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MASS ARRESTS OF JEWS IN MOSCOW; ISRAEL TO RAISE ISSUE AT U. N.

TEL AVIV, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Reports reaching here today from various European sources indicate that Soviet authorities had begun mass arrests of Jews who ever had any contact with the outside world. Jews in Moscow, the reports state, suspected of having had contact with people abroad in the past were being rounded up and taken into custody. It is believed that they may be exiled to Siberia.

The Israel Foreign Office today confirmed that Israel will raise the question of treatment of Jews behind the Iron Curtain when the General Assembly of the United Nations resumes its session next month. An indication to this effect was given yesterday in New York by Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, head of the Israel delegation to the United Nations.

Meanwhile, Army authorities here ordered the halting of the distribution among the Israeli armed forces of the Kol Haam, a newspaper published by the Communist Party in Israel, while tension mounted in this city and bitterness against the Soviet Union and the Communists rose on all sides. The streets of Tel Aviv were placarded today with posters signed by the Anti-Communist League calling for the arrest of all Communist leaders in Israel.

Histadrut Moves to Expel All Communists from Labor Federation

The Histadrut, Israel's Federation of Labor, moved today to secure the expulsion of all Communists from the labor federation and its associated bodies. The move was introduced by Mordecai Namir, secretary-general of the federation, who was at one time Israel's Ambassador to Moscow. He denounced the Moscow blood libel as defamation and desecration of the Socialist movement.

Reviewing the latest Soviet anti-Jewish move - the arrest of Jewish doctors on assassination and conspiracy charges - Mr. Namir told the meeting of the Histadrut executive that "we are facing a tragic repetition of the history of medieval times." He declared that the Jews behind the Iron Curtain were being made the scapegoat for all the difficulties, hardships and intrigues there. When the lone Communist member of the executive body rose to speak and defend the Soviet Union's action, all the other members of the council demonstratively left the table and resumed their places only when he sat down.

The Histadrut executive proclaimed that "the Communists, through their organs and in addresses in the Knesset and other places, have proven themselves enemies of the nation working for foreign interests and endangering the existence of the State."

By a vote of 27 to one (a Communist), and with eight members of the left-wing Mapam Party abstaining, the executive instructed the Histadrut steering committee to act urgently on the expulsion of Communists from the federation and its affiliates.

JEWISH AGENCY ANXIOUS OVER FATE OF JEWS IN SOVIET RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today issued a statement charging the Soviet Government with "entering the path of official anti-Semitism" and demanding that the gates of the Soviet Union and the satellite countries be opened for those Jews who are willing to leave the Communist countries.

"Let the millions of Jews not be hostages without letting them out of the trap. Permit them to leave for the land which is waiting for them," the statement said. It called upon the Jews the world over to face the Soviet anti-Jewish attacks "in closed ranks, without fear and without compromise."

The statement condemned the "vicious attacks" by the Soviet Government on the Zionist movement as well as on the Joint Distribution Committee "which during a generation accomplished very much in saving Jews and alleviating their sufferings within Russia itself with the consent of the Soviet Government." It termed the Soviet recent anti-Jewish libels as "poisonous anti-Semitic propaganda" and emphasized that the Jewish Agency is anxious over the fate of the Jews in Soviet Russia and in the countries dominated by Russia.

TWO AGED SOVIET JEWS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL; PERMITTED TO LEAVE RUSSIA

HAIFA, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Two Jewish septagenarians who had directed a personal plea to President Shvernik of the Soviet Union for permission to leave Russia and join their children in Israel, arrived here today aboard the liner Artza from Constantinople. Both carried Soviet passports.

Mrs. Sophia Srebenik, 73, and Chaim Leib Orenstein, 77, had made their applications for exit permits to the President's office months ago, but no action was taken until the requested permits were forthcoming a few weeks ago. Mrs. Srebenik was required to furnish proof that she would be allowed to enter Israel. The Israel Embassy furnished the necessary documents and the two were permitted to leave the Soviet Union without further difficulty. Both arrivals have families in this country whom they have not seen in more than 20 years.

