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STATE DEPARTMENT KEEPS WATCHFUL EYE ON ANTI-JEWISH EVENTS IN ARGENTINA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The State Department has been studying Jewish telegraphic Agency reports on the anti-Jewish incidents in Argentina, as well as information supplied by American Jewish groups, in addition to official reports from the United States Embassy in Buenos Aires, and is watching the developments there, official sources indicated today.

At the same time, Edwin M. Martin, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, said today that the State Department was exerting its influence against South American anti-Semitism, and gave assurance "that as suitable occasions arise, we and our officers in Buenos Aires are prepared to discuss informally with members of the Argentine Government the concern of all decent men whenever minority groups are subjected to unlawful acts." He made this statement in a communication to Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Republican.

"The Department of State, with the assistance of our Embassy in Buenos Aires, has for a period of two years been following closely the manifestations of anti-Semitism in Argentina," he stated. "On the basis of the information available to us, it seems that most, if not all, of the anti-Semitic activities are attributable to small, largely covert and somewhat amorphous groups which appear to be ultra-nationalist in nature and to have chosen anti-Semitism as one vehicle for the expression of their personal and social dissatisfactions."

Declaring that the U.S. Embassy advised the State Department that "the Argentine populace seems genuinely horrified by the recent violent acts, and deplores the activities of those responsible," Mr. Martin revealed that "officers of the Embassy are apprised some time ago of the importance of the evidence of anti-Semitism in Argentina, and were instructed to make use of suitable opportunities to point out to responsible Argentines the unfavorable world reaction to be expected from announced anti-Semitic activities."

"Since no American citizens have been involved, the Ambassador was not in a position to make formal representations to the Government of Argentina," Mr. Martin pointed out. "However, he reports subsequent conversations with officials of the Government who recognized that the activities of the anti-Semitic groups do not accrue to the credit of the nation, and expressed the intent of the Government to cope vigorously with the outbreaks," Mr. Martin added.

Mr. Martin felt Argentine authorities "are fully aware of the need to take firm measures in the present circumstances."

NON-CONFIDENCE MOTION, PROVOKED BY SOBLEN CASE, DEFEATED IN KNESSET

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, today defeated a non-confidence motion submitted by the opposition Herut Party which charged that the Government had repeatedly slighted the Knesset by withholding information on the Soblen case.

The motion, which was rejected by a vote of 58 to 40, arose from the refusal of Transport Minister Israel Bar-Yehuda to disclose to the Knesset Finance Committee details regarding the deportation of Dr. Robert A. Soblen, the American psychiatrist who was convicted in the United States of spying for the Soviet Union.

Mr. Bar-Yehuda's appearance before the Knesset Finance Committee was in connection with a hearing on his Ministry's budget, which has consequently not yet been approved by the Committee for the fiscal period which expired last night.

After a heated discussion in the Knesset today, in which the entire opposition supported the Herut motion, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion defended Mr. Bar-Yehuda's position. The Premier said that the questions put to Mr. Bar-Yehuda about the Soblen affair were not within the competence of the Finance Committee, since the Government had set up a ministerial committee to look into the matter.

ISRAEL ASKS U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ACT ON DISPUTE WITH JORDAN

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Israel today suggested that U Thant, acting Secretary-General of the United Nations, intercede in a dispute with Jordan, over solar evaporation pans for salt on the Dead Sea shores. The proposal was made in a letter to the Security Council by Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative here.

Prior to issuing a copy of a letter he had sent to the president of the Security Council, Mr. Comay conferred today with Mr. Thant. During the half-hour talk, the Israeli Ambassador made his request for the U.N. Chief's intercession in person.

Jordan had complained to the Security Council on this issue on July 20, charging that Israel had violated the 1949 Israeli-Jordanian armistice agreement by placing salt-evaporation pans in an area coinciding with the boundary line drawn up in 1922, during the British Mandatory regime. Today's letter by Mr. Comay was in reply to that complaint.

Ambassador Comay pointed out that Jordan had once made a complaint on the issue, back in 1954, had withdrawn the complaint in 1955, "and the location and operation of the salt pans was not contested by Jordan for six years." Israel made it clear it could not understand why Jordan chose to make an issue of the salt pans again at this time.

Last February, Mr. Comay informed the Security Council, Israel offered to cooperate with Jordan in demarcation of the boundary line at the disputed point, so as to "enable the Government of Jordan to implement its own plans for the extraction of minerals south of the Dead Sea, and to obviate any further differences in this region." Now, Israel stated, it would "welcome" the Secretary-General's assistance "in expediting the agreed demarcation of the line," adding that Israel "is convinced that this would be in the interest of both parties."

Like Jordan's letter of July 20, Israel's letter did not request a meeting of the Security Council on the issue, but asked the Council president only that he circulate the note to all members of the body.

