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## EXPLOSION DEMOLISHES SYNAGOGUE IN TENNESSEE; WIRES FOUND LEADING FROM SYNAGOGUE TO MOTEL 100 YARDS AWAY

By Brian Lipsitz

NEW YORK, Aug. 1 (JTA)—A small Orthodox synagogue in Chattanooga, Tenn. was completely demolished Friday night by, what Jewish leaders there believe, was a bomb explosion. Steven Drysdale, executive director of the Chattanooga Jewish Welfare Federation, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a phone interview today that the explosion was "apparently premeditated" as wires were found leading from the synagogue to a motel 100 yards away.

Commissioner of Police Gene Roberts told the JTA that local police and federal agents are conducting laboratory tests to ascertain the cause of the explosion. Asked if the explosion could have possibly been caused by a gas leak, he said it was very unlikely, but declined to confirm that a bomb caused it. There are currently no leads, he said.

The explosion, which was "heard all over town," according to Drysdale, destroyed a converted house which was the home of the 55-family Beth Shalom Synagogue. Congregants who had gathered there for the Friday evening Shabat services reportedly left early because they were two people short of a minyan, Drysdale said. He added that normally they would still have been there at about 8:50 when the explosion took place. Although the building was leveled, the synagogue's two Torahs and about 50 prayer books were reportedly undamaged, Drysdale said.

### Bombing Seen As 'Professional Job'

Charles Wittenstein, Southern counsel and civil rights director for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith's regional office in Atlanta, told the JTA he was on his way to Chattanooga today to meet with local officials about the explosion. He said he would discuss potential suspects and security precautions for the city's other Jewish institutions. Wittenstein said he believed the bombing was "a professional job." He added: "I would be inclined to think that...it was designed to injure and kill."

According to Drysdale there has never been an anti-Semitic incident in Chattanooga, a city with 2250 Jews. However, he said there is a Ku Klux Klan movement in the area which, in the past two months, has "tried to be more active" by placing ads in newspapers and having spokesmen on radio shows.

Meanwhile, local police and federal agents are continuing their investigation. Roberts said federal agencies involved, because the bombing of a church or synagogue is a federal offense, are the FBI and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the U.S. Treasury Department. The amount of damage to the synagogue is still being estimated.

### STATE DEPT. MUM ON REPORTS U.S. WILL HELP EGYPT REFURBISH MIG JETS

By David Ettinger

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)—The State Department maintained strict silence today on reports that the Carter Administration has agreed

secretly to help Egypt refurbish its fleet of some 200 MIG combat aircraft so that they will not have to rely on spare parts which the Soviet Union no longer supplies to Egypt. Department spokesman John Trattner refused to confirm or deny the reports and would make no comments when questioned by reporters.

The Boston Globe reported yesterday that according to Congressional sources, the Administration approved an arrangement whereby two U.S. defense contractors would provide technical expertise to help the Egyptians modernize the aging MIGs. This would include replacing their original engines with more powerful Rolls-Royce Spey jet engines. According to the Globe, a "senior Administration official" confirmed that the report was generally correct but "too sensitive" to discuss at this time.

The Globe story said, "When completed, the rebuilding effort would not only solve Egypt's mounting problem of how to keep its front line Russian combat aircraft operating without Soviet spare parts, but it also should improve the overall performance of the MIGs."

### Only U.S. Know-How Involved

The report said that Rolls-Royce, a British firm, declined the rebuilding job. Instead, two American firms, one an aircraft manufacturer and the other an engine manufacturer, were approached to participate in the project. The firms were not identified. The report noted that only American know-how, not equipment, would be involved.

It said that President Anwar Sadat of Egypt has been under heavy pressure from his military "to swallow his pride and patch up his relations with Moscow in order to check a continuing deterioration of Egypt's armed forces." According to the Globe, even with improvements, the MIGs would be inferior to Israel's American-made F-4 Phantom jets and therefore the military balance in the Middle East would not be affected by the deal.

The Globe report followed by a few days confirmation by the State Department that discussions were underway between key members of Congress and the Administration on a projected sale of military reconnaissance and transport planes to Egypt costing more than \$200 million and that Egyptian military officers would be trained at staff level schools in the U.S. at a cost of \$100,000.

