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JEWS IN ARGENTINA STRIKE IN PROTEST AGAINST ANTI-JEWISH VIOLENCE

BUENOS AIRES, June 28. (JTA) -- Jewish stores, factories, offices and schools were closed today throughout Argentina in protest against increased anti-Jewish violence which culminated in the abduction here of a 19-year-old girl by three terrorists who carved a swastika on her body with a razor. Signs reading "Closed in Protest Against Nazi Aggressions in Argentina" were displayed in front of every Jewish establishment.

The nationwide Jewish stoppage, which began at noon, was called by the DAIA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry. The stoppage was carried out with perfect discipline throughout the entire country. Many non-Jewish businesses in the Jewish sections here joined in the stoppage in solidarity with the Jews.

Police were ordered on the alert to combat the possibility of clashes from neo-Nazi reactions to the Jewish demonstration of protest. Many Argentine newspapers appeared with articles supporting the DAIA protest. The National Committee of the Union Civic Radical de Pueblo, one of Argentina's largest parties, published a statement demanding severe repressive measures against the perpetrators of the anti-Semitic attacks. Statements of support by students and teachers associations for the DAIA stand also were published in the newspapers.

Argentine President Summons Police Chief for Report

Acting on an appeal from the DAIA, President Guido of Argentina summoned police chief Horacio Green for a report on the assault of the Jewish girl, Graciela Sirota. A radio broadcast later reported that the police chief had resigned; however, he promptly said that the report was false.

The police chief met with reporters after his 35-minute meeting with President Guido and said he had informed the President about "the problem" presented by the DAIA. Green said he had also "exposed" to the President "the risk represented by the manner in which this Israelite organization presents things, together with the decision they took to make justice in their own hands, adopting measures of force."

He was asked if the police had reached the conclusion that the conditions which the Jews were protesting did in fact exist. He replied: "I have not the slightest doubt about that since the girl has the marks of it on her. What needs determining is in what manner this mark was made." Under further questioning, he said that the police did not come to any conclusions as to the persons responsible for the attack on Miss Sirota.

The police chief said that the girl had not been able to identify any of her assailants "from pictures we showed her." He added that her description of her assailants is so difficult it is impossible to identify anybody."

Jewish Community Stand Explained in Published Statement

Yesterday, ten of Argentina's most important daily newspapers published a statement by the DAIA in the form of a paid advertisement, describing the reasons which led the organization to call on the Jewish community for today's strike protest. The statement said that the brutal attack on Miss Sirota brought to a climax violence promoted "Nazi terrorism." It pointed out that the instigators and executors of the criminal acts remain free "thus creating conditions for the worst excesses."

The statement noted that the Government had replied "without delay" to the DAIA protest but the DAIA added that "the extreme gravity" of the situation "cannot be solved merely with statements, as may be gathered from the reiterated attempts at distortion" by some sources. This was a reference to the broadcasts of two radio stations which had sought to minimize the anti-Semitic violence.

40,000 JEWS IN CONSTANTINE AREA REPORTED LEFT ALGERIA FOR FRANCE

PARIS, June 28. (JTA) -- Some 30,000 of the 40,000 Jews in the vicinity of Constantine, Algeria, have already left the country, according to press reports received here today. The reports said that the remaining Jews as well as other Europeans are being urged to stay by the Algerian leaders who are promising them personal security after Algeria attains independence.

UNITED HIAS SERVICE OPENS OFFICE IN ALGIERS; TO HELP MIGRATING JEWS

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- James P. Rice, executive director of United Hias Service, announced today that the worldwide migration agency opened an office in Algiers to help meet the desperate needs arising from the mass departures of Jews of that country to France.

This step was taken in response to urgent requests from leaders of the Algerian Jewish community, Mr. Rice said. He stressed that United Hias Service is working in close cooperation with the Joint Distribution Committee in Algeria on related welfare and migration matters.

DR. SOBLEN DISCOVERED IN ISRAEL; ARRESTED FOR USING FALSE PASSPORT

TEL AVIV, June 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Robert A. Soblen, who disappeared from New York yesterday on the eve of his scheduled surrender to start a life sentence for spying for the Soviet Union, was discovered today in a small hotel here a few hours after his landing in Israel. He was immediately arrested on charges that he entered the country on false documents.

Officials here said he arrived yesterday using the Canadian passport of his late brother Bruce Gobel. He took the room in the hotel here under his brother's name. When he was asked by the police to produce his passport, he claimed he had lost it on the way from Lydda airport to the hotel.

The United States Embassy here noted that while a United States-Israel extradition agreement has been signed, it has not yet been ratified by Israel's Knesset and the U.S. Congress. Embassy officials said they would nevertheless ask for Dr. Soblen's extradition.

(In Washington, the State Department officially announced that the U.S. Department of Justice requested the Secretary of State to seek through diplomatic channels the return of convicted Soviet spy Dr. Robert A. Soblen to American custody. The State Department has entered into communication with the Israel Government on the matter. U.S. authorities are hopeful that Israel will quickly find a legal avenue to return Dr. Soblen to American custody.)

