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HOUSE REVOKES DECISION BANNING U. S. AID TO NASSER; VOTE IS 241 TO 165

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Responding to intense Administration pressure, the House of Representatives today retreated from its position of prohibiting further United States agricultural aid shipments to Egypt.

The House voted 241-165 against instructing its conferees to hold out for the stronger House position, when the House members meet with Senate conferees to resolve the differences between the two branches of Congress on this issue. The Senate last week softened the original House-enacted ban by permitting the President to continue food shipments to Egypt if he determined such action was "in the national interest."

Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, who voted for the ban in the House, pleaded with his colleagues not to yield to pressure groups who "have been after members from the New York area." He said "this is not the time for divided counsel."

The House was voting on a proposal by Rep. Robert Michel, Illinois Republican, who authored the aid ban, to instruct its conferees to uphold the measure. He argued that U. S. aid to Egypt constituted "an indirect subsidy for international aggression." Headed: "Money extracted from the pockets of American taxpayers should not be used to support activities inimical to our interests."

Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, who also is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, urged retention of the aid prohibition. He said that the U. S. had achieved no results by assisting the Nasser regime in Egypt. Mr. Farbstein pleaded: "Let us not pursue a policy in the Middle East that could lead to a crisis like that in the Far East." He cited Egyptian intervention in the Congo and Iran, and said "the majority of Americans will not tolerate insults and policies of Nasser any longer."

Other members of the House rose to support the aid ban. Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, charged that U. S. assistance programs allow Nasser to divert his resources to aggression. Mr. Halpern called the State Department policy in the Middle East "utterly illogical," and challenged the Department to show where the U. S. has made any headway in its Nasser-oriented policy.

Rep. William Pitts Ryan, New York Democrat, asserted that Nasser has continued to show his contempt for the government and people of the U. S. A. Minority Leader Gerald Ford, of Michigan, said the actions of Nasser warrant the action taken by the House of Representatives, and urged the House to stand its ground. Rep. Paul Findley, Illinois Republican, said that a rebuke to Nasser is long overdue. Rep. F. Bradford Morse, Massachusetts Republican, maintained that the U. S. not send assistance to aggressor nations, such as Egypt.

NASSER THREATENS BONN WITH BREAKING RELATIONS OVER STAND ON ISRAEL

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Officials of the Arab League were reported here today from Cairo as assuring President Nasser of Egypt that most of the Arab countries would break relations with West Germany if the Bonn Government breaks relations with Cairo. They also said that steps are being taken to prepare a meeting of personal representatives of Arab rulers to discuss the relations between the Bonn Government and Israel.

Meanwhile, Nasser today threatened to break diplomatic relations with West Germany if the Bonn Government continues to send arms to Israel. The West German Government indicated that it may be forced to break relations with Egypt because of Nasser's invitation of Walter Ulbricht, East Germany's chief of state, if the Ulbricht visit leads to Nasser's recognition of East Germany.

(In Bonn, State Secretary Gunther von Hase, official spokesman for the West German Government, told a press conference today that "the problem is not our relations with Israel, but the projected visit to Cairo by Ulbricht. This visit has priority over everything else. We have special relations with Israel, going back to the 1952 Reparations Agreement." He added that the Bundestag, lower house of Parliament, will deal soon with the entire question of West German military aid to a number of countries, and "will seek a satisfactory solution to this problem." He emphasized that West Germany wishes to have good relations with both the Arabs and Israel.)

ISRAEL DENIES REPORT THAT ESHKOL-ERHARD MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8, (JTA)-- Official quarters today denied a report that the forthcoming meeting between Israel's Premier Levi Eshkol and West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard had been canceled. The meeting is expected to take place at the end of March, following Mr. Eshkol's meeting with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson in London, on March 25. However, it was indicated that the date of the Eshkol-Erhard parley may be advanced or postponed, depending on possible developments in connection with the rift between West Germany and Egypt.

