

F J T A

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TRIAL OF ARRESTED MOSCOW DOCTORS EXPECTED WITHIN TWO WEEKS

LONDON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The trial of the nine doctors arrested in Moscow on the charge that they took orders from Jewish organizations abroad to kill top Soviet officials will open within two weeks, according to indications from the Soviet capital reaching here today.

A report from Sweden today says the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet carries a statement from a Swedish professor who treated Gen. A. Zhdanov, leading member of the Politbureau whose death in 1948 is now attributed to the nine arrested doctors. The Swedish physician says that Zhdanov died of an incurable cancer. The arrested doctors in Moscow are accused of giving an incorrect diagnosis of his illness and of prescribing a drug harmful to him.

The Zionist Federation of Britain today announced that it was making arrangements for a mass meeting in the East End of London to protest against "the anti-Jewish campaign behind the Iron Curtain." The East End of London is a Jewish-populated district to which many of the inhabitants originally came as refugees from Czarist terror.

An emergency meeting of the officers of the Anglo-Jewish Association was held here last night to consider the situation resulting from the charges in Moscow that "Jewish terrorist doctors" had "plotted," on instructions from the Joint Distribution Committee, to murder top Soviet leaders. In a statement issued by Ewen Montague, the A. J. A. expressed "its horror at the virulent anti-Semitic trends which are becoming daily more pronounced in the Iron Curtain countries.

"Yesterday's news from Moscow underlines the fact that the Kremlin itself is leading the hunt," Mr. Montague stated. "Anglo-Jewry views with foreboding the future of its co-religionists behind the Iron Curtain. Although the Communists may argue that the accusations are anti-Zionist rather than anti-Semitic, it is undeniable that this new wave of persecution will give freer expression to the latent anti-Semitism which is endemic in Eastern Europe."

The Manchester Guardian, commenting on the Moscow charges today, states: "It remains to be seen whether the alleged criminals will be, as in Prague, identified not merely as Zionists but also as Jews, and what purposes the anti-Zionist campaign will be made to serve at home and abroad." The newspaper also notes that "so far the new anti-Semitism seems to be not a doctrine of racial superiority but a means of doing away with likely 'cosmopolitans.' In any case, the outlook is disturbing."

The London Times expressed the opinion that the effect of the charges "will undoubtedly be to put ordinary Russians, Ukrainians and others on guard against the Jews within the Soviet Union, and Jews will probably be removed from positions of trust. They are more likely to be suspected than ever before of international leanings."

KNESSET TO DISCUSS SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH CHARGES; LEGATION GUARDED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The Soviet charges against the group of "Jewish terrorist doctors" arrested in Moscow, as well as their meaning for the future of Soviet Jewry will be discussed by the Israel Parliament next Monday, it was announced today.

The Israeli police guard outside the Soviet Legation in Tel Aviv was increased yesterday. An official of the legation was reported today to have expressed astonishment at the great number of persons who telephoned the legation to verify the news reports from Moscow.

A former Chief Rabbi of Moscow died here of a heart attack yesterday while listening to a broadcast of the news from Moscow. The rabbi, 73-year-old Jacob Clemes, has two children, both physicians in Moscow. Neither of the two--the son, a professor of medicine, and the daughter, a practicing physician--were named in the Moscow indictment. Rabbi Clemes served as Chief Rabbi of Moscow from 1927 to 1933.

A demand that the accusations against the nine doctors be investigated by an international medical commission was voiced here tonight by the Israel Medical Association. In a statement to the press, the I.M.A. declared: "We are dumbfounded by the Russian radio and Pravda's editorial accusing the most outstanding Russian physicians of the murder of Soviet leaders and an attempt to shorten the lives of other Soviet leaders. We do not believe that there are physicians in the Soviet Union ready and capable of using their knowledge and experience for crimes, against professional ethics."

The entire Israel press continued to be filled with reports and commentaries based on the Moscow developments, with virtually every newspaper attacking the charges and stressing the danger to the Jewish community of the U. S. S. R. resulting from the latest development. Some newspapers charge the Soviets with using the Nazi propaganda system while others speculate whether this development is an attempt to break the ties between Russian Jewry and Jews abroad in preparation for war.

