

10-DAY TRIAL OF EX-NAZIS CHARGED WITH BLACKMAILING JEWS OPENS IN WUERZBURG

MUNICH, Aug. 14. (JTA) -- The trial of a group of ex-Nazis charged with blackmailing Jewish manufacturers and businessmen into handing over their businesses has opened in Wuerzburg. The trial, which is expected to last 10 days, involved 15 specific cases of "aryanization" of Jewish property.

BALTIMORE MAYOR TAKES STEPS TO CHECK INTERRACIAL TENSION AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS

BALTIMORE, Aug. 14. (JTA) -- As a step toward ending interfaith, interracial and intergroup tensions and misunderstandings here, Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr. has announced plans for creating a twenty-member commission on human relations. The primary duties of the commission would be:

1. To conduct educational programs to promote equal rights and opportunities for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin.
2. To advise city authorities on needed legislation and on other actions to ease such problems.

From time to time Baltimore has been disturbed by unpleasant episodes in the field of "intergroup relations," the Mayor said. "Baltimore may or may not be in a worse position in this respect than other cities, but the problem is one which a responsible city administration cannot ignore." He went on to say that tensions and misunderstandings in a cosmopolitan city like Baltimore can grow into "dangerous antagonisms" if nothing is done to check them.

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD TO OPERATE CLUBS FOR U.S. SERVICEMEN IN FRANKFURT AND HEIDELBERG

NEW YORK, Aug. 14. (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board has been assigned by U.S.O. to take over the operation of clubs for American servicemen in Heidelberg and Frankfurt, Germany, it was announced today by Philip M. Waterman, chairman of J.W.B.'s national Armed Services Division Committee.

The new Heidelberg and Frankfurt U.S.O. clubs have been operating as J.W.B. servicemen's centers since the close of World War II. In addition to the U.S.O.-J.W.B. clubs in Germany, J.W.B. also operates in Balboa, C.Z., where the club is supervised by Rabbi Nathan Witkin.

PROF. YAHUDA, INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN BIBLICAL SCHOLAR, DIES; WAS 74 YEARS OLD

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y., Aug. 14. (JTA) -- Prof. Abraham Shalom Ezekiel Yahuda, internationally known Biblical scholar and author, died last night of a heart attack while vacationing here. He was 74 years old.

Born in Jerusalem, he studied at the universities of Heidelberg and Strasbourg. He was the head of the Department of Biblical Studies and Semitic Languages in the University of Berlin from 1905 till 1914. Later he held a special chair for Hebrew language and literature in the University of Madrid. After leaving Spain in 1922, he lectured at Oxford and Cambridge universities and at the Royal Asiatic Society in London. Later he lectured at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the University of Cairo.

Prof. Yahuda came to the United States in 1939 and lectured at Yale University. In recent years he was a research professor at the New School for Social Research in New York. He recently returned from an 18-month trip to Europe and Africa where he lectured and conducted research. His home was in New Haven, Connecticut.

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DR. GOLDMANN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ZIONIST CONGRESS; THREE AMERICANS ON PRAESIDIUM

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency executive, was elected by acclamation to the presidency of the 23rd World Zionist Congress at its morning session today.

A 14-man praesidium was also elected, composed of Mrs. Judith Epstein (Eadasah), Benjamin G. Browdy (General Zionist), Louis Segal (Labor Zionist), all of the United States; Rabbi J.K. Goldblum (General Zionist Progressive), of England; Dr. Mateo Goldstein (General Zionist Progressive) of Argentina; J. Zerubavel and Meyer Yarei (Mapam) of Israel; M. Yarblum (Labor Zionist) of France; Itzhak Earkavi (General Zionist); Mrs. Golda Myerson (Labor Zionist) of Israel; Rabbi M. Nurock (Mizrachi); Elimelech Neufeld, (Poale Mizrachi) of Israel; Joseph Klarman (Herut) of Israel, and Josef Sprinzak (Labor Zionist) of Israel.

BEN GURION EMPHASIZES GRAVITY OF ISRAEL'S SECURITY PROBLEM AT WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- The peril of war interfering with the task of admitting and absorbing the vast immigration planned by Israel was pointed up last night by Premier David Ben Gurion in his address to the opening session of the World Zionist Congress. Comparing the disparity in numbers and the size of the combined Arab states with that of Israel, the Premier said that the Arab states' rearmament program is directed solely against the Jewish state.

