



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXIX - 44th year

Tuesday, May 22, 1962

No. 99

DELEGATION OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS CONFERS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON, May 21. (JTA) -- A delegation from the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations conferred here today on the Middle East for more than an hour with Secretary of State Dean Rusk. The delegation was headed by Label A. Katz of New Orleans, president of B'nai B'rith, who acted as chairman of the group in the absence of Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the Conference.

Included in the delegation were Louis Weinstein of Boston, president of the National Community Relations Advisory Council; Rabbi Philip Bernstein of Rochester, president of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee; Rabbi Joachim Prinz of Newark, president of the American Jewish Congress; and Yehuda Hellman of New York, executive secretary of the President's Conference.

Israel's Deputy Minister of Defense Shimon Peres arrived here today for a two-day unofficial visit and went immediately into a round of conferences with Administration officials. Mr. Peres conferred for 30 minutes each with Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs George McGhee and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Philipps Talbot. Both visits were described as "courtesy calls." The Israeli official is in the United States in connection with the bonds for Israel campaign.

State Department Assailed for Policy of Increased Aid to Nasser

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Senator Kenneth Keating, New York Republican, sharply criticized the Washington Administration's "newly spruced-up program of aid to Nasser" as "a dangerous precedent," in an address here last night before the National Committee for the Furtherance of Jewish Education.

Calling attention to the fact that he has asked the State Department to explain the new policies of aid to Egypt, he declared that the answers he received from the State Department are "astonishing in their short-sightedness and in their tendency to accept at face value whatever the Arabs chose to say." The State Department, he charged, has given "no hint of the fact that Israel has replaced Palestine in the Middle East," and accepted the "Arab protestations that their military posture vis-a-vis Israel is defensive."

"I have tried to discover," he said, "what guarantees we have demanded to make sure that none of our increased aid to Nasser, which may amount to \$180,000,000 this year, is used for increased armaments, anti-Western propaganda or economic warfare. Apparently there has been none."

He advocated passage of an amendment to the U.S. Foreign Aid Bill "to require that we establish priorities in our foreign aid program, and that we do insist on guarantees that United States aid will not be used, directly or indirectly, to step up military spending or hate-mongering propaganda."

ISRAEL AND ARAB STATES AGREE ON U.N. PLAN TO RELEASE REFUGEE FUNDS

UNITED NATIONS, May 21. (JTA) -- After long and complex negotiations--most of them involving technicalities--four Arab Governments and Israel have agreed on a United Nations plan whereby Israel will release an additional \$700,000 of cash deposited in small Israeli banks by Arab refugees, it was learned here today.

The monies are part of cash deposits left in Israel by the Arab refugees, covered in an agreement made in 1953 between Israel and the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission. Under the 1953 pact for the unfreezing of Arab refugee accounts, to which Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan agreed with the PCC for the refugees' acceptance of the funds, Israel released \$8,400,000 on deposit in Barclays Bank in Israel and in the Ottoman Bank. However, there were additional Arab refugee deposits still frozen in smaller Israeli banks. It is this additional sum, amounting to \$700,000, that Israel has now unfrozen.

At the same time, it was learned today that Dr. Joseph E. Johnson, the PCC's special envoy charged with trying to ease the disagreements between the Arab states and Israel regarding the general Arab refugee problem, will return here this week, after five weeks of discussions he held in the Middle East with the leaders of all the governments concerned.

MERGER OF GENERAL ZIONIST CONFEDERATIONS DISCUSSED AT PARLEY

AMSTERDAM, May 21, (JTA) -- The proposal to merge the two competing Confederations of General Zionists--the one headed by Mrs. Rose Halprin and Dr. Israel Goldstein, the other headed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann--was subjected to basic discussion here today as the Halprin-Goldstein Confederation convened for its world conference. Mrs. Halprin and Dr. Goldstein were the principal discussants. The conference was also addressed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, and Hanan Cidor, Israel's Ambassador to The Hague.

