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SOVIET CHARGES OF 'ESPIONAGE' AGAINST ISRAELI DIPLOMAT ANGRILY DENIED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21: (JTA) -- Israel official sources angrily rejected today the charges voiced in the Moscow newspaper "Trud" that Israeli diplomats in the Soviet Union had engaged in "espionage" and are helpful in activities for the American Central Intelligence Agency.

Terming these allegations as "fabrications," a Foreign Ministry spokesman here said that they constitute "gross contraventions of international practice." The allegations were termed "ridiculous and absolutely unfounded" by Israel's Foreign Minister Golda Meir in a statement made in Tokyo, Japan, where she is now on an unofficial visit.

The charges in "Trud" provoked excited articles against the Soviet Union in the entire Israeli press; The Soviet newspaper had said that Israeli diplomats in Moscow are using synagogues to spread Zionist literature and to collect espionage information. It mentioned Joshua Pratt, the first secretary of the Israeli embassy in Moscow, as a person who had been in contact with the three leaders of the Leningrad synagogue who were sentenced recently to long terms of imprisonment for being in contact with representatives of a "foreign power." The three Leningrad Jewish leaders are Gedalia E. Pechersky, 60; E. S. Dymkin and N. A. Kaganov. Both Mr. Dymkin and Mr. Kaganov are in their late seventies.

Arrest of Rabbi in Vilna Reported by Moscow Newspaper

The article in the Moscow paper said Mr. Pratt had "often passed out anti-Soviet and Zionist literature "to members of synagogues. Similar charges had been made by Soviet newspapers earlier against two Israeli diplomats in Moscow, Yaakov Kelman and Yaakov Sharett, both of whom were ordered to leave the Soviet Union.

"Trud" also alleged that Mr. Pratt headed a "spy ring" that recruited agents among Soviet Jewish citizens, and declared that the activities were carried on not only with the knowledge of the Israel Government but also on orders of the United States Government. According to Trud, there have been ties between the Israeli intelligence service and the Central Intelligence Agency, the organization conducting intelligence work for the U. S. Government.

(In Paris, the press carried a cable from Moscow stating that Trud has also reported the arrest of "the rabbi of Vilna;" The Soviet paper did not name the rabbi, but linked him with "speculators and smugglers" on trial in Lithuania.)

The press in Israel came out today with sharply worded articles against this latest Soviet campaign against Jews in the Soviet Union. Davar, organ of the Histadrut--Israel's Federation of Labor--said in an editorial: "The deliberate tendency in Russia to portray the synagogue as a center of treason, and worshipers as servants of foreigners, evokes a grim association with Czarist incitement methods. That is a very dangerous road, appealing to prejudice of a most primitive character." A similar editorial was published also in the Jerusalem Post, Israel's English daily newspaper. The same sentiment was also expressed in other Israeli newspapers.

U.S. Considers Moscow Charge as 'Concentrated Attack' on Soviet Jews

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21: (JTA) -- The charge made by the Moscow newspaper "Trud" that Israeli diplomats in Russia are spying for the United States Government's Central Intelligence Agency appears to be further evidence of the Soviet Union's "concentrated attack on its Jewish population," a State Department spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

The spokesman scoffed at the charge, asserting that the Central Intelligence Agency has long been a favorite target of Soviet propagandists. He speculated that the newest charge against the CIA--recruiting Israeli diplomats for espionage work in Russia--which he described as "a two-in-one shot," was aimed at discrediting both the U. S. Intelligence arm and Russian Jews.

Meanwhile, two members of the U. S. Congress, Rep. William Fitts Ryan and Rep. Herbert Zelenko--both from New York--requested that the United States delegation

at the United Nations introduce a resolution at the UN condemning Russia for persecuting Jews.

Mr. Ryan also sent a telegram to President Kennedy and Secretary of State Dean Rusk, warning of "terrifying dangers facing Soviet Jews." He stated in his wires that "like the opening step of Nazi pogroms," the Soviet accusations against Israeli diplomats are "obviously calculated to open the way for full persecution, imprisonment or death for Soviet Jews."

