



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXI - 46th year

Monday, March 2, 1964

No. 43

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS APPEALS TO MOSCOW FOR TALKS ON SOVIET JEWRY

LONDON, March 1. (JTA)--A resolution calling on the Government of the USSR to grant to Soviet Jews "the same rights and facilities for the peaceful pursuit of their national and religious life as is enjoyed by other national, ethnic and religious groups" in the USSR was adopted here today by the British section of the World Jewish Congress. The resolution was passed unanimously at the closing session of a two-day conference.

The session adopted the resolution after a review of the situation of Soviet Jewry had been presented by A. L. Easterman, director of the WJC's international affairs department. He appealed for talks on the plight of Russian Jewry between Jewish spokesmen from the West and Moscow authorities. "World Jewry," he said, "is ready and eager to assist the Soviet Government by explanation, discussion and removal of misunderstandings toward finding a solution which will be to the advantage of the USSR no less than to the 3,000,000 Jewish citizens in the USSR."

On another topic, Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, of Geneva, director of coordination for the World Jewish Congress, told the meeting last night that, if the next session of the Ecumenical Council, at the Vatican, fails to adopt a proposed statement on improvement of Catholic-Jewish relations, such a failure "will create deep and wide disappointment among Jews" and among other peoples around the world, "

Jacob Halevy, chairman of the section, told the conference in another address that the WJC must still continue to fight anti-Semitism which, he stated, "is still alive." Among such manifestations, he said, is a textbook for school children recently circulated in schools in Spain which "poisons children's minds with anti-Semitic propaganda." The textbook, he reported, contains stories against the Jews.

Soviet Authorities Seek to Justify Death Sentences on Jews

LONDON, March 1. (JTA)-- In an apparent attempt to justify the death sentences handed down in recent trials against Jews charged with "economic crimes," the Soviet Union's Novosti press agency this weekend published letters from Soviet Jews supporting the harsh verdict of the Moscow court last week and referring to the Jews involved as "scum" and "riffraff," it was reported here today from Moscow.

The Novosti report, which was circulated among foreign newsmen in Moscow but was not published locally, cited statements by one Igor Sirkovich, said to be a Jewish schoolteacher in Moldavia and one O. Revutsky, who was identified only as a Jew living in Zagorsk near Moscow.

Meanwhile, a Soviet Lithuanian newspaper highlighted Judaism in an exhortation to atheists to accelerate their fight on all religions in the Soviet Union, another report from Moscow stated.

"At the present moment Judaism is carrying on a persistent struggle for the separation of the Jewish population from the workers of other nationalities, is trying to make the Jewish youth believe that their motherland is not here, that Jews are in a special position," the Lithuanian Soviet organ asserted.

It advised atheists to remember that their main target should be the dominant Catholic church in the area but that Orthodoxy and Judaism should not be forgotten in the battle for the minds of the young. It stressed that much progress had been made in the direction of atheism in Lithuania but that "our atheists are absolutely insufficiently exposing reactionary efforts of Judaism."

VATICAN EDITOR DEFENDS PIUS XII STAND ON JEWS UNDER NAZIS

ROME, March 1. (JTA)--An article defending the late Pope Pius XII against charges made in the play, "The Deputy" - that the Pontiff deliberately maintained silence instead of speaking out publicly against Hitler's program for the annihilation of European Jewry - was printed here this weekend by l'Osservatore Romano the official newspaper of the Vatican.

The article, opening a series, was written by Raimondo Manzine, editor of the Vatican organ and was cued to the fact that the controversial drama, by German playwright Rolf Hochhuth, opened its run in New York last week.

Mr. Manzine quoted at length from a letter by Dr. Robert M.W. Kempner, a former German political scientist now in the United States, and a leading prosecutor of German diplomats and Cabinet members at the Nazi war crimes trials in Nuremberg from 1945 to 1949. Dr. Kempner's letter had absolved Pope Pius of the charges in the Hochhuth play, stating, among other things, that a public declaration by Pope Pius XII would have been a "suicidal provocation" that could have resulted in the death of many more Jews and Catholic priests.

According to Mr. Manzine, the "preferable" course for Pope Pius was the one he took "To continue untiringly, even in silence the work of aid and protection carried on fervidly by Pope Pius XII, and, through diplomatic channels and the hierarchal network to attempt to prevent and limit the horrible initiatives and to comfort and support the victims."

U. S. Catholic Educator Regrets Pope Pius' Silence on Jews

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA)--A leading Catholic educator asserted here today that, while Rolf Hochhuth's controversial drama, "The Deputy," cannot be accepted as history, "many of us would rest easier if the Pope (Pius XII) had spoken" out publicly on Hitler's annihilation of European Jewry. The statement was made by Dr. George N. Shuster, assistant to the president of Fordham University here, one of the leading Catholic institutions of higher learning in this country.