Speaking on the topic of merger, Mrs. Halprin told the conference: "I need hardly say that I am against the projection of political parties, and the strife that is inevitably centered around them, in the Diaspora. But, conversely, I do not believe it is possible to eliminate, nor desirable to eradicate differences that exist and are imbedded in the philosophical approach to Jewish and Zionist life. While I think that projection of political parties is bad, I think the existence of different groups within a country is natural and, perhaps even desirable.

"In connection with this problem," she continued, "the question has often been asked: What is really the difference between the Zionist and the non-Zionist? The question is hard to answer--not because there is any doubt that there is a difference but because it must be expressed in semantic form. We say that we believe in survival, that this implies the deepening of Jewish education, that we recognize the central role of Israel. Many non-Zionists may accept this definition. And yet, in practice, they and we will follow divergent patterns of activity. For we believe that only in Israel, where the community lives within geographical boundaries, where the keys of development lie in its own hands, can a move be set which will give it a distinct character. No other Jewish community in the world has those same characteristics."

Mrs. Halprin Explains Opposition to Merger; Dr. Goldstein Gives His Views

"Our Confederation," Mrs. Halprin told the conference, "will not be part of a Confederation in which Israel is represented by a political party." She then gave these reasons for this position: "A political party is an admixture of principle and expediency; it can not be hidebound by principle; it can not live only by expediency. The Liberal Party may consider it desirable tomorrow to invite Herut. Today it is in opposition to the Government, tomorrow it may be within the Government coalition."

Dr. Goldstein called the question of the reunification of the two existing Confederations of General Zionists "the most pressing organizational problem which faces our Confederation today." "The main question," he said, "is whether the other Confederation is willing to state simply, clearly, in whatever form will make the meaning unmistakable, as we have stated again and again, that it is in the best interests of world General Zionism that its organizations in the Diaspora should not be identified with any political party in Israel.

"We believe that any such identification or commitment would be delimiting and contrary to the broad, independent spirit which has been the tradition of General Zionism. Only a world Confederation of General Zionists so conceived, so based and so constituted would be able to hold together without strain or a variegated constituency, and would be in best position to render the greatest service to the Zionist movement as a whole.

"If such a declaration would be made by the other Confederation, there will be no reason, in my judgment, for our Confederation to oppose reunification. Indeed, it would be a vindication of the basic reason which prompted us to maintain our separate existence in these recent years. This does not mean that a World Confederation of General Zionists should have no views on important developments in Israel. Immigration, absorption and colonization are obviously a major part of Zionist budget, concern and responsibility--and the Zionist organization not only raises funds but also helps formulate policy together with the Government of Israel.

"In addition, there may be other phases of life in Israel, social, economic and political, which should be the concern of the Zionist organization. It is unthinkable that Zionists should set up an artificial wall between themselves and the prime interest of their heart. Such platonic relations can be left to non-Zionists. Zionists in the Diaspora, and the Jews in Israel are of one another. This quality should not be strained.

"But the points of procedure upon which our Confederation is based, and on which reunification between the two existing Confederations must be based, is that whatever views we may hold are determined by our independent judgment of what is right and what is in the highest interests of Zionism, Israel and the Jewish people--not on the basis of what a political party in Israel may decide in line with its party interests."

LAG BA'OMER FESTIVITIES START IN ISRAEL; PILGRIMS ARRIVE IN MERON

SAFAD, Israel, May 21, (JTA) -- Lag Ba'Omer festivities got underway at noon here today with the traditional procession to the graveside of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai in nearby Meron, the center of countrywide observances of the festive holiday. Thousands of pilgrims from all parts of the country began crowding into this city early this morning. They arrived by buses and cars, trucks and even horse-drawn carts from nearby villages.

