

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS IN POLAND SAID TO BE THE WORK OF FORMER ANTI-COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND FORCES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- The recent anti-Semitic incidents in Poland were a minor manifestation by former anti-Communist underground forces dating from World War II, according to Stefan Grayek, chairman of the World Federation of Jewish Fighters and Partisans, who just returned from a visit to Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Grayek, sometimes described as Israel's "unofficial ambassador" to Poland in the absence of diplomatic relations, said the anti-Semitic demonstrations were opposed by the government and denounced by the Catholic Church and the Solidarity free trade union movement. (See related story.)

While in Poland he held talks with government leaders and said he anticipates a renewal of trade relations between Poland and Israel. Grayek, the former hero of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, laid special stress on his talks with Gen. Mieczyslaw Moczar who was Interior Minister during the 1968 official anti-Semitic period in Poland and responsible for issuing anti-Jewish pamphlets at the time. He has since returned to the Politburo and is expected to be the next President of Poland.

### Moczar Regrets His Former Policy

Grayek said Moczar told him he regretted his anti-Semitic policy in the past and has made statements and published articles praising the part played by Jews in the wartime underground and Jewish contributions to Poland's economy in the past. A delegation of Polish Jews and non-Jews from the former partisan organization Moczar now heads will visit Israel in two months.

Grayek said that between 7000-8000 Jews remain in Poland, most of them elderly people living on state pensions. Some Jews hold minor posts in the government and there are a number of Jewish authors and journalists at work, he said. Before going to Poland, Grayek attended a meeting of the International Auschwitz Committee in Marienbad, Czechoslovakia.

He said that arrangements were now being made for the resumption of activities of the Joint Distribution Committee in Poland and Czechoslovakia. Some 6000 Czech Jews are registered as such in Czechoslovakia and an estimated 10,000 others have not registered themselves as Jews.

## Israel's Worst Merchant Marine Disaster: 12 CREWMEN DEAD AS ISRAELI SHIP SINKS NEAR BERMUDA; 12 RESCUED AND SEARCH CONTINUES FOR 12 MORE

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- The Coast Guard and Navy were continuing their sea-air search today for 12 crewmen still missing from the Israeli bulk carrier Mezada which sank Sunday morning about 95 miles east of Bermuda. Twelve crewmen were confirmed to have died in the worst

disaster ever to strike Israel's merchant marine, and 12 were rescued, including the one woman aboard. The Zim Lines in New York, owners of the vessel, identified her as Mrs. Mali Staler, wife of the ship's wireless officer. The rescued are aboard merchant ships or in Bermuda.

Chief Warrant Officer Michael O'Brian of the Coast Guard in New York told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency this morning that the search for the missing men would continue at least through today in the area where the ship went down. It is being conducted by the USS Paul, a Navy frigate carrying helicopters, and by Orion P-3 Navy reconnaissance planes and Coast Guard C-130 aircraft. O'Brian said the wind and seas have moderated and conditions were "good" for the search.

The Mezada, which sailed from Ashdod three weeks ago with a cargo of potash, ran into gale force winds over the weekend and battled 24-foot waves. She sent out her first distress signal on Saturday and on Sunday the Coast Guard received a message saying the vessel was sinking and the crew was abandoning ship.

When rescue planes reached the scene they found lifeboats and life rafts with survivors and other crew members in the sea clinging to debris, but no sign of the 600-foot ship. The Mezada was built in Hamburg in 1960 for the Zim Lines under terms of the West German-Israeli reparations agreement.

## WJC CONGRESS URGES POLISH GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO CONDEMN ELEMENTS FANNING ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress has called on "the highest leadership" in the Polish government for "vigorous and unequivocal condemnation" of ultra-nationalists in Poland who are fanning anti-Semitism apparently for political ends.

A telegram urging "stern measures" against the group was sent yesterday to the Polish Ambassador in Washington, Romuald Spasowski, by Rabbi Arthur Schneider, chairman of the WJC American Section, who asked that the message be conveyed to Polish Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski and First Secretary Stanislaw Kania of the Polish Communist Party.

