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### HOUSE GETS RESOLUTION ASKING JOHNSON TO SPEED MATZOH TO SOVIET JEWRY

WASHINGTON, March 18. (JTA) -- A resolution for adoption jointly by both Houses of Congress, calling upon President Johnson "to use the full facilities of our Government, on an emergency basis" to assure United States delivery of an adequate supply of matzoh for the use of Soviet Jews during this year's Passover, was introduced in the House of Representatives today. Urgent action on the resolution is expected.

The resolution, presented by Rep. Michael Feighan, Ohio Democrat, "authorizes and requests" the President to help the Jews of the USSR "meet the requirements of Passover." It calls upon the President to use the Washington-Moscow "hot line" for contacting the Soviet authorities on this issue, and to employ an emergency U.S. airlift for getting the matzoh to Russia in time for Passover use.

Pointing out that the United States was recently called upon by the Soviet authorities "to open its surplus grain bins to prevent famine in the Soviet Union," Rep. Feighan told the House that members of the Moscow Jewish community had just furnished flour from their "own limited rations in order that matzoh might be made for them" in special bakery facilities. "But the Russian authorities," he continued, "made those sacrifices meaningless by closing down the bakery at a critical time under a worn-out ruse used many times before to prevent the observance of Passover" by religious Soviet Jews.

#### Copy of Resolution Rushed to White House by Messenger

The Ohioan noted that a recent issue of "USSR," the Soviet propaganda organ distributed in this country under a special US-USSR agreement, boasts about alleged religious liberty given to Soviet Jews. "It is time," he said, "that we took action to determine the validity of the claim that religious liberty, as guaranteed by the USSR constitution, is being enforced by the present Soviet Government."

The action called for by the joint resolution, he said, is "within the productive capability of our free economy."

Copies of the resolution were sent by messengers this afternoon to President Johnson; to Adlai E. Stevenson, chief United States delegate to the United Nations; and to Carl Rowan, director of the United States Information Agency which, among other facilities, conducts the radio broadcasts over the Voice of America.

The proposed joint resolution also calls on Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev and on the Soviet Parliament to order an immediate cessation of all governmental measures which deny to Jewish believers the opportunity to prepare for and to observe the Passover. The resolution states that, through the recent Soviet persecutions against Jews and the wave of Soviet anti-Semitism, the Soviet Union has actually been violating its own laws.

#### Moscow Charged with Conducting A Policy of 'Cultural Genocide'

Meanwhile, another Congressman, Rep. James G. O'Hara, (D. Mich.,) warned in the House today that "cultural genocide is now a matter of official policy in the USSR, and the consequences for world Jewry may indeed be more lasting and destructive than outright murder."

Reviewing the recent death sentences against Soviet Jews for alleged "economic crimes," and the interference in baking matzoh, Rep. O'Hara stressed that it is not a question involving a few individuals who suffered "punishment that defies Moscow," nor a few thousand Moscow Jews who will have to go without matzoh, but rather a question involving the future of the 3,000,000 Jews in the Soviet Union.

The Congressman listed the special forms of cultural, national and religious discriminations to which Soviet Jews are subjected. He concluded by stressing that "these revolting facts demonstrate beyond any doubt that Jews are not just another victim of a regime committed to the atrophy or destruction of religion. Rather, the Jews have again been singled out for special persecution."

# AGED JEW SENTENCED TO DEATH IN MOSCOW IN 'ECONOMIC CRIMES' TRIAL

LONDON, March 18. (JTA) -- A Moscow 67-year-old Jew, Arkady Grinberg, charged with committing "economic crimes," was sentenced to death yesterday in a Moscow Court, it was reported here today from the Soviet capital.

Several women in the audience broke into tears when the judge pronounced the death sentence. The alleged accomplices received prison terms ranging from one to 15 years and eight defendants were acquitted. The judge, in his summing up and sentencing, specifically identified 12 of the defendants as Russians and Ukrainians and eight as Jews.

