



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXVII No. 5 - 42nd year Friday, January 8, 1960

SWASTIKA INCIDENTS MULTIPLY AS PUBLIC OPINION MOUNTS IN PROTEST

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- From all over the world--including sections of the United States where no previous manifestations had been registered--reports flowed in today of synagogue desecrations, defacements of public buildings with the Nazi swastika and the appearance of such slogans as "Death to the Jews."

At the same time, responsible public opinion began to crystallize in sharp condemnation of such activities. Leaders of all religious faiths expressed their horror, statesmen and politicians called for stern counter-action, authorities in many lands and in cities throughout the United States alerted their police forces to guard against further anti-Semitic actions and to apprehend the culprits.

In Washington, while six automobile owners, including the night watchman at the Israeli Embassy, reported their cars had been smeared with swastikas last night, three members spoke up in the Senate in sharp condemnation of the resurgent plague of anti-Semitism.

Senator Jacob K. Javits, of New York, told the Senate that the outbreak of anti-Jewish vandalism "warrants our severest condemnation." He warned that the significance of the outbursts could be minimized "only at our peril." Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon warned West Germany--where the new anti-Semitic wave had been touched off by the desecration of the Cologne synagogue--that the world will not tolerate "the rising tide of anti-Semitism." Sen. Thomas Kuchel, of California viewed "the new ugly labor of bigots with shock, dismay and the deepest kind of indignation."

Pennsylvania Government Orders Police Action

At Harrisburg, Pa., Governor David Lawrence ordered police action after an anti-Jewish inscription had been found painted on the facade of a local synagogue. The Governor said he was "shocked--more than that, saddened" by such desecration in the State's capital.

At the United Nations, the International League for the Rights of Man formally requested that a subcommittee to meet next week to debate religious rights and freedoms, condemn the recent outrages and probe into their "origin and purpose."

Police went into action in Istanbul, Turkey, after synagogue and Jewish community leaders received swastika-embazoned letters, urging "Death to the Jews." At Rio de Janeiro, the chief of the Federal police department announced he had traced desecrations committed at synagogues in Sao Paulo and in various provincial cities to an anti-Semitic group in Sao Paulo.

The reports of further incidents came today from places so remote from one another as Jacksonville, Fla., and small towns in Austria, an American military base employing Germans at Giessen, West Germany, and the London suburbs of Catford and Bromley.

Geneva headquarters of the World Council of Churches expressed its horror and called for a halt to the anti-Semitic manifestations. Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York said the wave of Nazi-like incidents "should be condemned by every decent citizen and right-thinking individual."

Incidents are 'Warning to World'

Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, said: "At the moment, the crimes have an undetermined cause. But whether ultimately this will be disclosed as the machinations of a neo-Nazi movement, or the offenses of diseased and tortured individuals, they cry out in warning to a world which recoils with horror at the lingering memory of Hitlerism."

(At Lima, Peru, Israeli Ambassador Tuvia Arzai received a letter from the Peruvian Student Federation of San Marcos University--oldest university in the Americas--condemning "vehemently the recrudescence of anti-Semitism in Germany," and offering "all help to the noble Israeli people." "The San Marcos students," stated the letter, "will not allow the resurgence of the painful experiences of the war days, nor the establishment of new ghettos.")

SOCIALISTS OPPOSE ADENAUER ON SPECIAL LAW TO CURE OUTBREAKS

4. 7
BONN, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Leaders of the Social Democratic and Free Democratic Parties announced tonight they would oppose the Adenauer Government's attempts to amend the penal code to forbid practices endangering the public peace through incitement to hatred against particular groups because of their "nationality, race or religion or other traits of national heritage." A Social Democratic spokesman explained his party view by asserting that "legislation affecting a special group is always a danger to democracy."

The Cabinet decided at a special meeting last night to seek this legislation as a weapon to fight the current anti-Semitic outbreak which began in Cologne on Christmas Eve. The Government failed some months ago to secure adoption of this legislation. There were many objections to the draft by leaders of many parties as well as by Jewish leaders in Germany. Some of the objections were based on opposition to the singling out of the Jews in Germany for special attention. Other objectors, however, felt that the amendment did not go far enough.

The present code leaves up to local prosecutors to determine how to apply the code in regard to racism, making it possible for culprits to escape with jail sentences of only a week or with fines only. The amendment provides jail sentences of "at least three months."

A spokesman for the Ministry of the Interior said at a news conference here last night that there is "no conclusive evidence" pointing to any central organization or overall coordination of the plague of anti-Semitic incidents.

(In West Berlin, the City's justice department asked the Western occupation authorities for permission to invoke a 1945 law of the Four-Power Control Council banning all forms of Nazi activity. Mayor Willy Brandt, denouncing the swastika plague as "hell's uproar," said West Berlin's police would crack down on neo-Nazi elements wherever it discovered them.)

Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano received A.L. Easterman of the World Jewish Congress here today to discuss the situation. Following the meeting, Mr. Easterman said he was satisfied with Herr von Brentano's assurances that the most speedy and effective legislative and administrative measures would be taken to uproot Nazi elements in the Federal Republic.