U.S. ZIONIST GROUPS CONDEMN SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH POLICY

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- The Soviet anti-Jewish policy was strongly condemned today in a statement issued by the American Zionist Council on behalf of Zionist groups in the United States. The statement, signed by Louis Lipsky, chairman of the Council, reads:

"The pattern of Soviet policy is established beyond cavil by the new developments in Soviet Russia. There is a clear connection between the recent Prague trial, the anti-Jewish purges in other Eastern European countries and the current fabrication of fantastic charges against Jewish physicians in Moscow. Their common source material is the old myth of international conspiracy which anti-Semitic forces have conjured up to libel the Jewish people in Europe and Asia for many centuries.

"The story which comes over the Moscow radio is too incredible to merit response or refutation. The inventors of this new fiction have blundered into an ironic and curious deviation from their own propaganda line. Their pretense that they are merely anti-Zionist - not anti-Semitic - is now invalidated. They are clearly guilty of both.

WESTERN POWERS URGED TO GIVE REFUGE TO JEWS FLEEING SOVIET ZONE

BERLIN, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Western authorities in Germany to grant refuge to Jews who flee from the Soviet part of Germany was voiced here last night by Rabbi N. Peter Levinson, chaplain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, who serves the 6,000 Jews in East and West Berlin.

Rabbi Levinson said that the American Joint Distribution Committee was compelled to discontinue sending relief packages to the Jews in the Soviet zone in order to spare them from reprisals. He revealed that the Communist authorities in East Germany had charged the J.D.C. with enclosing anti-Communist propaganda and weapons in the relief packages. These charges are in line with the allegations made by Moscow against the J.D.C. in connection with the arrest of the "Jewish terrorist doctors" there this week.

ISRAEL AMBASSADOR SATISFIED WITH U.S. ACTION ON ARMS TO ARABS

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Israel's representations in Washington against sending arms to the Arab countries "had a salutary effect," Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel declared at a press conference here yesterday. "Israel's concern with this question has had influence upon the arms policy of the United States," he said.

"However," he continued, "in spite of this, we feel that we must maintain vigilance and alertness in explaining this question. The danger always arises when these questions are isolated; when the question is regarded as being merely a matter of Western strategy. But when we explain how it may affect Israel then more reason prevails. This issue is not yet at an end and remains urgent and we must continue to press it in all countries concerned," Mr. Eban emphasized.

ISRAEL STONE PRESENTED TO U.N. AS GIFT FROM JEWISH STATE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Ambassador Abba S. Eban, Israel representative at the United Nations, formally presented a slab of Israel stone to U.N. Secretary General Trygve Lie, in a small ceremony here today. The slab, three feet by four feet in size, represents some 800 pieces of stone totalling 30 tons which have just arrived here as Israel's gift to the U.N. permanent headquarters.

The stone, which closely resembles Italian marble, was quarried from the hills of Judea and will be used somewhere in the landscape area of the headquarters. In presenting the stone, Mr. Eban said that the gift was a symbol of Israel's consideration for the United Nations and its work. It was symbolical, he stated, that the stone should be integrated into the United Nations for it echoed the prophetic messages of freedom.

The U.N. Secretary General, in acknowledging the gift, pointed out that Israel was one of the first governments to send a representative to the headquarters planning office to discuss possibilities of a gift for the headquarters, and it was in 1949 that the idea of a donation of stone from Israel was first put forth. "The architects tell me that they hesitate to use this stone as originally planned for paving the garden walks, for its rich color and beautiful markings suggest many interesting and varied possibilities. So I cannot say for certain today exactly how it will be used, but I am sure that it will greatly enhance the beauty of the terraces and gardens north of the General Assembly building," Mr. Lie stated.

AMERICAN AND ISRAELI SURVEYORS START WORK ON NEW NEGEV ROAD

TEL AVIV, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- A party of 16 surveyors, including four Americans, today began working out the path of a proposed Eilath-Asluj highway through the hill region of the central Negev. Work also has begun on a by-pass road intended to cut the road distance between Beersheba and Sodom, on the southern end of the Dead Sea.

SENATORS SEEK TO PREVENT U.S. RATIFICATION OF GENOCIDE PACT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Sixty-two Senators have signed a resolution introduced in the Senate by Sen. John W. Bricker, of Ohio, which would prevent the United States from ratifying the United Nations Convention on Genocide and similar international agreements.