According to the judgment, the group operated from 1956 to 1962 when most of the defendants were arrested. David Kazanovitch, 46, who received a 15-year term as an accomplice, was arrested this year. The court said that the group operated in Byelorussia and Georgia and used illegally obtained orders to get yarn from a cotton factory which was then re-sold to a knitting factory in Lvov at an allegedly fabulous profit. The court said that Grinberg alone made a profit equivalent to \$152,000.

# JEWISH COMMUNISTS IN FRANCE PROTEST TO MOSCOW ON ANTI-SEMITISM

PARIS, March 18. (JTA) -- The Jewish section of the French Communist party was reported today to be rapidly nearing a major split over the latest anti-Jewish developments in the Soviet Union.

A number of French Jewish Communist leaders associated themselves earlier this month with a personal letter to Soviet Premier Khrushchev protesting the difficulties created by Soviet authorities for Russian Jews seeking matzoth for Passover. The letter, prepared by CRIF, the central Jewish community organization of France, asked the Soviet Premier to take immediate action to enable Russian Jews to obtain matzoth and threatened to make the letter public if no reply was received in two weeks.

The "Neue Presse," Jewish Communist organ here, has twice published editorials criticizing the official Soviet policy on Jews. In its March 17 issue, Neue Presse published a front-page editorial entitled, "We Condemn," a denunciation of the notorious pamphlet, "Judaism Without Embellishment," published in Kiev by the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, which contains caricatures of Jews reminiscent of the caricatures which appeared in the Nazi paper "Der Stuermer."

The editorial declared that "a progressive person, Jew as well as non-Jew, condemns any cartoon, from whatever source, which is liable to spread hatred or incite anti-Semitism. We have seen cartoons of the pamphlet in the newspapers and it caused indignation." The editorial added that it was "permissible" to "propagate free-thinking ideas in an enlightened way and to express one's thoughts about religious prejudices but it is not permissible to go to extremes."

The editorial declared that "the Soviet Government must be more alert against such phenomena and react sharply, if such a pamphlet was actually published in Kiev." This is the first time that any Communist unit anywhere in the world has questioned the Soviet Government so sharply.

# Demand Information on Anti-Semitic Book Published in Kiev

Earlier this week, Neue Presse addressed a letter to the Soviet news agency, Novosti, asking it for information regarding "Judaism Without Embellishment." The newspaper even took the step of making public the text of its letter. "The information about a pamphlet that is supposed to have appeared in Kiev, with an ugly cartoon on the front page reminiscent of other cartoons of an anti-Semitic character, has caused understandable indignation among all progressive people and particularly among the Jewish masses and it is being used for increased anti-Soviet propaganda," the letter said.

"We therefore ask you to get in touch with competent circles as soon as possible and inform us as to the entire truth about this pamphlet--whether it actually appeared in Kiev and, if so, what the views are of the Soviet authorities about it, and what measures will be taken so that propaganda on free thought should not degenerate into something which is liable to increase anti-Semitic attitudes as well as anti-Soviet propaganda," the letter requested.

Novosti specializes in disseminating information about the Jewish situation in Russia and in refuting charges of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. The effects of the anticipated split are likely to be felt widely within all liberal and Communist groups in West Europe which will likely be pushed into taking a more energetic stand in demanding abrogation of the open anti-Semitism of the Soviet Union.

# PRESIDENT JOHNSON SENDS SPECIAL ENVOY TO ISRAEL FOR WEEK'S STAY

WASHINGTON, March 18. (JTA) -- The White House announced today that Deputy Special Assistant to the President, Myer Feldman, will depart on April 1 for a week's stay in Israel. It is understood that Mr. Feldman will be helping with arrangements for Prime Minister Eshkol's forthcoming visit to the United States in early June.

## 5,000 INCOME TAX AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN ISRAEL GO ON STRIKE

TEL AVIV, March 18. (JTA) -- Five thousand officials in income tax, customs and other revenue offices defied threats of expulsion by the Histadrut last night and went on strike today. The Government called an emergency session for tomorrow to deal with the walkout.