Recent developments in German-Egyptian relations, as well as the relations between the Bonn Government and Israel, were reviewed here yesterday at a Cabinet meeting by Foreign Minister Golda Meir. The Cabinet was reported to have discussed comprehensively certain aspects of Israel's foreign policy. A Cabinet spokesman said that the discussion will be continued at the next Cabinet meeting, next Sunday.

HEAD OF PROSECUTION OFFICE OF NAZIS IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN A NAZI

BONN, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- Government authorities here were investigating today charges made by the East German Communist news agency, claiming that Dr. Erwin Schuele, head of the Central Office for the Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals, at Ludwigshaven, had been a member of the Nazi Party under Hitler's regime, served as a judge in a Nazi court, and belonged to the SS.

Dr. Schuele is in Poland now, probing into documentary materials on Nazi activities made available to West Germany by the Polish Government. The Ministry of Justice of the State of Baden-Wurttemberg said today that it is awaiting his return from Poland before it goes into the Communist charges. Dr. Schuele was quoted here as saying that the charges constituted "a pack of lies" and that he had been merely a candidate for Nazi Party membership.

The Baden-Wurttemberg Ministry said that membership in the Nazi Party had been compulsory for all students under the Hitler regime, and that Dr. Schuele was a student at the time. In any event, the Ministry stated, Dr. Schuele's party membership had been only "nominal."

U. S. Official in West Berlin Refuses to Verify Allegation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- State Department and German Embassy sources had no comment today on East German charges that Dr. Erwin Schuele, head of West Germany's Central War Crimes Investigation Office, is a former Nazi. The Embassy here indicated that the Bonn Government doubtlessly would have a reaction to the charge against Dr. Schuele shortly.

The State Department was asked for comment on the refusal of an official in its Berlin Documentation Center to respond to a request for verification of the allegation about Dr. Schuele. Names of all former Nazis are contained in records in the Center.

A Department spokesman said that such verification is a matter for the West German Government, and that it would be inappropriate for Washington to comment on the matter. He added that the Berlin Documentation Center is open only to appropriate West German authorities and officials of the U. S. Government. When asked whether the Berlin records were public property, the U. S. spokesman replied: "They may be public property, but not to journalists."

EAST GERMAN MINISTER TESTIFIES AT AUSCHWITZ TRIAL ON KILLING OF JEWS

FRANKFURT, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- West Germany today demanded the arrest of the East German Minister for Industry, Eric Markowitch, for allegedly shooting Germans trying to escape to the West over the Berlin Wall. The charge enlivened the trial here, which opened 13 months ago, of leading personnel of the Auschwitz concentration camp, charged with murdering thousands of Jews.

Markowitch had come here to testify against some of the defendants. He had been a prisoner at Auschwitz, and told the court that more than 1,000 of the camp's inmates were murdered in November and December of 1942 because they were no longer able to work. Hans Laterner, a member of the defense counsel, petitioned the court that he be arrested because he had ordered Germans to be shot while trying to escape over the Berlin wall. The chief judge turned down that application, ruling the Berlin Wall issue had no bearing on the current trial.

SEARCH FOR HIDDEN VALUABLES LOOTED BY NAZIS STARTS TODAY IN GERMANY

BONN, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- A new search for hidden Nazi documents--plus a possible cache of gold and other looted valuables--is scheduled to be launched by the German Government tomorrow in the Hartz Mountain area near Hannover, it was announced here today. The search will be conducted by the Pioneer Corps of the West German army.

Information acquired by the Government has indicated that, in 1945, the SS Security Office in Berlin secreted documents and "treasures" in chalk mines in the Hartz Mountain area.

NINETY CONGRESSMEN JOIN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING SOVIET POLICY ON JEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- Ninety Congressmen today joined in sponsoring a resolution condemning Soviet discrimination against Jews. The House resolution is similar to that introduced in the Senate last week by Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, Connecticut Democrat.

