



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXV No. 70 - 40th year

Thursday, April 10, 1958

KHRUSHCHEV SAYS JEWS DISLIKE COLLECTIVISM; HITS ISRAEL, SOVIET JEWRY

PARIS, April 9. (JTA) -- Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev came out with a severe attack on Israel and on the "Jewish distaste for collective life." He charged that Jews are "born individualists" and scored Soviet Jewry for failing to settle in Birobidjan which was proclaimed a Jewish autonomous region in the pre-war years, but is now no longer officially considered as such.

The anti-Jewish views were expressed today by the Soviet dictator in an exclusive interview with Figaro, a leading French daily newspaper, which is publishing a series of statements by leading world political figures. Figaro will publish tomorrow an interview with Israel Premier David Ben Gurion.

"Israel," Mr. Khrushchev declared, "has not adopted a position favorable to the Jewish people at large. The Soviet Union had voted in the United Nations for the creation of Israel and supported the state from birth. But Israel has shown itself ungrateful and has made a mistaken choice. Israel plays the game of the imperialists and enemies of the Socialist countries," he continued. "We buy from Israel only a few oranges and can do without them," he boasted.

The Soviet Premier was even harsher in his judgment of the experiences of the Jews in Birobidjan. After praising the choice of an area assigned the Jews -- "rich, fertile and with a temperate climate" -- he said: "From all over Russia the Jews came to settle there. They arrived inflamed with enthusiasm, but soon most of them left."

Commenting on the Jewish "distaste" for collective work and group discipline, Mr. Khrushchev said: "For ages Jews worked as artisans; they don't like collective work-like industry, or construction or group work. They're born individualists. Aside from the new State of Israel, Jews never could resolve to live among themselves and on their own resources."

The Soviet Premier and Communist chief also stressed what he called the intellectual inclination of the Jewish masses which, he said, "tears them away from other occupations." Other nationalities in the USSR have made a success of their communal national life, he added, while the Jews have failed. "This is the reason I am skeptical about the future of Jewish collectivity."

EXCAVATION WORK RESUMED IN HULEH AREA PROCEEDS WITHOUT INCIDENT

TEL AVIV, April 9. (JTA) -- Heavy bulldozers and excavators were busy today filling up the old drainage ditch and cutting a new canal a distance from it, following the resumption of work in the Lake Huleh area late yesterday after the Israelis and the Syrians had accepted the United Nations surveyors' new map of the area.

No incident occurred yesterday or today, but tension was noticeable in the area. Syrian concentration continued heavy across the border and several unexplained blasts were heard behind their positions. Israeli defensive units were in position on Israeli territory.

Work was begun late yesterday by two armored excavators until night fell. The new ditch is laid out on a line which deviates from the old one by three to 15 feet. The entire portion of the canal which has to be re-cut is some 250 feet long.

Cairo Hebrew Broadcast Again Invites Israel to Join Arab Republic

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- A new Hebrew broadcast by Radio Cairo again invited Israel to join the United Arab Republic as the only permanent solution for the peace of the Middle East. Israel will maintain its national independence under the union, the announcer said, and the entire region will prosper as a result of the final eradication of the Israel-Arab dispute.

In an interview with Look magazine recently, Premier David Ben Gurion indicated that Israel would be willing to investigate an earlier radio invitation to join the UAR. However, he expressed the view that the offer was merely propaganda.

ISRAEL CHARGES "AMERICAN EXPRESS" WITH YIELDING TO ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- The Israel Government Tourist Office charged today that the American Express Company had surrendered to the pressure of the Arab boycott in closing down its operations in the State of Israel and had, more recently, prevented the Hertz Drive-Or-Self Company from opening a branch in Israel. This is the first time that the State of Israel has publicly voiced its indignation against firms which give way before Arab pressure, and may be the beginning of a new policy in this direction.

The Israeli statement said that for the past two years Israel has been negotiating, unsuccessfully, with the American Express Company for re-opening of its branch in this country. (In New York, a spokesman for American Express said that "for the time being" the company had no comment on the Israel statement.) The text of the statement reads:

"The American Express Company which is one of the largest travel and tourist agencies in the world has maintained an independent office in Israel since the time of the British Mandate and up to the beginning of 1956. In March 1956 the company closed its Israeli office, claiming that there is no commercial justification for its existence. The American Express Company left the management of its business in the hands of a local agent.

"We have been convinced beyond any doubt that the closing of the offices of the American Express Company was a result of yielding to the threats of the Arab boycott. During the last two years, the Government Tourist Corporation was in constant contact with the American Express Company asking them to re-open the offices, but with no results.

"During the last months the Government Tourist Corporation has been in contact with various firms in the field of 'renting cars to tourists.' Hertz Drive-Or-Self was included in this contact. This company agreed tentatively to open a branch in Israel. We have been informed that the new partnership of American Express and the Hertz Company was a factor in the cancellation of the negotiations with the Hertz Company. This shows that not only did the American Express Company cease to function in Israel, but that it had kept another company from functioning there.

