



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXII - 48th year

Tuesday, May 11, 1965

No. 91

CONGRESSIONAL BODY STARTS HEARING ON SOVIET TREATMENT OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, May 10. (JTA) -- Hearings on discrimination against Jews in the Soviet Union were started here today by a subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, while the State Department indicated today that it has abandoned its recently expressed policy of non-objection to a resolution by Congress condemning Soviet anti-Semitism.

The State Department, in a letter to Representative Leonard Farbstein, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that "formal government intervention" with the USSR was undesirable. The letter, dated May 5, was signed by Douglas MacArthur 2nd, who is Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional relations. The State Department expression followed reports that the Soviet Union has filed strong diplomatic protests with the U.S. Government against the tacit support of the proposed Congressional resolution announced by the Department several weeks ago.

Mr. MacArthur did not openly refer to the pending resolution but reiterated the position held by the State Department prior to its recent approval of the measure. He said: "As regards a formal government intervention with the USSR, Soviet leaders have invariably in the past rejected as interference in Soviet internal affairs the most serious official representations which high-ranking officials of the United States Government have made to them. Moreover, Soviet officials have reacted unfavorably to criticism by foreign government organs or representations on matters which the Soviet Government considers to be Soviet internal affairs."

"Therefore," said Mr. MacArthur, "careful consideration must be given to possible Soviet reaction which could affect unfavorably the goal sought, improvement in the situation of Soviet Jewry." He urged private and non-governmental protests as well as consideration by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. He added that the Soviet Union has taken "a few limited steps to improve the situation of the Jews in response to the concern which has been expressed by individuals and organizations throughout the world."

Congressmen Urge U. S. Government to Protest Soviet Policy on Jews

At the hearings today, a number of members of Congress strongly urged the adoption of the resolution, which is backed by 120 members of the House. Testifying today were Rep. Farbstein, New York Democrat; Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal, New York Democrat; Rep. William Pitts Ryan, New York Democrat, and Rep. Richard C. Schweiker, Pennsylvania Republican. Rep. Farbstein offered details of Soviet moves to suppress Jewish religious and cultural life. He linked this with attempts to infiltrate the Arab world.

Rep. Schweiker charged that "our government has not taken sufficient action recently to protest increasing Soviet discrimination against the Jews." He stressed that "silence in the face of oppression only inspires increased oppression."

According to Rep. Schweiker, "the only reaction by our government during the past six months has been silence." He criticized President Lyndon B. Johnson for failing to speak out in his State of the Union message against Soviet anti-Semitism and said "I deeply regret his omission of attention to this grave problem." Rep. Edna Kelly, New York Democrat who is subcommittee chairman, defended the President but agreed that strong action was needed in response to the plight of Russian Jewry.

A strong point was made by all witnesses that Soviet authorities should permit Jews to emigrate. A committee member, Rep. James C. Fulton, Pennsylvania Republican, asked that the House Foreign Affairs Committee staff document and report on efforts of Russian Jews to emigrate to Israel. Chairman Kelly agreed and said it was "a very pertinent request." The staff was also instructed to document Soviet restrictions on Jews pertaining to educational and cultural opportunities.

Rep. Ryan stressed the need of an alternative of emigration by Russian Jews. Rep. Fulton agreed and said the United States should liberalize immigration laws to prove its willingness to accept those who might prefer to come here.

Moscow Charged with Pursuing 'Cultural Genocide' Against Jews

Rep. Rosenthal charged Russia with "cultural genocide" and urged ratification by the United States of the United Nations convention on the crime of genocide. He said the

President and Secretary of State should communicate "again and again, this country's outrage over the cultural genocide now being pursued against Russian Jews," Stating that the proposed resolution is vital, Rep. Rosenthal insisted that "the outrage" of Congress must be formally voiced.

Many other Congressmen offered written testimony because they could not appear in person. Chairman Kelly said the hearings were called because of reports of "widespread anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union." She reported that over 100 resolutions related to this issue have been submitted.