(In Washington, Maurice Bisgyer, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith and Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith conferred today with officials of the State Department and with German Ambassador Wilhelm Grewe in connection with a forthcoming visit to West Germany next week by Mr. Epstein and Nathan C. Belth of the ADL.)

The Ministry of the Interior, it was learned today, will submit its recommendations to the Cabinet on January 30, on action to be taken with respect to the Deutsche Reich Party, a right-wing neo-Nazi organization. The Cabinet will then have to decide whether to ask the Constitutional Court at Leipzig to declare the party illegal.

BRITISH HOME SECRETARY BLAMES 'FEW IRRESPONSIBLE PERSONS'

LONDON, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Richard A. Butler, who as British Home Secretary, is the Cabinet member in charge of police, declared today that the recent outburst of swastika paintings and public display of anti-Semitism signs here is "attributable to a few irresponsible persons," having "no deeper significance than that."

He made that statement in an address to the local Conservative Club of his constituency of Essex. Mr. Butler promised that "the police will deal effectively with any breaches of the law, as this foolish and irresponsible behavior is to be deplored."

Further anti-Semitic manifestations were reported last night although police guards were stationed at synagogues and other Jewish communal buildings. Jewish ex-servicemen and women set up their own patrols here, touring sections heavily populated by Jews in cars containing four war veterans in each automobile. Neither the police nor the Jewish patrols, however, apprehended any of the culprits.

SWASTIKA DAUBER APOLOGIZES TO SOUTH AFRICAN RABBI

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A man who admitted painting swastikas on the walls of the synagogue in Mulzenberg, Cape Province, called on the rabbi and apologized for his action, the rabbi disclosed today.

Rabbi Jacob Weinberg said the man first telephoned him to apologize. He invited the man to come to his home to discuss the matter. "After hearing his story," the rabbi said, "I decided to say nothing further until I consult my committee."

Newspapers, including organs of the Nationalist Government, in editorials today condemned the anti-Jewish excesses in this country. Die Vaderland, leading Afrikaans daily, said today that the South African Jewish community can be assured that there is "not the slightest danger of any anti-Jewish campaign of any significance here."

ISRAEL BIDS NATIONS TO HALT ANTI-SEMITIC UPSURGE, PREVENT CATASTROPHE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Israeli diplomatic representatives abroad were instructed by the Foreign Ministry today to communicate to the governments to which they are accredited, the "deep shock" of the people and government of Israel over the outbursts of anti-Semitism throughout the world.

The Foreign Ministry directive instructed the Israeli representatives to cite the Knesset declaration of Justice Minister Pinchas Rosen that Israel is most sensitive to developments abroad affecting the Jewish people, and is deriving moral support from the fact that the current outbursts represent neither official policy nor the enlightened opinion of the peoples concerned.

The diplomats were also told to stress the need for striking at the roots of "these despicable manifestations," in order to prevent isolated incidents from reaching catastrophic proportions able to endanger entire peoples and humanity itself.

U. S. A. PROVIDES \$30,000,000 WORTH OF AGRICULTURAL SURPLUS TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The United States Department of Agriculture today signed an agreement with Israel providing \$30,200,000 in surplus agricultural commodities. The agreement was signed by Ambassador Avraham Harman and Secretary Ezra Taft Benson. The commodities included \$11,200,000 wheat or wheat flour, approximately 6,700,000 bushels; \$9,900,000 feed grains, 7,800,000 bushels; \$4,200,000 cotton seed or soy bean oil, 33,900,000 pounds; \$800,000 cotton, 6,000 bales; \$600,000 rice, 110,000 bags; \$200,000 tobacco, 265,000 pounds; \$3,300,000 ocean transportation expenses.

Mr. Benson commended Israel as a "dynamic young country" and said Israel was one of the world's leading participants in the surplus program, having signed agreements each year since it was initiated, totaling \$161,000,000. He said he had a great personal interest in Israel's successful development since he had visited the country and witnessed its efforts. Of the currency proceeds generated by the commodity sale in Israel, 80 percent will be used for development purposes.

COURT UPSETS JERUSALEM CITY ELECTION ON VOTE COUNT IRREGULARITY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- This city's municipal election of last November was invalidated here today by a magistrate who found irregularities in the very polling precinct where President Ishak Ben-Zvi had cast his vote.

This was the second case of invalidation of a municipal election in two days. Yesterday, a district judge at Rehovot ruled that the municipal elections there were null and void, because he had found evidence of bribery among residents of a transit camp who had voted for the ticket of the National Religious Party. As a result, Rehovot's Mayor Avraham Katz announced he was stepping down from his post.

Today's ruling, in this city, affected the dominant Mapai Party. The General Zionists, who were four votes short for receiving a seat in the Municipal Council, called for a recount, asserting that 50 envelopes in the voting precinct had been rejected in the tabulation because the envelopes had not been stamped by the election committee. The envelopes, including some votes from Israeli soldiers, were found to include five votes in favor of General Zionists. According to the latter party's leaders, the voters who cast the contested ballots had been told by the precinct's election committee that the stamps were not necessary.

