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ARGENTINE ANTI-SEMITISM 'INSIGNIFICANT,' FOREIGN MINISTER TELLS JTA

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Zavala Ortiz, in an exclusive interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency this weekend, denied that there was any significant organized anti-Semitic campaign in existence in Argentina. Stating that anti-Semitic expressions in Argentina were either pro-Arab propaganda or "lawful instances of free speech," he said that, in his opinion, the whole question of Argentine anti-Semitism has been "magnified" out of proportion to the actual facts. The Foreign Minister, attending meetings in Washington of the Organization of American States, told the JTA: "I will assure all Jews as well as people of other races that the Argentine Government will not tolerate any racial discrimination." There existed in Argentina some Arab propaganda expressions against the Jews, he said, but there were also Jewish propaganda efforts against the Arabs.

Mr. Zavala Ortiz revealed Arab diplomats have complained to the Argentine Foreign Ministry because the country's Vice-President had voiced support of Israel. The Arab envoys also "denounced" the new Argentine Ambassador to Mexico, S. Santander, for being "pro-Israel," he said.

The official policy of Argentina, he added, was "to respect everybody, Arab and Jew alike." "But, without doubt, the ones who do not respect each other are the Arabs and the Jews," he added.

Questioned about the activities of Arab League agent Hussein Triki, he said that Triki had no diplomatic status and had tried without success to obtain such recognition from Argentina. "He is in Argentina on a temporary visa and is believed to be married to an Argentine citizen," the Foreign Minister said.

Blames Former Administration; Discounts Importance of Tacuara

Emphasizing that "there is no campaign against the Jews," Mr. Zavala Ortiz stated that any manifestations -- which he maintained were exaggerated in reports -- were attributable to the previous Administration.

Before the present Government came to power, he said, there were some attacks against Jews. "But these attacks," he declared, "were of the same character as typical street crimes of individual initiative, rather than by organized political forces."

Tacuara, a group he called insignificant, was notorious for anti-Semitic expressions but has been prosecuted by the Government and its unlawful activities punished, the Foreign Minister said.

Commenting on a recent expression by a Peronist representative in the Government calling for an investigation of Argentine Jewry, he said that Argentina was a free democracy and all representatives had a right to express their personal opinions and submit legislative proposals they feel are needed; "There are all shades of opinions," he said, "but the opinion of the Government is one already expressed: Complete respect and effective protection of all races and all faiths."

As an example of the regard of the government for Jewish citizens, he cited the participation of the Grand Rabbi in official events; He recalled that last July 9, the Rabbi participated as "a special guest of the Government in a cathedral high mass and military parade ceremony" along with ministers of the Protestant and Catholic faiths.

Insists Government Leaders Oppose Prejudice; Cites Personal Record

"I can assure you that, if there is someone against prejudice in Argentina, it is the leaders in the present Government," he said.

Reflecting on his own contact with Jews, he said that, throughout his life, he has been concerned with the defense of minorities; He was aware that Argentina was the most important Jewish center of the world outside the United States and Israel; He said

he had a long-standing invitation to visit Israel and that trees in his name have been planted in a park in Tel Aviv. He has been cited by the Israel Government, he added.

Referring to Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, as "a dear friend," Mr. Zavala Ortiz said he had discussed the Argentine Jewish situation with him at length.

Mr. Zavala Ortiz also made the following comments in an address here to the Organization of American States: "All races deserve the respect and protection not only of the Government but also of the Argentine people. There are some isolated events, only a few of real importance, but all very, very sad," he said. He held that these occurrences "are magnified with unknown intention. They have less significance or frequency and organization than instances of street robberies in any community. They represent more the forms of individual delinquency than of extremism."

100 JEWISH STORES SMASHED, LOOTED, AS NEGROES RIOT IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

ROCHESTER, N.Y., July 26 (JTA) -- About 100 stores and other business enterprises, the vast majority of them owned by Jews, were wrecked and looted here this weekend during two nights of rioting by Negroes.

The Rochester community, comprising a population of about 25,000 Jews and 35,000 Negroes in this city of about 330,000 persons, was still nervous today as Jewish businessmen tried to count their losses, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars. City police, an augmented county sheriff's force, and state troopers sent here on orders of Gov. Rockefeller patrolled every section of the city, trying to prevent further rioting, while city authorities imposed a night-time curfew on the entire city. One man, a white non-Jew, was killed.

The rioting started Friday night in a section of the city where the main street is Joseph Avenue, an area inhabited now almost entirely by Negroes but where more than 90 per cent of the shopkeepers are Jewish. Until the World War II period, the area was almost entirely Jewish, and the majority of the Jewish businessmen, some of whom had had their businesses there for more than half a century, continued to do business at their old sites.

