

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## TREASURY STRESSES NEW TAXES NEEDED TO PAY EXPECTED RISE IN SALARIES FOR GOVERNMENT DOCTORS

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- The Treasury said today that new taxes were unavoidable to pay for the expected increase in the salaries of government-employed physicians who ended their four month-old strike yesterday after the government agreed to binding arbitration.

Although the panel of arbitrators is yet to be selected, Treasury sources and others were speaking today of a 60 percent raise for the doctors, far in excess of the prevailing 22 percent average national wage hike ceiling agreed to some time ago by the government and Histadrut. The Treasury sources estimated that this will cost the country some 12 billion Shekels (about \$260 million) which is three times the amount allowed for in the national budget. The problem now is how to raise the additional money.

One suggestion floated today was a tax on every visit to a doctor or stay at a hospital on top of the monthly health insurance premiums paid to the various sick funds. Naftali Ben Moshe, a member of the executive of Histadrut which operates Kupat Holim, the largest sick fund, objected strongly.

### Opposition To Increase

Moshe Mandelbaum, Governor of the Bank of Israel, also opposes a levy on medical care. He said it would add to the tax burden carried by citizens which is already too high. Labor Party MK Gad Yacobi, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, said today that the budget shortfall could be more than covered if the government slowed down its settlement drive on the West Bank, instituted daylight saving time in the summer months and allowed El Al, the national airline, to resume Sabbath flights. The coalition and especially its religious constituents objected vehemently to such measures.

Finance Minister Yoram Aridor reportedly is determined to find outside sources to pay for the wage hikes. Aridor had threatened to resign if the government agreed to binding arbitration which he considered a surrender to the strikers. He has been silent on that since the Cabinet's decision last Sunday and is said to be waiting to see what the arbitration panel will decide. The Treasury is deeply concerned that if the doctors receive a substantial increase, other government-employed professionals will demand equal raises. The engineers union has already announced that it will do just that.

Meanwhile hospitals all over the country are trying to return to normal as quickly as possible as a backlog of patients streamed through their doors. Hospital administrators say the process will take 2-3 days. The hospitals have been functioning with less than a third of their medical staffs since the strike began over four months ago. Many of them shut down completely last weekend because of the doctors' hunger strike which made it impossible for them to perform their duties.

## 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, June 28 (JTA) -- Two Israeli soldiers

suffered slight wounds yesterday when their patrol came under fire in the Shouf mountains in eastern Lebanon. The patrol was pinned down by fire from behind Syrian positions until an Israeli tank opened fire on the attackers. The incident occurred on the Jebel Barukh, the highest point occupied by Israeli forces which overlooks Syrian positions in the Bekaa valley.

## SEEK TO BAN PROTESTS OUTSIDE BEGIN'S RESIDENCE, OTHER HOMES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- The coalition will give top priority to a Knesset bill banning demonstrations outside private residences. The measure was drafted as a result of weeks of anti-war demonstrations and pro-government counter-demonstrations outside Premier Menachem Begin's residence on Balfour St. in the Rehavia section of Jerusalem.

Begin is not known to have complained but some of his neighbors are annoyed by the constant hum of conversation and occasional arguments under their windows in what is normally a quiet neighborhood. The demonstrations have been peaceful. The anti-war group displays a daily "score" of Israeli casualties in Lebanon which currently stands at 501 dead. The government supporters also display a scoreboard showing 13 months of "peace for Galilee."

Begin is not known to have had any dialogue with the demonstrators. On one occasion he is reported to have sent a messenger to the anti-war group protesting that it was "not nice" for a boy and girl to camp out during the night under the same blanket.

## NEW EGYPTIAN ENVOY NOT GOING TO ISRAEL By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 28 (JTA) -- Egypt has named a new Ambassador to Israel but he does not expect to go to Tel Aviv in the near future.

Ambassador-designate Omar Sirry, who was in Geneva this week, said that despite American pressure, the Egyptian government has no intention of sending an Ambassador to Israel as long as Israeli troops remain in Lebanon without a timetable for their withdrawal.

