



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXIII - 49th year

Wednesday, April 6, 1966

No. 66

CROWDS ATTEND PASSOVER SERVICE IN MOSCOW; SEDER HELD AT ISRAELI EMBASSY

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- Passover services were held last night in the Central Synagogue in Moscow with the crowd overflowing into the street, according to reports from the Soviet capital received here today. Many Jewish families in Moscow secured matzoth for the first time in years with the flour being supplied by them to the synagogue bakery.

Jewish members of the foreign colony in Moscow attended a seder in the Israeli Embassy. While official Soviet reports from Kiev, Minsk, Tbilisi and other Soviet cities with large Jewish populations indicated that the religious Jews there were permitted to bake matzoh in private bakeries, no such indication was given with regard to the matzoh situation in the smaller Jewish communities in the Soviet Union.

ISRAEL CELEBRATES PASSOVER IN GAYEST FASHION; PRAYS FOR JEWS IN RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- A festive Israel celebrated Passover this year in gayest fashion, except for one somber thought that permeated virtually every seder, public or private. A special prayer, composed by Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Issar Untermann, dedicated to "Jews in the suffering lands outside Israel," had been dedicated to Russian Jewry.

At many of the sedorim, one chair had been left vacant, symbolically reserved for the absent Russian Jew. At many of the feasts, the head of the table recited this benediction: "May the Russian Jews, too, reach Jerusalem next year."

Aside from this note of gravity, Israelis, and many thousands of tourists who had flocked to Israel to spend the Season of Liberation here, celebrated the feast in a plentiful atmosphere. Food supplies were adequate all over Israel, and prices were reasonable. Despite a feeling of austerity, due to a threatening trend of inflation, prices of Passover necessities had not risen as a whole.

In addition to the rites conducted in private homes, many thousands of Israelis, augmented by foreign visitors, flocked to public ceremonies conducted in hotels, many public halls, at kibbutzim and in army camps. Special arrangements had been made for members of the diplomatic corps, nearly all of whom had been invited to sit in at sedorim conducted in private homes.

President Zalman Shazar attended a seder at a rest home run by the Kupath Cholim, the Histadrut health service, in the vicinity of Jerusalem. Prime Minister and Mrs. Levi Eshkol attended a seder at Kibbutz Degania Beth. Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's chief of staff, attended the main army seder at an armored force base. In all army units, a specially-revised Haggadah included prayers stressing the spirit of freedom.

Israel's international airport at Lydda had its busiest day ever, yesterday, on the eve of Passover, as many aircraft brought both tourists and Israelis coming home for the holiday. The Israel Tourist Corporation estimated that 11,000 tourists had come to Israel for Passover, while many thousands of Israelis had arrived to join their families here.

JEWS IN RUSSIA REMEMBERED AT PASSOVER CEREMONIES IN THE UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, April 5. (JTA) -- Many Jewish homes throughout the country remembered the fate of oppressed Jewry symbolically during the sedorim this year, by setting aside one matzoh as the "matzoh of oppression," it was reported here today by the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.

The conference had called for such action at every seder as assurance that the Jews in the Soviet Union have not been forgotten. At many sedorim, both private and public, special prayers were also voiced this year in remembrance of the 6,000,000 martyrs in the Nazi holocaust.

In Cleveland, more than 1,000 persons marched 1.5 miles in cold weather yesterday in dramatic protest against the Soviet Union's oppression of Jews. The demonstration included Jews and Christians, Negroes and whites, youth and adults. The protest march went from Taylor Road Synagogue in Cleveland Heights to the Jewish Community Center. Police described the march as orderly and reported no incidents.

GERMAN PARTY DENIES BEING NEO-NAZI; ANNOUNCES ACTION AGAINST PRESS

BONN, April 5. (JTA) -- Leaders of the new National Democratic Party (NDP), which is usually defined as "the Nazi Party without storm troopers," said at a press conference today that they had started legal proceedings against four West German publications which had described them as neo-Nazis. They said the legal actions were aimed at Der Spiegel, the Shtern and two others.