One foreign diplomat, who visited Moscow not too long ago, is reported as stating that the largest jail in Moscow is facetiously referred to as the "synagogue" because 80 percent of its inmates are Jews.

SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH POLICY LINKED TO EFFORT TO WIN EX-NAZIS

VIENNA, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The Moscow charges against the nine "terrorist" doctors accused of taking orders from American Jews to kill top Soviet leaders are an indication that the Soviet Union is seeking some way of working out a new version of the Hitler-Stalin pact of 1939, according to Western diplomats here.

These diplomats believe that the Soviet Union may be preparing to offer Germany unification, including former German territory now held by Poland and Czechoslovakia, in return for a Moscow-Berlin axis, or for neutrality in the current East-West conflict. These sources believe that the Soviet leaders are liquidating Jewish Communists, who are basically anti-German, in order to get rid of possible critics of a new German-Soviet tie-up.

LEADING U. S. NEWSPAPERS CONDEMN SOVIET CHARGES AGAINST JEWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Leading American newspapers were unanimous today in condemning the Soviet anti-Jewish crusade and in pointing out that the arrest of the nine doctors in Moscow, six of whom are Jews, fits the pattern of the policy of open anti-Semitism started by the Kremlin in 1949 when Jews were branded as "cosmopolites."

The New York Times said in an editorial that "taking one more leaf out of Hitler's book, the Stalin regime has now openly and unmistakably adopted anti-Semitism as a weapon in its internal dissensions and as an instrument of both Communist tyranny and Soviet imperialism." The editorial points out that "undeterred by worldwide revulsion against a revival of the Nazi madness, the Soviet rulers have put their stamp of approval on it, and neither their disclaimers of prejudice nor their differentiations between Jews and Zionists can disguise their adoption of the Hitler technique."

The New York Post stated editorially: "Humanity has learned a lot about anti-Semitism. It will be more difficult for Stalin than it was for Hitler to mask the meaning of his program. As we read of the Russian-invented Jewish 'plot,' we are reminded that Stalin has simply edited Hitler's lines. The Nazis cried that the Jews were behind the Soviet conspiracy. Now Stalin says the Jews are running the anti-Soviet conspiracy."

The Herald Tribune asserted today that "a wide new purge may be opening up, political rather than anti-Semitic in its basic motivations." The World Telegram and Sun said that the Moscow charges are an "old, old story" of the rulers of a country attempting to divert attention from troubles on the home front.

American Jewish Press Compares Stalin to Hitler

NEW YORK, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The entire Jewish press appeared today with editorials condemning the Soviet Government for stimulating anti-Jewish feelings in the Soviet Union and in all the satellite countries through its propaganda charges in connection with the arrest of nine prominent doctors in Moscow, six of whom are Jews.

"Hitler has been resurrected in Moscow," the Jewish Daily Forward writes. "Stalin is openly following the path of Hitler. He mobilizes anti-Jewish hatred and seeks to win to his side all the Nazis and anti-Semites of the entire world for the same purpose for which Hitler sought to win them, namely, to prepare a war against the United States and the entire free world." The article points out that Jews in the Soviet Union and the satellite countries are in mortal danger. It calls upon Jews in the United States and throughout the world to organize a powerful protest movement against the new Soviet anti-Jewish move.

The Jewish Day, in an editorial, similarly calls on Jewish groups throughout the world "not to be idle," and to organize protests against Moscow's "anti-Jewish plot." The Jewish Morning Journal also says that the Kremlin leaders must be branded as "Jew baiters" and "enemies of the Jewish people," just as the Nazis were.

The Communist Jewish Daily Freiheit claims that the doctors were arrested not as Jews, and says that "anti-Semitism is prohibited in the Soviet Union." At the same time, the Communist paper declares that the arrests are a consequence of the "role played by Zionist leaders within and outside the Ben Gurion Government, and by the agencies of the Jewish bourgeoisie, who have openly joined in the plans for war against the Soviet Union."