SOVIET AGENCY ANNOUNCES START OF MATZOH BAKING IN MOSCOW SUBURBS

MOSCOW, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- An announcement that matzoh is already being baked in Moscow and other Jewish centers in the Soviet Union in preparation for Passover was issued here today for the foreign press by Novosti, Soviet press agency. The announcement declared:

"Although more than two months remain until Passover, many Jewish religious communities are actively preparing for the holiday. The board of the Moscow Central Synagogue has organized the baking of matzoh at a house rented in the Moscow suburbs where 500 kilograms (1,100) pounds are being baked daily, and a total of 30 tons will be baked. Several tons of matzoh have already been baked in another Moscow synagogue in Marino-rocha and matzoh is also being baked in the Malakhovka suburb of Moscow."

The announcement also said that "matzoh was being baked in Leningrad and in all Jewish religious communities in Georgia."

FIRST BOOK OF SOVIET YIDDISH WRITERS HARD TO FIND IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- Only one book store in Moscow, on Kirov street, received copies of the Yiddish book "This Is How We Live," published last month in Moscow, according to a report in the New York Times today from its Moscow correspondent. The report said that the entire shipment of 86 copies was sold out by the store almost immediately on the basis of advanced orders. There are 250,000 Jews in Moscow, and the publication of the book has not been reported in the Russian language press, the correspondent emphasized.

The Soviet press agency Novosti, in a cable to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said that the book was published in 15,000 copies and that 9,300 of them have been shipped to book stores in various parts of the USSR. The book is the first volume of works by Yiddish authors in the Soviet Union published since the liquidation of Jewish culture by Stalin. It is believed that a substantial part of the edition is destined for export, since the book is also scheduled to appear in English and French editions. It is devoted primarily to show how Jews live in the Soviet Union.

The Novosti report said that, of the 15,000 copies printed, 5,000 had been shipped to book shops in the Russian Federation of Soviet Republics, 3,000 to the Ukraine, more than 1,000 to Leningrad, and 300 to Minsk in Byelorussia. It admitted that the books in the Kirov store in Moscow were sold out "in one hour."

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE CONFERENCE CONDEMNS ANTI-JEWISH BIAS IN RUSSIA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- A resolution condemning Soviet anti-Semitism was adopted here last night by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, which concluded its 52nd annual meeting here.

In another resolution, the ADL called on the West German Government to extend its statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals beyond the present cut-off date of May 8, 1965. Noting that no such statute of limitations on murder charges exists in the United States, the League requested that Bonn set aside its statute "on the crimes of murder and genocide."

HADASSAH TO LAUNCH FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN JEWISH IDENTITY

NEW YORK, Feb. 8, (JTA) -- A five-year Jewish research and publication program to help strengthen the Jewish identity among Jews in the United States will be launched by Hadassah, it was announced here today at the opening session of Hadassah's mid-winter conference.

The announcement was made by Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, national president of the organization, who said that Hadassah has earmarked \$25,000 for this program to be carried out in cooperation with the National Foundation for Jewish Culture, which will establish a committee for the project to be headed by Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, secretary of the Foundation.

"Through this new Hadassah program of research and publication, we hope to foster a greater understanding -- not only among Hadassah members but among all Jews -- of Jewish life and its heritage and the need to preserve it," Mrs. Jacobson said. "It is our intention to mobilize outstanding scholars to give greater understanding of the Jewish situation and condition in American life. This will include efforts to ascertain demographic data which will give us an understanding of our numbers, age distribution, occupational involvement, group fertility rate and many other such facts."

N. Y. CITY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES \$1, 275, 000 PLAN FOR YIDDISH DICTIONARY

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- An Institute for Yiddish Lexicology, which will be responsible for the compilation of a monumental dictionary of the Yiddish language, has been established at the City College of New York, according to an announcement today by Dr. Bue C. Gallagher, president of the college. The project is expected to take 17 years and cost \$1, 275, 000.