In a related development, Dr. Eric Mende, West German Vice-Chancellor and chairman of the Free Democratic Party, asserted that the recent gains in Hamburg and Bavaria by the NDP had been exaggerated, particularly in foreign countries.

The NDP leaders also protested at the press conference against charges by other politicians that the NDP belonged to the neo-Nazi sector of West German politics. A Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent attending the press meeting noted that prominent former Nazis held high positions in the NDP and the leaders replied that this was true also of other political parties.

The NDP leaders admitted that the party rejected Germans who had cooperated with other countries during the war and considered them traitors. When asked why they placed wreaths on the graves of Nazis who had been convicted and executed for war crimes, they replied that this action was not intended to identify NDP leaders with the war criminals but only with those who had been executed by "error."

Dr. Mende, replying to questions, said he did not consider the gains of the neo-Nazi party a threat either to democracy in West Germany or to his party. He also said he was opposed to any ban on the NDP and that he did not agree that the party consisted entirely of former Nazis since many of its members were too young to have been Nazis.

Der Spiegel, meanwhile, reported that it had engaged the Allensbach Public Opinion Research Institute to determine how many West Germans would vote for the NDP if a new Parliamentary election was held now. The newspaper reported that the Institute found that two percent of West Germans would vote for the NDP in such an election, exactly the proportion which voted for it in the Parliamentary elections last September. In the municipal elections in Hamburg last month the NDP received 3.9 percent of the votes.

Leader of German Rightist Party Arrested; Charged with Spying

BONN, April 5. (JTA) -- West German officials announced today the arrest in Berlin of Rolf Voigt, 30, vice-chairman for Berlin of the National Democratic Party (NDP), on charges of acting as an agent of the Communist State Security Service.

The officials said that he had forged doctorate diplomas and that since 1961, when he "fled" to the West from East Germany, he had maintained contacts with the East Berlin Security Service. On coming to West Berlin, he quickly made a career in the NDP.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL HEARS REPORT ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- Austrian representatives at a two-day session of the Bureau of the Socialist International reported today that a number of Jews had been physically assaulted during the recent election in Austria. They also confirmed reports that election leaflets distributed by right-wing elements contained considerable anti-Jewish propaganda material.

They stressed that certain leaders of the Peoples' Party, which won an absolute majority in the elections, were not prepared any longer to resist neo-Fascism and anti-Semitic tendencies among the party's supporters. Dr. S. Levenberg, a British delegate, stressed that the use of violent anti-Jewish and neo-Nazi slogans during the election campaign created widespread apprehension both in the Jewish world and in the labor movement.

Plans were completed for the biennial congress of the Socialist International in Stockholm in May. The Israeli delegation is expected to be led by Mrs. Golda Meir, former Foreign Minister and now general secretary of the Mapai party.

TEST CASE PLANNED AGAINST GERMAN FIRMS WHICH USED SLAVE LABOR

BONN, April 5. (JTA) -- The International Camp Committee announced plans today for a test case against several German firms which used slave labor during the Nazi era but which have refused to consider any claims of the survivors for compensation.

The committee, made up of Nazi concentration camp survivors, said it planned to institute legal proceedings against Krupp, Siemens, AGE and Telefunken, now among the leading West German industrial companies. The target firms have refused all approaches on the issue.

(American Jewish groups have protested to the Defense Department against a \$75,000,000 contract for guns now under consideration for Rheinmetall Company, one of the West German firms which has rebuffed all requests for compensation for slave laborers used during World War II.)

COCA COLA COMPANY REFUSES FRANCHISE FOR SALE OF DRINK IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 5. (JTA) -- The Coca Cola Company today confirmed that it has refused to sell Coca Cola in Israel but contended that its decision was not motivated by Arab boycott threats. An official spokesman for the company told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that denial of a franchise was based on a "business judgment" that sale of Coca Cola in Israel would not be profitable.