The message referred to a rally held in Warsaw last Sunday at which speakers denounced Jews as a "Zionist clique", charged that Jews in the Politburo during the Stalin era were responsible for the "blood bath" of Polish patriots, and that the "second generation of Zionists" were attempting to seize power in Poland through the independent labor movement, Solidarity.

The rally was preceded by the appearance of leaflets and posters in Warsaw several days earlier calling on Poles to rise up against "Jewish chauvinists" attempting to "usurp power" through the union.

The anti-Semitic campaign was strongly denounced over the weekend by leaders of Solidarity in Warsaw. Solidarity sponsored a much larger rally at Warsaw University Sunday to mark the anniversary of the suppression of student demonstrations in 1968. It was attended by about 3000 students,

professors and trade unionists who heard speakers denounce prejudice and the anti-Semitic purges in the Polish Communist Party in 1968.

The nationalist rally, which took place outside the former Ministry of Public Security building drew about 600 persons, described in press accounts from Warsaw as mostly elderly and aged veterans of the anti-Communist Home Army.

Schneider's message stated: "On behalf of the World Jewish Congress American Section, I wish to express our grave concern at the fanning of anti-Semitism and specifically the recent outdoor anti-Semitic rally in Warsaw. We urgently request from the highest leadership of your government vigorous and unequivocal condemnation and stern measures against those who use the carnard of anti-Semitism to serve their own purposes. We urge you to learn from history that such events do not serve the best interests of your country."

Observers in Warsaw attributed the anti-Semitic campaign to a small but well organized rightist group that includes several well known Polish film-makers, journalists and possibly Communist Party officials in the background who espouse Polish nationalism and resort to anti-Semitism as a means of arousing public support.

#### Warnings Against Zionists

One speaker at the rightist rally, who identified himself as "Capt. Stachurski" of the former Home Army, denounced Jews who were members of the Politburo in the 1950s. "They were people for whom Poland was only a temporary homeland," he said according to press reports of the rally.

"Those Jewish nationalists made a blood-bath; thousands of the best Poles lost their lives during those times. Let us block the way to power to the next generation of Zionists. Let us see the clean socialist shape of Poland," he said according to the reports.

Another speaker, Kazimierz Studentowicz, identified as an activist in the pre-war Polish Labor Party, extolled "Polish workers who will care only for Polish interests" and warned that "The monster has disappeared, but its tentacles remain, an obvious reference to the 5000 Jews who remain in Poland out of a Jewish community of several million before World War II.

Speakers at the Solidarity rally recalled events of 13 years ago when, after a period of liberalization, the Polish government and Communist Party began a purge of Jewish officials regardless of their strong Communist credentials, and other dissidents. Those events were termed a "defeat for the whole society" and speakers vowed that they would not be repeated.

#### Union Denounces Anti-Semitism

Earlier, leaders of Solidarity indicated that they were aware of the growing anti-Semitic campaign by rightists which, they charged, was "an effort to raise public tensions" and possibly provoke disorder. Janusz Ortykiewicz, a spokesman for the Warsaw union, addressed a news conference Saturday called to denounce the appearance of numerous leaflets and posters in Warsaw urging Poles to rise up against "Trotskyist-Zionist chauvinists." The leaflets were either unsigned or signed by a hitherto unknown organization calling itself "Generation Always Faithful to Their Homeland."

The Warsaw union issued a general appeal for people to "stand against this attempt at anti-

Semitic action." According to press reports, the union termed the campaign "untrue, repulsive and reminiscent of Nazi and czarist propaganda."

#### BUS DRIVER ATTACKED BY TERRORISTS

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- Security forces were searching the East Jerusalem-Bethlehem area today for two suspected Palestinian terrorists who stabbed and severely wounded an Egged bus driver last night. The driver is in Hadassah Hospital where he was reported to be out of danger.

According to police, the suspects were the only passengers on the bus which was on a return trip from Bethlehem to Jerusalem late last night. When it reached an isolated area near Sur Bahr village, they attacked the driver with knives inflicting wounds on his face and chest and then fled. He managed to bring the bus to a stop on the main highway where he lost consciousness. A passing motorist took him to the hospital.

