



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXII - 48th year

Tuesday, March 23, 1965

No. 56

CHANCELLOR ERHARD'S ENVOY CONCLUDES TALKS WITH PREMIER ESHKOL

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- A joint communique issued here today by the Government of Israel and by Dr. Kurt Birrenbach, West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's special emissary here, announced that the two governments have agreed to exchange ambassadors "within the next few weeks."

Dr. Birrenbach is scheduled to return to Bonn tomorrow. He concluded today six days of a second round of talks with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and other top-ranking Israeli leaders, including Shimon Peres, Deputy Minister of Defense, and Deputy Premier Abba Eban, who is now Acting Foreign Minister in the absence of Mrs. Golda Meir. After asserting that the conversations about the exchange of ambassadors have resulted in a decision to implement that step shortly, the communique declared:

"Other matters of concern to both governments were discussed in a spirit of mutual desire to arrive at agreed solutions. It can be expected that complete agreement on the matters discussed will be reached shortly."

The "other matters" are believed to include the question of West Germany's aid to Israel's security, on which agreement had apparently been reached in principle, although some details remain to be ironed out. Reliable Israeli sources expressed satisfaction with the talks with the German envoy. It is believed that on the major question of West German supply of the remainder of the arms it had promised to Israel and suddenly cut off several weeks ago, under pressure by Egypt, a formula has been evolved and awaits only final approval by Dr. Erhard.

In regard to the German scientists at work in Egypt on sophisticated arms intended ultimately for use against Israel, Bonn has reportedly assured Israel that it will do its utmost in that area of controversy. Germany is said to have told Israel that most of the German missile and rocket scientists in Egypt had already returned to West Germany, and that no more German scientists are going to Egypt. In regard to the exchange of ambassadors, the agreement is said to include a clause giving the Germans the right to open their embassy in Tel Aviv, instead of in Jerusalem.

ESHKOL LEAVES TOMORROW FOR ENGLAND; WILL CONFER WITH BRITISH PREMIER

LONDON, March 22. (JTA) -- Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol will fly Wednesday to London, where he will meet with Prime Minister Harold Wilson, Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart, and other leaders of the British Government, to discuss a number of vital issues concerning Arab-Israeli affairs. Mr. Eshkol will be accompanied by Mrs. Eshkol. After their visit here, they are expected to take a few days' rest in France. Today, it was not ruled out here that, while visiting Europe, the Premier may also meet with West Germany's Chancellor Ludwig Erhard.

Mr. Eshkol's trip to Britain has been labeled here and in Israel as a "private" visit, in consequence of which no set agenda had been fixed for his meetings with the British Government leaders. However, the Israeli chief of Government will have at least two formal talks with the topmost members of the British Government. He will be Mr. Wilson's guest at a dinner Thursday at 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister's official residence, and will be honored at another dinner, Friday, at the Foreign Office.

Among the matters expected by the British press to be discussed are the Arab plans for diversion of the headwaters of the Jordan River, which Mr. Eshkol has called "Israel's lifeline," and possibly an Israeli request for an Anglo-Israeli arms deal. The very absence of a set agenda for the formal talks will make it possible for both sides to bring up whatever subjects interest them most urgently.

Press speculations here in advance of the Eshkol visit express the opinion that a possible Israeli request for British arms may cause a quandary for Britain because any increase in Britain's present "modest" scale of arms aid to Israel would elicit immediate, strong reactions from Egypt. Britain's Minister of Defense, Denis Healey, has reportedly been ordered to stand by to join the talks with Mr. Eshkol, especially after the latter's talk with Foreign Secretary Stewart.

NEGRO MARCHERS FROM SELMA WEAR 'YARMULKES' IN DEFERENCE TO RABBIS

SELMA, Ala., March 22. (JTA) -- Hundreds of Negro freedom marchers today wore yarmulkes (skullcaps), in respectful emulation of rabbis who participated in demonstrations in Alabama as Jewish participation in the march from Selma to Montgomery.

The Alabama Negroes called the yarmulkes "freedom caps." The demand for yarmulkes was so great that an order has been wired for delivery of 1,000 when the marchers arrive in Montgomery later this week for a great demonstration at the state capitol.