A spokesman for Interior Minister Moshe Shapiro announced that the Minister was awaiting full details on the case before deciding on what action to take. The spokesman said that, in view of previous decisions in such cases taken by the Ministry, it could be assumed that Dr. Soblen would not be given the immigrant visa to which every Jew is entitled under the Law of the Return. The spokesman noted that on a number of occasions Israel had emphasized that it would not serve as a refuge for criminals from other countries.

STEVENSON EXPLAINS U.S. VOTE AGAINST ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE TALKS

WASHINGTON, June 28. (JTA) -- Adlai Stevenson, head of the United States delegation to the United Nations, told the House Foreign Affairs Committee of the reasons America voted in the UN against the Brazzaville resolution which called for peace negotiations between the Arab states and Israel.

Mr. Stevenson said that during the last session of the UN General Assembly "this resolution was introduced over the objection of the United States because we were committed at that time to the exploration of a project of which we have been the originator." The project aimed at resolving the question of the Palestine Arab Refugees or making some progress toward the implementation of the UN resolution of 1948 by a special UN Commission headed by Joseph Johnson, Mr. Stevenson explained.

"We couldn't ride two horses at the same time," he said. "Our position had to be in favor of the proposal that we had advanced, and then when a proposal was advanced against our judgment and without consultation we, of course, had to vote against it."

Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat and a committee member, asked Mr. Stevenson why the United States couldn't support both moves in the interest of peace since both were consistent with U.N. objectives. Mr. Stevenson replied: "Our conclusion was the reverse, that we could not possibly support both of them. We were trying to get votes for the Johnson resolution. We had to get Arab votes in possibly to pass it."

LAST MINUTE NEWS

BUENOS AIRES, June 28. (JTA) -- A second brutal attack in a week by anti-Semitic hoodlums was reported here today when Ricardo Heraldo d'Alessandro, 18, was brought to police headquarters with five swastikas carved on his forehead and both cheeks. Mr. d'Alessandro told police that five thugs knocked on his door this morning and attacked him when he opened the door. Mr. d'Alessandro is the son of a Jewish mother, whose maiden name was Brodsky.

Z.O.A. CONVENTION OPENS; KENNEDY LAUDS 'EXPERIENCE OF ZIONISM'

WASHINGTON, June 28. (JTA) -- The 65th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America opened here tonight with a message from President Kennedy lauding "the experience of Zionism" and emphasizing that the United States "has established and continued a tradition of friendship with Israel" since the time of President Wilson.

"When the first Zionist conference met before the present century began," President Kennedy said in his message, "Israel was a wasteland worn with the bitterness of many centuries of strife and warfare. Today it is the dynamic and fruitful land inhabited by free and democratic people that Theodor Herzl and other great Zionist leaders prophesied it would become.

"This nation, from the time of President Woodrow Wilson, has established and continued a tradition of friendship with Israel because we are committed to all free societies that seek a path to peace and honor individual right. We seek peace and prosperity for all of the Middle East, firm in our belief that a new spirit of comity in that important part of the world would serve the highest aspirations and interests of all nations.

"In the prophetic spirit of Zionism all free men today look to a better world and in the experience of Zionism we know that it takes courage and perseverance and dedication to achieve it. Toward this larger and greater adventure for all of mankind, your energies are now summoned," President Kennedy concluded.

Bressler Warns on Assimilation; Stresses Communal Tasks

Max Bressler, president of the Zionist Organization of America, told the 1,200 delegates from all parts of the country that "great dangers threaten important sections of the Jewish people in various parts of the world."

"Amidst all of the perils facing our people, American Jewry itself is confronted by a great danger threatening its continuity as a vibrant creative Jewish community," he said in his opening address. This menace, he stated, was "voluntarily assimilation" rather than anti-Semitism. He expressed regret that while much was spent on defense against anti-Semitism, little was allocated to combat cultural assimilation and disintegration. He termed Zionism "the most vital force in combatting cultural assimilation."

"It is incumbent upon those of us whom fate has placed in leadership to reject definitions of Zionism being offered by men who deal with Zionism as though it were a commodity to be moved from one shelf to another or to be discarded when, to their way of thinking, it served its purpose. He alluded to critics of the Zionist movement in Israel and America.

"Zionism," he continued, "must be evaluated for what it is--the greatest cause and the most stirring movement in the history of our people throughout centuries of our dispersion and homelessness. It is not a question whether we need a Zionist movement but rather what can we do to make it a stronger and greater force."

He urged that American Zionists, acting through the ZOA, carry on Jewish communal tasks both on national and local levels and through leadership on Jewish community councils. He stressed that action was required to avert "isolation between the ZOA and other organizations within the American Jewish community as well as avoiding a situation where individual Zionists have kept themselves integrated, assuming their share in the burdens."

He said it was time for the ZOA to assume "leadership with a strong voice in American Jewry, to awaken it, to arouse it, to make it sensitive to the perils facing our people." He attacked what he termed "the lack of leadership in the American Jewish community." He called for a movement to establish a central authoritative Jewish representation in America from the grass roots of Jewish communities.