#### EBAN: IF LABOR WINS ELECTIONS ALL STREAMS OF JUDAISM WILL HAVE EQUALITY IN ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- If the Labor Alignment wins the June 30 election it will introduce legislation into the next Knesset assuring that all segments of Judaism will have equality, former Foreign Minister Abba Eban promised here.

Eban, who is a Labor MK, made this pledge at a reception he gave for the delegates to the 13th convention of the World Council of Synagogues and the 81st annual convention of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, the organization of American Conservative rabbis. It is the first time the two groups have held a joint convention and it is the first time their conventions have been held in Israel.

Jews in Israel should not give preference to one trend in Judaism over another, Eban said. He rejected the approach up to now in which Orthodoxy is the only officially recognized form of Judaism in Israel.

In his opening speech to the convention last night, Rabbi Seymour Cohen, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, also urged Israelis to give equal status to all movements in Judaism. He said religion should not be a bargaining point for creating coalitions or other political purposes. He said the fact that the convention was being held in Jerusalem demonstrated the centrality of Jerusalem and Israel for the Jewish people.

The Conservative movement has a million-and-a-half members around the world. There are about 35 Conservative congregations in Israel with more than 1000 in the Conservative youth movement.

#### Stress Is On Aliya

Eban, in his remarks, also urged the delegates to promote aliya to Israel. He challenged them to set a goal of one percent of their membership annually immigrating to Israel. Of the Rabbinical Assembly's 1200 rabbis, 120 have immigrated to Israel and 16 serve Conservative congregations here.

President Yitzhak Navon, in an address to the convention last night, also stressed aliya, as well as Jewish education. But Navon also repeated his previous warning that the number of Jews in the world is declining. If this trend is not halted there will be only eight million Jews in the world by the year 2000, compared to 11 million today, he said.

At the reception, Bernard Segal, former executive president of the United Synagogue of America, announced a special award to David Zucker, the outgoing president of the World Council of Synagogues, for his contributions to the Conservative movement.

Simon Schwartz, president of the Synagogue Council of America, announced that his organization has decided to adopt the Jerusalem Program with its full recognition of Zionism, the centrality of Israel in Jewish life, the importance of aliya and the need to defend Jewish rights throughout the world.

#### **DAYAN MEETS WITH SADAT**

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- Former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan had an hour-long talk with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat at the President's Nile delta residence north of Cairo today. No communique was issued after the meeting and reporters were not allowed in the vicinity.

"Dayan said after the meeting: 'I'm here on a private visit, as a private individual.' He had earlier said that his visit to Egypt, at the invitation of Anis Mansour, editor of the October magazine, to attend a symposium on peace organized by the journal, had nothing to do with this summer's Knesset elections in Israel. But he added: 'If it does have any effect on the elections, I shall be pleased.' Dayan will be in Egypt for three days.

#### **JEWISH REPUBLICAN WHO MET WITH REAGAN CONCERNED OVER U.S. DEAL TO PROVIDE ARMS TO SAUDI ARABIA**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- Prominent Jewish Republicans who met with President Reagan and his advisors at the White House yesterday indicated deep concern over the Administration's decision to provide extra fuel tanks and missiles for Saudi Arabia's 62 F-15 jet warplanes -- and urged that the Saudis make concessions in relation to both America's programs and Israel's needs before the sale is consummated.

The leaders observed to Reagan's advisors, it was reported today, that Saudi Arabia should give support for U.S. policy in reciprocity for the military assistance the Reagan Administration is giving them.

Reagan and his advisors gave the Jewish leaders assurances that the Administration considered Israel a strategic asset to the U.S. and would maintain Israel's qualitative military superiority in the area. But they did not specifically pledge they would seek to obtain Saudi concessions.

Meanwhile, resolutions disapproving the sale to Saudi Arabia are being prepared in both the Senate and the House and a majority of the Republican-dominated Senate Foreign Relations Committee appears to disapprove delivery of the equipment to Saudi Arabia without Saudi reciprocity.

Most of the 32 Jewish Republicans at the White House meeting yesterday were members of the Coalition for Reagan-Bush, the Jewish organization that helped Reagan and Vice President George Bush obtain what the Coalition said after the elections was 45 percent of the Jewish vote -- a figure approximately equal to the Jewish vote given President Carter which was the lowest on record for a Democratic nominee.