Witnesses at tomorrow's hearings will include Eric Goldhagen, director of the Institute on East European Jewry at Brandeis University; Rabbi Joachim Prinz, American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry; Dr. Judd Teller, writer on Soviet affairs; Rabbi Meir Felman, of the Synagogue Council of America, and Dr. Joseph Schechtman, specialist on population movement. On Wednesday, witnesses will testify on Russian bias against other religions. Among witnesses will be Garip Sultan, president of the American Islamic Association.

GERMAN-ISRAELI TALKS HIT SNAG; ISRAEL CABINET HOLDS SPECIAL SESSION

JERUSALEM, May 10. (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet held an extraordinary session here today to discuss the formulation of the projected Bonn-Jerusalem joint communique regarding the agreement between Israel and West Germany to establish diplomatic relations

While both countries have decided to exchange diplomatic representatives, and have according to official sources, "reached full understanding regarding the substance of continued German economic aid to Israel's security," the question of the exact wording of the various documents to be issued has not as yet been determined.

Yesterday, the Israel Government sent Bonn a proposal regarding the wording of the formal documents. It was understood that the reply received today from Bonn was not satisfactory to Israel, and needs a further Cabinet decision.

At question are three separate texts to be issued. One would be a letter from German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard to Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol; the second would be Mr. Eshkol's reply to Chancellor Erhard; finally, there would be a joint announcement by both governments.

(In Bonn, a German Government official spokesman said today that this morning's Bonn Cabinet meeting did not discuss the Israeli issue. He added, however, that the matter is being negotiated further between the German Foreign Ministry and the Israeli mission at Cologne. In reply to a question, he said that "both sides are now approaching a conclusion of their talks.")

GOLDMANN CONFERS WITH GERMAN CHANCELLOR ON PAYMENTS TO NAZI VICTIMS

BONN, May 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, conferred here today with Chancellor Ludwig Erhard and Finance Minister Rolf Dahngruen. He pressed his demand that Nazi victims who could not escape from Iron Curtain countries prior to October 1953, be given restitution equal to the compensation paid to all other Nazi victims.

An amendment to the restitution law, pending now in Parliament, would extend compensation to those Nazi victims who could not file compensation applications prior to the present cut-off date of October 1, 1953. The German Government is prepared to establish a special "hardship fund" of 700,000,000 Deutschmarks (\$175,000,000) to aid the post-1953 applicants, but Dr. Goldmann is insisting on full compensation to that group of applicants.

According to Karl-Gunther von Hase, the official Government spokesman, no promises to meet the Goldmann demand have been made by the Bonn authorities.

NEW ISRAEL MUSEUM OPENS TODAY; \$35,000,000 WORTH OF ART TO BE DISPLAYED

JERUSALEM, May 10. (JTA) -- A total of \$35,000,000 worth of art will go on display here tomorrow when the new Israel Museum opens officially in ceremonies to be attended by President Zalman Shazar and some 500 guests from abroad, including the Vice-President of Liberia, the Foreign Ministers of Uruguay and the Central African Republic, the Education Ministers of Denmark, Australia and Argentina, the Deputy Education Ministers of Poland and Iran, and the Royal Prince of Thailand.

Foreign art consignments, which have been insured for \$20,000,000, have been loaned from museums and private collections in the United States, Canada, England, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Italy and Czechoslovakia. Rembrandt's "Portrait of a Bearded Man" has been sent to the Israel Museum on permanent loan by Sidney Lamon, of New York.

The opening exhibition will feature Rembrandt's etchings and drawings, works by Chagall and Lipschitz, and archaeological exhibits. A priceless collection of 100 plaster sculptures by the late Sir Jacob Epstein, which was sent to the Museum by the sculptor's widow, has been seriously damaged in transit from London, it was learned here today.

RELATIONS BETWEEN JEWS AND NON-JEWS IN MADRID REPORTED CORDIAL

LONDON, May 10. (JTA) -- Relations between the Jews of Madrid and non-Jews are very cordial and the Society of Christians and Jews has an important role in deepening understanding and combatting ancient prejudices, Gad Ben-Meir, director of the World Sephardi Federation, reported today on his return from a visit to Spain.