AMBASSADOR HARMAN HONORED BY 3,000 JEWISH GROUPS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- The Ambassador of Israel to the United States, Avraham Harman, was accorded special tribute "for strengthening the bond of friendship between the people of Israel and the people of the United States" at a dinner tonight sponsored by the Fraternal Division of State of Israel Bonds at the Commodore Hotel.

The dinner, attended by 450 representatives of more than 3,000 Jewish fraternal and landsmanshaften organizations in the New York metropolitan area, resulted in the sale of \$500,000 in State of Israel Bonds. Ambassador Harman, who was unable to attend the dinner due to illness, was the designated recipient of the division's annual "Israel Bond Fraternal Award." The award, a hand-illuminated parchment scroll, was accepted in behalf of Ambassador Harman by Avraham Darom, Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations.

QUEBEC CATHOLICS ADVOCATE STATE AID TO JEWISH DAY SCHOOLS IN CANADA

MONTREAL, June 28. (JTA) -- The Catholic Federation of Classical Colleges of Quebec told the Royal Commission on Education here that Jews and other Canadians who are neither Catholics nor Protestants were entitled to send their children to any type of schools they prefer and that such schools should be financed by public funds.

The defense of the educational rights of non-Christians by a Catholic group created a sensation in Catholic Quebec. Brother Marcel Degree urged that all special schools be financed by public funds. He contended that such schools were legal and should be given public funds.

Currently, children in the province attend schools which are under Protestant or Catholic control and which receive public funds. The exceptions are children attending private schools, including a substantial number of Jewish day schools, which do not receive public funds. A Jewish delegation previously presented a plea to the Royal Commission, asking for public funds partly on the grounds advanced today by the Catholic spokesman and partly on grounds that their taxes are used for schools under Christian direction.

The Catholic spokesman also urged that non-Protestants and non-Catholics be appointed as associate members of the Council of Education, the supreme authority on public instruction which currently has only Catholic and Protestant representatives.

910 STUDENTS RECEIVE DEGREES AT HEBREW U. GRADUATION CEREMONY

JERUSALEM, June 28. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University granted degrees to 910 students--the highest total for any exercise since the university was opened 32 years ago--at graduation ceremonies today. The exercise brought to 7,144 the total number of degrees conferred by the university.

The degrees included 85 doctorates, 56 of these being in the natural sciences and medicine. A total of 123 Master of Science degrees were granted, 40 in chemistry, 31 in physics, 24 in botany and 13 in mathematics. Two hundred and thirty-five graduates received Bachelor of Arts degrees in the humanities.

One degree--Master of Public Health--was awarded for the first time. It signifies completion of a one-year course created to meet the needs of physicians, dentists and health workers engaged in practice, research or teaching in social medicine and public health. A Masters degree was conferred for the first time on an African student, Benedict Etuka Onochie of Western Nigeria, who majored in agriculture. The graduates included six Arabs, one a woman.

MIAMI RABBIS ISSUE WARNING AGAINST 'COMMERCIALIZATION' OF RELIGION

MIAMI, June 28. (JTA) -- The Greater Miami Rabbinical Association served advance notice today on Miami Jewry that it vigorously opposed any plans "to commercialize religion and in particular using the High Holiday services for financial profit and personal benefit."

The statement said the rabbis understood the need for fund-raising activities by established congregations and the fact that some seasons of the Jewish religious year "naturally lend themselves more advantageously to the pledging or collection of dues, fees and other financial commitments."

However, the rabbis said, arrangements for services in public halls and hotels "and the advertisement of such services in a commercial fashion" was quite a different matter. They also condemned the arrangement of High Holiday services, even by existing congregations, "in areas outside their own geographic location for the purpose of fund-raising and attraction of new members and contributors."

TREGUBOFF BECOMES EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT OF S. F. FEDERATION

SAN FRANCISCO, June 28. (JTA) -- Elevation of Sanford M. Treguboff, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Federation of San Francisco, Marin County and the Peninsula, to the position of executive vice-president of the organization, was announced today by president Walter D. Heller. At the same time, Mr. Heller announced that Louis Weintraub, associate director of the Federation, would succeed Mr. Treguboff as executive director. Both changes are effective July 1.

The Federation president paid tribute to Treguboff's 30 years of service with the Federation and affiliated agencies, noting that this service included responsibility for the conduct of 17 annual fund-raising campaigns, as well as three major Capital Funds Campaigns. Mr. Heller also lauded Weintraub's contributions to the Federation during his six years of service, during which period the Federation carried out its study of the Jewish population, as well as Jewish Community Center Needs and the building requirements of Mount Zion Hospital and Medical Center.

SIR EDWARD BARON DIES IN LONDON; WAS ACTIVE IN ANGLO-JEWISH ASSN.

LONDON, June 28. (JTA) -- Sir Edward Baron, prominent tobacco magnate and Jewish communal leader, died here today at the age of 70. He was a member of the council of the Anglo-Jewish Association and a director of the Palestine Electric Corporation.