

SPAIN, ISRAEL ON VERGE OF SETTLING DISPUTE OVER PORT FACILITIES

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- An agreement regulating Israeli-Spanish shipping relations is expected to be signed in Madrid this week, thus resolving a week-long dispute over denial of Spanish port privileges for Israeli shipping, informed sources reported here today.

The agreement is to be signed by a representative of the Zim Israel Lines and Spain's Maritime Undersecretary. For the past week, Israeli ships have been barred from all but two Spanish ports under what Israeli sources considered Arab boycott measure. Spanish spokesmen have denied such pressure, attributing the move to "administrative reasons."

The agreement to which Spain assented, apparently because of the sharp Israeli reaction to the port restrictions, will relate only to Zim shipping initially. But it was expected that the pact be widened to cover other Israeli maritime firms, although currently only Zim ships are calling at Spanish ports.

New Israel Motel Ship Cancels Cruise, Due to Spanish Action

LONDON, April 6. (JTA) -- A refusal by Spain to allow the Israeli motel ship, the Nili, to use a southern Spanish port resulted today in cancelation of several holiday cruises by Somerfin of Geneva, the owners of the ship.

About 4,500 Britons had made reservations for the cruise, which was to have included ferry service from Southampton on May 15 on the \$8,400,000 ship now being completed in a Scottish shipyard. The Somerfin company announced it would return the reservations payments to the passengers. A substantial advertising campaign had brought total bookings of \$4,400,000 in Britain.

DEPT. OF COMMERCE TRIES TO HELP U. S. FIRMS ON ARAB BLACKLIST

WASHINGTON, April 6. (JTA) -- The United States Department of Commerce today made known that many firms had requested information on "the nature and practices" of the Arab boycott, and that the Department has endeavored to assist blacklisted companies. Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, who had written to the Commerce Department on this issue, said today he will press for early action on his bill and companion measures, seeking to amend the Export Control Act to include provisions for resisting the Arab boycott.

In a letter to Rep. Farbstein, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on foreign economic policy, Thomas G. Wyman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Domestic and International Business, told of difficulties experienced by American business as a result of the Arab boycott. The letter was in response to an inquiry by the Congressman on the extent to which American firms have been limited in their foreign commerce by restrictive Arab boycott measures.

The Department of Commerce said that, because the United States Government does not recognize the boycott, no list of boycotted firms could be provided. According to Mr. Wyman, the Commerce Department receives requests for advice from firms asked by the Arabs to provide information on their dealings with Israel. "Most firms naturally regard this as an unwarranted intrusion into their private business affairs," he stated.

Mr. Wyman said that the majority of firms respond according to their own business interests, and do not advise the Commerce Department of their final action. However, he declared, blacklisted firms ask assistance. Such cases, he added, are reviewed and "then, through the Foreign Service, we make representations against the boycott action to the government of the appropriate Arab state." Mr. Wyman noted: "We feel that there has been success through this type of approach."

BRITAIN REPORTED MORE FIRM THAN U. S. A. ON STAND AGAINST NASSER

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- Britain's Labor Government does not share the American view about President Nasser of Egypt being a main force for stability in the Middle East, it was revealed here today as an aftermath to the high-level talks held in London recently by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol. Though Britain seeks a working relationship with Nasser, it has developed, the London Government advocated a firm stand against him.

Informed quarters here said today that Mr. Eshkol told the Israeli Cabinet yesterday, when he reported on his talks with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart that, though the British leaders are opposed to Israel's use of force to prevent Arab diversion of the headwaters of the Jordan River, they take a more liberal view on that entire issue than Washington does. Britain is now understood to be more prepared than the United States to agree that the diversion plan, devised by Nasser, is aimed primarily at the heightening of tensions in this region.

Britain, it is understood, is also ready to take stronger measures against pressures on British firms by the anti-Israel Arab Boycott Office.

