARTISTS RECEIVES AN ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

By Abraham Feinglass

SEATTLE, July 6 (JTA)--An unusual exhibition of paintings and sculpture by 12 Leningrad Jewish artists has met with enthusiastic response in this city. The exhibit, which opened June 10 and closed last week, was sponsored by the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle and shown at a local theater.

Even of the artists whose works were shown have requested emigration visas. As a result, the artists, all graduates of the finest art institutions in the Soviet Union, have been expelled from the Artist's Union and denied the right to work or to declare art as their profession. The twelfth artist, Tatyana Kornfeld, a 27-year-old graduate of the Leningrad Academy of Art, was permitted to emigrate to Israel last year.

Judy Balint, head of the Seattle Committee on Soviet Jewry, said she was pleased with the reception of the exhibit in Seattle. She expressed belief that if enough attention is paid to the exhibit in the U.S. the 12 artists still in the Soviet Union, and other Jews wishing to emigrate, will be allowed by Soviet authorities to leave the country.

With the exception of five pieces, the show did not consist of actual paintings and sculpture but rather of photographs of the works. The paintings and sculpture were photographed in the Soviet Union and the film was then smuggled out of the country, tucked into a letter sent to the San Francisco Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry. The film was developed for an exhibit in Berkeley, California and then booked into 26 cities across the U.S.

## Expressed Artists' Depression

The pieces at the exhibit included works of abstract art and Surrealism, styles forbidden in the Soviet Union. Soviet art theory demands that an artist be a propagandist for the state and therefore "Socialist Realism" is the only style permissible. Typical paintings in that mode portray powerful, blocky figures of workers laboring proudly for the state.

Ironically, the pieces at the exhibit expressed the depression of the 12 artists who have been hounded by Soviet authorities. The dozen artists represented each has a distinctive approach, often with religious symbolism a key factor. "Forbidden" themes (including religious themes) are treated in unsanctioned painting styles. Denied access to the worldwide movements in contemporary art, the painters have evolved innovations based on Russian folk idioms and the rounded lines of icon figures.

Technically, the exhibit was not an art show but a political statement, meant to illustrate the virulent anti-Semitism encountered by Jews in the Soviet Union. On Nov. 23, 1975 these 12 artists opened an unauthorized exhibition of 112 paintings, graphics and sculptures in the one-room Leningrad apartment of one of the participants, Evgeny Abezgauz. In one week's time, 4000 people visited the show and Soviet authorities made no move to close the exhibition. The show subsequently moved to a Moscow apartment where it attracted another 5000 citizens.

## FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR NETTIE BLASSBERG, BUS HIJACK VICTIM

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Mrs. Nettie Blassberg, the 57-year-old Greenfield, Mass. woman killed by the hijacker of a bus here July 4.

Rabbi Kalman Newfield of Temple Israel in

Greenfield told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Mrs. Blassberg was an active member of the temple and its sisterhood, sang in the temple choir and was a member of Hadassah. She worked as a clerk at the Mammoth Mart store in Greenfield.

Mrs. Blassberg and her husband, David, who operates a newsstand and lunch counter at the courthouse in Greenfield, were returning from a visit to their daughter in Washington when a gunman seized a Vermont Transit bus after it left New York's Port Authority bus terminal and forced it to go to Kennedy International Airport.

At the airport, the gunman, identified later as Luis Robinson, 26, shot Mrs. Blassberg because, according to others on the bus, he wanted to show police he was serious about his demands for \$6 million and a plane with a 3000-mile range to fly him out of the country as ransom for his hostages. When the bus driver, Norman Bozwick, lunged at the gunman, he was also fatally shot.

The gunman ordered Mr. Blassberg to drive the bus, but he said, "I can't drive, I'm legally blind." Mr. Blassberg escaped as the gunman ran to the back of the bus. Robinson wounded two other passengers, one of whom, Jimmy Lo, 36, of Hong Kong, is still in critical condition. Robinson, who was charged yesterday with murdering two people and kidnapping 25, was ordered held for psychiatric examinations.

## CARTER GIVES NATION'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARDS TO SALK, KING

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)--The nation's highest civilian awards, the government's Medal of Freedom, were presented by President Carter to Dr. Jonas E. Salk and posthumously to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on the occasion of the 201st anniversary of American independence. The award can be issued only by the President to persons who made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interest of the U.S., to world peace or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavor.

Carter said of Dr. Salk, who discovered the anti-polio vaccine, that because of him "our country is free from the cruel epidemic of poliomyelitis that once struck almost yearly." The President also observed that "because of his tireless work, untold hundreds of thousands who may have been crippled are sound in body today. These are Dr. Salk's true honors and there is no way to add to them." Of the late Dr. King, Carter said he was "the conscience of his generation," adding, "a Southerner, a Black man, he gazed upon the great wall of segregation and saw the power of love could bring it down."

## OXFORD U. CONFAB TO HONOR LEVICH

LONDON, July 6 (JTA)--A major international scientific conference will be held at Oxford University July 11 to mark the 60th birthday of Prof. Benjamin Levich, who has been trying for five years to emigrate to Israel from the Soviet Union. Scientists from more than a dozen Western countries are expected to attend the three-day conference on physical chemistry and hydrodynamics, the field in which Levich has earned worldwide repute. It is understood that invitations are also being sent to Levich and other Soviet scientists. So far, 21 lectures have been organized and at least 58 papers will be submitted. The chairman of the conference will be Sir Derek Barton, Fellow of the Royal Society. Levich, a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and vice-president of the International Electro-Chemical Society, has been stripped of his posts.