



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

360 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXII - 48th year

Friday, April 9, 1965

No. 69

STATE DEPT. REPORTED FAVORING JORDAN OVER ISRAEL ON U. S. ARMS

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The State Department is nearer a decision to furnish modern new arms to Jordan than it is ready to respond to Israel's application, it was learned today from high Government sources. These sources said that Israel's needs are being considered but that American authorities are convinced that Israeli forces are well-prepared and adequately equipped. The State Department is willing to consider the supply of some equipment to Israel, however, to avoid an imbalance if evaluations show that a balance no longer exists. Talks are in progress with both Jordan and Israel.

(The New York Times said today that the U. S. A. and Jordan are nearing agreement on American supply of additional arms to Jordan, including tanks, to help modernize Jordan's army. At the same time, the newspaper stated in a Washington dispatch, agreement is expected on Israeli purchase of American arms. Jordan's request reportedly includes M-48 medium tanks. Jordan's Brig. Gen. Amer Kamash, chief of plans and operations of the Jordanian army was reported to have been in Washington for the past week, "working out the final details" of a U. S. arms deal with Amman.)

Officially, the State Department said today: "As we have stated on many occasions in the past, we neither confirm requests for military equipment nor talks about such equipment. We do not think it is desirable to speculate in any way about the possibility of such requests or discussion of them."

ERHARD ENVOY IN ISRAEL NEGOTIATING FINAL PACT ON BONN ISSUES

JERUSALEM, April 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Birrenbach, West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's special emissary, and Israeli Government leaders began today a third round of talks on the projected diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Well informed sources said that the major barrier to completion of the talks was the working of the agreement and of the joint communique announcing agreement. Fewer difficulties have developed, these sources said, about the substance of the pact, which is to cover all aspects of Bonn-Israel relations.

Israel reportedly presented a list of specific requests for inclusion in the agreement, to avoid later misunderstandings. It was understood that the Israeli negotiators urged a specific Bonn assurance of an extension of the statute of limitations deadline for prosecution of Nazi war criminals, beyond the present four-and-a-half-year postponement approved last month by the West German Parliament. Israel also insisted on West German action on the German scientists and technicians working in Egypt on advanced weapons systems.

SYRIAN, LEBANESE OFFICIALS TO VISIT FRANCE ON ISRAELI PROBLEMS

PARIS, April 8. (JTA) -- Top officials of the Syrian and Lebanese Governments are scheduled to visit France for talks which reportedly will touch on Arab plans to bar Jordan River waters to Israel, informed sources said here today.

Dr. Hassan Mreud, Syrian Foreign Minister, who has just completed a visit to Communist China, will arrive in Paris next week. Lebanese President Charles Helou will come on May 5 for an eight-day official state visit. The Syrian official was expected to argue the Arab "right" to use the sources of the Jordan River "as they see fit."

France was expected to raise with President Helou the Arab plan to divert the waters of the Hasbani tributary as a "spite" measure against Israeli plans to implement the Eric Johnston-Jordan River water resources plan. It was reported that both President de Gaulle and Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville will warn Lebanon against changing the water status quo.

Prior to his Paris visit, President Helou will visit President Nasser of Egypt in Cairo. Nasser is expected to press the Lebanese President to remain firm under the expected French pressure on the water issue.

VATICAN CONSIDERS CONTROVERSY ON POPE'S SERMON A CLOSED ISSUE

ROME, April 8, (JTA) -- Vatican sources indicated today that they considered the controversy over Pope Paul's Passion Sunday homily, in which he cited Jewish responsibility for the death of Jesus, as a closed issue. The same opinion, it was reported, prevails among Italian Jewish leaders.

The Italian press reported widely the telegram to the Vatican signed by Judge Sergio Piperno, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, and Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff of Rome, who expressed concern over the revival by the Pope of the delcide issue in connection with the Jewish people. As background material, most of the newspapers reprinted extracts from the Declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations voted last November by the third session of the Ecumenical Council. This was done, it was indicated, to explain the reasons for the negative Jewish reactions.

