



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

860 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXIII - 49th year

Friday, May 20, 1966

No. 97

STATE DEPT. SEEKS TO PREVENT SPREAD OF NUCLEAR ARMS TO NEAR EAST

WASHINGTON, May 19. (JTA) -- A State Department spokesman said today that the United States Government wishes to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to the countries of the Near East. "We are against nuclear proliferation, particularly in the Near East," State Department Press Officer Robert McCloskey said. "The United States position on this subject is well known and positive," he declared. "If anyone should advance a plan offering a potential for avoiding the spread of nuclear weapons to the Near East, we would be interested in studying it."

His comments were in response to a reporter's question about American thinking of Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol's remarks yesterday on nuclear weapons. Mr. Eshkol, speaking in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, declared that Israel has no atomic arms and will not be the first to introduce such weapons in the area.

SOVIET-EGYPTIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE CARRIES NO MENTION OF ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 19. (JTA) -- Israeli observers here said today there was nothing new on Middle East problems in the joint Soviet-Egyptian communique issued in Cairo yesterday at the close of an eight-day visit by Soviet Premier Alexsei Kosygin. The observers stressed that the communique contained no direct reference to Israel. They indicated a belief that the Soviet Premier had used a moderating influence on Egyptian President Nasser and resisted Egyptian efforts for an open denunciation of Israel.

Premier Kosygin expressed support for the "legitimate and indivisible rights" of the Arab refugees and for the "struggle by the Arab states against aggressive intrigues of imperialist forces seeking to exploit the Palestine problem to increase tension in the Middle East." The Soviet Premier used much the same language, with a similar lack of direct reference to the Israel-Arab conflict in an address to the Egyptian National Assembly on Tuesday.

EBAN FORESEES CHANGES IN ISRAEL'S POLICY TOWARD COMMUNIST LANDS

TEL AVIV, May 19. (JTA) -- Israel's policy toward the East European bloc may be affected as a result of three days of consultations between Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Israeli envoys to those states, the Foreign Minister said here last night on his return from Warsaw. His visit was the first by an Israeli Foreign Minister to Warsaw.

Mr. Eban said that the situation in the seven East European countries was "comprehensively reviewed" and "certain suggestions" put forward. He also said that at two meetings he had with Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki, a "variety of questions on the world situation and on our mutual relations" were raised. He declined to list the questions.

The Foreign Minister emphasized that his meeting with the Polish diplomat had increased his belief in the "strength and sincerity" of Israeli-Polish relations. "Common memories" of suffering during the war formed an important element in those relations, he added, declaring that only on Polish soil could the "full dimensions of the Jewish disaster" in Europe be realized.

AUSTRIAN MINISTER CLAIMS ANTI-SEMITISM NOT GROWING IN HIS COUNTRY

LONDON, May 19. (JTA) -- Austrian Foreign Minister Lujo Toncic-Sorinj, discussing here charges of anti-Semitic developments in his country, denied today "the implication that anti-Semitism is growing in Austria."

The issue came up after the visiting Foreign Minister addressed the Foreign Press Association and then answered questions. He was asked by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency newsman why the Austrian Government was not taking action to curb anti-Semitism. Declaring that he welcomed the opportunity to comment on the matter, he said that "while unpleasant events happen from time to time in certain states of the United States, no one would judge the situation in the United States from these events."

"I can assure you," he added, "that there is no anti-Semitism in Austria but this does not mean that there are no anti-Semites here and there in Austria." He said the Government did not react to anti-Semitic incidents because "this is for the courts to deal with and not the politicians."

TWENTY PERSONS INJURED IN RIOT AGAINST AUTOFSY AT ISRAEL HOSPITAL

TEL AVIV, May 19. (JTA) -- Twenty persons were injured at Kaplan Hospital near Rehovot when villagers from a Lachish settlement rioted today in protest against the performance of an autopsy in the hospital on the body of a settlement member who had died during the night. The Lachish settlement, Moshav Rehava, is made up of Kurdish Jews.

Police called to the scene fought to subdue the screaming mob whose members assaulted the police and even patients passing by. Sixteen of the rioters were detained and later released on bail. The final tally of injuries came to six hospital employees, five policemen, four patients and five rioters. The autopsy was performed on Eliahu Moshe.

ISRAELI COURT RULES AGAINST U.S. FIRM WHICH HALTED WORK AT DEAD SEA

TEL AVIV, May 19. (JTA) -- The Beersheba District Court cleared the way for the Dead Sea Works to use equipment owned by the Kaiser Engineering Company in construction of a project at the Dead Sea on which the American firm halted work in a contract dispute.

The court made this possible by withdrawing yesterday a temporary injunction the American firm had obtained to bar the Dead Sea Works from using Kaiser equipment at the site of the project, a potash evaporation system at the southern part of the Dead Sea. The court also sustained the argument of the Israeli firm that Kaiser's stoppage of work was a breach of contract. Kaiser halted work earlier this year on grounds that engineering specifications for dikes in the proposed system were "impossible to attain."

The Beersheba court found also that the project was "important to the state" and that Kaiser's 17-day notice of stoppage was not "an argument but a threat" and that the American firm had sufficient time to seek arbitration. The court stressed, however, that its decision should not be considered a precedent for possible future arbitration of the dispute. The court ordered Kaiser to pay court and lawyers' fees.

PROSECUTIONS DEMANDED IN COMMONS FOR PUBLISHING HATE MATERIAL

LONDON, May 19. (JTA) -- A Labor Member of Parliament declared in the House of Commons today that the fact that there had been no prosecutions for publication of inciting material under the Race Relations Act proved that the law "needs new teeth to deal with this matter."