COMMONS GETS BILL TO OUTLAW RACIAL HATRED; ANTI-SEMITISM DENOUNCED

LONDON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- A bill to amend the Public Order Act of 1936 in such a manner as to forbid incitement of hatred against any racial group was introduced today in the House of Commons. The bill formally received a first reading in the House immediately, as members of the Parliament pressed for speedy adoption of the measure before Parliament's scheduled adjournment, next Friday.

The proposal to outlaw racial hatred came before Parliament as many Labor Party members denounced the recent wave of anti-Semitic and other fascist meetings conducted by the British National Socialist Party and by Sir Oswald Mosley's fascist British Union movement.

The latest of the rallies was held last night in Hackney, an East London area with a heavy Jewish population. That meeting was halted by the police authorities after a brief but stormy riot during which Mosley himself was injured, while 54 persons were arrested.

George Brown, a Laborite who is deputy leader of the Opposition, told the House: "I feel a sense of shame that, after all that had happened in the 30's, and even more after all the casualties between 1939 and 1945, we should be made to walk this road again." Referring to the series of fascist rallies since July 1, when the British National Socialist Party held a riotous rally at Trafalgar Square, he said:

"This is the moment when the House of Commons must surely stand and consider recent history. We have all walked this road before. Totalitarians and fascists set out to hold meetings, and hold them for the most part in places where the only possible purpose can be maximum provocation by insulting people in the places where they live peacefully and quietly. The only purpose of Mosley going to those areas was to insult some of Her Majesty's fellow citizens just because of their race or religion."

Ellis Smith, another member of the Labor Party, told Commons that "unless a guarantee is received that the constitutional rights of our people are going to be used in such a way as to prevent these provocations, we will be forced to take action to safeguard the democratic rights we possess." Tom Driberg insisted on the withdrawal of permits already granted to the Mosleyites and to the National Socialists for meetings scheduled for September. "It would be dangerous," he stated, "for the House to go away for three months until assurance is given that there will be no grave public disorder in Trafalgar Square or in other places, as there is bound to be, unless the Government cancels the permits already granted."

FOUR-DAY INTERNATIONAL ANTI-SEMITIC PARLEY TO BE HELD IN ENGLAND

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- George Lincoln Rockwell, American Nazi leader, and a number of other American anti-Semites have applied for passports to attend an international anti-Semitic, white supremacist conference to be held in London, England, beginning August 15.

U.S. officials said that Rockwell was entitled to a passport, like any other citizen, but that it was up to England whether to admit a troublemaker convicted of offenses by various courts.

The international anti-Semitic conference will end on August 19 with a mass rally in Travalgar Square to generate anti-Jewish emotions. The conference of international anti-Semites will include ex-Nazis from West Germany, among them S. troopers, and reportedly a delegation from Argentina.

(Colin Jordan, head of the British National Socialist Party, announced in London today that Rockwell had confirmed that he was coming as a guest of the British Nazis. Jordan said the conference would be held secretly "somewhere in England," and that the press would be barred.)

British Embassy sources here pointed out today that England was not obligated to admit persons like Rockwell, a Nazi agitator. However, they pointed out that Rockwell, as an American citizen, does not need any visa to enter England. The final decision about his admission thus is left to British immigration officials, who examine the passports of visitors on their arrival at the port of landing.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS ASKS FOR POLICE PROBE OF NAZI COLLABORATOR

TORONTO, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The Canadian Royal Mounted Police has been requested by the Canadian Jewish Congress to investigate into the Nazi past of Dr. Joseph M. Kirschbaum, secretary-general of Slovakian fascist Hlinka Party, which collaborated with Hitler, it was revealed here today.

The request was made by Sidney M. Harris, national chairman of the Joint Community Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith. Reports about the wartime activities of Dr. Kirschbaum, who is now editor of a weekly newspaper published in Canada, called "Kanadsky Slovak," have been accumulated here by the Toronto office of the Congress, according to Don Kayfetz, secretary of the CJC here.

The reports include a lengthy document sent here from Prague by the Council of Jewish Communities of Bohemia and Moravia, the central organization of Jewish communities in Czechoslovakia. The Prague Council has charged that Kirschbaum had allegedly conferred during the war with Adolf Eichmann about the liquidation of Slovakian Jewry, and that, ultimately, 71,000 Slovakian Jews had been sent to Nazi death camps. The Council has also been reported as having demanded that Canada extradite Dr. Kirschbaum to Czechoslovakia.

A statement by Mr. Harris declared: "We have been disturbed for some time by the stories which have been emanating about Dr. Kirschbaum's past. We have accumulated considerable information which, we believe, requires further study and investigation. We feel the Canadian Government should take immediate steps to check on this information and to determine whether Dr. Kirschbaum's entry into this country was valid. If not, we believe the Government should take procedures for deportation back to his country of origin."

