



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXII - 48th year

Monday, September 20, 1965

No. 181

'ETERNAL LIGHT VIGIL' HIGHLIGHTS SOVIET UNION'S BIAS AGAINST JEWS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- Crowds estimated officially by police authorities as totaling between 7,500 and 10,000 persons staged an impressive demonstration here today over Soviet discriminations against the USSR's 3,000,000 Jews. The event was the beginning of an "Eternal Light Vigil" organized by the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, comprised of 24 national Jewish organizations representing virtually all Jews in this country. Prominent non-Jewish speakers were among major participants.

The rally, which was culminated by the blowing of the shofar and a mass oath to continue the protests until the Kremlin alters its anti-Jewish policies, heard an encouraging statement from President Johnson, and cheered an address by Ambassador James Roosevelt Washington's new representative to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to press the issue of anti-Semitic discriminations in the USSR before the various, relevant bodies of the world organization.

At the conclusion of the rally, a delegation representing the Vigil attempted to file at the Soviet Embassy here a petition bearing 1,000,000 signatures, seeking easement of Russia's policy vis-a-vis the Jewish people. The Embassy staff shut the doors in the face of the delegation, which included Rabbi Seymour J. Cohen, of Chicago, chairman of the steering committee of the organizing conference and president of the Synagogue Council of America; Bayard Rustin, Negro civil rights leader; and the Rev. John Cronin, co-director of the department of social action of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Johnson Greets Vigil; Hopes USSR Will End Anti-Jewish Bias

President Johnson's message to the rally stated:

"I greet my fellow Americans of all faiths gathered today in a vigil for Soviet Jewry. Your cause is the cause of all men who value freedom.

"History demonstrates that the treatment of minorities is a barometer by which to measure the moral health of a society. Just as the condition of the American Jew is a living symbol of American achievement and promise, so the conditions of Jewish life and other religious minorities in the Soviet Union reveal fundamental contradictions between the stated principles and the actual practices of the Soviet system.

"I once again express my hope for an end to restrictive practices which prevent Soviet Jews from the full enjoyment of their heritage. I join all men everywhere who, through vigilance, maintain freedom's eternal light."

More than 125 communities from every part of the United States sent representatives to the rally. Groups came by chartered bus, airplane and train from every section of the U.S.A., and many arrived by automobiles pooled for the occasion.

For three hours, in 90-degree heat, participants crowded around the platform in Lafayette Park, opposite the White House. Later, when the delegation started for the Soviet Embassy, many hundreds took part in a silent march near the Embassy, observing official regulations that forbid picketing of any embassy in this capital.

The Vigil, which will remain officially in session here all this week, while an "Eternal Light" continues to shine, will be repeated in many of the principal Jewish centers around the country during the coming weeks.

Roosevelt Says Issue Belongs on Agenda of United Nations Bodies

Mr. Roosevelt told the rally that, in his new post at the U.N., he will be mindful that "the problem of Soviet Jewry probably belongs on the agenda of the U.N." He said that one of his main concerns as ambassador will be the protection of human rights and, in this connection cited his concern about the Jews of the Soviet Union.

He said that the Soviet Jewish problem belongs on the agenda "whether at the Human Rights Commission, at the Sub-Commission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, or at the kind of special world investigative commission on human rights proposed some months ago by Ambassador Goldberg." While this problem must con-

cern the U.N., he declared, it does not belong exclusively there and "must be on the agenda of the conscience of us all."

Citing what he termed "three profound differences in the situation of the Negroes here and the Jews in the USSR," he said that American society, beginning with the President of the United States, recognizes the Negro rights problem with all its ramifications. But in the USSR, he charged, the authorities have consistently refused to recognize unequivocally that a grave problem of anti-Semitism exists there. Secondly, he said, American Negroes have a growing opportunity to take their fate into their own hands through the civil rights movement "but Soviet Jews are utterly helpless and voiceless, and any attempt on their part to combat discrimination and to advance their group rights would be immediately suspected and shattered by official action."

He pointed out that American public opinion and public institutions were moving to support Negro aspirations but, in the USSR, "a large segment of popular sentiment is itself anti-Semitic, and that segment which opposes anti-Semitism can at best speak in muffled and obscured tones. As for Soviet public institutions, the hard fact of the matter is that it is Government policy itself which is the guilty party."

Mr. Roosevelt said that a recent Pravda editorial conceding the existence of anti-Semitism showed that public protest has been effective. That fact, he said, "should only encourage us to continue, and at an intensified pace." He emphasized that "we cannot keep silent so long as justice is not done on this problem."

