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HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES BILL TO LIBERALIZE IMMIGRATION; VOTE IS 26 - 4

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3: (JTA) -- The House Judiciary Committee today voted approval for a bill to liberalize immigration policy, including elimination of the discriminatory national origins quota system. Strong support on the House floor was indicated by the 26-4 bipartisan vote of the committee. The bill was advocated by all major Jewish and liberal non-Jewish organizations in the country.

The bill, following on lines advocated by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, would terminate the system instituted in 1924 of assigning quotas to individual nations. The measure establishes a new and more equitable order of preferences for immigrants. The chief beneficiaries will be close relations of American citizens.

Under terms of the national origins quota system, countries in the north and west of Europe -- mainly "Anglo-Saxon" in background -- are now entitled to most of the available U. S. immigration visas. Many visas have gone unused by these countries, although persons from eastern and southern Europe have smaller quotas which are heavily oversubscribed. The national origins system was adopted under the pretext that it reflected the ethnic composition of the American population in 1920.

The new bill would terminate the quota system on July 1, 1968. Until then, unused quotas would be pooled to reduce the waiting lists of applicants from countries which are now allocated small quotas. On July 1, 1968, a ceiling of 170,000 would be placed on immigration from countries now assigned quotas. Each country would be treated equally. A maximum limit of 20,000 a year would be imposed on admissions from any one nation.

Outside the ceiling would be the parents, spouses and children of American citizens. Western Hemisphere nations, now permitted unrestricted immigration outside the quota, would not be affected. The bill would authorize a total annual immigration of about 340,000. Comprising this total would be 170,000 under the ceiling, 120,000 from the Western Hemisphere and 50,000 parents, spouses and children of American citizens.

Rep. Clark MacGregor, Minnesota Republican, offered the only substantial opposition to the bill in an amendment to impose the ceiling on Western Hemisphere nations. But his amendment was rejected. He said he would attempt to offer it again when the measure is called on the House floor.

Chairman Michael A. Feighan, of the House Immigration Subcommittee, greeted the bipartisan backing for the bill, and voiced confidence of passage. A companion bill is now before the Senate Immigration Subcommittee. No difficulty is anticipated there.

Jewish Applicants to Benefit from Liberalized Immigration Law

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3: (JTA) -- Jewish applicants for immigration visas to the United States in East European Communist countries, in North Africa and in the Middle East will have better chance to obtain such visas if the immigration bill approved today by the House Judiciary Committee is passed by Congress, and if they are individually qualified, it was indicated here today.

The State Department revealed today that an estimated 16,000 Israelis who have applied at the U. S. Embassy in Tel Aviv for admission to America as immigrants would be admitted within three years, if individually qualified, if the pending immigration reform bill is adopted. The total number of applicants in various countries is estimated to be about 180,000, including about 140,000 Italians registered for emigration to the United States and a large number of applicants registered in the U. S. Consulates in Greece.

The liberalized immigration bill provides for the phasing out of the national origins quota system over a three-year period. Unused quotas would be pooled and made available to the backlog of immigration visa applicants in various countries, including Israel. Israelis would be processed according to their nation of birth with priority going to so-called "preference cases." Such cases involve persons with relatives in the

United States for the most part but also include some other categories including cultural and strategic talents needed by this country.

The bulk of the estimated 16,000 registered with the U. S. Embassy in Tel Aviv are non-preference immigrants. The non-preference people are those with no relatives in America, no priority skills, no friends, and no money. A total of 15,122 such applicants were listed as of July 1, 1964, on the waiting list in Tel Aviv, according to the State Department.

It is estimated that all the preference categories of visa applicants registered in Tel Aviv will be admitted by July 1, 1968, or shortly thereafter -- if the bill is passed. After that date the national origins quota system will be completely discarded although certain preference situations will remain. But a start may then be made on the enormous backlog of non-preference applicants.

The annual quota for Israel has been set for many years at 100 visas per year. After July 1, 1968, all nations will be entitled, theoretically, to as many as 20,000 immigrants a year provided a worldwide ceiling of 170,000 is not surpassed. But this will be based on the first-come, first-served system and fairly distributed around the world.

CATHOLIC ORGAN SAYS GOLDBERG COULD BE FIRST U. S. JEWISH PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, N. Y., Aug. 3: (JTA) -- The Roman Catholic weekly "America" suggests editorially in its current issue that United Nations delegate Arthur J. Goldberg may become this country's first Jewish President. The Jesuit organ lauded Mr. Goldberg's "gifts as a mediator."

The magazine asked: "Who can deny that several other chapters may remain to be written in the Horatio Alger story of Arthur J. Goldberg -- a man who might conceivably be destined to become the first Jewish President of the United States?"