According to Mr. Kayfetz, members of the CJC in Toronto had had personal contact during World War II with Dr. Kirschbaum, and knew him to be the principal official of the Hlinka Party. Prior to holding that post, Mr. Kayfetz said, Dr. Kirschbaum had been the leader of the Bratislava student section of the Hlinka Party.

Dr. Kirschbaum's case is understood also to be under observation by George G. Mason, Deputy Minister of Citizenship of the Canadian Government.

PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY ASKED TO FAVOR SUNDAY LAW RELAXATION

HARRISBURG, Pa., Aug. 1. (JTA) -- A request that the Pennsylvania State Democratic Party's platform this year include a pledge favoring an amendment to the Sunday laws, permitting Sabbatarians to keep their businesses open on Sundays, was made today by Jules Cohen, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia.

Addressing the Democratic Party's state platform committee, Mr. Cohen declared: "Religious Sabbatarian suffers when he must refrain from trade or business at least one day a week. Without the proposed amendment, the law in effect penalizes the Sabbatarian for adhering to his religious beliefs and poses him with the alternative of violating his religious conscience or suffering a serious economic handicap which in many cases is insurmountable."

NUMBER OF JEWISH RESIDENTS IN TORONTO DECREASES; INCREASES IN SUBURBS

TORONTO, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The Jewish population of Metropolitan Toronto has grown in 10 years from 66,800 to 90,000, according to figures revealed here today through a study of the latest census data compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the same time, the figures showed, the Jews living in the Toronto "core city" dropped during the decade from 45,000 to 18,818, reflecting the move to the suburban areas.

One of the suburbs, Forest Hill Village, almost doubled its Jewish population during the period, rising from 6,000 in 1951 to 11,000 in 1961. The entire population in Forest Hill Village numbers 20,500. North York, also in the suburban area, increased its Jewish population by more than tenfold, rising from 4,000 Jews in 1951 to 45,000 in 1961.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN CANADA HONORS JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADER

WINDSOR, Ont., Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Eli Geldin, a prominent Jewish communal leader here, has been awarded an honorary doctorate of philosophy by Assumption University, a Catholic institution which he serves as a member of its Board of Regents. Mr. Geldin was honored along with five Catholic clergymen and 11 laymen.

A native of Russia, Mr. Geldin has been in Canada since 1923. He is a past president of the Windsor Jewish Community Council and is active in the work of the B'nai B'rith, the Council of Christians and Jews, the Red Cross and the Boy Scouts.

COSTA RICA AND ISRAEL SIGN CULTURAL AGREEMENT IN SAN JOSE

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- A cultural treaty providing for a broad program of exchange of professors, students, publications and art, was signed here today between Israel and Costa Rica. President Francisco Orlich was present at formal ceremonies in the Presidential Palace here in which Costa Rican Foreign Minister Daniel Oduber Quiros signed for Costa Rica and Israeli Ambassador Joshua N. Shai, signed for Israel.

President Orlich, who visited Israel before he assumed office last May, lauded the cordial relations between the two countries. In replying to the President's remarks, Ambassador Shai expressed Israel's appreciation for the cooperation which the Costa Rican Government and people have shown towards Israel since the establishment of the State.

Also present at the ceremonies were the Costa Rican ministers of education and labor, P. Nunez, president of the Costa Rican-Israeli Cultural Institute, representatives of the Jewish community here and other dignitaries.

ISRAELI DEFENSE YOUTH GROUP LEAVES HOLLAND; PARTICIPATED IN MARCHING

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- An Israeli Defense youth group of 40 boys and girls who participated in the four-day marching event in Holland last week, left here today after a ten-day visit during which they earned an outstanding reputation for their skill and endurance during the competition.

After the march, the Israelis toured the Netherlands and were the guests of the Amsterdam municipality and of the Jewish communities here and in Rotterdam. They were also guests yesterday at a reception given by Israel Ambassador Hanan Cidor. Representatives of the Dutch Army and leaders of the Jewish community here were at Schiphol Airport today to bid the group farewell.

CITY COUNCIL IN FORT WORTH INSTALLS ITS FIRST JEWISH COUNCILMAN

FORT WORTH, Texas, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The City of Fort Worth installed its first Jewish Councilman, Bayard H. Friedman, 35-year-old attorney and former Republican county chairman.

Mr. Friedman may also be the first Jewish administrative official to serve in either the city or county government. He is also the youngest member of the present Fort Worth City Council.

CHICAGO JEW NAMED PRESIDENT OF COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHICAGO, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Seymour F. Simon, Cook County Commissioner, was reported today to be the first Jew to become president of the Cook County Board of Commissioners. A special meeting of the board named him to the office, one of the highest in local politics. He will serve out the term of John J. Duffy, who died the previous week, and will be a candidate for election next November to a full term.