An address during the rally, by Mr. Rustin emerged as the most moving and dynamic of the orations delivered. His linkage of Negroes with Jewish rights drew the day's longest and loudest applause. He informed the audience that he had been personally asked today by two other Negro rights leaders - Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and A. Philip Randolph -- to voice Negro solidarity with Jewish religious and cultural freedom in Russia and throughout the world.

Mr. Rustin said the American Negroes suffered oppression for 350 years and know what it is to face the sort of pressures imposed by the Soviet Government against Jewish citizens. He said the Negro people would not tolerate Soviet anti-Jewish practices. He stressed that Jews came to the assistance of Negroes in demonstrations and actions for Negro rights throughout the nation. Therefore, he said, "that is why I am here today."

Soviet Embassy Gives JTA Letter Reportedly Signed by Rabbis

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- In an obvious effort to minimize the effect of today's "Eternal Light Vigil" which protested against anti-Jewish religious and cultural discriminations by Soviet authorities, the Soviet Embassy in Washington sent a letter to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here, this weekend, declaring that the Washington demonstration was unnecessary and was a "senseless" action "aimed at worsening relations between the USSR and the USA."

The letter requested the JTA to forward the contents to the New York Times. The letter was termed as a reply to Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, who headed a delegation of nine American Orthodox rabbis who visited Moscow last July. Three of the rabbis were given the rare privilege of speaking at a Sabbath service from the pulpit of Moscow's Central Synagogue, which is headed by Chief Rabbi Yehudan Leib Levin.

Signers of the letter, according to the USSR Embassy here, were Rabbi Levin; Rabbi Natan Clevsky, who heads a second Jewish house of worship in the Soviet capital; and Rabbi Avraam Haim Lubanov, of Leningrad.

Asking "who needs this demonstration?", and telling Rabbi Miller "you know perfectly well that our flocks do not need it at all," the letter claimed: "Long before Rosh Hashanah -- in August -- Jews got religious calendars printed in the Moscow State printery. Preparations for publication of prayerbooks are completed. For this purpose, Soviet State organizations, meeting us half-way, allotted high quality paper. We are now getting ready for new enrollment to the yeshiva religious school. Matzon is baked in all religious communities and not only in Moscow, as Rabbi Miller said. Thus everything you (Rabbi Miller) told American newspapermen about our affairs is absolutely ungrounded. In conclusion, we, on behalf of our flocks, would like to voice our resolute protest against the senseless demonstration aimed at worsening relations between the USSR and the USA."

ARAB SUMMIT DECIDES WAR AGAINST ISRAEL MUST WAIT AT LEAST 4 YEARS

LONDON, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- The summit meeting of 12 heads of state belonging to the Arab League, which concluded its sessions at Casablanca yesterday, ended with apparent decisions to delay the "holy war" against Israel by at least four years, and to go

slowly on the projects to divert headwaters of the Jordan River so as to rob Israel of the Jordan waters, according to press dispatches received here:

Reliable Arab sources told the British press at Casablanca that Gen. Aly Ammer, commander-in-chief of the Arab Unified Command mapping armed conflict against Israel and protection of the Arab water diversion projects, reported at a secret meeting of the summit participants that his forces would need men and equipment costing up to \$400,000,000 at a minimum, and requiring at least four years for a build-up of ground and air elements sufficient to match Israel's strength;

One Syrian source told the press that the Arabs fear to undertake war against Israel at this time because both the Soviet Union and the United States might intervene "in order to head off World War III; "

Meanwhile, however, the conference adopted strong resolutions which continued to condemn Israel and reiterated Arab threats to continue water diversion projects under the protection of Arab air cover;

(In Jerusalem, today, the regular, weekly Israeli Cabinet meeting gave special attention to reports from the Casablanca summit meeting. Particular note was taken of the fact that, on the Casablanca agenda, was an item calling for the stationing of non-Jordanian, Arab forces in Jordan to protect the latter country's water diversion projects from possible attack by Israel; The Government's discussion of the entire subject, it was said, would continue as further, more detailed reports about the Casablanca meeting are received here.)

El Fatah Strikes Again; Israel Complains to Mixed Armistice Commission

TEL AVIV, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- An explosion, believed to be the work of the terrorist El Fatah group, this morning rocked the public baths in Moshav Aderet, a small farming community in the Judean Hills near the Jordanian border;

There were no casualties, and the building was only slightly damaged; In recent months, El Fatah, bands of Arab terrorists based in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, have carried out several destructive raids on Israeli border settlements; A protest over today's incident was filed by Israel with the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission;

HOT HISTADRUT ELECTION SEEN AS PREVIEW TO GENERAL, KNESSET BALLOTING

TEL AVIV, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- President Zalman Shazar and Prime Minister Levi Eshkol were among the first voters today in the nationwide balloting for the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, whose membership of more than 850,000 is expected to provide some indication of the relative strengths of the various labor factions contesting the general elections on November 2; Final results in the balloting are expected to be known tomorrow.