The supporters of the measure are mainly Republicans. It is similar to a resolution introduced last year known as Senate Joint Resolution 130. If adopted, the resolution would amend the constitution to restrain this government from signing the genocide pact or similar U.N. accords like the Human Rights Convention now being worked out. Sponsors of the Bricker resolution claim that the U. N. desires to "interfere in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of its members."

REP. WALTER REFUSES TO APOLOGIZE FOR ATTACK ON JEWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Rep. Francis Walter, co-author of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act who stated in the House this week that "professional Jews are shedding crocodile tears for no reason whatsoever" over the new immigration law, today rejected a request by Jesse Moss, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans, for an apology for his remark.

"People who read my statement will realize that those who are offended by it are the ones who are seeking reasons to be offended," the Pennsylvania Congressman said. Mr. Moss, in demanding a retraction from Rep. Walter said that he "owes an apology not only to the Jew but to the American people" since his remark against Jews is un-American and harmful to the country. "All Americans regard with equal abhorrence the radical of the Right who may attack one minority group and the radical of the Left who may attack another," Mr. Moss said.

Six organizations representing Americans of foreign descent joined today in deploring the attack by Rep. Walter. The Polish-American Veterans, American Hungarian Federation, Ukrainian-American Congress, United Puerto Rican Clubs, Lithuanian-American Council and Czechoslovak National Council sent a joint telegram to Walter condemning his "unfair and untrue characterization" of those opposing the act. "People of goodwill of all faiths are opposed to the discriminatory immigration law which maintains the undemocratic 'national origins quota' system," Andrew J. Valuscheck, vice-president of the Czech organization, who served as spokesman for the six groups, wired the Congressman. "As a representative of a great state composed of Americans of many ethnic origins, you have rendered a disservice by your intemperate remarks."

U.S.N.A. CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS EFFECTS OF NEW IMMIGRATION LAW

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Problems affecting Jewish immigration into the United States in connection with the new Immigration and Naturalization Law, will be discussed at the annual meeting of the United Service for New Americans which opens here Saturday night at the Roosevelt Hotel. National political leaders will speak on immigration and refugee problems at the meeting.

"The United Service for New Americans will study effects of the new immigration law on immigration and resettlement so that it can plan effective operations for 1943," Walter Bleringer, president of the organization, said in a statement today. He declared that most of the 13,000 Jewish refugees registered in Europe for emigration want to come to the United States. He emphasized that retroactive grounds for deportation included in the McCarran Immigration Act threaten thousands already settled in this country. "To save them from deportation, it is essential that we intensify the protective functions of the United Service for New Americans," he said.

JEWISH GROUPS IN NEW YORK SEEK REVISION OF SUNDAY LAW

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Revision of the state Penal Law to permit religious Jews and others who observe the Sabbath on Saturday to conduct business activities on Sunday was urged today at a hearing of the State Legislature's Joint Committee on the Sunday Law by representatives of more than 25 major Jewish organizations, the Protestant Council of New York and the General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists.

In testimony before the Legislative Committee, which held public hearings, the groups proposed an amendment to the Penal Law which would permit local municipalities to exempt those who regularly observe another holy day from the provisions prohibiting business activity on Sunday. A brief in support of the proposal was submitted by Leo Pfeffer, general counsel of the Joint Committee on a Fair Sabbath Law, a coordinating body for the various Jewish organizations.

Declaring that provisions of the present law have created confusion and hardship for such groups as Jews and Seventh Day Christians, Mr. Pfeffer cited the action taken by the State Legislature in 1952, on the recommendation of the Legislative Committee, amending the Sunday Law to permit professional sports and entertainment on Sunday on the basis of local option.

Statements were also made at the hearing by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress; Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of Yeshiva University; Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, president of the Synagogue Council of America, and representatives of a number of other organizations. Rev. Leland Henry testified on behalf of the Protestant Council of New York. In his statement, Dr. Goldstein declared that the present Sunday Law not only prejudices the civil, economic and religious rights of Jews and other seventh-day observers, but infringes on their equality of opportunity and constitutes an interference with freedom of religion.