"Let us assume for the moment that the closing of the American Express office in Israel was indeed an outcome of a purely commercial consideration and that there was no commercial justification for its activities in 1956. Then we have to point out that since then other companies have widened their activities in Israel as a result of the mounting number of tourists in this country. The airlines have added many flights to Tel Aviv and the shipping lines have put in more or larger ships.

"The public should know that in spite of all this American Express Company not only did not re-open its offices in Israel, but is conducting a policy toward Israel which is in contradiction to every accepted commercial consideration."

CONSUL GENERAL ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR ISRAEL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- Comprehensive plans for celebrating Israel's tenth anniversary were announced here today by Simcha Pratt, Consul General of Israel. At the same time, Israel governmental anniversary programs, in which various Israeli Government agencies here are cooperating with various local and national American organizations were also announced.

The opening event of the anniversary celebration will take place on April 23, a day before the actual April 24 independence birthday, at a reception at the United Nations. Hosts at this reception will be Abba S. Eban, chairman of Israel's UN delegation; deputy permanent representative Mordecai R. Kidron, and Mr. Pratt. Not only diplomatic and consular representatives will attend, but also representatives of the Governor of New York and the Mayor of New York City.

On April 24, a special religious service will be held at the synagogue of Congregation Shearith Israel, the oldest Jewish house of worship in this country. During the afternoon and evening of April 24, open house will be held at the headquarters of the Consul General and the UN delegation.

Other diplomatic functions are being scheduled by the Israeli Embassy in Washington and by Israeli consulates around the country. The Israel Office of Information announced that in cooperation with many American organizations, it has issued and circulated a number of publications, special radio-television and film presentations, comic books for children, mobile exhibits and exhibits of Israel art, form, design and handicrafts.

NEW YORK RABBI RELEASED IN ISRAEL; WAS ARRESTED DURING DEMONSTRATION

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Rabbi Solomon Reichman of New York City, one of three Americans arrested yesterday during a Neturei Karta demonstration here against the construction of a swimming pool for mixed bathing, was released last night on the instructions of a member of the government. His son, Rabbi Raphael Reichman, is expected to be released today on his own recognizance.

JEWISH COMMUNISTS SEEK TO HALT RETURN OF JEWS FROM RUSSIA TO POLAND

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- Jewish Communist leaders in Poland were charged today with seeking to prevent the repatriation of Polish Jews from the Soviet Union to Poland. The charge was made in a statement issued by Adolph Held, national chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee, on the basis of secret minutes of a conference in Warsaw which came into possession of the JLC here.

The Warsaw conference was a plenary session of the leaders of the Social and Cultural Association of Jews in Poland, a Communist-dominated organization with branches in Polish towns where Jews reside. It took place last month parallel with a meeting of the Jewish section of the United Workers Party of Poland which is the Communist Party in the country.

Mr. Held said in his statement here today that "impeachable" information received from Warsaw following the Jewish conference indicates that "a major drive conducted by three leading Jewish Communists in Poland--Shiman Zachariash, Yudel Korman and Michael Mirsky--is now under way to prevent further repatriation of Polish Jews from the Soviet Union on the ground that they will not remain in Poland but will emigrate immediately to Israel."

The Jewish Labor Committee leader added that according to the same information, Deputy Minister of Interior Snek and the director of the national minorities department of the Communist Party have rejected the suggestion of the Jewish Communists that emigration of Jews from Poland be halted. However, they made no decision on the demand that the repatriation of Jews from the Soviet Union to Poland be discontinued.

"It is obvious," Mr. Held stated, "that a small clique of influential Jewish Communist leaders in Poland, seeing their own cause rejected and spurned by the remnants of the Jews in Poland, are determined to crush the Jewish community there."

PROF. LEVY EXPELLED FROM COMMUNIST PARTY; HIT SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, April 9. (JTA) -- Prof. Hyman Levy, noted professor of mathematics and widely known materialist philosopher has been expelled from the Communist Party of Britain because of his criticisms of Soviet treatment of the Jewish people.

Last year Prof. Levy returned from a trip to the USSR and published a statement scoring the Khrushchev leadership for its failure to improve the situation of the Jews in the USSR. More recently, Prof. Levy published a book analyzing the mistreatment of Jews during the Stalin era and the failures in respect to guaranteeing Jews their rights of post-Stalin Soviet leadership.

Commenting today on Prof. Levy's ouster, the Manchester Guardian charges that "a simple verbal trick enables the Soviet rulers to practice anti-Semitism and at the same time deny its existence. Jews whom they dislike," the Guardian noted editorially, "are called Zionists and against these the ancient, odious method of anti-Semitism can be used with ideological impunity."

The Guardian recalled the recent attacks on the State of Israel and on Zionism which alleged that Jews had been "lured" from the USSR by "Zionist agents," by the chief Soviet cultural newspaper "Sovetskaya Kultura." Using a phrase from Sovetskaya Kultura, the Guardian said its attacks were "only one step away from Nazism."