Egypt's first Ambassador to Israel, Saad Mortada, was recalled in September, 1982 as a demonstration of Cairo's displeasure over Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Sirry was selected to replace Mortada who will soon reach retirement age.

## FBI PROBES YESHIVA SHOOTING By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 28 (JTA) -- The FBI continued today its investigation of the shooting attack last Wednesday near Yeshiva University in upper Manhattan in which two rabbinical students and a Yeshiva high school student were wounded.

"We are still in the preliminary stages of the investigation," Ken Walton, deputy assistant director of the FBI in New York told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He said the FBI has no new leads so far regarding the case.

Meanwhile, the New York Police Department was continuing to maintain a heavy presence around Yeshiva University. Police Commissioner Robert McGuire

said that a team of 10 detectives was assigned to investigate the case. But he pointed out that unlike similar attacks, no one has claimed responsibility for the Yeshiva University shooting, and two similar other attacks against Jewish targets in the Washington Heights area in the last three weeks, a fact that makes the investigation more difficult.

The police disclosed that ballistic tests indicated the weapons used in the shooting at Heshie's restaurant had been used in a shooting near Jewish Memorial Hospital on June 9. The police said the attacks were connected with a June 7 incident in which shots were fired into the lobby of a Yeshiva University building.

#### Rewards Offered

A reward fund of \$3,000, to supplement the \$10,000 reward offered by New York City for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the gunmen who attacked the restaurant near Yeshiva University, was announced at a meeting at the American Jewish Committee last Friday. Also on Friday the American Jewish Congress announced that the FBI decided to enter the investigation, following a request by the Congress to the Justice Department.

At the AJCommittee meeting, representatives of the Jewish and Hispanic communities, together with representatives of the police department and leaders of other ethnic and religious groups expressed their outrage at the attack and their determination to join forces to prevent such attacks in the future.

The AJCommittee's New York Chapter pledged \$1,000 of the \$3,000 reward; the New York Jewish Community Relations Council pledged \$1,000; and Lawrence Tisch, president of the JCRC, pledged a personal contribution on behalf of the JCRC of \$1,000. An AJCommittee spokesman said it was "hoped" that the reward fund "will match or surpass the \$10,000 pledged by Mayor Edward Koch to aid the capture of the gunmen."

Last week's attack took place at about 11:30 a.m. when "three or four men," described by eyewitnesses as "Hispanic looking," fired about 20 shots from a speeding car into the kosher restaurant across from the main building of Yeshiva University.

Wounded in the attack were Yossef Zimmerman, 40, and Abraham Weintraub, 26, both senior rabbinical students at the University. Weintraub was treated and released from the hospital the same day. Zimmerman was released from Presbyterian Hospital last night and his condition was described by a spokesman for the University as "stable." The high school student who was also wounded, suffered superficial cuts and did not require hospitalization.

#### NEW JEWISH AGENDA TO SEEK COMMUNAL STATUS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, June 28 (JTA) -- The decision by the delegate assembly of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington to refuse Council membership to the New Jewish Agenda will not deter efforts by the Agenda to continue to seek application into Jewish community umbrella organizations throughout the country, according to Lee Levin, a national co-chairperson of the Agenda.

Levin said that as a national Jewish organization, the Agenda, which has 38 chapters across the country and a national membership of nearly 2500, should be acknowledged as a representative of the Jewish community and thus meets the specific criteria

for representation in Jewish community umbrella groups. She said the onus should not be on the Agenda but on the part of the umbrella organizations.

While maintaining that the Agenda, formed in December, 1980, does continue to represent an alternative to the "established" Jewish community, Levin told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that by submitting an application to membership in the JCC of Greater Washington, this would not hinder, but help facilitate the Agenda's position and help create an outlet for its specific positions to be heard.

#### 3 Chapters Have Representation

The local chapters of the Agenda in Detroit, Hartford and Ann Arbor sit on the local JCC. Levin declared about the JCC decision, "We think it is a disgrace .... We are a Jewish organization and deserve to be included in the umbrella organizations of our community."

Levin said the New York Chapter of the Agenda is in the "process of exploring" membership in the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, an umbrella organization representing local New York agencies and New York units of national organizations.