### ISRAELI POUND DEVALUED AGAIN

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA)—The Pound was devalued last night for the third time in a month and now stands at IL 9.83 to \$1. The latest devaluation which took effect at midnight, brought to six percent the total depreciation of the Pound during the four-month period that ended yesterday. The law allows automatic devaluations by the Treasury of up to eight percent in any four-month period without recourse to the Cabinet.

Yesterday, the Cabinet approved an IL123.96 billion budget for the current fiscal year which assumes a rise in the consumer price index of 28 percent. Mini-devaluations for the full year will amount to 20 percent and the rate of the Pound to the dollar is expected to stand at IL 11-

\$1 by the end of the fiscal period, March, 1978.

The budget, submitted to the Knesset today, also envisions a gradual increase in the prices of government subsidized goods and services such as bread, milk and public transportation. Although the budget projects a 2-3 percent rise in private consumption this year, living standards will not rise significantly. Nevertheless, increased prices will be offset by increased wages.

The Central Bureau of Statistics published a survey yesterday which showed that the average salary has risen faster than the consumer price index. The average salary was IL 3840 in March, 44 percent higher than in March, 1976. Average salaries in the first quarter of 1977 were 11 percent higher than in the last quarter of 1976, the CBS disclosed.

Theoretically, the Treasury can devalue the Pound by a further rate of up to eight percent beginning today. It is not expected to announce new devaluations, however, until Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich studies the economic situation. The second quarter of this year was outside the norm because the elections were held during that period.

#### BOMB IN HAIFA WAS HARMLESS EXPLOSIVE USED BY POLICE FOR DRILL PRACTICE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Yesterday's bomb alert in the Haifa market place was an exercise ordered by the police high command to test the efficiency of the police and the response of the public without the prior knowledge of either, it was disclosed today. A "bomb" was planted in the market, it was spotted by a vendor and police sappers did detonate the device after clearing the area.

The device was not a bomb but a harmless explosive which sounded like a bomb, police sources revealed. Only the top echelon of the police was aware of this and the men who responded to the bomb warning and the civil guard who evacuated the market were deliberately kept in the dark. So was the news media. Kol Israel Radio reported a terrorist act narrowly averted. Today, the embarrassed radio management was investigating why the report was broadcast without first checking with the authorities.

Meanwhile, security circles expressed satisfaction today that the public was indeed alert and that the police responded swiftly and effectively. The exercise was apparently ordered because of the recent wave of terrorist bombings in urban market places which caused more than 40 casualties in the past two weeks. Only last Friday, police announced the arrests of eight terrorist suspects in Nabulus and Ramallah believed responsible for the outrages. Some observers noted today that in the future, the public might mistake a genuine bomb threat for another security exercise.

#### DECISION TO HOLD INDEPENDENCE DAY MILITARY PARADE MEETS OPPOSITION

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Opposition mounted today to yesterday's majority decision by the Cabinet to hold a military parade in Jerusalem to mark the 30th anniversary of Israel's independence next year. Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem expressed objections as did Gen. (Res.) Rehavam Zeevi who was in charge of the last parade five years ago.

In the Knesset, MK David Glass of the National Religious Party, a coalition partner, introduced an urgent motion protesting the government's decision. Military parades, long a feature of Yom Ha'atzmaut, were suspended after the Yom Kippur War. Many within the former Labor-led government

regarded them as unnecessary provocations.

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman also opposed the parade on grounds that it would be an unwarranted expense at a time when the defense budget was being cut. But Weizman was overruled by a majority of his Cabinet colleagues, including Premier Menachem Begin who wants the parade to be held. Cabinet secretary Aryeh Naor said there was no official estimate yet of the cost of a parade but the press believes the price tag will be in the neighborhood of IL 100 million.

Proponents of the parade claimed that the Cabinet of former Premier Golda Meir had resolved that the military display should be held every five years and therefore it would not become an annual event of the present government. Kollek suggested a parade that would include military units but would demonstrate Israel's achievements in many fields, such as its progress in agriculture.