"We are building a free, progressive, democratic, pioneering and dynamic society and culture," Mr. Ben Gurion declared, pointing out that the State of Israel is surrounded by "feudalistic regimes and backward cultures based on social stagnation." The problem of security for Israel is "no less grave and acute than it was in the period of fighting, and we must remain constantly on the alert," he stressed.

In a detailed analysis of the problems facing the state which require the help of Jews from abroad, Mr. Ben Gurion emphasized that the new immigrants from the Orient are arriving without skills and funds. The scarcity of professionals and experts in all branches of the economy, in the various services and on the cultural level, is a problem of major proportions, he indicated. "Only Jewry in free lands" are capable of supplying capital and pioneering and expert manpower, he asserted.

The Premier also referred to the fate of Russian Jewry. "The greatest Jewish community on the Continent of Europe and Asia was cut off forcibly 34 years ago," he stated. "Since the first World War delegates of Russian Jewry no longer appear at Zionist Congresses and this Jewry takes no part in the building of Israel. It has been forced into silence and national oblivion. But we have not despaired, and shall not despair, of this tribe. We may hope that the day will come when the Jews of the Soviet Union will be permitted to participate in the construction of the historic homeland."

ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS FOILED BY ISRAELI POLICE; THREE ARRESTED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- The Israeli police last night foiled an attempt to disrupt the opening session of the World Zionist Congress and arrested three men who are members of a group known as "Canaanim." The police said that the three planned to explode a stench bomb in the Congress hall, which would serve as a signal "for further action" which the police did not specify.

The "Canaanim" is a small group composed chiefly of native born Israelis who preach the return of the ancient Ashtoreth cult. They consider themselves the descendants of the ancient inhabitants of Canaan, the territory lying along the Mediterranean Sea and as far inland as the Judean Hills. The group advocates cessation of immigration to Israel and the development of close relations with the peoples living on the "big plain from the Euphrates to the Nile."

ZIONIST CONGRESS TO HEAR DR. SILVER'S REASONS FOR HIS RESIGNATION FROM JEWISH AGENCY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- A decision to allow Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, leading American delegate at the World Zionist Congress, to appear before the Congress and explain why he resigned from the executive of the Jewish Agency, was adopted here today by the Congress presidium headed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann. The decision limits Dr. Silver to 30 minutes.

Members of the majority group of the Zionist Organization of America circulated petitions today among General Zionists attending the Zionist Congress asking the Congress to recognize the group headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, which broke away from the World Confederation of General Zionists, as the official Confederation.

Farleys of the Mizrahi Organization and the Poale Mizrahi, the religious workers' group, which concluded yesterday, elected mediators representing both groups to explore the possibilities of further cooperation between the two organizations throughout the world.

The Mizrahi conference adopted a resolution expressing "deep concern" over disunity in the Zionist movement and calling for a closer and more harmonious relationship among all sections of the movement. Another resolution called on the Jews of Israel to make every effort to preserve Jewish religious values and traditions "which have always been and must continue to be in the future the main guarantee for the unity of the Jewish people throughout the world."

The conference also pledged full support to the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and called for further enhancement of its authority and prestige to enable it to become the center of religious leadership. It also called for greater support of rabbinical seminaries and Orthodox schools.

During the conference, the American Mizrahi delegation gave strong support to the demands of the Lemarchav faction founded by the late Rabbi Meir Berlin, for colonization activities by the Mizrahi itself. Dr. Pinhas Churgin, head of the American delegation, also insisted on the abolition of organized factions within the organization, holding that these factions were not necessary to express and decide conflicting views.

FRANCO GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS U.N. RESOLUTION FOR ARAB-BLOCKADE BREAK IN CANAL

GENEVA, Aug. 15. (UPI) -- The Franco Cabinet considered the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's invitation to attend a peace meeting in New September 10 and decided to take final action on the bid at the next Cabinet meeting. The Ministers also heard a report on the progress of the Israeli bond issue in the United States by Finance Minister Etienne Dagnan, and one on the general political situation by Foreign Minister Nicolas Sarrasin.

U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL AGREE TODAY TO ORDER EGPT TO LIFT BLOCKADE AGAINST ISRAEL

THE HAGUE, N.Y., Aug. 15. (UPI) -- The world's peace which was given legal force by the Security Council's decision to order Egypt to lift the blockade of Israel-bound shipping through the Suez Canal has failed to produce any results and the Security Council is expected to meet tomorrow to order Egypt to lift the blockade.