(In Cairo, the Egyptian newspaper "Al Akhbar" said today that the appointment of Mr. Goldberg as American delegate to the United Nations "involves contempt of the United Nations itself." The newspaper said: "The choice of a Zionist for this post is like the choice of a debauched atheist to represent his country at a religious conference called to promote virtue -- or the choice of a thief with a police record to sit among judges at a meeting called to discuss the sovereignty of the law.")

AUSTRIAN CABINET TO CONSIDER RECALLING ARMS EXPERTS WORKING IN EGYPT

VIENNA, Aug. 3: (JTA) -- The Government of Austria will review the status of Austrian scientists working in arms industries in Egypt following a protest by the Jewish community submitted today to Foreign Minister Bruno Kreisky.

The Austrian Government was asked by the Jewish community to recall the scientists, because they are working on weapons intended for use against Israel. Mr. Kreisky agreed to put the case before the Cabinet when it meets in September, according to a Foreign Ministry announcement.

TWO GERMANS IN EGYPT REFUTE CHARGES OF SPYING FOR ISRAEL

LONDON, Aug. 3: (JTA) -- Two of the West German defendants charged by Egypt with espionage for Israel pleaded not guilty yesterday at their trial in Cairo, it was reported here today from the Egyptian capital.

The two defendants are Mrs. Wolfgang Lotz, 38, and Franz Kiesow. The woman is the wife of a third West German defendant who said last week that he had spied for Israel. He denied, however, that he tried to assassinate West German technical experts working in Cairo by use of letters containing explosives. Mrs. Lotz was charged with complicity in her husband's activities.

Kiesow, 48-year-old former representative in Cairo of the Mannesmann Steel Company of Dusseldorf, testified that reports he had sent to his company contained political and economic data. He contended that such material was part of reports usually sent by business representatives to firms, and he pleaded not guilty to charges he had sent the Dusseldorf firm defense secrets. He also pleaded not guilty to a charge he had gathered information in Egypt illegally.

Mrs. Lotz testified she had been a lookout for her husband while he sent information on a secret radio in the Lotz home in Cairo. She added she thought he had been an undercover agent for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. She testified she had not known about the charge that he had spied for Israel. She denied reports that Lotz was an Israeli army officer, testifying that, when they were married, he had shown her documents showing he was a German citizen who had served in the German army in World War II.

BRITISH PUBLISHER TO WITHDRAW DICTIONARY CONTAINING SLUR ON JEWS

LONDON, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- An official of one of Britain's largest publishing firms promised today to remove from distribution all copies of the current edition of its Concise English Dictionary containing a slurring definition of Jews, and to check all other editions for removal of such definitions.

The dictionary, published by Odham Books, Ltd., defines a Jew as "member of the Hebrew Branch of the Semitic race; Israelite; believer in the Hebrew religion." It also includes a "slang" definition: "extortionist, bargainer or moneylender." The word is also used in the definition as a verb: "Jew -- to cheat, outwit."

Morris Linden, editor of the Jewish Times of Glasgow, brought the offensive definition to the attention of C. K. Jones, director of the firm. The official declared that "the definition horrifies me. It is completely indefensible."

Adding that "one cannot, of course, read every single definition in our dictionaries," he informed the Jewish editor that "this will be put right straight away and I assure you I will see to it that all reprints of the dictionary which has this offensive description will be removed."

He also promised that he would see to it "that all our other dictionaries are checked to see whether they contain this completely unjustifiable definition and they also will be corrected if necessary."

BAMBERG YOUTH, SMEARER OF SWASTIKAS, ATTEMPTS TO COMMIT SUICIDE

BAMBERG, W. Germany, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The 20-year-old son of a Nazi war criminal, held as a suspect in the Bamberg swastika smearings, was recovering in the Bamberg hospital today from a suicide attempt in his jail cell.

Richard Woitzik slashed his left wrist with a knife on the tray of his supper Saturday night, according to Bamberg Prosecutor Josef Ostheimer. The prosecutor said that a jailer, assigned to watch the suspect through a peephole, saw the suicide attempt and called for help to take the youth to the hospital.

Woitzik was arrested on charges of defiling the local synagogue memorial, the Bamberg Jewish cemetery and other Jewish landmarks in what was considered the most vicious anti-Semitic acts in postwar West German history.

Meanwhile, it was reported today that unknown vandals daubed swastikas on several streets and the church in Bruchhauser-Vilsen near Bremen yesterday.

JEWISH MEMORIAL DESECRATED IN GENEVA; CHRISTIANS OFFER SYMPATHY

GENEVA, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- Francois Brunschwig, the president of the Geneva Jewish Community, disclosed today that he and the Chief Rabbi had received many messages of sympathy from leading members of the Geneva Christian community over the daubing yesterday of a Memorial stone for the 6,000,000 European Jewish victims of the Nazi holocaust. The Memorial is located outside the Geneva synagogue.