U.S. Jewish Groups Condemn Moscow's Charges Against Israeli Diplomats

NEW YORK, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The accusations in "Trud" against Israeli diplomats in Moscow and against religious Jews in the synagogues were condemned today in a statement at the Hadassah conference now taking place in New York. The statement was made by Mrs. Herman Shulman, former president of Hadassah, in the course of her address at the conference.

The American Jewish Congress, similarly condemned the charges made in Moscow and described them as "another step in the relentless Soviet campaign to destroy the last remaining links between Jews in the Soviet Union and their co-religionists in other parts of the world." The AJCongress statement was issued by Will Maslow, executive director of the organization.

BEN-GURION ASSURES CABINET ON BAN ON RE-SALE OF ISRAELI WEAPONS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- No Israeli-made weapons which were sold to foreign governments, have been resold to any third party, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion reassured the Cabinet here today. He told the Cabinet that authoritative statements to this effect have been received by Israel from "the governments concerned."

Mr. Ben-Gurion reiterated this assurance as a result of recurring press reports, alleging that Israel-made Uzzi submachineguns were being used by the Portuguese to help repress independence rebels in Angola, Africa.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE REPORTS GROWING INTERFAITH FRIENDSHIP

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 21 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee today concluded here its four-day executive board meeting with a resolution stressing that "special efforts must be made to assure equal educational opportunity to all children in all public schools."

Louis Caplan of Pittsburgh, president of the American Jewish Committee, told the meeting that recent developments in Christianity in this country and abroad revealed "a marked trend toward growing interfaith cooperation and amity." He particularly stressed recent actions by Protestant and Catholic Church leaders in eliminating "negative stereotypes of Jews from Christian teachings;" as part of this trend toward "a significant and productive era in Christian-Jewish relations;" He cited the following concrete developments here and abroad which he said pointed to interfaith amity and cooperation:

1. Establishment in Madrid of a committee of leading Catholics and Jews to promote interfaith cooperation in that country;
2. A resolution adopted by the Protestant Tenth Evangelical Church Assembly held late last year in Berlin which asserted the indissoluble link between Christians and Jews;
3. A statement adopted by the Catholic National Conference for Interracial Justice calling on Catholics "to work for the complete removal of anti-Semitic prejudice where it exists in ourselves and our nation;"
4. The Vatican's recent action eliminating anti-Jewish material in descriptions of paintings hanging in the Catholic Church at Deggendorf, Germany;
5. The participation of leading Protestant and Catholic theologians in the publication of a study by the French historian Jules Isaac, entitled "Has Anti-Semitism Roots in Christianity?" The study states that although the essence of Christianity contains no anti-Semitism, Christian teaching has been a source of this form of bigotry.

It was announced at the meeting that the American Jewish Committee and the Catholic-sponsored Pro Deo University in Rome have created jointly the first Chair of Intergroup Relations ever established at a European institution of higher learning. Instruction in the courses will begin at the Pro Deo University next month. The intergroup curriculum, developed by the AJC, will deal with understanding among racial and religious groups and with the roots of discrimination and persecution.

At the closing session today it was also announced that a committee on national growth has been established, the functions of which will be to analyze the American Jewish Committee's areas of concern and to relate the needs of the times to AJC policy at home and abroad. The new body is in line with the call issued yesterday, to all voluntary and civic organizations by Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the AJC, to develop extensive programs for the achievement of peace and to extend their objectives "to a war against war itself."