He said that the public's high regard for the armed forces did not need any proof nor did the army have to prove its strength. The military parade was recommended by the Cabinet's Symbols and Ceremonies Committee with Begin's concurrence. The committee also decided that the 30th anniversary will be marked by a full week of events rather than a single 24-hour period as in the past. Actually, events related to what will now be Independence Week will commence next February and will continue until the end of the 1978 Succoth holiday.

#### 6 U.S. MACCABIAH GOLD MEDALISTS PLAN TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Six American gold medalists in the recently held 10th Maccabiah games have said they plan to settle permanently in Israel and are looking into job prospects in their particular fields. The group is receiving assistance from an Israeli coach and from the American Committee Sports for Israel which sponsored the 300-member U.S. Maccabiah contingent.

The prospective immigrants are: Elias Jerassi, who was born in Haifa and wants to enroll in medical school here, who won a gold medal in the hammer-throw; Joe Gould, 22, of Los Angeles, who won two gold and two silver medals in track and field events and wants to continue his career as a gym instructor in Israel; Ken Kring, 26, who aspires to be a psychologist, and his brother, Barry; Jay Pushkin, of New York, a discus thrower; and Gerry Cohen of Arizona, who won the five and ten-kilometer races.

It was learned that about 80 other Maccabiah participants from abroad have extended their stays in Israel to consider the possibility of settling here. The Maccabiah games ended July 21.

#### EHRLICH TO VISIT GERMANY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich will visit West Germany this year, a first visit by a Likud minister to that country, it was announced over the weekend. Ehrlich accepted an invitation of his German counterpart, Hans Appel. The invitation was originally made to former Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz. The German charge d'affaires renewed the invitation. This will be a return visit to that of the German Finance Minister to Israel under the previous government. Another Israeli-German meeting was probably postponed. German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt had originally planned to visit the Mideast later this year, but a statement in Bonn over the weekend said he would not do so this year, for lack of time.

**DMC, LIKUD NEGOTIATIONS RESUME**

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (JTA)--Negotiations have resumed between Prof. Yigael Yadin's Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) and the three coalition partners in the Likud-led government to determine whether any basis exists for the DMC to join the coalition. So far the parties appear to have summed up their points of agreement and their outstanding differences. But as the issues were narrowed the chances that Premier Menachem Begin will be able to increase his slim Knesset margin with the DMC's 15 seats seemed to grow more remote.

The talks will continue through tomorrow and on Wednesday the DMC's Central Committee will be asked to act on Yadin's recommendation. It is not yet known whether he will recommend joining or remaining outside the government.

**Three Major Obstacles**

There are three major obstacles: the DMC's demand for electoral reforms; the question of Cabinet portfolios for the DMC and the concessions Begin made on religious matters to the National Religious Party (NRP) and the Aguda bloc to which the DMC firmly refuses to adhere. The Aguda, a small faction, is fearful that it would disappear from the political scene if the DMC's proposal for direct elections of at least part of the Knesset ever materializes.

With respect to Cabinet posts, the DMC has been offered the Ministry of Social Betterment--a new portfolio--but insists that this must encompass the Ministry of Health as well which is already occupied by a Likud man, Eliezer Shostak. He is not considered likely to give it up.

The religious issue is by far the most serious. The Aguda and NRP demand that the DMC agree to vote with the coalition on all religious matters, including the controversial amendment to the Law of Return. The DMC insists on retaining freedom to vote as it chokes on religious matters, noting that it was not a party to the agreement reached between Begin and his Orthodox partners.

Meanwhile, there is considerable division within the DMC, a party founded only last year made up of disillusioned laborites and others whose politics run the gamut from left to right. Amnon Rubinstein, leader of the DMC's Lashinoo (For Change) faction who is the party's No. 2 man, is opposed to joining the coalition and has told Yadin he would not serve as a minister in a Likud Cabinet. Yadin reportedly replied that it was too early to speak of ministerial posts since it is far from certain that the DMC will enter the government.

**UAHC, CCAR URGE CARTER TO DECLARE SITE OF 1970 KENT STATE UNIVERSITY SHOOTING A NATIONAL MONUMENT**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (JTA)--The Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis have called upon President Carter to declare the site where Ohio national guardsmen fatally shot four Kent State University students in 1970 a national monument.