MOSCOW URGED TO PERMIT SOVIET JEWS TO INVITE U.S. SYNAGOGUE LEADERS

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., May 21, (JTA) -- The president of the Rabbinical Assembly today urged the Soviet Union to allow its Jewish religious community to invite synagogue leaders from the United States to the USSR "in the same official manner in which the Russian Orthodox Church is carrying on a dialogue with its counterpart in America, the National Council of Churches." The plea was contained in Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow's presidential report to the annual convention of the Assembly, the international organization of Conservative Rabbis, now meeting here.

Rabbi Sandrow revealed that a subcommittee of the Synagogue Council of America, the organization representing all trends in American Jewish religious life, had had a meeting with the Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in Washington last month, the upshot of which was a pro forma denial of a "Jewish problem" in the USSR.

"The whole meeting was a frustrating experience to me," Rabbi Sandrow said. "Yet, it is my feeling that the Soviet Union seeks the goodwill and understanding of all groups in America, both religious and secular. Reports have been published in the press that the synagogues and streets surrounding the synagogues were filled on Passover. Maybe the Soviet Union is unhappy with those officials who, in spite of a constitutional prohibition against anti-Semitism, have carried on an anti-Semitic campaign against our people." He then went on to ask for the invitation to a "dialogue" between Russian and American Jews.

The Assembly president praised the Supreme Court's decision on reapportionment as a "landmark in the constitutional history of America" and regretted that it was not yet time to applaud a victory for the King-Anderson medical bill for the aged, or for a strong civil rights measure.

Rabbi Sandrow delivered a slashing attack on the "radical right" movement of "pseudo-patriots who have been attacking the Supreme Court, the State Department, universities, public schools, trade unions and even religious groups." He warned that any minority can become "the easy target for the Birch Society, the White Citizens' Councils and other such groups."

Noting that the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations had announced a campaign to help provide Jewish communities throughout the world with spiritual and educational leaders, Rabbi Sandrow recalled that on his return from the Far East earlier in the year, he had urged an end to competition for the affiliation of Jews in other countries to this or that congregational or rabbinical organization. He asked that the stress must be "first on saving these communities for Judaism" and then trying to "mold them in our own image." This call "still holds," he said, and "we sincerely hope that it will meet with a response from our sister organizations."

BONN SEEKS RESIGNATION FOR FORMER NAZI JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS

STUTTGART, May 21, (JTA) -- Fourteen former Nazi judges and prosecutors have applied for pensions, the Baden-Wurttemberg Ministry of Justice reported today. The Ministry also disclosed that talks were being held with other Hitler-era officials in efforts to persuade them to resign from judicial and prosecution posts in the state before June 30.

That was the deadline set last year in a Bundestag resolution for the resignation of former Nazi judges and prosecutors who were found guilty of abetting the laws of the Nazi regime. The resolution included an indication that the Bundestag might revise the West German basic law if that was necessary to get such former Nazi officials out of their present posts, with the implication that those thus forced to resign would lose their pension benefits.

TWO GERMANS CHARGED WITH MURDER OF JEWS IN POLAND GO ON TRIAL

HEILBRONN, West Germany, May 21, (JTA) -- Two former members of special German commando units charged with the murder of 40 to 50 Jews near Chelm, in Nazi-held Poland, in the spring of 1944 went on trial here today.

The defendants are Paul Heilig and Rudolf Theimer. They were members of Nazi military commando unit 1005, the prosecution charged.

ESTHONIAN MUSEUM EXHIBITS DOCUMENTS ON NAZI ANNIHILATION OF JEWS

LONDON, May 21, (JTA) -- An exhibition of the Nazi occupation of Estonia, organized at the Historical Museum in Tallin, includes documents, material and photographs describing the annihilation of the Estonian Jewish community, it was reported here today.

Among the items being shown are several pages written in Yiddish which were found in 1959 in a field in the region of the former concentration camp at Lagna. Another exhibit includes a school certificate in the name of Jacob Noah Lew, born 1920; a half-burnt medical diploma of one Dr. Aaron Bernstein and a deportation order in the name of Shep-selt Pruzahan. Also shown are documents from the infamous Kloga concentration camp.