American Jewish Committee Hopes for Further Clarification on Homily

NEW YORK, April 8, (JTA) -- A statement on the Passion Sunday Lenten sermon preached by Pope Paul VI was issued here today by the American Jewish Committee. The statement read: "We were both astonished and concerned to read the text of the Pope's Lenten homily as it appears in Osservatore Romano and as reported in the American press.

"It appears to us that it sharply deviates from the Declaration on the Jews which received such an overwhelmingly affirmative vote last November at the third session of the Ecumenical Council in Rome. In this Declaration, it was stated that the Jews could not be held responsible, then and now, for the death of Jesus. We quote from the official statement on the Jews, 'All that happened to Christ in his Passion cannot be attributed to the whole people then alive, much less to those of today. Besides, the Church held and holds that Christ underwent his passion and death freely because of the sins of all men, and out of infinite love.'

"We urgently hope that further clarification will allay the sadness and disappointment engendered among Jews and all men of goodwill."

MONTREAL SCHOOL BODY 'REMOVES' TEACHER WHO GLORIFIED HITLER

MONTREAL, April 8, (JTA) -- The Montreal Catholic School Commission announced today that a seventh-grade teacher in a Catholic school, who had compared Hitler to Jesus as "a great leader" and decorated his classroom with a photograph of Hitler and Nazi symbols, had been "removed" from his post after an investigation of his activities. The Commission said it had also "removed" the principal of the school and the district director.

The teacher, Brother Rene Lahaie, 22, had organized his class of 11-year-old boys into "azi-type military cadres, including "SS men." The Catholic School Commission said today that the use of the Nazi symbols introduced by the teacher had been discontinued because "the method was condemnable." At the time the investigation was started, three weeks ago, Jean-Marie Mathieu, the Commission's director of teaching, said that the teacher's "intentions were good" although he conceded the practice was "open to criticism." Brother Asselin, director of the school, expressed "surprise" at the sudden interest in the teacher's methods, declaring that hundreds of parents had visited the school without objecting.

ADOPTION OF BRITISH ANTI-BLAC BILL PREDICTED FOR THIS YEAR

LONDON, April 8, (JTA) -- Predictions that the Labor Government's anti-discrimination bill would become law this year were coupled today with announced plans of members of Parliament to seek amendments to strengthen the measure. The bill, designed primarily to ban discrimination against Negroes in public places, would also prohibit discrimination or incitement against Jews. The measure received a first reading in the House of Commons yesterday.

The bill provides a penalty of 50 pounds (\$140) for the first offense and of 100 pounds (\$280) for subsequent offenses. The measure creates a new offense punishable by law--incitement to racial hatred at public meetings or in public places by spoken or written word. Maximum penalties for violation would be six months' imprisonment or a fine of 200 pounds (\$560) or both on summary conviction. The measure would make it an offense to refuse service in hotels and in restaurants but not in lodging houses or clubs. Bars, theaters, dance halls, stadiums, swimming pools and "other places of public entertainment" would be covered.

Because the clause banning racial incitement involved issues of free speech, the bill does not mention religion specifically. Passage would not alter the current freedom to attack a religion or its doctrine. British legal experts hold that anti-Semitism is covered in the measure because the bill goes beyond religion and protects members of an ethnic group whether they are believers or not.

One clause in the measure incorporates the lessons developing from incitements against Jews by British neo-Nazis at public gatherings in recent years. Under present law, police usually do not intervene until a disturbance takes place on such occasions, usually as a result of protests or stronger reactions from members of the offended group at the meetings.

BROADCAST RANGE OF BRITISH JEWRY PLANS ACTION ON JEWS IN U. S. S. R.

LONDON, April 8. (JTA) -- Specific proposals for action against Soviet oppressions of Jewry in the USSR and plans for improving that situation, were adopted here tonight at a special meeting of British Jewry, representing virtually all shades of Anglo-Jewish opinion.