#### **Reagan Expresses Understanding**

Reagan, who was personally involved in part of the two hours of discussion with the Jewish Republicans, expressed understanding of their concerns and assured them that the security and viability of Israel would not be jeopardized by

the sale to the Saudis. He also outlined his national economic and defense programs, and the Jewish leaders who he had invited to the White House to be informed of his programs, welcomed them and voiced their support.

Max Fisher, who was honorary co-chairman of the Coalition for Reagan-Bush and was the principal spokesman for the Jewish Republican leaders after the White House meeting, said he was relieved by the President's statements on the Saudi issue. He noted, however, that "Some of us felt better, some of us didn't feel quite so good" after the meeting.

Gordon Zacks, of Columbus, Ohio, a Coalition co-chairman, told reporters, "If we had our druthers we'd prefer there not be a sale. But we are reassured and comfortable that the strategic balance will be maintained and that Israel, from a qualitative military security point of view, will emerge stronger than she is going in."

George Klein, of New York, also a Coalition co-chairman, said he was "disappointed" by the sale of equipment but expressed "hope" that "before the Saudi package deal is completed, the matter will be resolved both for the sake of America as well as Israel." Citing statements by the President and his advisors in the past, Klein said the Administration's sincere in its desire and intent to assure Israel it will be strong and economically viable."

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- Prisoner of Conscience Boris Kalendariov has been released from the Elstia labor camp, it was reported Tuesday by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. He has returned to his parent's home in Leningrad and is applying for a residency permit. Kalendariov, 23, was arrested March 8, 1979 and sentenced to two years' imprisonment on May 14, 1979 on charges of "draft evasion." He will reapply for permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union to join his sister in Israel.

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UNITED NATIONS (JTA) -- The Security Council met briefly Monday night to discuss Lebanon's complaint against "repeated Israeli attacks in south Lebanon." No date was set for the next meeting. Sources here said the Council will probably reconvene toward the end of this week following informal consultations between members of the Council.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Three people died and four were injured Tuesday in a fire which gutted a shoe factory on the fourth floor of a factory and workshop building in the center of Haifa. Survivors said a "massive blaze" broke out without warning and the dead workers were trapped under the ceiling which had collapsed. Firemen said that about 300 people had been in the building on Herzl Street at the time. They were evacuated safely while firemen confined the blaze to the fourth floor.

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GENEVA (JTA) -- Richard Schifter, the U.S. alternate delegate to the United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting here, renewed his attack Tuesday on anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and declared that the American people will not accept a double standard in international affairs -- one for the Soviet bloc and its friends and another for the rest of the world. In the course of a debate on violations of human rights, he said that while in the USSR published attacks on Jews are often encouraged, thousands of Jews are denied their only escape, the right to emigrate.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE JEWS OF FRANCE

By Ben Frank

(Part Two Of A Three-Part Series)

PARIS, March 10 (JTA) — For nearly all men and women, there is the Paris of art, of culture, the galleries, the museums, the grand boulevards, the parks, the superb restaurants, the banks of the River Seine.

For Jews, there is also another Paris, not as well known, but it is there. It can be found in the rue des Rosiers in the Pletzel, in the excitement of the crowds in this neighborhood where the buildings lean at odd angles to the streets below.

The scene reminds one of New York's Lower East Side. There is the small Moroccan Oratoire, the Jo Goldenberg restaurant with the musicians playing Yiddish and Israeli music, the selling of yarmulkes and kiddush cups and products from Israel and the print shops running off invitations in Hebrew and Yiddish.

There are many other faces of Judaism in Paris. For example, in another neighborhood, one can walk along the rue Richer, from rue Faubourg Poissonniere to the rue Faubourg Montmartre. There one meets the Jews of France, the fourth largest Jewish community in the world. Their names are on the outdoor signs and they read: Zazou, Samy Azar, Azar Fils.

They are the Jews of North Africa who have established wonderful kosher restaurants, bakeries, snack bars, bookstores and small businesses. Synagogues abound here and one meets rabbis and teachers, business persons and students and professionals.