The adoption of the yarmulke as a symbol began sometime ago when rabbis joining prayer services in a Negro church were asked the meaning of the yarmulke. An explanation was given by a rabbi that one's head must be covered in the presence of the Lord. The Negro response was that "wherever the freedom movement is, God is to be found there." While not assuming the Jewish faith, many Negroes adopted the yarmulke as a symbol of their movement.

Dr. Abraham Heschel, of the Jewish Theological Seminary, was asked by the Rev. Martin Luther King to take a position of honor at the head of the marchers. He walked with Dr. Ralph Bunche, Undersecretary of the United Nations, and the 82-year-old grandfather of a Negro youth slain recently by Alabama police. The rabbi completed the day's march despite the distance.

Rabbis Participate in March; Five Were Held in Selma Jail

Rabbis jailed by Selma police during the weekend for participating in demonstrations conducted Friday evening services in the Selma jail, it was learned. Five rabbis recited Hebrew prayers behind prison bars. They have since been released on bond. An estimated 10 to 12 rabbis took part in the march which began yesterday.

Brant Coopersmith, Washington, D. C., director of the American Jewish Committee, was in Selma with instructions from his organization to assist the demonstrators in any way possible. An expert in community relations and human rights projects, Mr. Coopersmith is helping to facilitate the aims of the demonstration. Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, led a contingent of ADL officials in the march.

From various cities, Jewish community leaders came to Selma, among them Mr. and Mrs. Don G. Lebby, representing the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, Ohio. A considerable number of the white youths who came to Alabama to join the march, affiliated with such groups as the Students Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and the Congress of Racial Equality, were of Jewish faith.

(Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said in New York today that he will join other Reform rabbis and laymen from all parts of the country participating in the march from Selma to Montgomery. At the same time he called upon the 660 member synagogues of the UAHC to "launch a vigorous educational program to rally public sentiment for the strongest and most effective voting registration bill.")

U. N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS OPENS SESSION; ISRAEL WELCOMED AS MEMBER

GENEVA, March 22. (JTA) -- With consideration of a draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance the main item on an 18-point agenda, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights convened its 21st annual session here today--with Israel represented as a member of the body.

The Israeli representative is Dr. Haim Cohen, a member of Israel's Supreme Court and Israel's former Attorney General. Ambassador Salvador de Lopez, of the Philippines, chairman of this year's session, formally welcomed Israel as a new member of the Commission, along with two other new members, Iraq and Jamaica. Prof. Rene Cassin, of France, president of Alliance Israelite Francaise, is also a member of the Commission.

In addition to consideration of the religious freedom item, which has been pending before one UN body or another for several years, the session agenda also has an item, inscribed by Poland, forbidding the termination of prosecution of Nazi war criminals in all countries in the world.

A number of international and other Jewish organizations are represented at the session as non-governmental participants, with the right of speaking but not the right to vote. Among the organizations and their representatives are the American Jewish Committee, Morris B. Abram, president; Agudat Israel, Chief Rabbi Alexander Saffran, of Geneva; Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Dr. Gustaf Warburg; Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations, Dr. Moses Moskowitz; World Jewish Congress, Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig; and International Council of Jewish Women, Mrs. Miriam Warburg. The sessions will continue until April 15.

The draft convention dealing with religious freedoms would call upon all governments, including the Soviet Union but not mentioning the USSR specifically, to permit full freedom of religious practice to all believers. Under the document, teaching of Hebrew would be permitted, as well as the right of religious Jews to visit Israel.

CANADA REPORTS PROGRESS IN CAMPAIGN FOR OUTLAWING HATE LITERATURE

TORONTO, March 22. (JTA) -- A campaign for federal legislation to ban dissemination of material inciting hatred or racial and religious groups and of members of such groups is making concrete and steady progress, a Jewish leader in the campaign reported to a community rally here.

The report was made by Sidney M. Harris, chairman of the Joint Community Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith. In recent months, many major Canadian cities have been flooded with such hate literature. Many Christian religious groups, as well as civic organizations, have protested the material and have asked authorities for action.