In explaining the Agenda's policy toward application in local JCCs, Levin said it is undertaken as a local option by the specific chapters of the Agenda which she said would have a better sense of the relationship maintained between the local Agenda and JCC. There appears to be no overall national initiative for the Agenda to apply to Jewish umbrella organizations. The actions by the three chapters which now sit on local JCC units occurred within the past year, Levin said.

#### Washington Vote 98-70 Against

The vote barring the Washington chapter of the Agenda into the JCC was taken June 2. The delegate assembly voted 98-70 against admission at a meeting that was attended by more than 400 persons. Although 173 delegates attended the meeting, only 168 cast a ballot, according to a report in The Jewish Week of Washington. The report said a total of some 600 Council delegates represent 215 member organizations.

The delegate assembly vote followed by three weeks the Council's executive board's 22-5 vote in favor of admission of the Agenda. While some charged that the executive vote indicated that the board was "out of touch with their constituency," three former presidents of the Greater Washington JCC sharply criticized the vote by the delegate assembly.

Immediate past president of the Council Ben Silver was quoted as calling the outcome "unfortunate," while his predecessor, Phyllis Frank, said "the community was the one that lost out by not having all viewpoints represented." Aaron Goldman, who was president of the Council in 1953-56, was quoted as saying, "I hope that the Jewish Community Council will never make conformity a condition of membership," in a letter of resignation to the Louis Brandeis District of the Zionist Organization of America, which the Jewish Week said led the campaign against admission of the Agenda.

Nathan Lewin, president of the JCC of Greater Washington, said the vote by the delegate assembly "does not indicate at all that the executive board had some fundamental differences with the full delegate assembly," but that "on this particular

question there were substantial and strong feelings that made themselves heard," according to the Jewish Week. He reportedly voted at the delegate assembly meeting in favor of admission of the Agenda.

### Position On PLO

The delegate vote came after a heated discussion which primarily focussed on the Agenda's Middle East platform, particularly its call for Israel to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization. According to the Agenda's platform, peace has to be made through negotiations between all parties including the legitimate representatives of the Palestinians, including the PLO, on the basis of mutual recognition. It further supports the right of the Palestinians to chose to establish a state on the West Bank existing at peace with Israel.

"We strongly support a safe and secure Israel," said Moe Rodenstein of the Washington Chapter of the Agenda. "We also believe that there must be a change in the Israeli government's policies in order to achieve that security. I am dismayed that the JCC cannot stand internal dissent, but I was heartened by the many people who had the courage to speak out on our behalf. We will apply to the JCC next year."

After a question and answer discussion between Rodenstein, and two other Agenda representatives on a variety of topics, including public dissent in the Jewish community and Soviet Jewry, 14 speakers lined up at the microphone to speak in support of the Agenda's application while ten speakers spoke out in opposition.

### CENTRAL HEBRON REOPENED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- The army has lifted a two week-old order that closed all buildings in central Hebron, including the bus terminal. The order was imposed after a grenade was thrown at a building in downtown Hebron that the Israeli authorities had turned over to Jewish settlers.

Mayor Mustapha Abdul Natsche welcomed the end of the restriction. But Gush Emunim zealots, led by Rabbi Moshe Levinger, continued to stage a sit-down strike outside the civil administration headquarters demanding the ouster of Mayor Natsche who they allege is a Palestine Liberation Organization "agent."

The building that was the grenade target two weeks ago, known as the Romano House, belonged to Jews who fled Hebron during the Arab riots 54 years ago. It served as an elementary school for Arab girls until two years ago when it was seized by the Israeli authorities and handed over to Jews from Kiryat Arba, the Orthodox township adjacent to Hebron. The seizure was in retaliation for an attempt on the life of a Kiryat Arba resident.

### 2 WOMEN INJURED IN MARKET BLAST

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- Two young women were injured, neither of them seriously, when a small explosive device detonated in a suburban Jerusalem supermarket today. Several Arabs were detained for questioning. The device was believed to have been concealed in a loaf of bread.

