



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol XXXII - 48th year

Tuesday, November 30, 1965

No. 227

## BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY CONVENTION EVADES DEBATE ON JEWS IN RUSSIA

LONDON, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- Leaders of the British Communist Party succeeded today in preventing a debate at their forthcoming 20th national convention -- to be held here later this week -- on two resolutions proposing that the party request Moscow to explain charges of discriminations against Jews in the Soviet Union.

The proposed resolutions had been drafted by the Oxford University Communist Group and by the Prestwich-Lancashire branch. Today, the convention's resolutions committee called in representatives of the two groups and informed them that the drafts would be referred to the party's new executive council, which will be chosen by the convention.

The groups were assured that the present executive is "concerned" about the issues raised in the draft resolutions; Delegates of the Prestwich-Lancashire branch told the press after the conference with the resolutions committee that they were satisfied with the ruling. However, the representatives of the Oxford group refused to comment on the committee's step.

The Prestwich-Lancashire draft had noted "with concern the criticisms made by prominent individuals in the international Communist and general peace and progressive movements of the attitude of the Soviet Union to the religious and cultural requirements of the Jewish minority." It called on the British party's national executive to obtain from the Soviet Government either a satisfactory rebuttal of the criticisms or an assurance that the causes for the criticisms would be removed speedily.

The other draft expressed concern "at the lack of rights and facilities for Soviet Jews compared to those, for example, of Poland." This draft also called on the British party's national leadership "to inquire into the failure of the Soviet Government to rehabilitate the Jews as it has other minorities which suffered under Stalin and to restore to them the institutions they had before their unjust suppression in the postwar period."

It was pointed out by observers here that the British Communist Party does not have the influence possessed by the French and Italian Communists; The Communists here have never disclosed the size of their organization, but they are believed to have a total membership of about 30,000; The British Communists have not succeeded in obtaining a single seat in the House of Commons or in any municipal council in the United Kingdom.

## ISRAEL MINISTER RETURNS FROM EUROPE PESSIMISTIC ON CITRUS ISSUE

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Zadok returned today from a trip to Europe, where he had gone to try to persuade the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community to negate a new ruling on oranges.

That ruling, imposing "reference prices" on oranges shipped by non-Euromart exporters to countries belonging to the EEC, would increase the price of Israeli oranges for the ultimate European consumer by about 20 percent, and could reduce Israel's cash income from the sale of oranges considerably.

Reporting that he had discussed the issue with the top representatives of the Euromart at the EEC headquarters in Brussels, Mr. Zadok said that reversal of the newly-created rule on "reference prices" was unlikely in view of the fact that France, one of the six members of the EEC, is now boycotting the EEC's Council of Ministers.

The new ruling had been proposed by Italy, another of the EEC members, and is scheduled to go into effect Wednesday, December 1, unless reversed by the Council. The only step that could hold back implementation of the "reference prices" is a negative vote by the EEC's Council of Ministers, which is scheduled to convene at the Brussels headquarters today.

Aharon Becker, secretary general of the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, appealed today to the heads of trade unions in the member countries of the European Eco-

nomie Community to intervene on Israel's behalf in this country's struggle to maintain its competitive position in the export of citrus fruit to Common Market countries;

In messages cabled today to union leaders in France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxemburg, Mr. Becker asked them to intervene with their governments to prevent the introduction of the minimum prices which would threaten the employment of thousands of workers in the citrus industry and allied jobs. He stressed the urgent need for immediate action in view of the approaching citrus harvest.

#### ESHKOL UNWILLING TO YIELD TO RELIGIOUS PARTY IN FORMING COALITION

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, who is in the process of forming a new coalition government to replace the present caretaker government was reported today to be threatening to form a coalition without the National Religious Party, unless the latter eases its persistent demands for stricter religious laws, particularly one regarding Sabbath observance.

A coalition without the participation of the religious group would be possible. Such a government would include representatives of the Mapai-Achdut Avoda alignment, plus Mapam and the Independent Liberal Party, giving Mr. Eshkol a total of 58 seats in the new Knesset (Parliament). Since there are 120 seats in the Knesset, such a line-up would make the government dependent on the four places held by the Mapai-affiliated bloc of Arab seats to obtain a majority.

According to reports in religious circles here, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, of Boston, has been urging the NRP to stiffen its position on behalf of more strict religious legislation. The Boston rabbi has reportedly advised his friends here that it would be better for the NRP to be in the opposition unless its pre-conditions were accepted by Mr. Eshkol.

Meanwhile, an important Knesset committee chairmanship seemed to have been agreed upon here today between Mapai and Achdut Avoda, the partners in the major political alignment. At a meeting of the two groups, it was reported, Mr. Eshkol had agreed to back Israel Galili, secretary-general of Achdut Avoda for the chairmanship of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. He would replace David Hacoheh, of Mapai, in that post.