Among the seven factions participating in the Histadrut elections are the initial slates of the recently formed Mapai-Achdut Avoda alignment on the one hand, and Ben-Gurion's Rafi faction on the other, as the first bid for public support since the former Premier broke away from Mapai;

With regard to trade union policy, the balloting may influence the extent of reforms in the Histadrut which the various parties have been demanding during the election campaign. These range from suggestions that the Histadrut abandon its extensive entrepreneur positions, to a proposal that it serve only as a roof organization for autonomous, nationwide professional and trade unions;

In efforts to bring out the vote, the various factions mobilized thousands of local organizers, with taxi cabs being dispatched to the homes of stragglers to take them to the 3,000 polling stations; Histadrut members abroad, from Greenland to Japan, were also voting, as crew members on Israeli ships at sea cast their ballots, with the results sent by radio to Israel;

SCOTLAND YARD REPORTED UNCOVERING NEW INTERNATIONAL NAZI SOCIETY

LONDON, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- The existence of an international anti-Jewish secret society with no connection with any of the known Nazi political fringe movements in Britain, has been uncovered by Scotland Yard's Special Branch, it was reported here today by the Sunday Telegraph;

Although the British membership in the society is believed to be small, the number is thought to be growing at a disturbing rate; Some of the members are believed to be responsible for recent attacks on Jewish property; The society already has local groups in London, Newcastle and Birmingham. Police and officials of the Home Office have been conferring on ways to prevent the anti-Semitic literature of the society from entering Britain;

100-DAY ISRAEL BONDS DRIVE AIMS AT RAISING ADDITIONAL \$53,000,000

NEW YORK, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- A 100-day campaign to raise \$53,000,000 by the end of the year for Israel's expanded economic development was inaugurated today at the closing session of the national planning conference of the Israel Bond Organization. The action was taken by more than 500 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada after three days of meetings at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Israel's economic needs and development program for underpopulated areas.

Samuel Rothberg, national campaign chairman, who presided at today's session, announced that \$53,000,000 was needed to meet the Israel Bond quota of \$100,000,000 for all of 1965. The fall campaign will be inaugurated, he said, in more than 600 synagogues throughout the United States and Canada, which will conduct a special effort in behalf of Israel Bonds during the Jewish High Holy Days. Mr. Rothberg made public special messages from Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Isser Yehuda Untermann and Sephardic Chief Rabbi Itzhak Nissim, of Israel, in which they urged American and Canadian Jewry to give the Israel Bond drive their fullest support during the High Holy Day period.

Avraham Harman, Ambassador of Israel to the United States, emphasized to the conference delegates his country's belief that the best way to defend freedom is to continue to build up those institutions which lead toward a creative national life.

Announcement was made at the session of the acceptance by Rabbi Irving Miller, former president of the Zionist Organization of America and the American Jewish Congress, of the post of national chairman of community relations for the Israel Bond Organization. Rabbi Miller succeeds Rabbi James G. Heller, of Cincinnati, who had served the Israel Bond drive in that capacity for more than 10 years.

Plans for the Israel Bond High Holy Days effort were outlined by Rabbi Leon Kronish, vice-chairman of the national congregational and High Holy Days committee; Rabbi Kronish, spiritual leader of Temple Beth Shalom in Miami Beach, is president of the greater Miami Rabbinical Association, and chairman of the Greater Miami Committee for State of Israel Bonds. He said that growing response of synagogues to Israel Bonds reflected the special importance which the Jewish communities attach to the program for promoting Israel's economic growth.

Schwartz Reports Sales of \$47,295,000; Boyar Details Achievements in Israel

Earlier, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization, announced that a total of \$47,295,000 was raised for the economic development of Israel through the world-wide sale of State of Israel Bonds from January 1 through September 15 of this year. Of that total, he reported, \$39,470,250 was sold in the United States, \$2,601,050 in Canada, \$2,591,550 in Latin America, and \$2,632,150 in Western Europe.

Explaining that the coming months represent the period of greatest activity in the campaign, Dr. Schwartz said that prospects were good for raising the balance of \$53,000,000 required to reach the \$100,000,000 quota by the end of the year. "The day to day progress of the people of Israel continues to be the most decisive single factor in expanding the wide circle of subscribers to Israel Bonds, who now number more than 1,500,000," he declared.