"The Jewish businessmen just happened to be there, and were therefore the worst sufferers when things suddenly got out of hand Friday night," said Elmer Lewis, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Rochester. The same sentiment was expressed by Police Inspector Dan Sharpe, acting as spokesman for the city police department.

Observers noted that, during the rioting in the Joseph Avenue section, the headquarters of CORE and a mosque owned by the Black Muslims, had been left intact, while Jewish-owned stores flanking these two buildings were totally destroyed, and the contents looted.

"The Jewish businessmen were not the prime target because they were Jews, and this outbreak must not be interpreted as anti-Semitism," Mr. Lewis declared. "Primarily, the city faced a breakdown of law and order, but the Jews were the principal sufferers."

Mr. Lewis said there will be a meeting of all major civic organizations in Rochester tomorrow night, including representatives of the Jewish Community Council as well as leaders of the general and Negro communities, to take stock of the situation and to see "where we go from here."

Last night, the rioting spread to another section of the city where some of the businesses are also owned by Jews. Altogether, Inspector Sharpe said, between 75 and 100 stores had been totally wrecked and looted. "The amount of monetary damage caused," he said, "cannot be computed at this time. But we are sure it involved large sums."

JOHNSON ANNOUNCES THAT U.S., ISRAEL WILL START NUCLEAR TALKS TODAY

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA) -- President Johnson announced here today that the first meeting of the special, joint United States-Israel committee to plan the use of nuclear energy for desalination of sea water will be held in Israel tomorrow.

At the same time, Mr. Johnson ordered that increased efforts be made in researches by American scientists in the field of the use of nuclear energy for desalination;

The announcement that the United States and Israel would cooperate in researches in this field was first made by President Johnson last January, in an address in New York before the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute.

TALKS TO BE HELD IN LEVI ESHKOL'S OFFICE; U. S. MEMBERS NAMED

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA) -- The first meeting of the joint United States-Israeli committee planning joint cooperation between the two governments on the use of nuclear energy for desalination of sea water will be held here tomorrow in the office of Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.

In addition to the Israeli experts to attend the session, the participants will include Prof. Irving Spiegal, representing the U. S. Atomic Emergency Committee, and two representatives of the United States Department of the Interior, Robert Chase and Stuart Mulford. An observer will also be present for the International Atomic Energy Agency, an arm of the United Nations.

ISRAEL WOULD HELP RUSSIA SOLVE JEWISH PROBLEM, MRS. MEIR SAYS

TEL AVIV, July 26 (JTA) -- Israel's Foreign Minister Golda Meir declared here last night that "Israel would be happy to help Russia solve its Jewish problem." Speaking at the closing session of the eighth annual Ichud Olami convention, Mrs. Meir said it was "the miracle of the age" that Soviet Jews had managed to retain their Jewish identity at all.

A resolution calling on Russia to allow its Jewish citizens the freedom of their own culture and permit the reunion of families was unanimously passed by the delegates. Another resolution stressed immigration to Israel as the personal duty of every labor Zionist. Ichud Olami will begin at the end of this year to organize special groups for immigration, it was announced.

AGUDAT ISRAEL LEADER SAYS MOSCOW MAY LET CHIEF RABBI GO ABROAD

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA) -- Moscow's Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin "may be permitted" to attend a Jewish religious conference in Europe in the near future, the world assembly of the Agudat Israel was told here today.

The assertion was made by Rabbi I. M. Levin, chairman of the Agudat Israel executive committee. At the same time, the Agudah leader deplored the wide publicity given by other Jewish organizations to efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry, stating that such efforts, among other things, brought about the Soviet Government's ban on shipments of matzoth to Russian Jews from other countries.

A warning that assimilation and intermarriage are threatening Diaspora Jewry was voiced here to the assembly this weekend by Rabbi Nahum Perlow, of New York.

Two members of Parliament from the Agudat Israel party, Shlomo Lorincz and Shlomo Gross, addressed the assembly, and criticized the Israel Government for "toleration of missionary activities."

10 MEMBERS OF LONDON CHAMBER BACK MANCROFT FOR PRESIDENCY

LONDON, July 26 (JTA) -- While the British press, as a whole, continued today to assail the decision of the London Chamber of Commerce to cancel the candidacy of Lord Mancroft for the Chamber's presidency, due to Arab pressures, 10 members of the Chamber announced here today that they are ready officially to sponsor Lord Mancroft as president.

W. S. Sharp, a member of the Chamber, pointed out that, under the organization's by-laws, only six bona fide sponsors are needed to make the nomination official. He denounced "senior officials" of the Chamber for forcing the withdrawal of Lord Mancroft's candidacy, saying their step "discredits the Chamber as a whole."

Meanwhile, the Board of Deputies of British Jews declared it was dissatisfied with a statement issued by the Earl of Verulam, the Chamber's current president, who had denied that Arab pressure brought about the decision to withdraw Lord Mancroft's candidacy. "If Arab pressure was not the cause," the Board asked, "what was?" "The implications of the entire affair," the Board declared, "are too ominous for us to leave it at that."