ISRAEL DIPLOMAT WARNS ARABS AGAINST "SABRE RATTLING" AND BOYCOTT

LONDON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The people of Israel will not be shaken by "sabre rattling and economic boycotts" by the Arab states, Max Nurock, Israeli Minister-designate to Australia, declared at a press conference at Newcastle today.

He criticized the British Government's decision to supply the Arab states, particularly Egypt, with jet planes, pointing out that the planes are unlikely to be used "only for joyrides over the Pyramids." He stressed that Israel, even though it has no jet planes, is in the Middle East "to stay," adding: "We are a tough people--too tough to move."

NETUREI KARTA LEADER DENIES ASSOCIATION WITH ARABS AT U. N.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Leibel Weissfish, leader of the ultra-Orthodox Neturei Karta sect of Jerusalem, who is in the United States now, denied today that he had ever maintained contact with the Arab delegations at the United Nations.

"I never met Dr. Fadil Jamali or any other member of the Iraqi delegation at the United Nations. I have no knowledge at all of material which was allegedly submitted in the name of the Neturei Karta to the Iraqi delegation," he said.

INCREASE IN U. S. INVESTMENTS IN ISRAEL FORESEEN FOR 1953

NEW YORK, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- A "substantial increase" in the number of American businessmen making investments in Israel in 1953, was predicted here yesterday by Dr. Ernest Aschner, economic expert and editor of "Economic Horizons," published by the Jewish Agency, addressing more than 300 representatives of Hadassah. Israel, he said, would achieve full economic independence by 1960.

Dr. Aschner stressed that "the recently-formed Israel Government coalition, as its predecessor, has re-emphasized the role of private capital and initiative and is further improving the inducements and benefits Israel offers to foreign investors." He noted that more than one-third of the foreign capital in Israel today has been invested by Americans and expressed the belief that this percentage would increase considerably in the near future.

Pointing out that private capital was responsible for the establishment of 706 out of 756 new industrial and service enterprises in Israel, Dr. Aschner reported that "many additional American investors are at this moment establishing new enterprises as well as assembly operations or branch factories in Israel. Moreover," he added, "artisans and professional men from the United States with small and medium amounts of capital are moving to Israel in increasing numbers to participate in the upbuilding work and pioneering opportunities the young State offers."

RHODESIAN BOARD OF DEPUTIES JOINS WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The Rhodesian Jewish Board of Deputies, central representative body of the Jewish communities of North and South Rhodesia in south central Africa, has become an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, according to an announcement by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, acting president of the W. J. C. and Dr. Isaac Schwarzbart, director of its organization department.

One of the few Jewish communities outside Israel which have grown substantially through immigration in recent years, Rhodesia has approximately 9,500 Jews, with the majority living in the Southern Rhodesian centers of Bulawayo and Salisbury, the capital. They are organized in the Board of Deputies, which represents religious congregations, Zionist groups, cultural and benevolent organizations and youth societies. Cecil I. Jacobs is president of the Board.

JEWISH FEDERATIONS HOLD THREE-DAY PARLEY ON COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

FRESNO, Calif., Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Major problems confronting the Jewish communities in the United States were discussed at a three-day conference of the Western States Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds held here. More than 200 leaders from 15 communities attended the parley.

The delegates adopted a resolution reaffirming their support of the "policies and principles" of the National Community Relations Advisory Council and expressed the hope that "all of the agencies functioning in this field will again achieve a measure of cooperation acceptable to all." The resolution expressed concern over the withdrawal of the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee from the N. C. R. A. C. and urged the special C. J. F. W. F. committee authorized by the General Assembly, or any other group, to reopen negotiations with a view towards resolving their differences.

In another resolution the Jewish community leaders urged revisions in the McCarran-Walter Immigration law, asking Congress for a positive immigration policy which will "welcome without racial, national, religious or other discrimination those who seek to emigrate to the United States and become part of its national life." The resolution also urged the United States, in cooperation with other nations, to provide "a fair share of resettlement opportunities for victims of oppression and displacement."

On the local scene, the delegates adopted a resolution urging the Jewish communities "to study their services to the aging, with the objective of developing effective central planning and cooperation of medical, institutional casework, recreational and related programs and to explore the possibilities of extending these services on a zonal or area basis."