Mordechai Namir was reelected today Mayor of Tel Aviv. He won the seat by a vote of 18 to 11 in the Municipal Council. His principal rival for the post was Mordechai Stern, representing Gahal, the alignment of the Herut and Liberal parties. In the final voting, however, Mr. Stern abstained. Mr. Namir is a member of the Mapai Party.

#### ISRAEL STARTS MILITARY MANEUVERS AGAINST 'EGYPTIAN-STYLE' FORTIFICATIONS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- A large Israeli military task force, including artillery and massive air support, opened an attack at dawn today against Egyptian-style fortifications in the Negev, as part of the autumn maneuvers of Israel's armed forces. The purpose of today's exercise was to test new combat methods, providing an opportunity for the coordinated participation of all of Israel's land-based forces in a simulated war.

Israel's "blue" forces were to test their strength against presumed Egyptian positions which they were to overcome before proceeding further inland, if Israel were engaged in war against Egypt. The Egyptian-style positions were given names like "Shulamit" and "Naomi" for the purposes of this exercise.

#### PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION 'SUPPRESSED' IN JORDAN LEADER CLAIMS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- Ahmed Shukeiry, chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization which is responsible for initiating El Fatah terrorist raids into Israel, said in Beirut last night that his movement has been "suppressed" in Jordan, it was reported here today.

Shukeiry, who sharply attacked Jordan's King Hussein, said that during his recent visit to Jordan he was not allowed to contact Arab refugees. Damascus Radio, meanwhile, called for a renewal of the El Fatah attacks against Israel which were discontinued after Israeli punitive action against Jordan.

#### SILVERSMITHS STRIKE IN ISRAEL; PROTEST SALES TAX ON RELIGIOUS ARTICLES

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29: (JTA) -- Silversmiths went on strike here today in protest against the sales tax on religious articles which they manufacture, contending that the levies are illegal. At present, there is a 20 percent sales tax on articles like candlesticks, menorahs and seder plates.

JEWS IN GERMANY PROTEST NON-PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO NAZI VICTIMS

BONN, Nov. 29; (JTA) -- The Central Council of the Jews in Germany sent a protest today to President Peter Altmeier of the Upper House of Parliament over the planned budget curtailment eliminating 200,000,000 marks (\$50,000,000) scheduled to have been paid in 1966 to a special group of victims of Nazism. Those affected are persons, mostly Jews, who were trapped in Iron Curtain countries at the October 1953 deadline for filing compensation claims and were unable to file in time.

The Council message called the action a "serious breach of the law" and added that "this hasty and ill-considered step is directed against a small minority of survivors who were victims of state injustice." The protest statement asserted that the budget cut would "lead to an intolerable new situation" for those victims.

Jewish Groups in London Protest German Non-Payment of Claims

LONDON, Nov. 29; (JTA) -- A delegation of leaders representing virtually every section of Jewry in this country protested vigorously today to the German Ambassador here against plans by the Bonn Government to postpone payments due to certain Jewish victims of Nazism.

The payments are those authorized by recent German legislation for payment of restitution to victims of Nazism who were unable to file claims prior to the old cut-off date of October 1, 1953 because they could not escape from countries behind the Iron Curtain by that date. The legislation had authorized payment in 1966 of a first installment of \$50,000,000 to the post-1953 claimants. However, Dr. Rolf Dahlgren, West Germany's Minister of Finance, announced that the 1966 installment would be deferred due to anticipated budgetary deficits. The group includes an estimated 150,000 Jews.

The delegation presented its protest to Herbert Blankenhorn, West Germany's Ambassador here, for transmission to Bonn. In the protest, the group stated that some of the victims of Nazism concerned are old people who may not live long enough to receive the payments due them, if the postponement materializes. They pointed out that the post-1953 claimants waited 20 years before they could even file their claims, and stated that, if the delay is effected, it would "undermine confidence in the sincerity of the Bonn Government's declared intention to redress the unprecedented evils committed by the Nazis."

Participating in the protest were Sir Barnett Janner, former president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, who is now chairman of the Board's foreign affairs committee; Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, president of the Jewish Trust Corporation, representing the Central British Fund; Harold Sebag Montefiore, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association; Dr. S. Breslauer, vice-president of the Council of Jews from Germany; and A.L. Easterman and Dr. S.J. Roth, representing the World Jewish Congress.

TRIAL OF NAZI GENERAL STARTS IN VIENNA; DIRECTED TERROR IN BELGIUM

VIENNA, Nov. 29; (JTA) -- Robert Jan Verbelen, a former SS general condemned to death in absentia by Belgium in 1947 for wartime crimes in that country, went on trial here today on charges of participating in terrorist acts and mass murders in Belgium.

Verbelen, who served as wartime deputy to Leon Degrelle, the former Belgian Rexist leader, during the German occupation, fled from Belgium and turned up in Austria in 1945. He acquired Austrian citizenship, taking the name of Isak Meisels under which it appeared he had been an employee of the United States occupation forces in Vienna.