The incident was the second in Jerusalem this month. Three weeks ago a large explosive charge was discovered near the Old City walls and safely defused. Jerusalem has been relatively free from terrorist acts in recent months. Local authorities expressed hope that today's supermarket explosion was not the start of a new wave of terrorist attempts in the city.

### WEST GERMAN TANK MANUFACTURER DISCUSSING SALES WITH SAUDIS

By David Kantor

BONN, June 28 (JTA) -- The manufacturer of West Germany's most sophisticated assault tank, the Leopard II, has confirmed that its representatives are currently negotiating with Saudi Arabian officials for the sale of the advanced weapons system to that country.

Hans-Heinz Griesmeier, chairman of the board of the Bavaria-based Krauss-Maffei Co., informed the company's shareholders at a meeting in Munich that the negotiations were "technical contacts on a working level" in anticipation that the government will lift the ban on the sale of advanced weapons to countries in high tension areas, such as Saudi Arabia.

Griesmeier said he could not provide more detailed information because of political considerations. Nevertheless, the negotiations with the Saudis are proceeding with the consent of the authorities in charge of arms sales abroad, he said. Karl Schmidt, a spokesman for Krauss-Maffei, said the board had a mandate to solicit customers for the tank both within and outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

### POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR CONCESSIONS

By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, June 28 (JTA) -- The latest poll by the Modi'in Ezrachi Institute showed that 52 percent of the Israeli population is prepared to make territorial concessions on the West Bank in return for peace with Jordan. The poll, conducted for the newspaper Maariv, was published today.

According to the poll, 42.8 percent of the populace opposed any concessions. Among those willing to trade territory for peace, 37.4 percent would give up "certain parts" of the West Bank; 11.6 percent would give up all of the territory, except East Jerusalem and 3.5 percent would relinquish the entire West Bank including East Jerusalem and the Old City. Of those polled, 4.3 percent gave no opinion.

The government meanwhile announced a comprehensive plan to rehabilitate Arab refugee camps in the territories. The recommendations, drafted by a ministerial committee headed by Minister-Without-Portfolio Mordechai Ben Porat, were submitted to the Cabinet for a final decision. The plan calls for rebuilding some refugee camps on their present sites, relocating others and closing down some whose residents would be settled in nearby towns.

There were no estimates of what this project would cost. Government sources said it would be financed by foreign aid, mainly from the U.S. and the World Bank.

### KISSINGER URGES STRATEGIC UNDERSTANDING

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 28 (JTA) -- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger urged the U.S. and Israel last night to use their present warming relations to strive for a deeper strategic understanding. He said it was dangerous for two countries that needed each other to have a "roller-coaster" relationship of ups and downs.

Kissinger spoke at a dinner given in his honor by President Chaim Herzog who said the American diplomat "achieved a place in the history of Israel and the Middle East by paving the way towards the historic developments which have led to peace between Israel and Egypt."

# NEH ADMITS ADL CHARGE FILM PRODUCED WITH ITS GRANT IS PLO 'POLITICAL TRACT'

By Rifka Rosenwein

NEW YORK June 28 (JTA) -- William Bennett, chairman of the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH), said last week that a film about Palestinian women produced under a \$120,000 grant from the NEH was a "political tract" and his agency therefore had "no rightful business in funding" it.

Bennett made the statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after receiving a complaint from the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) claiming that the film was "unabashed propaganda for the Palestine Liberation Organization."

"I have seen the film, and I personally think the Anti-Defamation League is right," he said. "Nothing of this film is in the humanities; there is no understanding, nor appreciation of the discipline of the humanities to be gained by viewing the film," he added.

An NEH spokesman noted that the money for the film was granted in 1980, before Bennett's term as chairman had begun.

## Film 'Glorifies' PLO

The 30-minute film, "Women Under Siege," prepared for use in high schools and colleges, "glorifies the PLO," said Nathan Perlmutter, ADL's national director, in a statement released last week.

It is the last in a series of three films entitled "Reformers and Revolutionaries: Middle Eastern Women," produced by Elizabeth Femea of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

Perlmutter said that "obviously, American taxpayers never intended their money to be used for such a purpose," and called for an investigation to determine how the grant was approved.