Dr. Shuster discussed the book version of "The Deputy" which is to go on sale tomorrow in the U. S. -- in the New York Times Book Review. His review was coupled with another by Dr. Robert Gorham Davis, professor of English at Columbia University, a non-Catholic. Both reviewers saw deficiencies in the Hochhuth play as a drama. Dr. Davis referred to its plot as "rather old-fashioned, operatic, Schillerian." He stated that "however brash and cumbersome it may be, 'The Deputy' has evoked throughout the West a passionate, moral and religious response that is intensely needed at this time.

GERMANY URGED TO EXTEND PROSECUTION TIME FOR NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress this weekend urged that West Germany's 20-year statute of limitations against prosecution for major Nazi war crimes, due to become effective next year, be extended for another 20 years.

In letters to Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Karl Heinrich Kneppstein, West German Ambassador to the U. S., Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the Congress, declared: "Our purpose is not the endless pursuit of these criminals merely for retribution. We are concerned to make clear to all the peoples of the world that guilt for the crimes of the Nazi era is indelible and inextinguishable!"

Dr. Prinz, noted that most of the states of the United States allow no statute of limitations for crimes involving murder or for crimes for which a capital sentence may be imposed. "There are some acts too gross to gain absolution by the mere passage of time," he declared. "For this reason, we urge the West German parliament to amend its criminal code to allow prosecution of war crimes involving a charge of murder for at least an additional 20 year period.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY SCIENTISTS DEVELOP NEW SOLID FUEL FOR MISSILES

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA)--A new solid fuel for missiles has been developed by a team of Hebrew University scientists which promises to exceed the effectiveness of such fuels now being used by the Western powers, the University disclosed today.

The United States Air Force is negotiating with the University on plans for joint development of the discovery. Dr. Menahem Steinberg, head of the scientific team, said that if negotiations with the Air Force are completed, it will be possible to end remaining tests within 18 months and to start production of the new fuel.

U.S. URGES U.N. TO CONDEMN ANTI-SEMITISM AS A FORM OF RACIAL BIAS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. March 1 (JTA)-- The United Nations Commission on Human Rights, which has been in session here two weeks debating a draft Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Racial Intolerance, was presented with a United States amendment to that draft this weekend, specifically condemning "anti-Semitism as a form of racial discrimination!" The amendment would instruct all governments to "take action as appropriate for its (anti-Semitism's) eradication in the territories subject to their jurisdiction." The clause is to be debated by the full, 21-member Commission this week, possibly tomorrow.

The amendment was presented by the head of the United States delegation in the Commission, Mrs. Marietta Tree, after a suggestion that condemnation of racism must mention anti-Semitism specifically had been made by Dr. Isaac Lewin, representative of the Agudas Israel World Organization. He was supported by Dr. Joel Barromi, Israel's deputy permanent representative here. Dr. Lewin's organization has consultative status before the Commission as a non-governmental organization, while Israel's status is that of an official observer.

Experienced U.N. diplomats and Secretariat members noted that it was very rare for a Government delegation to act as promptly as the United States did on the suggestion of a non-governmental body. Dr. Lewin, who has a voice but not a vote in the Commission, had urged the group that one of the draft convention articles which condemns apartheid and racism should also mention anti-Semitism specifically. He pointed out that, historically, from ancient Greek and Roman times, through the Nazi era and down to the present, professed opponents of racism have, nevertheless, advocated or incited toward anti-Semitism.

Mrs. Tree, taking her cue from Dr. Lewin immediately, then proposed an oral amendment adding the term "anti-Semitism" in the context that he had spotlighted. When several delegations agreed with her in principle but insisted that anti-Semitism be brought into another context, she withdrew her oral amendment and presented the separate article condemning anti-Semitism.

Dr. Barromi delivered a brief but impassioned plea to the Commission, requesting it not "to miss this historic opportunity to state formally a repudiation" of anti-Semitism. Such a formulation, he said, "could bring encouragement and hope to millions of suffering human beings."

Meanwhile, a working group of 15 of the Commission's members continued this weekend to try to hammer out an acceptable text for another proposed U.N. Declaration and Convention, which would assure freedom from religious intolerance to all peoples throughout the world. Members of the Commission hoped that the group would conclude debate this week on the anti-racism draft, turning thereafter to the religious freedom item on the group's agenda.

EBAN PROPOSES THAT U.N. CONVENE INTERNATIONAL PARLEY ON WATER

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. March 1. (JTA)-- A proposal that the United Nations summon an international conference of statesmen and scientists to consider the problem of the need of greater water resources by underdeveloped countries was made here this weekend by Abba S. Eban, Deputy Prime Minister of Israel. He voiced the proposal as a member of the 18-man U.N. Advisory Committee on Science and Technology, currently in session to consider ways of aiding developing countries.