PITTSBURGH JEWISH FEDERATION RAISES \$1,601,083 IN 1962 CAMPAIGN

PITTSBURGH, May 21. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh wound up its 1962 campaign by raising a total of \$1,601,083, according to an announcement made here today by Joseph M. Katz, chairman of the drive.

The final results, Mr. Katz said, show a 13 percent increase over last year's drive, resulting in additional gifts totaling \$200,000. All of the extra money, he said, will go toward aiding emergency immigration needs in Israel.

ISRAEL OFFERS 600 HIGHER LEVEL JOBS TO AMERICAN QUALIFIED WORKERS

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- There is an urgent need in Israel for hundreds of technically trained and qualified American men and women who are seeking the experience of employment in Israeli industry, it was announced here today by the Committee on Manpower Opportunities in Israel (COMOI). The Committee was organized as a central job-finding source for Americans who want to go to Israel.

According to Mrs. Lucy Manoff, director of the organization, located at 515 Park Avenue, Israel seeks technical and management personnel in existing and newly established industries and businesses. It also needs administrative and specialized professional people in social services and research fields there. "COMOI now offers approximately 600 higher level job opportunities for Americans who are interested in working in Israel," Mrs. Manoff said.

The jobs are awaiting Americans in Israel and include a wide variety of positions in industrial plants, technical schools, research centers, commercial enterprises, public institutes. Industries where special American skills are needed include: Automobiles, Aviation, Chemicals, Engineering, Printing, Textile, Tools, Chemists, Iron Foundry, Rubber, Steel, Management, Metals, Mining and Plastics.

According to Mrs. Manoff, wages offered by Israeli industry are comparable in purchasing power to U.S., and special facilities have been arranged for Americans who travel with their families to Israel. There is a special three-year contract for those who meet the specifications in the present list of jobs that are being offered.

ISRAEL-AMERICA CULTURE FOUNDATION AWARDS 230 SCHOLARSHIPS

TEL AVIV, May 21. (JTA) -- A total of 230 scholarships were awarded here by the Israel-America Culture Foundation to promising young Israelis in fields of music, painting and sculpture. Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive; and Y. Spira of the Kol Israel Broadcasting Service, were guest speakers at the ceremonies at which the scholarships were awarded.

Igor Stravinsky, whose 80th birthday is being celebrated in the world of music, will conduct the Israel Philharmonic orchestra during the second Israel Musical Festival which will open in Jerusalem on August 18, it was announced here today. The program also lists American opera star Roberta Peters and pianist Van Cliburn.

NEW YORK JEWISH MUSEUM STARTS CONSTRUCTION OF NEW \$500,000 WING

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Construction work was begun today for a new, three-story, \$500,000 wing to expand the facilities and exhibition space of the Jewish Museum of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Cornerstone laying ceremonies were held yesterday for the new wing, to be named the Albert A. List Building, in honor of the donor.

The new structure will increase exhibit space by 9,000 square feet, provide space for expansion of the Tobe Pacscher Workshop of Ceremonial Art, a textile workshop and a permanent children's area. A feature of the new structure will be a glass facade and special lighting to enable passersby to see exhibits from the street.

BRAZILIAN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE AWARDS MEDAL TO ISRAELI SCIENTIST

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 21. (JTA) -- Professor Saul Adler, chairman of the department of biology at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, was awarded a medal here by the Brazilian Academy of Medicine. He was cited for his "distinguished contribution" toward combating leishmaniasis, a disease caused by a variety of protozoan parasite, prevalent in this country.

DR. KURT PINE, YM-YWHA DIRECTOR, DIES IN NEW YORK; BORN IN GERMANY

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Pine, executive director of the Shorefront Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association in Brooklyn and associate general director of the YM-YWHA of Greater New York, died here yesterday at the age of 56.

Born in Germany, Dr. Pine came to this country in 1940 and held posts in Pittsburgh and New Haven before assuming his post in Brooklyn in 1949. He was active in the work of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and the United Jewish Appeal.