Eli H. Levenson of San Diego, was re-elected president of the Western States Region of C. J. F. W. F. Other officers, who were all re-elected, were: Howard H. Desky of Oakland, Sol Esfeld of Seattle, and Robert E. Sinton of San Francisco, vice-presidents; and Ben Solnit of Los Angeles, treasurer. Arnold Gurin, director of the budget research department of the C. J. F. W. F., addressed the community leaders on "Financing Total Jewish Responsibilities."

ANTI-SEMITISM IN CANADA DECLINING, MINISTER OF JUSTICE SAYS

MONTREAL, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism throughout Canada is on the decline, Stuart Garson, Canadian Minister of Justice, told a meeting of the local B'nai B'rith. He predicted that discrimination in employment and in trade union membership because of race, national origin, color or religion would be eliminated by the Canadian Fair Employment Practices act scheduled to be introduced at the current session of Parliament.

Pointing out that Canadian liberties and laws are derived from moral principles, Mr. Garson added: "Canada, along with the western world, has seen a reversal of the pseudo-scientific attitude and from the mounds of corpses in the Nazi concentration camps, from the millions of political prisoners in the Soviet labor camps, from the anti-Semitism which disgraces and characterizes both of these totalitarian regimes, we derive a new enlightenment of the moral foundation upon which our own society rests."

OFFICIAL OF TRUMAN'S IMMIGRATION COMMISSION REFUTES CHARGES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Harry N. Rosenfield, executive director of the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, which investigated the workings of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act, today took issue with Rep. Francis Walter's charge on the floor of Congress yesterday that "professional Jews" were the only opponents of the law.

Mr. Rosenfield, who is a former member of the United States Displaced Persons Commission, pointed out that the opposition to the McCarran-Walter measure came not only from Jews but from prominent Catholic and Protestant spokesmen including Archbishop Cushing of Boston, Cardinal Mooney of Detroit, Cardinal McIntyre of Los Angeles and Werner Kuntz, director of the Lutheran Service to Refugees. Mr. Rosenfield's statements came after Rep. Walter, amplifying his remarks in Congress during an interview with reporters in his chambers, named Mr. Rosenfield as the man he had in mind when he hit out at "professional Jews."

Stepping down as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, in which all immigration bills in the House originate, Rep. Emanuel Celler today conceded that there was little chance to revise the McCarran-Walter law at this session of Congress. Rep. Celler said he stands behind President Truman and the President's Commission in recommending an overhaul of the McCarran Act "in accordance with our finest traditions."

Rep. Lester Holtzman, of New York, said today that he was "shocked and disillusioned by anti-Jewish remarks made in Congress yesterday by Rep. Francis E. Walter and by "the round of applause which followed." Following Rep. Walter's attacks on "professional Jews," mail has been received by a number of Jewish Congressmen containing Nazi-like insults.

RABBI SILVER TO PARTICIPATE IN SWEARING-IN OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Sen. Styles Bridges, chairman of the Joint Congressional Inauguration Committee, today announced that Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver has accepted an invitation extended him by the Committee to participate with Catholic and Protestant clergymen in the inaugural ceremonies.

Those who will participate with Rabbi Silver in administering the oath at the Capitol are the most Rev. Patrick O'Boyle, Catholic Archbishop of Washington, and Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Presiding Bishop of the Protestant-Episcopal Church. A 200-year-old Bible, on which George Washington was sworn in as the first President, will be used.

Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, has composed a special prayer asking Divine favor for the incoming administration of President Eisenhower. The prayer is being recommended for use at religious services in the 450 Reform temples affiliated with the U. A. H. C.

AMERICAN JEWISH WOMEN ARRIVE IN ISRAEL ON U. J. A. SURVEY MISSION

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- A group of American Jewish women leaders arrived here today on a United Jewish Appeal mission to study and report back to their communities in the United States on economic, housing and other conditions of the Israeli population. The mission, sponsored by the Women's Division of the U. J. A., came here from a tour of French Morocco, and will return to the U. S. at the end of the month.