"Kent State cannot erase the memories of the tragic shootings by constructing a building on that site," according to Rabbi David Saperstein, associate director of the Commission on Social Action of the Reform Jewish groups. "We urge President Carter to request immediately that the Interior Department will investigate the advisability of designating the site of the shootings as a national monument."

Saperstein called attempts by the university to construct a gymnasium on the site where four students were shot "a desecration of that site and all it represents." Citing the "insensitivity of the university to the young people they should be serving," he urged Kent State officials to "commemorate the events of 1970 in an appropriate manner in which the country can take pride."

**ARTHUR WOLFSON DEAD AT 65**

NEW YORK, Aug. 1 (JTA)--A funeral service was held today for Arthur M. Wolfson, cantor of Manhattan's Temple Emanu-El since 1949. He died July 26 while on a vacation with his wife in New Zealand, at the age of 65. Wolfson was also the Reform temple's music director and three years ago became the educational director of the temple's religious school.

Born in Philadelphia, he received both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Temple University before beginning his studies at the New York School of Sacred Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Before coming to Temple Emanu-El in 1949, Wolfson served congregations in Philadelphia where he also taught in local schools.

He had served as president of the American Conference of Cantors, the Jewish Music Forum and the Jewish Liturgical Music Society. He was a chairman of the National Music Council of the Jewish Welfare Board and was a member of JWB's executive board of the Jewish Book Council. He also lent his manifold talents to the American Musico-Liturgical Society and the Schola Musicae Liturgicae.

Wolfson was also a member of the faculty at the School of Sacred Music at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion where he was chairman of the faculty from 1972 to 1974.

**TFILLIN FOR SOVIET JEWS**

NEW YORK, Aug. 1 (JTA)--The AI Tidom Association announced today that it is embarking upon a campaign to collect, examine and repair used tfillin, which will be given to Soviet Jewish immigrants to this country.

In response to the large and increasing demand for tfillin by newly arrived Soviet Jews in New York City and throughout the U.S., AI Tidom said it is requesting that individuals and congregations send their used tfillin to the organization. The tfillin will be examined by a qualified sopher (scribe) and repaired if necessary, then distributed to Soviet Jews throughout the country.

Rabbi Harry Bronstein, president of AI Tidom, urged American Jews to contribute their used tfillin "so that our Russian Jewish brethren who were so long denied the opportunity, will now be able to fulfill this cardinal mitzvah." He suggested that tfillin, used but in good condition, be sent to the AI Tidom Association, Suite 520, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry learned Monday that Wolf Chudnovsky, a Kiev refusenik, was violently beaten on July 29, the second time within a one-week period. Chudnovsky is the father of Grigory Chudnovsky, who has been suffering from myasthenia gravis, a muscle-wasting and possibly fatal disorder, for the last 14 of his 25 years. Since their application to emigrate to Israel eight months ago the family has been subjected to severe harassment. The NCSJ is coordinating a major campaign on behalf of the Chudnovsky family.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES

### TROUBLE ON BRITISH CAMPUSES

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 1 (JTA)--The city of York is infamous in Jewish history because it was there in 1190, that the entire Jewish community committed suicide in the castle, Massada-style, rather than be massacred by a howling mob. In 1977, York once more became a source of anxiety for English Jewry when an incredulous community heard that the small Jewish Students Society at the city's university was being expelled by the main students union because of the claim that Zionism was racist.

The affair caused concern in the Board of Deputies of British Jews and, while aware that this was "only" a matter of student politics, and that life and limb were not at stake, one or two speakers referred to the earlier painful Jewish associations with that northern city.

However, communal and student leaders have drawn comfort from the steadfast and energetic manner in which committed Jewish students are standing up for themselves. There is a feeling, too, that the anti-Zionist campaigners have overplayed their hands and are alienating growing numbers of non-Jewish students.

The affair hit the national headlines, and the York Students Union was quickly shamed into reversing its expulsion of the Jewish society, but not before the vice-chancellor of the university had threatened to intervene. However, the events at York were only one episode in a wave of anti-Zionist agitation, which has swept British campuses over the past year, and which threatens to grow stronger.