The Sunday Citizen today denounced the effort to cancel Lord Mancroft's candidacy as an illustration of the British Government's "craven acceptance of the Arab boycott." The Sunday Times, reporting that the Earl of Verulam is to meet tomorrow with seven Kuwait businessmen who said they have come here "to prepare the ground for more informal commercial relations between the two countries," said this move "illustrates just why Mancroft is no longer the heir apparent to the Chamber's presidency."

The Sunday Express said the leaders of the Chamber of Commerce are "a frightened bunch of men, astounded of themselves -- and so they should be."

CONSERVATIVES HIT USSR ANTI-SEMITISM; WELCOME VATICAN ACTION ON JEWS

MEXICO CITY, July 26 (JTA) -- A resolution urging the Soviet Union to halt all discriminatory practices against Jews and Judaism was approved unanimously here this weekend at the closing session of the fifth convention of the World Council of Synagogues. The resolution also called on Soviet authorities to undertake vigorous educational efforts against anti-Semitism and all forms of religious discrimination in Russia;

Another resolution, adopted by the world group of Conservative Judaism, welcomed steps taken by Christian leaders toward elimination of bigotry and toward greater and more effective brotherhood throughout the world. The resolution expressed the hope that the draft declaration on Christian-Jewish relations, to come before the next session of the Ecumenical Council, would condemn the false charge of collective Jewish responsibility for the crucifixion of Christ.

CANADIAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS SEEK IMMIGRATION OF NORTH AFRICAN JEWS

MONTREAL, July 26 (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society, here, have submitted to Canadian immigration officials the applications of 270 more North African Jewish families, involving 1,050 persons, under the occupational criteria, it was reported here today. Included among the current applicants in that category are 237 Jewish families, totaling 883 persons, from Morocco; and 32 Jewish families from Tunisia, totaling 121 persons;

In addition, the CJC and JIAS stated, 350 applications were submitted from North African Jewish families under the "close relatives" plan, and about half of these have been approved for entry in Canada. Twenty applications were submitted on behalf of Jewish teachers of French. About 30 Jewish immigrants from North Africa are now employed as French teachers and specialists by the Protestant School Board of Montreal.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE SENDS DELEGATION TO SOUTH AMERICA

NEW YORK, July 26 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee is sending a delegation of its leaders on a human relations mission to Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru, Morris B. Abram, president, announced here Thursday.

Mr. Abram, who will head the delegation, declared that the mission has been undertaken at the invitation of South American Jewish community leaders to help develop human relations programs which will deal with growing concern about the emergence of belligerent anti-democratic factions. The delegation will leave Kennedy Airport in New York on August 2.

During the course of its mission, the Committee delegation will confer with: Jewish community leaders and organizations; South American government officials; Roman Catholic Church leaders; U.S. Embassy personnel in Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Lima and Santiago. Mr. Abram announced that the U.S. State Department has expressed interest in the mission, and is helping to facilitate some aspects of the trip.

Mr. Abram declared that "a number of compelling issues, bearing particularly on the rise of anti-democratic and anti-Jewish forces, requires that we undertake this human relations mission to an area of rapidly increasing importance in world affairs."

350 BRAZILIAN JEWS SETTLED IN ISRAEL DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1964

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 26 (JTA) -- A group of 29 Brazilian Jews sailed from here for Israel today, planning to settle permanently in the Jewish State. The 29, according to the Brazilian Zionist Organization, bring to 350 the number of Brazilian Jews settling in Israel during the first six months of this year, equaling exactly the total number of Jews from this country who settled in Israel in 1963.

RUSSIAN-BORN YESHIVA STUDENT WINS BIBLE CHAMPIONSHIP IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, July 26 (JTA) -- Yomtov Krasniansky, a 24-year-old Russian-born Yeshiva student, won the Israeli Bible Championship last night. Nehemia Houja, 37, a blind telephone operator who was born in Iraq, took second place and David Yaneeli, 53, an electrical technician from Haifa, won third place. The new champion, father of two, settled in Israel five years ago.

RABBI MICHAEL MOLHO, NOTED SEPHARDIC RABBI, DIES IN ARGENTINA, AGED 73

BUENOS AIRES, July 26 (JTA) -- Rabbi Michael Molho, spiritual leader of the Shalom Congregation, and a descendant of a prominent family of Sephardic rabbis in Greece, died here this weekend at the age of 73.

Rabbi Molho was born in Salonika and served as the secretary of the Greek Zionist Federation in 1921. He was later the editor of the Greek Sephardic journal, "El Pueblo." His book on the Salonika Jewish cemetery was valuable in reconstructing the burial ground following its destruction by the Nazis during the Second World War. He settled in Argentina in 1950;