While the Government will appoint an interim municipal council to replace the short-lived coalition council now ruled out of office, negotiations were begun to get the General Zionists to accept one council seat that would be surrendered by Mapai. Under the law, a new election must be held in 30 days. The general political consensus is opposed to new elections, which could cost the Government and the various parties a total of about 1,000,000 pounds.

Israeli News Briefs

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The First Canadian United Jewish Appeal study mission arrived in Israel today on a ten-day visit, during which it will tour the country and confer with leading Israeli Government members on Israel's requirements and problems during the coming year.

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The Israel State Radio has inaugurated a new schedule of overseas broadcasts in the French and English languages, beamed to West Africa.

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A French trade delegation will leave for Israel next week to negotiate a new French-Israel commercial agreement for 1960.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A total of \$11,700,000 in potential income has been secured by the Foundation for the Jewish National Fund through bequests, insurance assignments and other gifts, it was announced here today by Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, president of the Foundation.

LEADERS SEE U.S. INTERESTS HURT BY ARAB ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The recent termination by Regie Renault, French automobile manufacturers, of the firm's business relations with the Kaiser-Frazer car assembly plant in Israel, was denounced here today by leaders of 17 major American Jewish organizations as "capitulation" to Arab pressures and "harmful to American and United Nations efforts toward stability in the Middle East and toward world peace."

Pointing out that the Renault Company has admitted that it withdrew from Israel "because of pressure from the Arab League Boycott Office," and that, subsequently, Renault was taken off the Arab League's blacklist, the statement declared:

"It is gratifying to note the large number of enterprises throughout the world that have refused to surrender to the boycott. It is unfortunate, however, that some, like Renault, have seen fit to yield to the Arab League boycott."

"The Arab League boycott also makes it impossible to achieve progress toward peace in the Middle East. UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld has characterized the boycott as a 'dead weight upon our efforts.' It is a form of political and economic aggression that creates and maintains tension in the Middle East. By keeping the Middle East in a state of near war, the boycott is a continuing threat to world peace. So long as the boycott lasts, interests vital to America are jeopardized."

"The boycott has brought about violations of the rights of American citizenship and interference with the freedoms to trade, invest and travel. Because the boycott imposes unnecessary expenditures and economic losses upon all the countries of the Middle East, it subverts the purposes of United States economic assistance and makes the Middle East more dependent upon such American aid. Arab League economic warfare therefore places unnecessary and additional burdens upon the American taxpayer."

"We shall continue to expose these evils in the conviction that on political and economic, as well as moral grounds, the Arab League boycott must be resisted by the United States Government, by American business, and by the American public."

The statement was signed by the following presidents: Bernard Abrams, Jewish War Veterans of the United States; Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, American Israel Public Affairs Committee; Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Moe Falikman, American Trade Union Council for Labor Israel; Moses I. Feuerstein, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; Dr. Miriam Freund, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

Also, Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, Jewish Agency for Israel; Adolph Held, Jewish Labor Committee; Mrs. Charles Hymes, National Council of Jewish Women; Bernath L. Jacobs, United Synagogue of America; Label Katz, B'nai B'rith; Mrs. Clara Leff, Labor Zionist Assembly; Rabbi Irving Miller, American Zionist Council; Rabbi Joachim Prinz, American Jewish Congress; Abraham Redelheim, Zionist Organization of America; Rabbi Isaac Stollman, Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi; and David Ullman, National Community Relations Advisory Council.

EISENHOWER ASKS NEW CONGRESS TO CONSIDER CIVIL RIGHTS MEASURES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower told Congress in his State of the Union message today that he hoped it would "seriously consider" at this year's session certain civil rights measures he had recommended last year, including federal action, under certain circumstances, in the bombing of synagogues, churches and schools.

Recalling that he had recommended certain civil rights legislation last year, and that the Civil Rights Commission had developed "additional constructive recommendations," Mr. Eisenhower said he hoped Congress would consider these proposals and "will thus signal to the world that our Government is striving for equality under law for all our people."

The President was silent, however, on earlier promises to push for revision of the U.S. immigration laws.

UNVEIL TOMBSTONE OVER GRAVE OF LATE ISRAEL CHIEF RABBI HERZOG

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A tombstone was unveiled with ritual ceremony today over the grave of the late Chief Rabbi Isaac Halevi Herzog, whose remains are interred at Sanhedria Cemetery here. Among those attending were Sephardic Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim, and members of the Israel Cabinet.

RABBI MORRIS B. TOMASHOFF, NOTED SCHOLAR, DEAD AT 81

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Rabbi Morris B. Tomashoff, noted scholar and an authority on rabbinic law, who died here yesterday at the age of 81. He was spiritual leader of the Beth Israel synagogue in Brooklyn for 45 years.

Born in Russia, Rabbi Tomashoff came to the United States in 1912, and two years later became the rabbi of the Beth Israel congregation. He was honorary chairman and a former vice-president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the U.S. and Canada, and an executive member of the Vaad Harabanim of New York. Rabbi Tomashoff was the originator and co-editor of Yagdil Torah, a monthly journal on Jewish law, and was the author of numerous works on the rabbinic codes.