Other speakers at the session addressed by Dr. Schwartz included Louis H. Boyar chairman of the board of governors of the Israel Bond Organization, who presided, and Ambassador Ehud Avriel, deputy director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry. Mr. Boyar outlined the economic strides made possible with the aid of Israel Bonds. He cited particularly Israel's outstanding accomplishments in reclaiming and settling many parts of the Negev desert, and of opening up new settlements in the Galilee.

Mr. Boyar stated that Israel had constructed close to 400,000 housing units for its population, which includes more than 1,250,000 immigrants who entered the country since it achieved statehood in 1948. Some 500 new agricultural settlements have been established, he noted, and more than 20,000 new industrial plants and workshops were set up during the past seventeen years. Its exports have grown tenfold, amounting to \$655,000,000 in 1964, he said. This year's Israel Bond campaign represents a great opportunity to bring Israel to a higher level of development, he declared.

Robert Kennedy Outlines 3-Point Program for U.S. in Mid-East

At last night's dinner session, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, New York Democrat, who was the principal speaker, asserted that "the vitality of Israel and the integrity of her borders are a matter of vital concern to the United States." He urged the United States to (1) affirm its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East, (2) continue to assure a reasonable balance between Israel's arms and the arms of those who threaten her security, and (3) intensify disarmament efforts in the Middle East. Pointing to an increased buildup

of Arab arms, Sen; Kennedy warned of the dangers facing Israel. He declared that the "dispute over the waters of the Jordan is progressively deepening" and emphasized that any steps taken by the Arab states to divert Israel's "fair share" of this water would constitute an act of aggression which "must not be allowed to take place." The United States should reaffirm its commitment to stop this aggression, he declared, because "Israel is trying to live in peace and harmony with her neighbors."

Sen; Kennedy drew attention to Israel's record of growth and development, and paid tribute to the Israel Bond program for its outstanding contribution to its progress. "For 14 years," he told the conference, "you have been privileged to share in the building of a nation -- small in size, yet great in spirit; young in years, yet faithful to an ancient heritage." He stressed Israel's progress despite adversity, and noted the important benefit which her advances had brought to nations in many parts of the world;

"Throughout Asia and Africa," he said, "the new nations have turned to Israel for example and guidance, precept and performance. Israel has shown them that development and democracy are not incompatible, but natural partners." However, he added, despite the substantial advances made with the aid of Israel Bonds, "there can be no relaxation." "I come here tonight to say that all of us who are concerned with the fate of Israel must now redouble our efforts; for we are now in a critical time, one as full of danger and promise as any that Israel has yet seen," he said.

Sen; Kennedy shared the platform with Haim J. Zadok, Minister of Commerce and Industry of Israel; Abraham Feinberg, President of the Israel Bond Organization, who presided, and Mrs. Jan Pearce, chairman of the national women's division.

Zadok Stresses Israel's Needs; Feinberg Recalls Founding of Bonds Drive

Mr. Zadok, in his first address in the United States since entering the cabinet of Israel earlier this year, emphasized that the State of Israel faces a triple challenge of maintaining full employment, narrowing the gap between imports and exports, and populating its underpopulated areas. He said that Israel could not achieve these aims without increased resources from the Israel Bond campaign. A strong economy, he added, was essential not only for the country's national life but its security, as well, in a period of increased threats of Arab attack.

Discussing the need of creating wider employment opportunities, Mr. Zadok, who serves also as Minister of Development, noted that the country expects to pass the 3,000,000 mark in population by 1970, an increase of 500,000 over the present figure, counting both immigration and natural increase.

Mr. Feinberg, who presided at the dinner session, called attention to the fact that the weekend conference marked the 15th anniversary of a meeting in Jerusalem in September, 1950, where 50 American Jewish leaders formulated plans for the first Israel Bond issue ever to be floated in the United States. Describing the origin of the Israel Bond program, which has become the backbone of almost every phase of the economic development of Israel, Mr. Feinberg said:

"Fifteen years ago, only two years after they had fought a war to preserve their Declaration of Independence, the people of Israel issued what was in effect a declaration of economic independence. It was in September 1950 that the Prime Minister of Israel called on some of us to attend an urgent conference in Jerusalem. Out of that conference that met in an atmosphere of crisis and anxiety emerged the idea and the proposal for the flotation of an Israel Bond Issue, the very first Bond issue to be offered outside its borders by the infant state;

"If I were asked to characterize the role of this new program, I would say that it was launched as a life raft for a frail economy that was being swamped by a flood of homeless and penniless immigrants. During the intervening years the life raft has become the cornerstone of a dynamic and rapidly growing country. And the frailty of its economy has been replaced by robust muscles of progress."