CAPITOL HEARS DEMANDS FOR END TO NASSER AID; U. S. - ISRAEL PACT URGED

WASHINGTON, April 6. (JTA) -- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today voted to put Congress on record as demanding an immediate halt in aid shipments to any country, like Egypt, which allows United States property to be damaged by mob action. The committee acted on a proposal by Sen. Vance Hartke, Indiana Democrat, who felt that the recent burning of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library in Cairo should not be tolerated.

The measure voiced the sense of Congress but is not mandatory. It asked that aid be severed and restored only when the President determines that anti-American action has ceased and has received suitable assurances it will not be resumed.

The new provision, not requested by the Administration, was added to the \$3,400,000,000 foreign aid bill now pending before the committee. It was added after senators voiced reservations about continued aid to such nations as Egypt, which have permitted desecration of American installations.

Meanwhile, in a speech on the floor of the House of Representatives, Rep. Thomas C. McGrath, Jr., New Jersey Democrat, called on the Government today to enter a mutual security pact with Israel, to supply Israel with weapons, and to cease shipment of American arms to all Arab states. He cited Arab threats to divert Israel's water sources and said: "I feel it is time that the United States enter into a mutual security pact with Israel, our only reliable ally in the Middle East." In support of his demand, he quoted a statement made last month by President Nasser of Egypt that "we shall enter Palestine on a path of blood." According to Rep. McGrath, "preparations are already under way to divert large quantities of water from the Jordan, and Israel can reasonably be expected to resist with force."

He pointed out that "Soviet Russia is supplying Nasser with massive amounts of modern weapons." Also, he said, German scientists are continuing work to create nuclear weapons for Egypt. Denouncing American aid to Nasser, Rep. McGrath said that "without American aid, he could not have afforded German technicians and the materials they use."

He said the Congress was asked in February to continue aid to Nasser "in order that the last door to reasoning with President Nasser might not be closed." But, he observed, "our reasoning has not resulted in abatement of his threats against Israel, and the time is fast approaching when Israel will begin irrigating the Negev with Jordan River waters." While the State Department attempts to reason with Nasser, he said, "we must also follow a more practical course--providing Israel with weapons in order to maintain the military balance. That is the only way to forestall an outbreak of war in that volatile part of the world."

ORTHODOX YOUTH FROM NEW YORK HAILED AS HERO BY ISRAEL ARMY

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- New York-born Pinhas Prawda was cited by Chief of Staff Yitzhak Rabin here today for bravery by continuing to operate a tractor under heavy shelling by Syrian gunners in the Korazim area north of Lake Tiberias. He was wounded in that action but recovered sufficiently to attend the citation ceremony.

Prawda, an Orthodox Jew, was born in Manhattan, studied at an Orthodox Jewish day school, and was a member of Bnei Akiva when he came to Israel for a year of study. He decided to settle in Israel and joined Kibbutz Yavneh, an Orthodox kibbutz. After relinquishing his American citizenship, he was drafted into the Israel Army.

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE DEDICATES U. S. -MADE NUCLEAR ACCELERATOR

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- The Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot dedicated yesterday a \$1,500,000 American-made, 15,000,000-volt, tandem accelerator for the study of nucleons and nuclear activities. Funds for the apparatus came partly from West Germany as a loan, and partly from a donation from the Hebrew University which will also use the facility.

ISRAEL FINANCE MINISTER DISAPPOINTED WITH EUROMART AGREEMENT

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir has called here for negotiations for a customs union or a free trade agreement between Israel and the European Common Market in an expression of "grave disappointment" with the results of the Israel-EEC agreement signed a year ago. He said that Israel's exports to the six-nation Common Market had been declining steadily since the pact. He warned that any preferential terms to North African countries from the EEC would put an end to Israel's farm exports, particularly its citrus sales, to Euromart.

HUNT, PUNISHMENT OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS URGED BEFORE U. N. AT GENEVA

GENEVA, April 6, (JTA) -- After two days of sharp debate over a Polish proposal for maximum efforts by member states to hunt down and punish all Nazi war criminals, the current session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission today sent the measure to a working group to draft an acceptable resolution.