#### Ratio Of Arabs To Jewish Students

In a research report issued here, the Institute for Jewish Affairs notes that only about 20 percent of Britain's 650,000 university and college students are politically active and of these only a minority have a special interest in the Middle East. The debate about the Middle East in the universities has boiled down mainly to a pro-Palestine Liberation Organization and anti-PLO confrontation, thus giving rise to the extreme statements about Israel and Zionism.

There are some 15,000 Arab and between 9000 and 12,000 Jewish students on the campuses. While most Arabs are members of an Arab student society, only about 3000 of the Jews belong to the Union of Jewish Students. Thus in general the ratio of organized Arab and Jewish students is 15 to 3. But in a large number of vocational training places—where Arabs are heavily concentrated—the Jews are outnumbered by Arab and Third World students by 400 to 1 or even more.

For some years now, anti-Zionist groups, such as the British Anti-Zionist Organization (BAZO) and the General Union of Palestinian Students (GUPS) have been agitating for an anti-Zionist resolution through the national conference of the generally moderate National Union of Students (NUS).

NUS is currently the only national students union in Europe without any policy on the Middle East and at a meeting of all the European unions in Nicosia in January, 1977, the NUS used its veto to prevent a pro-Palestinian motion from being carried. In the last year, however, the anti-Zionist campaign has gathered momentum, to the growing discomfiture of the NUS leadership.

#### Anti-Zionist Resolutions Debated

In the last two terms alone, anti-Zionist reso-

lutions were debated in 21 student unions throughout the country. The anti-Zionist move was successful at 11 campuses, and failed at seven. At two universities, Jewish societies took out writs against the local student unions after attempts to deny them access to the unions' normal facilities.

In their anti-Zionist crusade, the PLO supporters exploit a resolution carried at the National Union of Students annual conference three years ago, enabling unions to refuse assistance of any kind to "openly racist and fascist organizations." Citing the 1975 United Nations resolution, equating Zionism with racism, they have sought with considerable success to censure or expel Jewish and Israel societies.

It was on the basis of this policy that the students union at York decided to expel the Jewish society from its register on June 15. Another bitter struggle during the same term was at Salford, in the Greater Manchester area. Although a Palestine Week was held there in March, the students union tried to prevent the Jewish society from staging an Israel week.

Despite taking legal action, the Jewish society only partly succeeded in carrying out its program on the campus. As in York, the university administration and the NUS Executive tried to intervene on behalf of the beleaguered Jewish students.

#### More Battles Looming

When the new academic year starts in October, the Middle East battle of the campuses will be resumed. It is expected, too, that Zionism will be debated at the next national conference of the NUS in December, and that finally some form of official NUS policy on the Middle East will emerge.

The fact that some Jewish societies have invoked the support of the Chancellors of their universities will not, however, stand them in good stead, since students in Britain as elsewhere resent the pressures of "the establishment."

The Jewish students will have to count primarily on themselves and on their student sympathizers. Besides conservative supporters, these include the followers of what is termed "the broad left" (as opposed to the Trotskyite and Anarchist elements). The broad left embraces not only Labor Party supporters but even orthodox Communists, such as Sue Slipman, president of the NUS.

In an article in *The Morning Star*, the Communist Party daily, Ms. Slipman, who is Jewish, wrote: "It is all very well for sections of the left to argue that their intention is to see justice done to the democratic cause of the Palestinians; but if a result of their good intentions is to deny rights to Jewish students then a re-examination of their methods is necessary."

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TEL AVIV (JTA)--Seventy-seven science enthusiasts from 11 countries are participating in the Weizmann Institute's annual international summer institute in Rehovot. The teenagers are from the United States, Canada, Holland, Sweden, Belgium, Britain, Italy, Switzerland, West Germany, Israel and the Dominican Republic. They are divided into small groups specializing in laboratory work in physics, biology, chemistry and mathematics. The youngsters will work two weeks in laboratories and then tour the country to socialize with Israeli youth. They will also spend several days in the Negev studying the flora and fauna of the desert region.

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