

**JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS**

**NEW YORK (WNS)** -- Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, former chairman of the US Atomic Energy Commission, has been named honorary national chairman of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University.

**NEW YORK (WNS)** -- The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has withdrawn from the Black Political Convention because it was "totally opposed" to the Convention's hostile position on Israel and school busing.

**TEL AVIV (WNS)** -- Informed sources here expressed doubts that the USSR has turned over to Egypt MIG-23s and the New Tupolev-22 long range bombers, stationed in Egypt but under Soviet control.

**BOSTON (WNS)** -- Pres. Nixon's move in mining North Vietnamese harbors and increasing air strikes in North Vietnam have been condemned as "unconstitutional and immoral" by the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. But in New York, two Orthodox Jewish groups, The National Council of Young Israel and the Rabbinical Alliance of America, expressed their support of the President's action.

**TEL AVIV (WNS)** -- Mrs. Miriam Hostzberg, 22, an Israeli married to a Belgian, died of wounds she had received during the shootout between Arab terrorists and Israeli paratroopers that freed the hijacked Sabena jet plane that had been landed at Lydda Airport.

**SANTIAGO (WNS)** -- By a vote of 70-0, with 37 nations abstaining, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development adopted a resolution blaming Israel for the continued closure of the Suez Canal and said that Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories was a prerequisite for its reopening. Britain, France and the USSR voted for the resolution. The U.S. abstained.

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** -- Israel diplomats throughout the world have been seeking to mobilize support against an expected Arab-inspired resolution to deprive her of voting rights in the World Health Organization.

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** -- The Communications Ministry has been informed by British postal authorities that only letters will be shipped to Israel by air. Packages will be sent by ship.

**MONTICELLO (WNS)** -- Harold Ostroff, 49, of New York, was president of the Workmen's Circle at the closing session of its 1972 convention at which 1,000 delegates adopted a resolution calling for a "total end to the war in Vietnam."

**NEW YORK** -- Rabbi Bernard L. Berzon, President of the Rabbinical Council of America, which represents almost 1,000 Orthodox Rabbis and serves two million congregants in the United States and Canada, announced the appointment of Rabbi Bernard Rosensweig, spiritual leader of Kew Gardens Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, Kew Gardens, New York, as Chariman of the Annual Convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, to be held June 19 to 22 in Fallsburg N.Y.

**NEW YORK** -- The Synagogue Council of America and the American Jewish Congress hailed the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court upholding the right Amish parents to refuse compulsory education for their children beyond elementary school and age 14 because it is prohibited by their religious convictions.

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** -- Heartened by the eruption of two hour strikes throughout Israel in support of his stand against government intervention, which prevented a threatened strike by cannery workers, Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, has withdrawn his resignation and will continue in his post as Secretary General of Histadrut.

**NEW YORK** -- Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, President of Tel Aviv University, has been granted honorary membership in the U.S. National Academy of Science, the third-Israelli to be elected as foreign associate of this prestigious institution.

**RABBIS SEEK TO HALT DESTRUCTION OF JEWISH CEMETERIES**

One of the ugliest aspects of the destruction of European Jewry was the Nazi attempt to obliterate all trace of their victims, both living and dead. Not only were Jewish archives, libraries, and publishing houses destroyed, but the Nazis even went so far as to wipe out Jewish cemeteries. Some 2000 were systematically destroyed, largely in Poland. The graveyards were leveled, and any sign of their former purpose totally effaced. The grave-stones themselves were used for paving roads and in construction.

The current situation in Eastern Europe is hardly an improvement. The Polish government has already confiscated many cemeteries, and many are still endangered. Many Jewish cemeteries in Poland are over a thousand years old, and with their destruction, the names of the dead will be gone, and their last historical traces will be effaced. Also, if no action is taken, Babi-Yar, in Kiev a mass grave of Jews and Ukrainians, massacred by the Nazis, will be converted into an amusement park.

On May 11th prominent rabbis met at the Committee of Jewish Affairs

in Montreal to take action. Rabbi Moses Joseph Rubin, of the Rabbinical Court of Boro Park, New York, explained that from the point of view of Biblical law the state of the cemeteries in Eastern Europe confronts each Jew with the positive obligation of the METH MITZVAH, the commandment to see that Jewish dead are properly buried. He declared that the forsaken cemeteries in Eastern Europe are considered legally as friendless bodies, because the local communities which would have tended them are gone. The positive obligation of the METH MITZVAH thus reverts to the greater Jewish community of the world and to each Jew in particular.

Rabbi Rubin founded GEDER AVOT in 1951, a society to protect Jewish graves in Eastern Europe. GEDER AVOT intends to send delegates to those countries where cemeteries are being confiscated to protest vigorously. GEDER AVOT is thus calling for a mass petition from all men of good will to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to demand that he take immediate action to stop the confis-

cation of cemeteries in Eastern Europe, that those still existing be placed under the legal protection of each country's historical monuments commission and that plaques be er-

ected on the sites of former cemeteries, stating that there had been so many graves at such a location, and that restitution be granted for the land of Jewish cemeteries already seized.

**NEW YORK** -- Israel Prime Minister Golda Meir will address the 75th National Jubilee Convention of the Zionist Organization of America this summer in Israel.

**WASHINGTON** -- A delegation from the Zionist Organization of America presented a petition to Leonard Garment, Special Consultant to President Nixon, urging that the President take up the emigration problems of Soviet Jews to Israel during his scheduled meetings with Russian leaders.

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