The principal item on the agenda of the current session is a draft convention to outlaw all forms of religious intolerance. Debate on that issue was suspended yesterday for a discussion of the Polish proposal. The item had been placed on the agenda by Polish delegate A. Resich prior to the action by West Germany in extending the statute of limitations on prosecution of Nazi war criminals in that country by four-and-a-half years.

The Polish resolution asked all states to find and punish war criminals and perpetrators of crimes against humanity during World War II, to act to bar any statutes of limitation for prosecution of such criminals, and to endorse the UN Convention Against Genocide, which the United States has never approved. But other Communist spokesmen, representing the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Ukraine and Byelorussia tried to turn the debate into an attack on West Germany instead of one concerning Nazi war crimes.

Israeli Supreme Court Justice Chaim Cohen, the Israel delegate, supported the main ideas of the Polish resolution. Dealing with the legal aspects of limitations statutes, the Israeli jurist ripped the arguments of supporters of such limitations on legal grounds.

Abram, Prof. Cassin Cite Their Family Losses in Holocaust

Morris B. Abram, the United States representative, also supported the Polish proposal in principle, disclosing that members of his family had been among the victims of the Nazi holocaust. However, he added, since West Germany had voted to defer the deadline for such prosecution, the matter was not as urgent as it had been before the extension was approved and Commission action could be postponed for another year.

Prof. Rene Cassin, the French delegate, disclosing that he had lost 37 members of his family to Nazi murderers, said he nevertheless did not want a resolution which appeared vengeful. He said he would prefer a measure which would call for preparation of an international convention to abolish all statutes of limitations for such crimes, past and future. He submitted a resolution to that effect, which was supported by the delegates of Ecuador, Dahomey, and the Philippines.

Dr. Maurice Perlzweig, of the World Jewish Congress, said it was necessary to obtain the extradition of Nazi war criminals from countries--with he did not name--in the Middle East, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

Dr. S. Lopez, of the Philippines, the Commission chairman then declared that, if the delegates could not adopt a resolution on a unanimous basis, or nearly unanimously, it would be better not to have any resolution at all. He named a working group of delegates from Poland, France, the Soviet Union, the Ukraine, Ecuador, Dahomey, the Philippines and the United States to meet privately during the next three days, to try to resolve the differences.

JEWISH GROUPS URGE CONGRESS TO AMEND AID-TO-EDUCATION BILL

WASHINGTON, April 6, (JTA) -- A critical analysis of the Johnson Administration's education aid bill, sponsored by six national Jewish organizations and 25 local Jewish community councils, was transmitted to every Representative and Senator in Congress today, as the House-approved measure neared a vote in the Senate.

Reiterating arguments previously stated by various Jewish organizations, the analysis asserted that the Administration bill combined federal aid to public schools with aid to private and parochial schools, and thus threatened to impair "the constitutional guarantees of separation of church and state." The analysis stressed the need for an amendment to the bill to permit challenge to proposals considered controversial, and warned that if the bill was passed without such a provision, "appropriations will be made and monies spent in a way that may well be unconstitutional."

Many Orthodox Jewish groups, particularly those connected with Jewish education programs, support the measure. There were no Orthodox groups among the signers of the analysis. The national groups that sponsored the statement were the American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans, National Council of Jewish Women, Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the United Synagogue of America.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY TO GIVE SUMMER COURSES FOR U. S. STUDENTS

NEW YORK, April 6; (JTA) -- A new summer study program for Americans has been established at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, with courses to be given from July 12 to August 18, it was announced here today by the American Friends of the Hebrew University. The special courses, the first in the university's 40-year history to be given in English, will afford American students with at least two years of college credit the opportunity to study with leading faculty members at the university.

JEWISH CHEMIST FOR U. S. NAVY CHARGES GERMAN CHIEF WITH PREJUDICE

WASHINGTON, April 6; (JTA) -- A Jewish chemist, employed for 23 years by the U. S. Navy, has been fired by his supervisor, who was alleged to be motivated by "bias, malice and prejudice," according to a suit filed in the United States Court of Claims here today.