Perlmutter said he not only found it "peculiar" that a federal agency dedicated to the humanities provided funds for a film "which promotes a terrorist organization which has killed and hijacked Americans, among others," but that the NEH did so when United States policy forbids "recognition of, or contact with, the PLO," according to the statement.

## Israelis Depicted As Villains

The film focuses on the experiences of six Arab women in Rashadiya, a "PLO camp" in southern Lebanon. "The Israelis," in the film, he said, "are depicted as a foreboding off-screen presence, unseen villains who evicted the women from their homes and invade and bomb their present habitations, while the PLO guerrillas are pictured as victims transformed into idealistic revolutionaries dedicated to democracy and freedom."

Perlmutter said there was no attempt to give "another side of the controversy or to discuss the terrorist acts which provoke retaliation." Rashadiya, he noted, was among the PLO strongholds used as staging grounds for the March, 1978 terrorist attack on the Tel Aviv-Haifa road in which 36 civilians were killed.

## LUBAVITCHERS DISPUTE CHARGE

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, June 28 (JTA) -- A report by the Movement for Conservative Judaism in Israel that members of the Lubavitch movement disrupted a Conservative Bar Mitzvah ceremony in Kiryat Gat was denounced here today by the director of the Lubavitch

educational system in the southern Israeli town. Rabbi Shalom Wolpo, director of "Machanaim," currently on a brief visit to the United States, said the report by Rabbi Philip Spectre, executive director of the Conservative movement in Israel, was "erroneous" and "scurrilous."

Spectre made the charge during a press conference at the Jewish Theological Seminary here on June 16. He said that if "extreme elements" of Orthodoxy in Israel continued to harass the Conservative movement, "we will urge American Jews not to assist them anymore."

The ceremony, which Spectre said included both Bar and Bas Mitzvah rites, took place at the start of May. Wolpo said the rites took place in "Neve Chana," a home for children from broken homes.

## Claims Families 'Upset'

Wolpo charged, in his counter-criticism, that the families of the children, whom he asserted were all Sephardic, were "visibly upset" when the volunteer Conservative rabbi sought, at the ceremony, to introduce new customs which he asserted were "alien to Sephardic Jews" and which such Jews "consider to be sacrilegious and disgraceful." Wolpo said that the children were "deliberately misled" by the volunteer rabbi.

Spectre's version of the "disruption" was that the Lubavitcher Hasidim came to the site of the ceremonies and asked for and received permission to join the proceedings. Spectre has asserted that Wolpo, "at the moment for the closing Blessings," told the children and their parents "they had been misled, that their celebration had been inauthentic, that Jewish Law did not permit calling women to the Torah and so forth."

Wolpo's version was that, after receiving permission to speak, he had done so "briefly," declaring that Torah Law does not permit the new ceremonies "being introduced by the Conservative Rabbi" and that the ceremonies were "counter" to ancestral tradition.

Spectre asserted that when reports of the Kiryat Gat incident reached Conservative Jewish leaders in both Israel and North America, "the response was traumatic" as it was, he said, on the Kiryat Gat children and parents.

Wolpo flatly disputed this. He said the children and parents at the ceremony "rose and applauded him for his courage in speaking out and articulating their own feelings and the uneasiness they were being subjected to during the ceremony. They were not traumatized -- they were grateful."

Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, spokesman for the Lubavitch movement international headquarters in Brooklyn, charged that the Conservative movement, in calling a press conference here to accuse the Lubavitch Hasidim at the Kiryat Gat event of disrupting it, committed "an outrageous distortion of the facts." He also said that for Rabbi Spectre to refer to Lubavitch Hasidim as "less enlightened" than non-Hasidic Orthodox Jews "does not enhance the image of the Conservative movement."

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- Kosher food will be available at special vending machines at JFK International Airport as of Thursday. This was announced by Joseph Reisman, president of Borenstein Caterers which will be supplying the kosher sandwiches, snacks, desserts and beverages. The kosher machines will be positioned in two locations on the second floor departure level of the International Arrivals Building.