Unknown vandals tossed a dye-filled plastic bag at the Memorial. The bag burst and spattered the stone with red paint. Mr. Brunschwig said he did not consider the smearing as an act of anti-Semitism. He said he regarded the desecration as an act of vandalism by a young hooligan, probably the same person who defaced another monument in Geneva on eight previous occasions. Police found the plastic bag near the Memorial but said they had no clues to the identity of the vandals. A number of similar smearings have occurred since the monument was dedicated.

He also announced that the Community would soon erect a second memorial to the victims of Nazism. The second memorial will be built at the Jewish cemetery on the outskirts of Geneva.

FOUR SAN FRANCISCO YOUTHS QUESTIONED ON SMEARING ANTI-JEWISH SLOGAN

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- Four youths ranging in age from 14 to 19 were under surveillance today, suspected of having been the miscreants who launched a campaign of swastika smearings and anti-Semitic slogan daubing in San Francisco last weekend, police announced today.

The swastika, accompanied by the slogan "Kill All Jews" and by the initials KKK, were found on the wall of a public school, an apartment house, and on several mail boxes, early Saturday morning. Police said they found the youths in possession of the kind of black paint used in the actions. The youths are not under arrest but are being questioned further, according to Police Captain John Hanrahan, head of the Juvenile Bureau. Capt. Hanrahan said he was certain that neither anti-Semitism nor racial hatred were involved. He did not reveal the names of the suspects.

QUEBEC UNIT ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO INCLUDE TWO JEWISH MEMBERS

MONTREAL, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress was requested by the Superior Council of Education in Quebec today to suggest the names of two persons for consideration for appointment as members of the Council's Commission on Pre-University and Technical Education.

The commission, being set up by the Council, will be an advisory body. The members of the commission will sit on the commission as individuals, and not as representatives of any special group.

CANADIAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCES TOURISM PLANS FOR ISRAEL

MONTREAL, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- A number of special projects designed to stimulate a substantial increase in tourism to Israel by Canadian Jews within the next three years were announced today by the Zionist Organization of Canada.

The projects will be implemented by the National Tourism Committee of the ZOC in cooperation with various Israel Government agencies. Plans for the projects were reported by Mrs. Nina Cohen, Tourism Committee chairman, at a meeting of the ZOC national executive here.

The 55 national executive members also were told that eight of an expected 50 young Canadian Jews had already been accepted as volunteers to serve for a minimum of one year as members of Sherut La-Am, the program which seeks to enroll 200 United States and Canadian Jewish young people to live and work in Israel as equivalents of the United States Peace Corps volunteers.

REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN U.S. 'ADOPT' REFORM CONGREGATION IN ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The Pacific Southwest Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations voted at a meeting here today to "adopt" a small Reform congregation in Israel, located at Nahariyah, close to the Lebanese border.

The congregation at Nahariyah was founded two years ago by immigrants from Central Europe. It is one of several Reform groups being supported by the UAHC, according to Isadore C. Gordean, president of the Pacific Southwest Council.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA ESTABLISHES CENTER ON NEAR EAST SUBJECTS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The University of Pennsylvania has established a Modern Near East Language and Area Center as part of its Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Moshe Greenberg, professor of Hebrew and Semitic languages and literature, has been named acting director of the new Center. The center will examine the linguistic, historical, political and socio-economic conditions of the Arab countries and of Israel, Turkey and Iran.

MINNESOTA UNIVERSITY TO INTRODUCE HEBREW COURSE WITH FULL CREDITS

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The University of Minnesota has announced the appointment of Jonathan Paradise to conduct a credit course in Hebrew to be offered at the beginning of the next academic year by the newly established Middle Eastern Language Department. Mr. Paradise is now completing his doctoral work at Gratz College, in Philadelphia.

The course will be the first of its kind in the university proper. Until now, Hebrew has been offered only in the General Extension Division and at the Hillel Foundation's School of Learning.

U.S. MEDICAL RESEARCH TEAM TO STUDY ATHLETES IN MACCABIAH GAMES

TEL AVIV, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- The Maccabian Organizing Committee reported today that a United States medical research team will conduct studies of Jewish athletes participating in the Seventh Maccabiah Games starting on August 23.

The research experts, headed by Prof. Wesley Dupertuis of the University Hospital of Cleveland, will make anthropometric studies of the men and women athletes, starting with laboratory work in the research team headquarters here a few days before the Games get underway.

A. I. GINZBURG, COLLECTOR OF JEWISH FOLKLORE IN RUSSIA DEAD; WAS 69

LONDON, Aug. 3. (JTA) -- A. I. Ginzburg, the noted collector and interpreter of Jewish folklore and music, died in Baku at the age of 69, according to reports received here today from the Soviet Union. He left a huge collection of rare gramophone records, books and relics with his notes and explanations.