He said that there was "little doubt" that the Spanish Government would extend to the Barcelona Jewish community the same recognition recently given to Madrid Jewry "once a formal application is placed before the authorities." He added that Spanish Jews were taking increasing responsibility in regard "to the affairs of their country and worldwide Jewry."

The legal recognition given Madrid Jewry last February "merely rendered 'de jure' what was de facto practiced out of tolerance," he said. He credited the leadership of Madrid Jewry for the fact that the Jews "have for some time freely practiced all religious and cultural activities. Their success is due to their assuming their rights and not waiting for them to be offered."

PRO-NAZI STUDENTS IN SWEDEN COUNTER JEWS BY SINGING NAZI SONGS

STOCKHOLM, May 10. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Stockholm Students Union said today that a number of pro-Nazi members might be expelled from the group for singing anti-Semitic Nazi songs at a students function at Stockholm University.

The incident occurred when some students sang the Israeli folk song "Hava Nagila." The pro-Nazi students, some of them members of the Law Faculty, immediately began singing "Deutschland Uber Alles," and the Horst Wessel Nazi anthem. When they finished singing, the Nazi students shouted "Sieg Heil," in unison. The Students Union spokesman expressed regret over the incident.

CONVENTION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS HEARS WARNING OF FUTURE OF U. S. JEWRY

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., May 10. (JTA) -- A warning that American Jewry is "in gravest danger" because its youth has little consciousness of Jewishness was voiced here today by Rabbi Joel Geffen, director of community activities of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. "Our affluence and our enjoyment of full freedom," he said, "have blinded us to the very roots of Jewish existence. Our college generation has not been grounded in Jewish tradition and Jewish knowledge and Jewish consciousness. Furthermore, inter-marriage is corroding the Jewish community."

Rabbi Geffen made these statements in an address to the 36th annual convention of the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, attended by 700 delegates representing 350 Conservative congregations. The four-day parley, which opened yesterday, will run through Wednesday. To surmount the dangers facing American Jewry, Rabbi Geffen said, "more and more vigorous spiritual leadership are needed, and our Jewish educational structure must be expanded and enlarged. Our children and our youth must know and feel their Jewishness. The responsibility belongs to the adults in our community."

At tonight's session, Arthur S. Bruckman, chairman of the Federation's awards committee, presented the organization's annual Distinguished Service Award to Judge Thurgood Marshall, of the United States Court of Appeals.

'PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE' COMMITTEE URGES STRENGTHENING OF J. T. A.

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- A special committee on the Jewish Telegraphic Agency set up by the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations reported to the Conference that JTA was an "important instrumentality" and recommended that it "be strengthened as much as possible by means of subscriptions and grants wherever feasible."

George Maislen, president of the United Synagogue of America and chairman of the special committee, advised in his report that the organizations affiliated with the Conference should each review its relationship with JTA with this purpose in mind. The committee report described JTA further as "an essential tool for Jewish leadership in our time."

WORLD CONFERENCE ON JEWISH EDUCATION APPEALS TO WELFARE FUNDS

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- The first World Conference on Yiddish and Hebrew Education concluded here today after adopting a resolution calling upon local Jewish welfare funds throughout the United States and Canada to give greater support to Yiddish and Yiddish-Hebrew schools in their cities. About 180 delegates from 10 countries attended the conference.

Other resolutions called upon Jewish parents to give their children a Jewish education, requested adequate compensation for teachers in Jewish schools, urged support of existing Jewish teachers' seminaries and establishment of new training schools, and recommended revision of school text-books and inauguration of visual aids in the teaching of Yiddish. Noting the twentieth anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany, the conference issued a declaration mourning the destruction of six million Jews by the Germans and calling upon Jews everywhere to honor the memories of the Jewish martyrs by taking steps to assure Jewish spiritual survival.