Summoned by Solomon Teff, president of the Board of Jewish Deputies, "to consider the serious situation of Soviet Jewry," the session was attended by two representatives of each of the following organizations: The Board of Deputies, the Anglo-Jewish Association, Agudat Israel, Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women, B'nai B'rith, the League of Jewish Women, Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, the British section of the World Jewish Congress, World Sephardi Federation, World Union for Progressive Judaism, and Zionist Federation of Great Britain.

Moscow's Chief Rabbi Sends Passover Greeting to Canadian Jews

MONTREAL, April 8. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Yehudah Leib Levin of Moscow has sent a message to the Canadian Jewish Congress, conveying Passover greetings to the "entire Jewish community of Canada," Michael Garber, president of the CJC, disclosed today.

Mr. Garber had written to the Chief Rabbi, sending Passover greetings on behalf of Canadian Jewry. In the reply, in Hebrew, Rabbi Levin cited the Talmudic interpretation of the concluding portion of the vision of the Prophet Malachi, the traditional prophetic reading for the Sabbath preceding Passover. He declared also that the holiday required all Jews to keep "all ancient customs and observances in their minutest details as they have been handed down from generation to generation."

New York Legislators Ask Johnson to Intervene for Soviet Jews

PORT CHESTER, N.Y., April 8. (JTA) -- Two New York state legislators from this district introduced in the State Legislature today a joint resolution, denouncing Soviet bias against Russian Jews. The measure was presented in fulfillment of pledges made at a mass rally here last Sunday, attended by 1,000 persons, including spokesmen for the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant faiths.

State Sen. Max Berking, a Democrat, and Assemblyman Anthony Gioffre, a Republican, said their resolution also calls on President Johnson and the Congress to take action against such Soviet practices as closing of synagogues, Jewish schools and cemeteries in the Soviet Union. At the rally, Rep. Ogden Reid, a Republican, also denounced persecution of Russian Jews as "a shocking violation of the United Nations charter" and said he would introduce in the House of Representatives a "sense of Congress" resolution calling on the Soviet Government to permit the free exercise of religion and the pursuit of culture by Jews and all others within its borders."

The rally, which drew participants from three Westchester communities--Port Chester, Rye, and Harrison--and from Greenwich, Conn., was sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Port Chester and Rye, and held at the Kneses Tifereth Israel synagogue here.

PRINZ SAYS PROSPERITY, NOT NAZI PAST, CONCERNS WEST GERMANS NOW

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Joachim Prinz, chairman of the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations, and president of the American Jewish Congress, said today that West Germany possessed the basic institutions of democracy but that too few Germans were concerned with making democracy work. Dr. Prinz, who just returned from a visit to West Germany, told a news conference:

"There are hopeful signs of progress in West Germany--a free and liberal press, TV and radio, courageous and determined government officials; and young people with a deep commitment to freedom. "At the same time, the typical German appears more interested in enjoying prosperity than in seeking his country's moral rebirth; more concerned with sweeping the Nazi era under the rug than with confronting the meaning of Hitlerism. more eager to forget the past than to make sure it will not happen again."

He expressed "satisfaction" at the decision of Chancellor Ludwig Erhard to seek full diplomatic relations with Israel. However, he voiced "sharp disappointment" with the action of the West German Parliament last month in extending the effective date of the statute of limitations on Nazi murderers for only four and one-half years. "Even this brief extension was grudgingly granted," Dr. Prinz said, "more because of pressure from abroad than from any deep-seated desire among the German people to mete out full justice to Nazi criminals."

Dr. Prinz was critical of the policy of the United States Document Center in Alexandria, Va., in refusing access to its files on Nazi criminals to scholarly and civic organizations. He said such groups had had key roles in ferreting out Nazi criminals in hiding, and that it was "inexplicable" that an official U. S. agency should hamper rather than assist the task of bringing Nazi criminals to justice.