AMERICAN ORT APPROVES \$8,000,000 BUDGET; RATIFIES AGREEMENT WITH J. D. C.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- A budget for ORT activities in 1962 in 19 countries totaling more than \$8,000,000 adopted by the World ORT Union, was approved here today by the 40th anniversary national conference of the American ORT Federation; The 500 delegates who attended the conference also approved allocations totaling \$2,795,000 toward the overall budget;

Dr. William Haber, president of the American ORT Federation, announced that the organization would, during 1962, support a program of economic rehabilitation and occupational training for more than 40,000 persons overseas; The main areas where such services will be provided are Israel, North Africa, Europe and Iran, Dr. Haber said; Plans for the ORT trade education programs in Israel for 1962 call for expansion of instructional facilities to enroll 15,000 persons, he stated; In the last 16 years, Dr. Haber reported, ORT has "provided economic rehabilitation for 350,000 persons overseas, at a cost of \$63,965,000."

The conference ratified an agreement with the Joint Distribution Committee under which ORT will receive in 1962 from the JDC the sum of \$1,850,000 from funds raised by the United Jewish Appeal; An additional sum, totaling \$945,000, is anticipated from membership income of the Women's American ORT Federation and other affiliated groups; The balance of ORT's financial needs overseas is expected to be raised by ORT organizations in other countries, and by contributions from governments and local communities where the ORT schools are located;

In anticipation of a larger influx of refugees to France, in the next 12 months, the delegates approved new measures for the expansion of ORT facilities at Marseilles, Lyon, Paris, and Strasbourg; A new trade school for refugee youth, with facilities for the training of 500 refugee youth, will be inaugurated in the spring, it was announced at the conference; The school was built with the aid of a grant of \$75,000 from the Martha S. Stern Trust of Cincinnati;

Klutznick Stresses Importance of Vocational Training Work Abroad

Ambassador Philip M. Klutznick, a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations, addressing a dinner session, urged a "refocusing" of American foreign aid, to provide greater emphasis on the development of human resources; Programs of education in skills and vocations, he said, could "unleash a power more mighty than dollars, more effective than governments, more meaningful than slogans;" Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, spoke at the dinner on the emergency needs overseas;

At a meeting of ORT's board of directors, held during the conference, a report on an eight-nation survey of vocational education, conducted by ORT specialists under contract with an American Government agency, the Agency for International Development, was given by Dr. Hobard H. Sommers, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Chicago; Dr. Sommers, a member of the survey team, congratulated ORT on the fact that the United States Government selected it "as the outstanding professional vocational education agency in the world, to undertake this important service;"

Discussions are now under way, the board was told, for ORT surveys of vocational educational facilities and requirements in two other African countries, Mali and Guinea; The board approved these two new projects, to be undertaken by ORT at the further request of the Agency for International Development;

President Kennedy Lauds ORT's Work in Israel and France

Messages lauding the achievements of ORT were received at the conference from President Kennedy; Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg; Israel's Ambassador to Washington, Avraham Harman; and former Senator Herbert H. Lehman, honorary president of ORT; In his message, President Kennedy stated:

"Your work is of major significance for the welfare and economic development of the international community. I wish you every success in your new program of vocational training in India, and apprenticeship training in Israel, in your expanded assistance project to North African refugees in France, and your continuing, practical, humanitarian effort to help the underprivileged and needy overseas."

The establishment of a new national ORT Legacy Committee was announced by John F. Davidson, Nathan Chanin, a founder of ORT, and general secretary of the Workmen's Circle, was honored by the delegates on his 75th birthday; A plaque was presented to him by Adolf Held, vice-president of the American ORT Federation; The organization's Award of Merit was presented to Jacques Zwiaback and Jacob Frankel, of the American and European Friends of ORT, in recognition of their group's contribution of \$30,000 to support the ORT auto mechanics school in Jerusalem;

U.S. GIVES \$39,000 RESEARCH GRANT TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- A grant of \$39,000 for a three-year research program in connection with rehabilitation of mental patients was given by the National Institute of Mental Health, a U.S. Government body, to the Pittsburgh section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

HADASSAH CONFERENCE BACKS U.S. BUYING OF \$100,000,000 U.N. BONDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- Hadassah went on record today as supporting President Kennedy's request for legislation authorizing the acquisition by the United States of \$100,000,000 of United Nations bonds. In a special resolution, approved by more than 200 leaders from all parts of the United States, the Hadassah conference which opened here today called upon Congress to approve the President's request in order to help the United Nations "meet the mounting deficit and prevent a financial crisis."