TRIAL OF TEACHER WHO DEFAMED JEWS OPENS IN GERMANY; ATTRACTS ATTENTION

OFFENBURG, Germany, April 9. (JTA) -- The trial of Ludwig Zind, local school-teacher charged with publicly defaming Jews, opened here today and is attracting nationwide attention. Actually Zind is charged with four counts: libel, condonation of crimes, threats of criminal violence and defamation of the dead. If convicted he faces a maximum term of two years.

In his opening statements to the court today, the suspended high school teacher said the Nazis were justified in imprisoning Jews "to keep them from betraying Germany." He asserted that the Jews had "admitted they would give their complete material and financial support to England in the fight against Germany."

For several months after Zind's statements were made public, the authorities did nothing about them. However, under the impetus of a student protest movement and subsequent public indignation, the Baden-Wurttemberg provincial authorities moved to bring him to trial.

CHIEF RABBI OF ROME OFFICIATES AT SERVICES FOR JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

ROME, April 9. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Elio Taoff of Rome officiated at memorial services for the several hundred Jews massacred in the Ardeatine Caves by the Nazis.

EISENHOWER ACCLAIMS SERVICES OF THE NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- The work of the National Jewish Welfare Board was lauded by President Eisenhower in a message received today by the JWB here in connection with its forthcoming biennial convention which will open in Washington next week. Addressed to JWB president Charles Aaron, the message from President Eisenhower reads:

"Your service to personnel in the Armed Forces and to patients in veterans hospitals merits the gratitude and respect of your countrymen. Your wise leadership in the Jewish Community Center movement makes an important contribution to our national welfare."

Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy wrote: "Our commanders throughout the Armed Forces regard the National Jewish Welfare Board as one of their important allies in the continuing effort to maintain the high morale of our personnel. In war and in peace, for more than 40 years, you have carried out with devotion and resourcefulness your responsibilities toward servicemen and civilian employees of your faith."

PROTESTANTS, CATHOLICS JOIN IN CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, April 9. (JTA) -- The Protestant and Catholic churches will join in the celebration of Israel's 10th anniversary in New York which will be held at the Polo Grounds on April 27. More than 50,000 New Yorkers are expected to attend the event.

The spokesman for the Protestant faith will be Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; Msgr. John A. Dunne, vice chancellor of the Military Ordinariate of the Roman Catholic Church, will represent Francis Cardinal Spellman; General Moshe Dayan, former Chief of Staff of the Israel Army, and Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, will represent the State of Israel at the celebration. General Dayan is flying here from Israel especially to participate in the Polo Grounds anniversary program.

Fifteen major Jewish organizations have joined in the sponsorship of the affair. They include American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, the Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith, B'nai Zion, Hadassah, Jewish War Veterans, Labor Zionist Organization, Mizrahi Women's Organization, Pioneer Women, Farband, Religious Zionists of America, United Labor Zionist Party, Women's League for Israel, Young Israel, and the Zionist Organization of America.

The free film library of the United Israel Appeal, the largest distributor of Israel films in the United States, will assist all Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, community centers, schools, youth clubs and other groups in programming special events for Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year, it was announced here today. All films distributed by the United Israel Appeal are 16 mm sound. To meet individual program needs, groups can select films ranging from 15 minute shorts to one-hour features.

The UIA's film library offers a wide variety of pictures on every aspect of life in Israel, including immigration and absorption of the new immigrants, farming communities, science, the reclamation of the Negev and life in the country's major cities. Also available are travelogues, newsreels and human interest features.

ISRAEL CHIEF RABBINATE PROCLAIMS "SHEMITA"; WILL GRANT DISPENSATION

JERUSALEM, April 9. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbis Isaac Herzog and Isaac Nissim issued a proclamation on the eve of "Shemita 5719," the sabbatical year when all lands in Israel are to remain uncultivated, and urged farmers to avail themselves of "Heter Mechira" under which their holdings need not remain fallow. "Heter Mechira," a form of rabbinical dispensation which permits deviation from strict halachic observance in the light of modern changes, was evolved from rulings of sages to meet current needs.

The rabbinical proclamation states that since sabbatical and jubilee years cannot be observed in full detail and in all their particulars, dispensations will be granted to those who apply and conform with instructions to be issued by the rabbinate.

RIO DE JANEIRO MUNICIPALITY NAMES PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR STATE OF ISRAEL

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 9. (JTA) -- A municipal school named for the State of Israel was opened here at a ceremony attended by Mayor Negrão de Lima and Israel Minister Arie Aronson. The school is located in a workers' suburb in which no Jews reside.

The naming of the school for the State of Israel was decided upon by the Rio de Janeiro municipality in honor of Israel's tenth anniversary. In his speech, Mayor de Lima emphasized the contribution of the Jews of Brazil to the development of the Brazilian capital.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT PLEDGES FIGHT ON BIAS; SENDS MESSAGE TO W. J. C.

BUENOS AIRES, April 9. (JTA) -- A determination to preserve human rights and combat discrimination has been conveyed to the World Jewish Congress by the Argentinian President Dr. Arturo Frondizi. In a message to Marc Turkow, head of the WJC office in Buenos Aires, Dr. Frondizi confirmed his "irrevocable purpose of serving, through the Government, the dignity of the human person, and of combatting any social, political or racial discrimination."