The tremendous volume of Coca Cola sales in Egypt, Lebanon, and a number of other Arab states were reported by informed sources, however, to have influenced the company's decision. Threats from Beirut and Cairo were cited. If the American company provided Israelis with "the pause that refreshes."

The Coca Cola spokesman said that in December, 1964, Tempo Soft Drinks Co., Ltd., of Israel, applied for franchise to bottle Coca Cola in Israel. "In January, 1965 we advised the applicant that as a result of careful study of his presentation it remained our considered business judgment that economic and market conditions in Israel were not yet such as would permit establishment and development of a Coca Cola bottling operation in that country on a mutually profitable basis," said the spokesman. "We also advised the applicant that we took the same position in respect to prospects in a number of other countries in various parts of the world, some of which were also in the Middle East, for example: Jordan and Syria," the spokesman added.

In September, 1965, the company reaffirmed the decision taken in January of that year. The Company maintained that "in addition to the applications from Tempo, we have received applications from a number of other individuals of ample means and good prospects. These other applications will also have to be given consideration when economic conditions justify it.

Coca Cola made known that "on several occasions we have acquainted Mr. Arnold Forster, general consul of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, with our position which we assured him was based upon local economic and market conditions rather than political considerations." U.S. Commerce Department sources said anti-boycott provisions of the Export Control Act "lacked teeth" for Federal Government intervention at this juncture in view of the Coca Cola Company's assertions.

ISRAEL TRAINS LATIN AMERICANS FOR PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- Israel and a number of Latin American countries are cooperating in the field of nuclear energy for peaceful uses, political sources here revealed today.

The program was disclosed in connection with the current visit of Louis Vidal, the Uruguayan Foreign Minister. He and Foreign Minister Abba Eban discussed nuclear cooperation plans which were considered several weeks ago by representatives of the atomic energy commissions of the two countries.

Scientists from Peru and Mexico are now receiving atomic energy training in Israel and other Latin American countries are interested in similar arrangements.

EGYPT REPORTED COOPERATING WITH MOSCOW ON SOVIET SPY SHIPS

WASHINGTON, April 5. (JTA) -- Reports have been received here from Cairo that Egyptian and Soviet naval cooperation has grown in the last two years and that Soviet warships and fishing trawlers equipped with electronic intelligence gear are observing American, British, and probably Israeli naval and merchant shipping.

The Soviet spy ships have been observed in the Red Sea and also off Egypt's Mediterranean coast. Some of the ships are Russian fishing trawlers carrying ultramodern electronic spying devices.

Reports received here indicated that the main Soviet aim was surveillance of the U.S. 6th fleet in the Mediterranean and the 7th fleet in the Indian Ocean. But evidence of closer Egyptian-Russian cooperation in this undertaking indicated that Israeli naval and merchant shipping operations are also under scrutiny.

200 TOMBSTONES DESECRATED IN NEW MONTEFIORE CEMETERY IN LONG ISLAND

BALDWIN, L.I., N.Y., April 5. (JTA) -- About 200 tombstones were overturned, and many of them were smashed last Sunday in the New Montefiore Cemetery, a Jewish burial ground, near here, it was discovered today.

Police authorities here, who started to probe the desecration, said they found fresh marks from truck tires on the cemetery grounds, indicating that a large vehicle had been employed in the action. Fingerprints were taken from some of the tombstones, and police said they would try to trace the perpetrators through these prints.

Fred Egg, the caretaker of the cemetery, said that desecrations of the cemetery have taken place almost annually at this time of year.

U. N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONCLUDES SESSION; ACHIEVEMENTS NOTED

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., April 5. (JTA) -- The United Nations Commission on Human Rights, holding its 20th annual session here since March 8, adjourned today after a month of deliberations which nearly all members of the 21-delegation body considered one of the most productive series of human rights meetings in two decades.