Mr. Eban is a member of a two-man team--the other being Sir Norman Wright, of Britain--to work out special "crash" programs needed by underdeveloped countries. He told the committee that problems of food, population increases and water scarcity must be given urgent attention. In that connection, he proposed focusing of greater attention on water scarcities. Desalination of sea water, he said, is only one aspect of the problem, though an important matter.

Mr. Eban's proposal was backed in the committee by the representatives of Brazil, India, Colombia, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The Israeli statesman also cautioned underdeveloped countries against regarding the use of nuclear power by their areas as "a remote vision." He advised the underdeveloped lands to concentrate their efforts on the training of personnel for "versatile" understanding, including the use of nuclear energy. Mr. Eban will meet with United States Secretary of State Dean Rusk in Washington this week, and with Canada's Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson at Ottawa next week, it was disclosed here today.

WORLD ORT UNION EXECUTIVE APPROVES \$8, 647, 000 BUDGET FOR 1964

GENEVA, March 1 (JTA)-- An increased budget of \$8, 647, 000 for 1964 was approved today by the executive committee of the World ORT Union at its session here.

Max Braude, director general, reviewed the progress and changes in ORT programs in 21 countries in 1963 through which reclassification for vocational training was provided for more than 30, 000 youth and adults in 562 scholastic units. He said considerable development of ORT was necessary in Israel where the organization had undertaken more than 40 per cent of professional training programs. The main ORT effort in Israel now was toward extension of apprenticeship centers for young immigrants he said.

The meeting at which Daniel Mayer, of France, presided was told that the 60, 000 members of Women's American Ort had contributed more than \$1, 000, 000 toward projects throughout the world.

BOMB EXPLODES IN JEWISH SCHOOL IN SAO PAULO; TERRORISTS ESCAPE

SAO PAULO, March 1 (JTA)-- Police searched today for the terrorists who placed a high-explosive bomb in the Beth Jacob Girls School in a Sao Paulo school which exploded before dawn Saturday morning.

At about the same time unknown vandals fired eight to ten bullets into the front of an industrial plant owned by a Jew. A week ago anti-Semitic slogans and swastikas were found smeared on the same place. Isolated smearings of Jewish schools also occurred last week. No arrests have taken place in any of the incidents.

PERCENTAGE OF NATIVE-BORN CANADIAN JEWS DOUBLED DURING 50 YEARS

MONTREAL, March 1. (JTA)-- The percentage of native-born Canadian Jews has almost doubled in the half-century from 1911 to 1961, according to a breakdown of governmental census figures completed here by the research division of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

In 1911, the data showed, 32.9 percent of Canadian Jews were native-born. But the 1961 census figures showed that the Jewish native-born had increased to 62.2 percent. In one province, Nova Scotia, the Jewish native-born totaled 77 percent.

The Canadian census figures distinguished between those who claim they are Jews by religion and those who register themselves as Jews by ethnic origin. In the 1961 tabulation, there were 254,368 Jews by religion, and 173,344 by ethnic origin in the entire Dominion. Of the total of ethnic Jews, 31.2 percent had been born in Europe; 2.3 percent in the United States; and 2.1 percent in Great Britain.

By country of birth, the 1961 statistics showed, the Canadian Jewish population included 107,877 Jews born in Canada; 54,088 born in Europe; 3,378 born in Britain; 4,471 born in the United States; 324 born in other British Commonwealth countries; and 3,206 born "in other countries including Israel."

U. S. AIR FORCE GIVES GRANT TO WEIZMANN INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH

TEL AVIV, March 1. (JTA)-- The Weizmann Institute said today it had received a grant of \$45,000 from the Aerospace Research Office of the United States Air Force to support a study dealing with the resistance of organisms to foreign components and means of overcoming that resistance.

Weizmann Institute officials explained that the subject is important in problems of transplantation of organs and other parts of the body from one person to another.

DR. STOCK APPOINTED DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF JEWISH AGENCY, INC.

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA)-- The Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., today announced the appointment of Dr. Ernest Stock to the post of Deputy Representative in Israel. Dr. Stock has been with the JAFI, Inc. Jerusalem office since 1961, serving as assistant to Dr. Isador Lubin, its senior representative and consultant on programs in Israel.

The Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., is the major beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal, financing programs of immigrant resettlement which are carried out under contract by its agent, the Jewish Agency, Jerusalem. Its Israel office is charged with supervising the implementation of the contract and with making recommendations to the JAFI Inc. board for allocation of UJA funds. Dr. Stock holds degrees from Princeton and Columbia Universities.