Mrs. Herman Shulman, former national president of Hadassah, and I. L. Kenen of Washington, D.C., executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, discussed at the opening session the mounting crisis in the Middle East. Mrs. Shulman said that "peace in the Middle East is an important objective of American foreign policy," and urged the Kennedy Administration to further efforts to bring about "direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states as an important step towards this objective."

Mr. Kenen told the Hadassah conference that "the new rash of threats to destroy Israel," voiced by the leaders of Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt within the last few days, "is being ominously reinforced by new Soviet shipments of destroyers, submarines and planes. No one can be sure that time is on the side of peace in the Middle East. No one can be complacent."

Shimshon Arad, Consul of Israel at New York, and a member of the Israel delegation to the United Nations, told the Hadassah leaders that at the last General Assembly, the Arab delegations had hoped to inflict severe blows on Israel. However, he stated, "they were decisively defeated in that adventure. On the other hand, the forgotten UN basic doctrine of direct negotiations--though not mastering this time the required majority--has emerged anew as the only constructive path to peace and progress in the Middle East."

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS PRESIDENT TESTIFIES ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- Rabbi Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress, testifying this weekend before a Congressional subcommittee on fair employment practices, emphasized that "appeals against bias and intolerance can have an effect only when they are supported by law and public regulation."

In urging enactment of Federal legislation that would outlaw bias in hiring because of race, creed, or national origin, Rabbi Prinz declared: "The nation has already waited too long for this measure which is critically needed for realization of the democratic ideal of full equality in a free society." He added: "No education for brotherhood can be successful where the ideal of equality is contradicted by the stark facts of segregation and discrimination."

PARADES, PAGEANTS MARK CELEBRATION OF 'TU BISHVAT' THROUGHOUT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- Celebrations marking Tu Bishvat (Arbor Day) were held throughout Israel today, featuring ceremonial plantings of tens of thousands of trees in new groves, woods, gardens and schoolyards in all parts of the country.

The highlight of this year's events, which included parades, pageants and student plays, was the participation by children of members of the diplomatic corps and foreign legations, who were the guests of organized councils of women at the various celebrations.

Included in the observances were large-scale plantings by Gadna youth at development areas. Students at seminars from many countries completing courses in administration and public service at the Afro-Asian Institute, organized a planting tour of Galilee settlements.

BOSTON JEWISH HOSPITAL GETS \$150,000 GIFT TO EXPAND PSYCHIATRIC WORK

BOSTON, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- A gift of \$150,000 to be used for the expansion of the psychiatric services at Beth Israel here, was made today by Mr. and Mrs. George Sherman, well-known philanthropists here.

The announcement of the gift was made by Irving W. Rabb, chairman of the hospital's \$7,500,000 development fund campaign. Both George Sherman and Mrs. Beatrice Sherman had previously made large contributions to Brandeis University, the Newton-Wellesley Hospital, Jewish Memorial Hospital, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, the Hebrew Home for the Aged and the development program of Boston University.

CHICAGO FAMILY PRESENTS \$100,000 GIFT TO JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CHICAGO, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- A \$100,000 gift was presented today by Philip A. Shapiro, Chicago alderman, and Mrs. Shapiro, to the Jewish Theological Seminary of America for the establishment of a lectureship in Jewish laws at the seminary located in New York City. The gift, income-producing real estate in Chicago, was accepted by Martin Grabois, comptroller of the seminary.

JACOB STODOLSKY, AMERICAN YIDDISH POET, DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS 75

NEW YORK, Jan. 21; (JTA) -- Jacob Stodolsky, Yiddish poet, essayist and editor, died here today at the age of 75. A member of the introspectivist group of Yiddish poets, Mr. Stodolsky was also editor of the quarterly, "Our Horizons."