1,595 STUDENTS REPORTED ATTENDING ORT TRAINING SCHOOLS IN POLAND

GENEVA, May 10. (JTA) -- An inspection tour of ORT vocational training centers in Poland showed that the Polish Jews are greatly benefiting from the ORT courses, Dr. V. Halpern, director of the ORT Union, reported here today upon his return from Poland.

Dr. Halpern said that 1,595 students are attending ORT courses. He stressed that he was impressed "not only by the quality and output of their work, but also by their efforts in diverse fields, manual and educational, the special, professional aptitude of adults in courses for readapting themselves, and in courses for invalids."

Dr. Halpern was accompanied on his tour of ORT workshops in Warsaw, Lodz, Wroclaw and other localities in Lower Silesia by M.I. Wasersztrum, president of ORT in Poland, and D. Slobodkin, ORT director for that country. Before his departure, he reported, he and his colleagues in Poland were received by the Polish Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, where Government officials lauded the ORT activities.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM OF ISRAELI AND U. S. JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS ANNOUNCED

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA)-- Israeli social workers and youth leaders will work in Jewish centers in this country and American Jewish Center workers will receive training in Israel in an exchange program announced today by the National Jewish Welfare Board and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

To provide the Israeli professionals with a broader concept of Jewish life outside of Israel, the JWB has arranged for seven such professionals to join the staffs of six Jewish centers and YM-YWHA's for a two-year period starting next September. In the other part of the program, 23 professional Jewish Center workers will attend a seven-week training seminar in Israel, from July 7 to August 26.

VLADIMIR HOROWITZ RETURNS TO CONCERT STAGE; ENDS 12 YEARS OF ABSENCE

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- Vladimir Horowitz, the Russian-born, Jewish pianist who retired from public performances 12 years ago, returned to Carnegie Hall here yesterday to a triumphant "second debut" before a distinguished audience that included many of the foremost musicians in the world.

In addition to a great ovation, which lasted more than a half hour after his recital, he was praised lavishly today by all of the leading New York music critics for his artistry and virtuosity. Mr. Horowitz, born in Kiev, made his American debut in the same hall in 1928.

JEWISH SURVIVORS IN NEW YORK HONOR MEMORY OF JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- Both United States Senators from New York, Republican Jacob K. Javits and Democrat Robert F. Kennedy, joined 1,000 survivors of Nazi concentration camps and ghettos yesterday in commemorative rites here, honoring the memory of the holocaust victims.

Sen. Javits told the meeting, held at the Hunter College auditorium, that "the world owes a duty to Nazi victims--that of never forgetting." Sen. Kennedy declared that "part of our determination never to let the senseless cruelty of the Hitler years happen again must be channeled toward maintaining the security of Israel."

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Jewish Nazi Victims of America, with Moses Socachevsky, president of the organization, presiding. Among the speakers, in addition to the two senators, were: Jacob Katzman, general secretary of the Farband-Labor Zionist Organization; James B. Donovan, president of the New York City Board of Education; Harrison S. Goldin, of the American Jewish Congress, and Charles A. Silver, who represented New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner.

Atlanta Jewish Community Dedicates Monument to Nazi Victims

ATLANTA, May 10 (JTA) -- Some 650 members of the Atlanta Jewish community gathered in the Greenwood Cemetery's Jewish section to dedicate a tombstone monument to the memory of the 6,000,000 Jewish men, women and children murdered during World War II by the Nazis.

Mayor Ivan Allen joined with representatives of Jewish organizations and the rabbinate in warning of the lesson which the Nazi holocaust poses for free men who remain silent in the face of evil. Survivors of the death camps carried to the cemetery for reinterment a small casket of ashes of victims murdered and cremated by the Nazis in the Dachau camp.

Canadian Community Erects Monument to Perished Jewish Martyrs

LONDON, Ont., Canada May 10. (JTA) -- With the participation of many members of the Jewish community of this city, a monument to the memory of the Jewish martyrs who perished in the Nazi holocaust was unveiled here at the joint cemetery of the B'nai Moses and B'nai Israel congregations.