HUMPHREY GETS A.D.L. AWARD AT N.Y. PHASE OF DRIVE FOR \$4,584,000

NEW YORK, April 8, (JTA) -- Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey was presented tonight with the 1965 Human Rights Award of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith at an inaugural dinner here launching the New York phase of the ADL effort to raise \$4,584,000 for its program. More than 1,000 business and community leaders attended the event.

The award was presented to the Vice President by Adlai E. Stevenson, American Ambassador to the United Nations, in recognition of Mr. Humphrey's "vigorous leadership and long distinguished record as a champion of human rights."

The dinner also honored William Sachs, New York mercantile leader, for "pioneering a new concept of the businessman's obligation to the community." He was cited by Irving M. Felt, president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, for leadership in establishing fair employment practices, for "initiating a business-sponsored community service program to provide recreation facilities, and a variety of free courses aimed at improving family life and intergroup relations."

Dore Schary, ADL chairman, in announcing the national campaign goal, said the ADL was expanding its program this year "to meet the new and urgent needs of a rapidly changing society." Norman Tishman was dinner chairman. Chester H. Roth is chairman of the New York ADL Appeal.

COUNCIL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION ENDORSES FEDERAL SCHOOL-AID BILL

NEW YORK, April 8, (JTA) -- The National Council for Jewish Education, the professional association of Jewish educators, announced today its endorsement of the Johnson Administration's bill for federal aid to education.

Jewish organizations are split over the measure, principally because it provides for shared time use of school facilities and for aid to pupils in parochial and other non-public schools. Orthodox groups, particularly those associated with day schools, have endorsed the bill. The NCJE is the first Jewish education group representing all shades of Jewish groupings to approve the measure. The NCJE is comprised of heads of community educational agencies, principals of afternoon and day schools of all Jewish denominations, and instructors in Jewish teacher-training schools.

Dr. Eleazar Goelman, president of the NCJE, said that, in its endorsement, the Council strongly urged that "in the administration of all phases of the bill, provision be made for maintaining and safeguarding the autonomy of all educational organizations, public and non-public."

The NCJE statement stressed that the recommendations of the bill would include aid to "the Jewish all-day school which is the major exponent of an intensive Jewish education, without infringing upon the long established principle of separation of church and state." Those Jewish organizations that oppose the bill contend that such an infringement is inherent in the measure. Dr. Goelman said that a special NCJE commission made on exhaustive study of federal aid to education and recommended endorsement of the measure.

CHICAGO FIRMS TO BE TESTED ON JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG JEWS

CHICAGO, April 8, (JTA) -- The Jewish Vocational Service here said today it will test the announced readiness of some major Chicago firms to offer equal opportunity employment, by bringing Jewish job applicants to the attention of such firms. The project was announced as a first step to broaden the scope of the agency's summer work scholarship program for college students, in cooperation with the Chicago Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems.

Vernon Fox, an official of the vocational agency, said that many of the larger companies in Chicago "have been trying very hard to establish themselves as 'equal opportunity employers.'" JVS has determined that one problem facing such companies is a lack of applicants of the Jewish faith." He added that Jewish students and graduates were staying away from such firms, due to a belief that the firms barred Jews. He called such beliefs a reflection of "conditions and thinking that were more appropriate several decades ago."

TEMPLE EMANU-EL DISPLAYS RARE F.D.R. LETTER STRESSING OLD TESTAMENT

NEW YORK, April 8, (JTA) -- A rare letter from the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, stressing the wartime President's interest in the Old Testament, was placed on display today in the main lobby of Temple Emanu-EL. The letter had been written by Mr. Roosevelt shortly before his death in 1945 to Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Goldenson, then the spiritual leader of the Reform congregation.

Being displayed now as a tribute to President Roosevelt on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of his death, the lengthy letter stated in part: "The great majority of Americans find religious unity in a common Biblical heritage--the heritage of the Old Testament. Whether our allegiance is to the tenets of Christian Revelation or to the ancient teaching of Israel, we all hold to the inspiration of the Old Testament and accept the Ten Commandments as the fundamental law of a God."