During the session this year, the Commission adopted five vital articles in a draft Convention on the elimination of religious intolerance; voted overwhelmingly to include in that draft a specific mention of anti-Semitism as one of the prejudices that must be eliminated throughout the world; decided to consider another Convention which would ban statutes of limitations on the apprehension, extradition, trial and punishment of war criminals; and named a working committee to study a proposal that the U. N. create a new post, that of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Most of these matters are to be pursued at the Commission next session, to be convened in Geneva a year from now. They were designated as priority issues to be ready for General Assembly consideration in the fall of 1967.

Of particular interest to Jews was the fact that two of the Commission's leading delegates this year were Morris B. Abram, representing the United States, and Israel's Supreme Court Associate Justice Haim H. Cohn, representing Israel. Mr. Abram is president of the American Jewish Committee.

Secretary-General U Thant announced just before the Commission adjourned, that he has appointed Marc Schreiber, until now deputy director of the general legal division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, as director of the Division of Human Rights. Mr. Schreiber, who has been a member of the Secretariat since 1946, succeeds John E. Humphrey, whose resignation from the Secretariat is to take effect at the end of this month. Mr. Humphrey, who will assume a faculty post at McGill University in Montreal, was given a farewell luncheon last week by the North American section of the World Jewish Congress.

CLEVELAND JEW GIVES \$500,000 TO HEBREW UNIVERSITY FOR PHARMACY SCHOOL

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- A surprise announcement of a gift of \$500,000 to the Hebrew University by Cleveland pharmaceutical chain owner Adolph Weinberger was applauded at the final session of a meeting of the University's board of governors. Mr. Weinberger, chairman of the board of Gray Drugstores, a chain of 150 stores in various states, came to Jerusalem specially to donate a pharmacy school building which will bear his name.

Dr. Eliahu Elath was reelected president and Prof. David Hamiran was chosen again as vice-president of the Hebrew University. They will serve two-year terms rather than the usual four-year periods at their own request. Nathaniel Goldstein, of New York, and Prof. Milton Handler were named deputy chairmen of the board. Newly-elected board members included Michael Sacher, of Britain, and Baron Guy de Rothschild, of France.

U. S. SUPREME COURT REJECTS COMPLAINT OF EXCLUDING JEWS FROM JURY

WASHINGTON, April 5. (JTA) -- The United States Supreme Court refused yesterday to examine the complaint of a Jewish physician, who was convicted in Norfolk, Va., of performing an illegal abortion, that Jews were improperly kept off the jury panel.

By its refusal to consider the appeal of Dr. Harold L. Goldman, the Supreme Court left standing as final a decision of October 6, 1965, by the Virginia State Supreme Court of Appeals. The highest state court in Virginia had denied a writ of error to Dr. Goldman who alleged that elimination of Jews from the jury had denied him a fair trial. He now faces a two-year jail sentence in the state penitentiary.

SEN. JAVITS IMPRESSED WITH LEADERSHIP OF BRAZILIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 5. (JTA) -- Sen. Jacob K. Javits declared here that he had been deeply impressed with the leadership of Brazilian Jewry and their procedures for settling problems. He noted that the problems of Brazilian Jews were entirely different from those of Argentine Jewry. The Republican Senator for New York toured a number of South American countries.

RABBI BABAD, LEADER OF WORLD AGUDATH ISRAEL, DIES IN LONDON; WAS 58

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here Sunday for Rabbi Abraham Babad, chairman of the European executive of the Agudath Israel World Organization and a ranking member of the Agudath Rabbinical Council. He died here Friday at the age of 58.

Born in Poland, Rabbi Babad emigrated to England in 1932 and occupied pulpits of several synagogues. He was active in numerous Jewish organizations and was a frequent contributor of articles on religious law to journals in England, Poland, Israel and the United States.