After announcement of the decision by the Israel Labor Federation banning the strike, the officials held a midnight meeting which voted to go through with the strike plans. A second meeting of the strikers' committee at noon today reaffirmed the strike decision.

The immediate result was that incoming and outgoing passengers at Lydda Airport passed border control without the usual customs check. Goods for entrance could not be cleared and began to pile up. Property tax offices were closed, making any land or property transactions impossible.

The strike was timed to coincide with a period when tax payments are high. The Israel Treasury issued special notices to the public on payments procedures for the duration of the walkout.

Among the demands of the revenue officials were special payments for what they called the "social boycott" to which they were subject in society because they were tax collectors, and for special duties in detecting efforts to smuggle in products without paying customs.

The Government, at the emergency meeting tomorrow, may consider enforcement of regulations which permit the Labor Minister to ban any absence of employees from work he considers essential.

## PINCUS PRESENTS 1964-65 BUDGET OF JEWISH AGENCY TO ACTIONS COMMITTEE

JERUSALEM, March 18. (JTA) -- The 1964-65 budget of the Jewish Agency was presented here today to the Zionist Actions Committee, now in session here, by A. L. Pincus, the Agency's treasurer. He stressed that "we should be delighted" over the continued peak of Jewish immigration to Israel, but he warned that the "burden of accumulated years" had nearly reached the breaking point.

The budget proposed expenditures of 340,000,000 pounds (\$113,033,000) with 51 per cent of that sum earmarked for immigration and absorption. This compared with an average of 38 per cent for those activities in the budgets of the past 15 years. Funds for agricultural settlements totaled 25 per cent of the budget, compared with an average of 45 per cent in previous years.

He explained that the 1963-64 difficulties of immigration had been greater than anticipated because of the higher cost of the current immigration, averaging \$300 per person, and the higher cost of absorption, while, at the same time, the income of fund-raising campaigns had not reached expected levels.

In planning the 1964-65 budget, he said, it was necessary to reduce even the most just claims to insure the meeting of the essentials of foreseen immigration and other fields and activities. He noted that during the years of 1961, 1962 and 1963, immigration from the west was 3,800, 4,250 and 9,000 of whom only about ten per cent left.

He said that he had been forced to reduce the settlement department budget, and this had the effect of slowing the rate of progress toward making settlements independent of allocations. Still, he reported, more than 100 of the 480 settlements receiving such allocations will reach their goal. He also reported that the percentage of allocations for work in Jewish communities outside of Israel went up "but in the light of the needs, there is a necessity for considerably more funds" for that purpose.

## GOLDA MEIR TELLS KNESSET JOHNSON WILL SUPPORT ISRAEL'S SECURITY

JERUSALEM, March 18. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told the Parliament last night that the reiteration by President Nasser of Egypt of aggressive intentions against Israel should dispel the delusion current among some foreign statesmen that the Egyptian dictator was becoming more moderate. She said Israel must guard also against the spread "of such illusions among ourselves."

Reviewing United States-Israel relations, she expressed confidence that President Johnson would continue the policy of the late President Kennedy of support for Israel's security. She praised President Johnson's proposal for cooperation in the field of using nuclear energy for water desalination. She stressed the wide understanding she said she had found for Israel during her recent visits to European capitals.

## ISRAEL EXPORTED \$55,750,000 IN PRODUCTS TO GERMANY LAST YEAR

BONN, March 18. (JTA) -- Israel sold more products last year to West Germany than West Germany sold to Israel in trading which reached a volume for the year of \$109,000,000, it was disclosed here today. Israel exported \$55,750,000 to West Germany which sold \$53,250,000 worth of products to Israel.

# ARGENTINE JEWS WORRIED OVER PRODUCTION OF 'MERCHANT OF VENICE'

BUENOS AIRES, March 18. (JTA) -- The Argentine Jewish community was reported here today to be concerned over plans by the Shakespeare Festival Company, a visiting British troupe, to include the play, "The Merchant of Venice," as one of two productions to be presented here shortly. The play portrays a Jewish merchant in renaissance Italy in a manner which evokes Jewish protests.