The American-British-French resolution on the subject will be introduced in the Security Council tomorrow. Indications are that while there may be a few changes in the text of the resolution from the draft submitted to members of the Security Council last week, there will be no changes in substance. The resolution calls upon Egypt to cease its interference with vessels bound for Israel and to restore normal traffic in the Suez Canal.

Speakers for the three sponsoring nations will make formal statements on the resolution and it is probably that other Security Council members, including India and Yugoslavia, will also take the floor. An American delegation spokesman said today that the American declaration would be "a strong one." The Egyptian delegation has said it knows that it wishes to speak again. It is not likely that the resolution will reach a vote before Friday or next Tuesday. Sponsors of the resolution believe that the seven votes necessary for adoption of the resolution are assured.

STATE DEPARTMENT URGES ISRAEL FROM EGPT TO LIFT U.N. ORDER TO LIFT BLOCKADE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15. (UPI) -- The State Department said today that it had information about reports that Egypt threatens to ignore any United Nations order to end to the blockade of Israel-bound ships going through the Suez Canal.

According to dispatches from London, Egypt sent such a warning to the United States and Britain on behalf of the Arab League nations. American officials conceded that such a warning might have been sent to Britain, but none has been received in Washington.

The Interior Department reported today that Israel refined 1,550,000 barrels of oil last year. In its annual report for 1955, the Interior Department's Bureau of Mines reported that Israel imported 1,570,000 barrels of oil. Israel produced a total petroleum further 1951, although recent reports indicate some oil might be found in the country.

A report from London today revealed that the Israeli Government has purchased 30 miles of pipeline in Southern Pennsylvania from the British Overseas Petroleum Corporation for a price of \$700,000 payable in United States currency. The Israeli Government is also paying for dismantling the pipeline. The original cost of the pipeline was estimated at about \$1,200,000. The corporation also has about 500 tractors for sale, the report said.

NEW ORGANIZATION FORMED IN BRITAIN; WOULD PERMIT JEWS TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY AS "GUESTS"

LONDON, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- A new ultranationalist organization proclaiming a program of "Britain for the British" and calling for the withdrawal of civil and political rights from the Jews of this country made its appearance on the scene here today.

The organization is headed by Leonard Tomlinson, 57-year-old former major in the British Army. Tomlinson told newspapermen today that everyone not "Christian or of Anglo-Saxon heritage" is a "foreigner" and foreigners must not enjoy "British rights and British privileges."

He said that his organization, "Clan Briton," would agree to permit Jews to remain in the country as "guests" but not as Britons. He asserted that in the next general elections, his Clan would come out in force to oppose Jewish candidates for Parliament on whatever party ticket they ran.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT ATTACKED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA; CHARGED WITH "TERRORIZATION" CAMPAIGN

VIENNA, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- Public attacks on the Israeli Government, which in recent weeks have appeared in newspapers in Rumania, Hungary and other satellite countries, have now spread to Communist-controlled Czechoslovakia.

The newspaper Svoden Slovo, in a report on the recent elections in Israel charges the Israeli Government with a campaign of terrorization and intimidation and says Premier David Ben-Gurion's Mapai Party, acting on suggestions from the United States, hired "bandits who intimidated voters who wanted to vote for the Communist Party."

The paper also accuses the Israeli authorities of applying violence and economic pressure against citizens who failed to support "the right-wing Socialist Government Party, Mapai." The Czech journal reports that the Israeli Communist Party had asked the Parliament to safeguard the freedom of elections in view of the "reign of terror," but its demand had been rejected by the Government parties.

25,000 JEWS LIVE IN WESTERN GERMANY, CENSUS SHOWS; BRITAIN LIQUIDATES JEWISH DP CAMP

DUSSELDORF, Aug. 15. (JTA) -- About 25,000 Jews live in Western Germany, according to the 1950 census. They represent approximately 0.9 percent of the West German population.

The Royal Air Force will take over the Jewish DP camp at Jever, in the British zone, next week it was reported today. Displaced Jews living in the camp were told to move to another camp closer to Munich but they refused, fearing that their withdrawal from the camp would delay further restitution claims. Most of the camp inmates are ill and disabled.

The International Refugee Organization and Joint Distribution Committee representatives have appealed to the Jewish DP's not to "make difficulties" and have also sought to accelerate their emigration. Many of the DP's are expected to leave this week-end for the American transit center at Wentorf, near Bremen, from where many of them will leave for the United States and Israel.

The Jewish cemetery at Heusenstamm was desecrated and 42 tombstones upset, it was reported here today. The local police are investigating and the municipality has offered a reward of 200 deutschemarks for information leading to the arrest of the vandals.