The New York City Board of Higher Education has approved the project, Dr. Gallagher said. The work of the Institute of Yiddish Lexicology will be conducted under the general supervision and direction of a board composed of Dr. Gallagher; Gustave B. Rosenberg, president of the Board of Higher Education; and Israel Steinbaum, general secretary of the Yiddish Dictionary Committee, Inc., which has been administering a project set up for this purpose in 1953. That project was launched by a group of laymen and scholars under Nathan Stutchkoff, who had turned to Yivo, the Institute for Jewish Research, for sponsorship.

Under the leadership of this group, the first volume of the projected dictionary was published in 1961. The second volume has been completed and has been scheduled for publication in 1966. With the establishment of the Institute, it was said today, completion of the entire work will go forward with the assistance of paid, fulltime professional and clerical staff.

The dictionary is to be produced first in Yiddish, later in bilingual editions including Yiddish-English, Yiddish-Hebrew and Yiddish-Spanish. Prof. Nathan Susskind, of the City College department of Germanic and Slavic languages, will represent the college on the new Institute. The Institute will establish weekly seminars in Yiddish lexicology to stimulate interest in the language.

LONDON TAXI DRIVER WHO REJECTED NAZI AS PASSENGER WELCOMED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Wolfe Busell, the London Jewish taxi driver who attracted worldwide attention when he tore a swastika necklace off Francoise Jordan, the wife of British Nazi leader Colin Jordan, is now contemplating settling in Israel. He has been deluged with all types of offers and showered with affection ever since he arrived here this weekend for a two-week holiday in the seaside resort of Natanya.

He has been offered membership in the Natanya Taxidrivers Association if he settles here. During his stay here he has been given a free pass for any taxi traveling between Natanya and Tel Aviv. He has even been furnished with a taxi and driver for local sight-seeing trips. Mr. Busell is considering leaving his family here and returning to England to settle his affairs and bring a new taxi here free of customs duty as a new immigrant. Mendel Williams, a prominent philanthropist, has donated 3, 000 Israel pounds to initiate a fund to enable the Busells to settle in Israel.

CZECH STAGE DIRECTOR SEEKS ASYLUM IN ISRAEL; CAN REMAIN IN COUNTRY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Peter Freistadt, the Czechoslovakian stage director who came here to direct a play by the Ohel Theater, asked for asylum at Lydda Airport today after he was already aboard his plane to return home. He will be permitted to remain in Israel in accordance with this country's Law of Return which allows any Jew abroad the right to emigrate to Israel.

During his visit here, it was suggested that Mr. Freistadt, who has no relatives in Czechoslovakia, remain in Israel. He decided, however, to return home. He boarded his plane for the return flight to Europe, but, after the doors of the aircraft were shut and the stairs were removed, he asked to be allowed off the plane. After disembarking, he approached the first policeman he saw for permission to remain in Israel.

ALBERTA LIBERAL PARTY URGES LAW AGAINST RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

TORONTO, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Immediate enactment of anti-discrimination laws in Alberta was urged today by the provincial Liberal party. This is an opposition party in a province which has been ruled by Social Credit for almost 30 years.

The resolution, approved at the party's annual convention, calls for legislation prohibiting discrimination in public accommodation, employment, housing and public services on the basis of race, color and creed.

PROF. GIUSEPPE LEVI, MEMBER OF ITALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, DEAD

TURIN, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Prof. Giuseppe Levi, a member of the Italian Academy of Sciences and one of Italy's leading physicians and anatomists, died here in retirement at the age of 93. He had been a leading figure in Italian culture, education and Jewish life.

Prof. Levi was repeatedly attacked during the fascist regime of Mussolini because of support he gave to known foes of the regime. He went into exile in 1938 after the introduction of racial laws in Italy and returned in 1945.