In 1962, the Belgian Government asked for his extradition but the Austrian Government rejected the request because of Verbelen's Austrian citizenship. Later Austria withdrew his citizenship and Verbelen again disappeared. He returned to Vienna in 1963 and was arrested. Under new Austrian legislation, the crimes for which he was tried in absentia are no longer indictable and he will therefore be tried on the other charges. The trial is expected to last three weeks.

NAZI GUARD IN ANNIHILATION CAMP IN POLAND SENTENCED IN GERMANY

KIEL, Nov. 29; (JTA) -- A jury court here sentenced Gustave Fiedel, a former Nazi guard in the Chelmo death camp in occupied Poland, to a term of one year and six months for participation in mass murder.

Court officials said Fiedel's pre-trial detention would be taken into account so that he can count on an early release. The sentence is regarded as extremely light and the prosecution was expected to appeal. The sentence does not carry the usual "at hard labor" condition.

MADISON CLUB CANCELS REJECTION OF JEWISH APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

MADISON, Wis., Nov. 29; (JTA) -- The Madison Club board of directors has reversed an earlier decision and voted to invite a Jewish State Supreme Court Justice and a Jewish attorney to join after a storm of protest over the original decision rejecting the applications;

The board acted after more than 200 of the club's 600 members signed a protest petition and Fred H. Harrington, president of the University of Wisconsin, resigned from the club. The board held a special meeting at which it liberalized club by-laws on admission procedures. It then invited Justice Myron Gordon and Attorney Gordon Sinykin to join.

The board said, in a statement, that it had acted to amend "the by-laws so as to provide that any candidate may be admitted by five affirmative votes of the nine directors. In addition, the club, by appropriate action, moved that Justice Myron Gordon and Gordon Sinykin are welcome to join the club if they care to."

Two of the board members initially voted against admission for the two men, leading to charges of bias in the club and to the resignation of Mr. Harrington. The rejection was widely believed to have been on the basis of the fact that they were Jews. Their applications originally had been submitted at the urging of Collins Ferris, president of the Madison Bank and Trust Company, who, along with other Madison Club members, wanted to dispel long-standing reports that the club barred Jews.

A number of groups in Madison responded to the original rejection by canceling meetings at the Madison Club. The Madison City Council passed a resolution declaring its intent to deny city license privileges, including liquor licenses, to organizations guilty of discriminating on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry.

SMALL JEWISH COMMUNITY IN LEAVENWORTH DENIES REPORTS OF EXTINCTION

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of this city, though small quantitatively, is very much alive and anything but extinct, it was declared here today in correction of erroneous impressions spread in the press.

The error, terming Leavenworth's Jewish community "extinct," was due to a correct report about a small synagogue here having sent several Torah scrolls to Israel, according to Ralph W. Sickel, secretary of Temple B'nai Jeshurun. Those scrolls, he said, had belonged previously to a small synagogue, The House of Jacob, which had to dissolve because the congregation found it impossible to maintain a required number of worshipers for a minyan. However, he noted, "the congregation of Temple B'nai Jeshurun still very much exists."

While the temple does not employ a fulltime rabbi of its own, he said, services are held at the temple. During the High Holy Days this year, he said, Marvin Rosenberg, president of the congregation, had made arrangements to have services transmitted by telephone through the cooperation of Rabbi William B. Silverman, of Temple B'nai Jehudah, in Kansas City. More than 50 Jews living in Leavenworth and Ft. Leavenworth participated in those services, he declared.

"The loyal Jews of Leavenworth," he stated, "feel it necessary to clear up this grave misunderstanding. Readers are invited to come here and see how a small group of living Jews carry on the teachings and commandments of Judaism in spite of obstacles." He noted that Leavenworth Jewry has a very active B'nai B'rith chapter, participates in the work of Hadassah, maintains a Temple Sisterhood, aids the work of the National Council of Jewish Women, and contributes funds to Israeli causes.

RABBI WAXMAN ELECTED HEAD OF HISTADRUT CULTURAL EXCHANGE INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, Nov. 29; (JTA) -- Rabbi Mordecai Waxman was elected chairman of the American Histadrut Cultural Exchange Institute at the close of a two-day annual conference of its Board of Trustees yesterday. The conference adopted an extensive program for an exchange of lecturers and for joint seminars between American unions and educational institutions of the Histadrut, the Israel Federation of Labor and Association of Cooperatives.

Dr. Albert B. Sabin, discoverer of the polio vaccine, and Dr. Joseph Kaplan, President of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, were elected honorary chairmen. Dr. Judd L. Teller of New York was reelected executive vice-chairman, and Fred J. Isaacson of New York was elected treasurer. The Institute, which comprises academicians, business and labor leaders, is devoted to the advancement of an understanding of social problems of equal concern to Israel and the United States, including acculturation, the war on illiteracy, medical care and housing.