Reflecting the growing concern over the play, La Luz, a local newspaper, cited the anxiety in Jewish circles over the fact that the production will be "brought to a country in which the Jewish community has been besieged for three years with a dangerous wave of anti-Semitism."

The newspaper criticized the British Embassy and its cultural service for not having been "attentive to the situation" and for not displaying the required sensibility to prevent such irritation. "It would be a sample of human understanding to substitute any other more adequate play for the Merchant of Venice," the paper declared.

# EBAN RETURNS TO ISRAEL; HAILED FOR HELPING IN THE U. J. A. CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, March 18. (JTA) -- Israel's Deputy Prime Minister Abba S. Eban was hailed here today by Joseph E. Meyerhoff, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, for having given a "magnificent impetus" to this year's UJA campaign for \$105, - 000,000. Mr. Eban, who returned last night to Israel, said prior to his departure that he was most impressed on his visit to the United States and Canada by the rise of young leadership in the Jewish communities on the North American continent.

Mr. Eban left here after a month's stay, during which he visited 12 of the major Jewish communities in this country and Canada. He said he saw in the rise of the young leadership developed by the UJA the most significant change since his last intimate contacts with broad sections of American Jewry five years ago. What impressed him additionally, he said, was the fact that so many of the new young Jewish community leaders, many of whom were too young to have any meaningful contacts with Israel when the State was reborn in 1948, show "an undiminished responsibility for Israel's future."

# HEBREW UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS DISCUSSES 1964-65 BUDGET

JERUSALEM, March 18. (JTA) -- The Board of Governors of the Hebrew University, at its opening session today, heard a report on the university's 1964-65 budget and estimated development expenditures totaling 56,000,000 pounds (\$18,888,000). Eliahu Elath, the University president, said a four-year development plan envisaged a student body of 12,000.

The meeting opened in the presence of Israel's President Zalman Shazar who was named the university's honorary president. Premier Levi Eshkol was awarded an honorary doctorate. He called for more pioneering among the intellectuals and stressed that applied research in Israel was falling short of the country's needs. Other recipients of degrees included Prof. A. Fodor, Justice Samuel Friedman of Canada, Michael Greenblatt of Canada, Harry Seldin of the United States and Lord Marks and Leon Simon of Britain. The last two were awarded their degrees in absentia.

# GROUND BROKEN FOR MICROBIOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER AT HAIFA TECHNION

HAIFA, March 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Selman A. Waksman, the Nobel Prize winner, took part today in ground-breaking ceremonies on the campus of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology marking the inauguration of a new research center which he will oversee.

Named for the New York businessman who donated the bulk of the funds for construction of the new facility, the Horace Goldsmith Institute of General and Industrial Microbiology will focus research attention on "bacteria, molds, yeasts and other microscopic forms of life" with a view towards "practical utilization for industrial, food and other purposes."

# ISRAEL RABINOVITCH, EDITOR OF CANADIAN JEWISH NEWSPAPER, DIES IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, March 18. (JTA) -- Israel Rabinovitch, editor of the Jewish Daily Eagle, leading Canadian Jewish newspaper, and one of the most noted Jewish writers in this country for many years, died here today at the age of 70.

Born in Russia, Mr. Rabinovitch immigrated to Canada in 1911 and launched his literary career here in 1914. He was one of the foremost authorities on Jewish music, art, and the theater. He was also a distinguished literary critic and a leader in the Jewish educational movement in Canada.

# DR. HANS LANDEBERGER, JEWISH ART EXPERT, DEAD; AUTHOR OF 14 BOOKS

CINCINNATI, March 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Hans Landsberger, a faculty member of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, died here yesterday. He was a professor of fine arts at the University of Breslau for 20 years until his ouster by the Nazis. He came to the United States in 1939. An expert on Jewish art, he wrote 14 books.