The 36-year-old supervisor, Dr. Martin Zimmer, is a citizen of West Germany, now employed by the U. S. Government. Educated in Nazi schools, he came to the United States in January 1962. Dr. Zimmer is the son of an army officer who served in Hitler's Army, according to the complaint. The plaintiff is Bernard Perlstein, of Washington.

The suit asserted that the German supervisor displayed "a marked antagonism" toward Mr. Perlstein and that, in less than a year, brought departmental charges against the chemist, alleging inefficiency.

Claude L. Dawson, the attorney representing the chemist, who was an upper grade Civil Service employe, said his client had an excellent record and had no trouble with any superiors until the German arrived and became his supervisor. The suit maintained that the plaintiff should be reinstated and reimbursed with back pay for unwarranted dismissal.

During the Navy hearing on the dismissal action, two chemists with outstanding reputations in their field testified on behalf of Mr. Perlstein, praising his competence and ability. The Navy Board nevertheless sustained his dismissal. So did the Civil Service Commission's Board of Appeals and Review. Mr. Dawson said "this case makes a mockery of the Government's anti-discrimination program which is supposed to end all prejudice and discrimination in the Federal service."

The Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A. made known that it is requesting a report from the Navy on whether the German supervisor participated in the Hitler Youth Movement and on his general background. JWV national commander Ralph Plofsky said the public was entitled to know all facts bearing on this case. An investigation was meanwhile launched by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

ORTHODOX LEADER FINDS IT 'DIFFICULT' TO UNDERSTAND POPE'S SERMON

NEW YORK, April 6, (JTA) -- Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, which represents 900 Orthodox rabbis in the United States, said today he finds it "difficult" to understand the Passion Sunday Lenten sermon preached in Rome Sunday by Pope Paul VI. "It is difficult," Rabbi Miller declared, "to understand how these words can be reconciled with the letter and spirit of the draft document passed overwhelmingly at the recent session of the Ecumenical Council--a statement which has been broadly promoted and publicized."

"The Pope's statement, however," continued Rabbi Miller, confirms the position adopted by the Rabbinical Council of America, that, while we welcome a better understanding and mutual respect among the world's major faiths, such understanding must be based upon the premise that each is a unique religious community with a unique commitment. We have distinctive beliefs, distinctive histories, distinctive views of the world of the spirit and distinctive hopes for the future, which presuppose spiritual independence. We deem it most improper to advise the leaders of another faith concerning their theological views. We are equally determined to remain loyal and committed to the faith of Israel."

Chicago Rabbi Warns Christians to Stop Trying to Convert Jews

CHICAGO, April 6. (JTA) -- A Chicago rabbi warned Christians to stop trying to convert Jews to Christianity when carrying on dialogues with Jews concerning areas of differences and agreement. Addressing a conference at Loyola University of teachers in Catholic and Protestant seminaries, Rabbi Ralph Simon, of Congregation Rodfei Zedek, said that "Jews wish to accept Christian friendship, but not at the price of their religion," according to the Sentinel, Chicago Jewish weekly.

One of the great difficulties in such dialogues, Rabbi Simon declared, "arises from the fact that, theologically, Christians are obligated to carry the message of their religion to others. The problem is how to do this when it provokes resentment from Jews." He pointed out that many Christian theologians today feel that no missionary efforts should be directed to the Jewish people because of their special status. "Instead," he said, "it is felt that the Christian, through his own life, can demonstrate the values of his religion."

SUPPORT URGED FOR BILL FREEING SABBATH OBSERVERS FROM U. S. WORK

NEW YORK, April 6. (JTA) -- All Americans were urged today by Agudath Israel of America, national Orthodox organization, to rally to the support of a bill introduced in Congress to enable Sabbath observers to work for the Federal Government without prejudice to their employment by reason of their religious faith. The legislation was introduced last week by Rep. Jonathan Bingham, New York Democrat. Rabbi Morris Snerer, executive vice-president of Agudath Israel, declared the bill "will enable the Sabbath observer in government employ to fulfill his religious beliefs as a matter of right and not on sufferance."