Mr. Harris told the rally that the Canadian Jewish Congress "intends to proceed fearlessly and with full vigor" in its efforts to obtain such legislation. He said that, in addition to pressing the Federal Government for such laws, the Canadian Jewish Congress was seeking to stimulate public opinion on the issue. He added that "the responses from municipal councils, national organizations, church groups, national trade movements and countless local service clubs, congregations and associations have played no small part in arousing the favor with which our approach to Parliament has been met."

He said that present laws were not sufficient and that amendments were needed "to accomplish our purpose." He said the approach was that peddlers of hate should be brought under "legal quarantine or control, even as the law of the state recognizes its duty to protect its citizens from contact with plague, disease and crime. Hate is all of these and more. Its epidemic propensity for evil is all too well known to us Jews."

Suspension of Mail Privileges Cited; Bills Pending in Parliament

In a related report, the Canadian Jewish Congress summarized efforts to cope with the problem, which it said included the task of disabusing public opinion of the idea that "the law upholds some kind of inalienable right to convey patent lies, incitement to violence and the advocacy of forceable suppression of the rights of others."

The CJC said that the legislation it sought would give individuals "a completely free choice in expressing themselves" but with notification to them of "the legal risks they run if their use of freedom of expression goes too far in the circumstances."

Among advances cited by the CJC was the suspension of mail privileges of the National States Rights Party of Birmingham, Alabama, and the sustaining of the ban by a Board of Review in Ottawa. Two private bills before the Canadian Parliament on the problem, introduced by David Orlikow of Winnipeg, and Milton Klein of Montreal, are before the Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs. The committee has heard several witnesses.

In its decision to ban the hate mailings by the National States Rights Party of Birmingham, the Board of Review had called that organization's materials "indecent," "obscene" and "immoral." The three-man board, headed by Justice Dalton Wells, of the Ontario Supreme Court, compared some of the publications sent out here by the Alabama racists as comparable to the "obscene" anti-Semitic publications of the German Nazis under Hitler.

A committee of specialists in law and social sciences has been set up under the chairmanship of Prof. Maxwell Cohen, dean of the McGill University Law School, with the task of working out an effective bill to deal with the problem. The committee is responsible to Minister of Justice Guy Favreau. The CJC meanwhile has been making representations to provincial attorneys general on enforcement of existing laws, and has presented evidence to Attorney General Wishart on 16 persons known to be distributing neo-Nazi material.

EHRENBURG REVEALS HE APPEALED TO STALIN ON SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, March 22. (JTA) -- Ilya Ehrenburg, famous Soviet novelist-journalist, has revealed that he had personally appealed to Stalin, during the latter's regime, to investigate the persecutions being carried on, from 1948 to 1952, against Soviet Jewish intellectuals, according to a Moscow dispatch received here today. He did not reveal what, if anything, Stalin had replied.

Continuing his memoirs in the Russian literary magazine, Novy Mir, Mr. Ehrenburg devoted several pages of his latest installment to the Jewish question. He detailed again the purge of the Jewish intellectuals, beginning with the murder of actor-director Solomon Mikhols, in 1948, and continuing with the execution of other leading Jewish intellectuals. He himself expected "the ringing of the bell," meaning arrest and possible execution, he reported. Finally, he wrote, he appealed to Stalin against the anti-Jewish actions by the Soviet authorities.

St. Louis Jews Protest Anti-Jewish Discrimination in Russia

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 22. (JTA) -- Major Jewish lay and religious organizations and institutions sponsored a meeting here yesterday called to protest the discriminations against Soviet Jewry. Among those attending the gathering were prominent civic leaders, Catholic and Protestant clergymen and educators and personalities in all walks of life. Guest speaker at the meeting was Philip M. Klutznick, honorary president of B'nai B'rith and a former member of the United States delegation to the United Nations.

2,500 JEWS REPORTED STILL LIVING IN CUBA; NO RABBI LEFT IN HAVANA

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- A Zionist youth group held a Purim celebration in the Jewish Community Center in Havana yesterday, according to a report from Havana to the New York Times. The report stated the Castro Government permits Cuban Jews to pursue cultural, religious and Zionist activities, having recently allowed three Cuban Zionists to attend a conference in Israel.