Noting that there has been "a population explosion" within the United Nations since the admission of the State of Israel in 1949, with its membership more than doubling to a record number of 114 countries in that period, Mr. Feinberg said: "In the great wave of liberation that has swept the continents of Africa and Asia, Israel has had the vision and statesmanship to become a source of technical assistance and close cooperation for practically all of the newly emerging countries."

The importance of the partnership between Israel Bond purchasers and the people of Israel was stressed by Mrs. Judith Beilin, consul for Israel in New York, at a special campaign seminar of the national women's division of the Israel Bond Organization. "The success stories of development in Israel are there for everyone to see," Mrs. Beilin said, "and Israel Bonds are making them possible."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS URGE U. S. A. TO GUARANTEE ARAB ISRAEL BORDERS

KLAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., Sept. 19: (JTA) -- The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, concluding its 70th annual national convention here today, warned, in a policy statement, that the Kashmir, Chinese-Indian and other border disputes provided new evidence that United States policy commitments to guarantee the Arab-Israel borders are "imperative."

The statement said: "The United States has made a number of statements pertaining to the Arab-Israel frontier. President Johnson has re-enforced the commitments of President Kennedy. These policies remain general and unimplemented. The temptation is open to Arab extremists and partisans of Red Chinese-fomented chaos to escalate the border conflicts now raging in Asia into the Middle East."

"A precise and firm United States policy, fully implemented on lower governmental levels, is essential, especially in view of Egyptian President Nasser's very recent visit to Moscow, where he entered into new commitments to Soviet strategies and arranged to introduce massive new shipments of Russian tanks and jets into the existing Arab-Israel tension."

"Clarity and firmness now can prevent bloodshed and chaos later. There is also a need for the United States to carefully re-examine our shipments of United States arms to Arab states in the absence of any effectual guarantees that such arms will not be used against Israel as United States arms were used by Pakistan against India."

"The Jewish War Veterans will carefully observe developments and press for consideration of its views on the highest level of government," the statement pledged.

At one of the weekend sessions, Rep. Ogden R. Reid, New York Republican, who was formerly U. S. Ambassador to Israel, told the veterans that the United States must display "new initiatives to build peace in the Near East while there is still time." He said American approaches should include new contacts with countries in the area, and should not preclude talks with the Soviet Union. He declared that continued Soviet intervention in the Near East, and Russian arms shipments to Arab states indicate the need for "firm talks" with Moscow.

Warning that the Jordan River water issue may escalate into a chain reaction of friction, Rep. Reid said: "An equitable solution to the sharing of Jordan River headwaters by the riparian states -- based on the unified Eric Johnston plan of 1955 -- is essential if water is to be a force for peace and not a cause of war."

LEADERS OF FOUR MAJOR NATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS MEET WITH LCBC

NEW YORK, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- The steering committee of the Large City Budgeting Conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds met here this weekend with the top leadership of four major national agencies, whose programs and activities were reviewed.

Taking part in the meeting, along with the representatives of 13 LCBC member welfare funds, were the leaders of the United Hias Service, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, and the American Jewish Committee. This was the first meeting in which the American Jewish Committee took part since that organization agreed, last May, to participate in the LCBC review process.

JACOB SEGAL, EX-EDITOR OF FORWARD IN CHICAGO, IS DEAD AT AGE OF 76

CHICAGO, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- Jacob Segal, a prominent Yiddish journalist and Jewish communal leader, died here yesterday at the age of 76. He had been editor of the Chicago edition of the Jewish Daily Forward for many years. Born in Poland, Mr. Segal emigrated to this country in 1906. He was active in the affairs of the United Jewish Appeal, Ort, the Jewish Labor Committee and various Jewish labor groups.

ISRAEL GURI, CHAIRMAN OF KNESSET FINANCE COMMITTEE, DEAD IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- Israel Guri, a Mapai member of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, and chairman of that body's finance committee, died here last night. He was 76. Mr. Guri was born in Russia and settled in Israel in 1919. Among the posts he held were: Tel Aviv city councillor, member of the education committee of the Histadrut, and delegate to several World Zionist congresses.

DR. SOPHIA WITZMAN, OFFICIAL BRITISH GOVERNMENT HISTORIAN, IS DEAD

LONDON, Sept. 19: (JTA) -- Dr. Sophia Witzman, the official historian of the British Government, died here this weekend. She was Jewish. Born in London, she studied at the University of Manchester, headed the history department of the University of London Institute of Education, and was a foremost authority on Indian history. At the time of her death Dr. Witzman had been working on a history of education in England during World War II.