### Many Jewish Neighborhoods

Both neighborhoods are in their own way representative of this large community of 385,000 Jews who live in and around the French capital. In the rue Richer, one sees the Sephardic Jews who have brought a new dynamism to French Jewry. Many are religious. Many have visited Israel and support the Jewish State. They do not live in this commercial area, and at night they return to their apartments throughout Paris and the suburbs.

But the Jews of Paris don't reside in one particular neighborhood; they live everywhere. They reside on the Left Bank and the Right Bank, in the student quarter, on the Champs Elysee and on the Blvd. Saint-Michel and in the narrow streets near Place Saint-Paul known affectionately as the Pletzel which is located in the Marais.

Incidentally, it is now "in" to live in the Marais which is one of the oldest and most interesting parts of Paris, especially with the remodeling and refurbishing of several-century old buildings, as in the Place des Vosges.

But it is the Pletzel, of course, where one finds the Jewish past. It is, after all, the section where the Jews lived as far back as the 13th Century. It is the area the Jews of Eastern Europe came to at the turn of the century as they fled Czarist Russia. Later, too, they came from Poland and Rumania. They found a haven in Paris in the 1920's and 1930's.

The name Pletzel is probably a Yiddish derivative of the French words: "little place." From the Saint-Paul metro (subway) stop one can traverse the rue Pavée, rue des Rosiers, rue des Ecoiffes, rue Ferdinand Duval, rue Geoffroy l'Asnier, where Jews have lived and worked for centuries.

Signs and posters note Jewish concerts, meetings and socials. There are numerous synagogues,

including an Orthodox synagogue at 10 rue Pavée which was dynamited by the Nazis in World War II, but restored after the Liberation.

### Kosher Gastronomical Delights

Paris is the gastronomical capital of the world and the traveller seeking kosher cuisine can certainly savor a wide variety of East European and North African specialties.

In the Pletzel is La Rose d'Or, the first kosher pizza parlor in Europe. Located at 54 rue des Rosiers, it specializes in pizza, and other delicacies. Nearby is another strictly kosher restaurant at La Bonne Bouchess, 1 rue des Hospitaliers St. Gervais.

In the Pletzel, American tourists often visit Jo Goldenberg's restaurant at 7 rue des Rosiers. Open from 8 a.m. until 2 a.m., the restaurant is not kosher. It is kosher style and the cuisine is definitely European. Ambiance is king here. There is an atmosphere of singing and dancing and "music does fill the air."

Born and raised in the Pletzel, Jo Goldenberg is proud of his guest list which has included Charlie Chaplin, Abba Eban, Barbra Streisand, Charles Aznavour, Simone Veil and many others.

### Moving Jewish Sites

Located in the Pletzel at 17 rue Geoffroy l, Shnier, a few short blocks from the rue des Rosiers is the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr, one of the most moving Jewish sites in Paris. It is a tribute to the Six Million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. The museum, part of the complex, includes documents and photographs of World War II. It is open daily except Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 2 to 5:30 p.m.

A short walk away, across the River Seine, is another important memorial. Located in a small garden behind Notre Dame on the tip of the Isle de la Cite is a monument dedicated to the 200,000 men and women of all races and religions who died in the Nazi death camps in World War II.

Finally, a journey to Paris is not complete without reporting on the activities of the Jewish Museum at 42 rue des Saules. And it is in the area of Jewish art and culture that an item of significant news may be made in 1981.

The museum itself, crowded into the third floor of a community center, may move to a mansion in the Marais. It has been announced by the Ministry of Culture. When that occurs the Strauss-Rothschild collection in storage in the Musee de Cluny will be turned over to the new headquarters of the enlarged Jewish Museum.

Moreover, this spring, the entire Strauss-Rothschild collection will be shown in the Grand Palais, a fitting tribute to the Jews of France who have contributed so much to the country.

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

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TEL AVIV (JTA) — Tunisia has promised to allow Israel to participate in a scientific center to be established in Tunis by the United Nations-sponsored Organization for the Prevention of Pollution in the Mediterranean. Dr. Uri Marinov, director of Israel's Interior Ministry's environmental protection service, said that at a meeting of the UN organization in Cannes he had protested the Tunis venue because Israel would be barred. When he proposed Haifa as an alternate site, the Tunisians promised that Israel could participate in the Tunis center.