Cuba's Jewish population, which numbered about 10,000 in pre-Castro days, has now been reduced to about 2,500, most of the Jews have emigrated to the United States, the report said. It added that Jews in Havana still maintain five synagogues, but have no rabbi. They receive kosher meat and poultry from the Government slaughterhouses and matzoh from Canada.

"Judaism and the Hebrew and Yiddish languages are still being taught after regular classes in Havana's Albert Einstein School. This institution has been nationalized, like all other private schools, and only 60 of its 400 pupils are Jewish," the report stated.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY DISCUSSES WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS

CINCINNATI, March 22. (JTA) -- Data published on Jewish intermarriage in Washington were questioned at the 63rd annual meeting of the American Jewish Historical Society, which concluded its three-day sessions here today, following presentations on a wide range of Jewish historical and current events. Dr. Leon J. Obermayer, of Philadelphia, was re-elected president of the society.

Taking issue with the published figures on intermarriage in Washington was Dr. Dorothy Steinberg, of Washington, one of the principal speakers at the gathering attended by 400 guests and members of the society. She pointed out that the data in a recently published survey, which attracted nationwide attention, were based on figures obtained in 1956 and had changed since that year. The three national elections which have taken place since that survey, she said, has altered the situation in Washington.

In her critique, Dr. Steinberg also said that one of the studies, dealing with racial and ethnic prejudices in Chicago, had misinterpreted the attitude of Jews who had allegedly shown "a greater level of prejudice toward others" than Gentiles showed toward Jews. Pointing out that "prejudice" was not adequately or uniformly defined, she declared that those Jews who showed prejudice referred chiefly to "bias" against intermarriage, rather than to an attitude against non-Jews as such.

Professor Oscar Janowsky, of the City College of New York, principal speaker at the annual dinner of the society, said that American Jews should join other forces in behalf of equality for all Americans, but should not permit Jewish institutions to become nonsectarian. "The issue," he said, must be faced squarely, and the issue in Jewish communal institutions is "non-discrimination, not nonsectarianism."

"All Americans should be welcome in Jewish institutions but the character and justification of Jewish agencies must be their Jewish programing and orientation," he stressed. "I believe that Jews, like other liberal Americans, have the responsibility of cooperating in the effort to combat poverty and discrimination. As individuals, they should and do join with non-Jewish Americans in promoting the cause of freedom and equality for all, regardless of race, color or creed."

MEXICAN GROUP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTESTS SOVIET TREATMENT OF JEWS

MEXICO CITY, March 22. (JTA) -- An appeal to the world's conscience to join in protesting against anti-Jewish discriminations in the Soviet Union was issued here today by the Front for Human Rights, under the signature of a leading Mexican attorney, Benjamin Laureano Luna. In a two-page statement in its influential monthly journal, Impacto, the organization blamed the USSR Government directly for the discrimination practiced in the Soviet Union in regard to religious and cultural rights of Russian Jewry.

At the same time, a statement calling upon all governments to defend human rights in general was issued here today in the daily newspaper, Excelsior, by Raul Carranca y Trujillo, one of the most prominent Mexican jurists. He called on all governments to adopt strict legislation forbidding violations against human rights.

RABBI DE SOLA POOL HONORED ON 80TH BIRTHDAY; 400 ATTEND DINNER

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- More than 400 persons paid tribute last night to Dr. David de Sola Pool, rabbi emeritus of Congregation Shearith Israel--the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue--in honor of the rabbi's 80th birthday. Dr. de Sola Pool retired from the active leadership of the 311-year-old synagogue in 1957, after serving as the congregation's spiritual leader for 50 years. Sharing the honors with the rabbi was his wife, Mrs. Tamar de Sola Pool.

Rabbi and Mrs. de Sola Pool interrupted a vacation in Israel to come here for the celebration--which took place at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel--although his actual 80th birthday will not take place until May 16. They are now at work together on a book.