The organizations represented in the Joint Committee for a Fair Sabbath Law include: Agudath Israel of America, American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, B'rith Abraham, B'rith Sholom, B'nai Zion, Brooklyn Jewish Community Council, Council of Orthodox Jewish Organizations, Hadassah, Hapoel Hamizrachi of America, Jewish Sabbath Alliance of America, Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Labor Zionist Organization of America and New York Board of Rabbis.

LEADERS TO PLAN 1953 CAMPAIGN FOR SALE OF ISRAEL BONDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Plans for the 1953 campaign for State of Israel Bonds will be drawn up at a joint meeting of the national executive committee and the Board of Governors of the Israel Bond organization which will be held Sunday at the Hotel Pierre here.

More than 100 Jewish leaders from key cities in the United States will participate in the discussions leading to the formulation of a program "to mobilize American investment dollars for the establishment of new industries, for the expansion of agriculture, for the development of electric power and harbors, for the construction of railways in the new State of Israel," according to Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee of the Israel Bond Drive.

The conference will be addressed by Ehud Avriel, Director General of the Ministry of Finance of Israel and former Israel Minister to Czechoslovakia. In addition to charting a course for the 1953 campaign, the week-end conference of the Israel Bond leaders will also consider reports on the results of the Israel Bond drive in 1952 and the progress in economic development that has been made in Israel with investment dollars made available through the sale of Israel Bonds in the United States.

U. S. ZIONISTS TO OBSERVE 60TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. SILVER

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- The 60th birthday of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, which falls on January 28, will be marked here by a testimonial dinner, sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America, on Thursday, February 5, at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, it was announced today.

Top leaders in every walk of American life, led by members of the Eisenhower cabinet, joined the Committee of Sponsors for the testimonial dinner headed by Rabbi Irving Miller, Z. O. A. president. The sponsors' committee includes John Foster Dulles, new Secretary of State; Harold D. Stassen, the new Mutual Security Administrator; General Lucius B. Clay, one of the chief aides to General Eisenhower; U. S. Supreme Court Justice Harold D. Burton; Congressman Joseph W. Martin, new Speaker of the House of Representatives; Senator Robert A. Taft, majority leader of the Senate; Congressman John W. McCormack, minority leader of the House.

U. S. ZIONIST YOUTH PARLEY DISCUSSES ISRAEL SUMMER PROGRAMS

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Plans for promoting interest in the Israel Summer Programs of 1953, sponsored by the Jewish Agency, were discussed at an all-day conference here, attended by representatives of the various Zionist youth movements and Jewish communities of eastern United States and Canada. The conference was highlighted by addresses by Moshe Kol, member of the Jewish Agency executive in charge of Youth Aliyah, and Leo Krown, director of PATWA (Professional and Technical Workers Aliyah) in the United States.

The parley dealt with plans for the three projects comprising the Israel Summer Programs. They are: the Israel Summer Institute, a seven-week tour, work and study program in Israel for American students and teachers between 18 and 35; the PATWA Summer Work Program which provides an opportunity for American professionals and technical students and trainees to serve a period of apprenticeship in Israel industry, and the Young Judea Summer Camp, a work, study and sight-seeing program in Israel designed for the teen-aged members of Young Judea.

Mr. Kol said that young Americans visiting Israel should endeavor to study the nation's fundamental problems--the consolidation of its immigrant population into "one people" and the establishment of economic self-sufficiency. "It is not necessary to follow in the tracks of the tourist," he advised. "Visit fewer places if necessary but spend more time in each. You will come to see more clearly the human side of Israel's rebirth." Mr. Krown pointed out Israel's urgent need for qualified American professionals and technicians in practically all fields.

TRUMAN GREETES U. S. ZIONIST LABOR ORDER ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- President Truman today sent a message of greetings to the Farband-Labor Zionist Order on the occasion of the organization's 40th anniversary which is now being celebrated throughout the country. The message, addressed to Louis Segal, general secretary of the Order, which numbers more than 30,000 members in 110 communities, reads:

"For 40 years, your organization has worked devotedly in support of democratic causes. The struggle of freedom against tyranny is one that never ends. The forces of despotism are never wholly conquered but rise anew to challenge each generation. Democracy must be continuously nourished and strengthened by work and by faith. You have my best wishes for a successful meeting and an inspiring rededication to the struggle for freedom and justice against communism and oppression."

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