The assertion was made by Paul Rose after he asked Attorney General Sir Elwyn Jones how many cases he had received about material alleged to contain incitement as defined in the Act and in how many cases proceedings had been started. Sir Elwyn replied that he had received 14 such cases since the Act went into effect in December, 1965 but that "in no case have proceedings been instituted." He added inquiries into one of the cases was still continuing.

Under more questioning, Sir Elwyn said he was aware that "scurrilous material" was being circulated in Britain but that he had concluded such material did not infringe the Race Relations Act or the criminal law. The Labor bench cheered a statement from Quentin Fogg, Home Secretary of the shadow cabinet, that "the deliberate act of arson of places of worship is a serious offense." He added that "much of the disquiet would be removed if there were exemplary sentences imposed."

Sir Elwyn replied that the maximum sentence was life imprisonment and that he believed the British judges were aware of the gravity of the matter.

JURY INDICTS YONKERS YOUTH FOR MURDER IN ARSON OF JEWISH CENTER

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., May 19. (JTA) -- The Westchester County grand jury returned today an indictment charging murder and arson against Thomas Ruppert, the 17-year-old youth arrested in the fire in the Yonkers Jewish Center last December 20 which killed three adults and nine children.

The youth, a high school dropout, was a Neighborhood Youth Corps worker at the center when the blaze occurred. He was given a psychiatric examination and released from a hospital last February and immediately arrested on charges of setting the fire. The indictment contained 24 counts of murder, including one count for each of the victims and 12 counts of accessory to the deaths.

N. Y. GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL FORBIDDING WEARING OF NAZI-STYLE UNIFORMS

ALBANY, May 19. (JTA) -- Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller today signed into law a bill barring the wearing of Nazi-style uniforms in the state. The legislation was backed by the Jewish War Veterans which is also backing pending legislation which would outlaw racial and religious slurs by hate groups and political extremists.

JEWISH DELEGATION SUBMITS BRIEF TO CANADIAN GOVT. ON VARIOUS ISSUES

MONTREAL, May 19. (JTA) -- A brief covering a wide range of major areas of concern to Canadian Jewry was submitted to the Canadian Government in Ottawa by the Canadian Jewish Congress today.

The brief was discussed by a Canadian Jewish Congress delegation headed by president Michael Garber with a number of Canadian Cabinet members. The topics discussed included legislation to combat hate propaganda, the status of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union, the statute of limitations for prosecution of Nazi war criminals, the international convention on elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, the United Nations High Commissioner for human rights, war criminals in Canada, and re-union of Jewish families of Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The federal officials taking part in the conference were Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp, Transport Minister John W. Pickersgill, Indian Affairs and Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing, Labor Minister John R. Nicholson, Fisheries Minister Federec Robichaud, Veteran Affairs Minister Roger Teillet, and Guy Favreau, president of the Queen's Privy Council. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, could not attend because of conferences with visiting United States Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg.

The brief noted that the CJC had studied the Report of the Special Committee on Hate Propaganda and said that the Congress believed moral issues also were present "in addition to strictly legal ones and must be met." "We believe that in no democratic society must free speech be the instrument for self-destruction nor for unbridled attacks of vilification and outrageous abuse," the brief declared. It suggested that "appropriate legislation for amendments to the Criminal Code should no longer be delayed" and that the required legislation "be enacted at the present session of Parliament."

Opposes Suggested Curtailment of Immigration of Close Relatives

On the question of immigration, the brief referred to a joint proposal of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada and the Canadian Jewish Congress submitted to Jean Marchand, Citizenship and Immigration Minister, about seven weeks ago. The Jewish leaders again urged that the Government reject a portion of a report which would substantially curtail immigration of close relatives, unless their occupational skills alone would allow entry.

The brief recalled that Mr. Martin addressed a rabbinical conference in Ottawa two years ago on the problems of Soviet Jewry and added that "today, two years later, we are happy to find improvements in the position of the Jews in Russia." However, the brief added, "only the constant interest of the outside world induced these changes and we have evidence of the manner in which the authorities of the USSR are susceptible to world opinion."

The brief advised the federal officials that the Canadian Jewish Congress will convene a conference on Russian Jewry in Montreal on May 29 and that the delegates to that conference will consider a number of submissions to be made to Soviet authorities. The brief asked that the Prime Minister and Mr. Martin do all in their power through governmental resources to encourage amelioration of the position of Soviet Jewry.

The brief urged that the Canadian Government, at all levels of international diplomacy and at the forum of the United Nations, foster the view that war crimes and crimes against humanity "can have no time limitation as to prosecution."

Urges Action on Nazi War Criminals Residing in Canada

The brief also considered the issue of war criminals in Canada. Acknowledgement was made of the fact that there were known murderers and accessories before and after the fact in Canada, the United States, the South American countries and Australia. The brief added that "it is unlikely that they will ever be brought before any courts for their heinous capital crimes."

The brief noted the policy of the Canadian Government of refusing to deport landed immigrants or residents to face trial in the absence of extradition legislation. The brief added that while the legal position was "correct and justifiable," there was "something fundamentally wrong for a civilized country, with high and respected traditions of justice to allow known murderers to live their lives untouched in Canada, unmolested and unpunished, with all the advantages of Canadian citizenship obtained by misrepresentation."

The brief declared that if it was considered unwise "in the larger concept of legal systems," to legislate specially for such cases "and thus radically change Canadian policy," then "surely the least that can be done is to deprive these killers and perpetrators of genocide of their Canadian citizenship." The brief added that a government policy should be declared on this matter "so that some form of justice be applicable to deal with these perpetrators of heinous crimes."

PENNSYLVANIA JEWISH LEADER WINS DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR GOVERNOR

PHILADELPHIA, May 19. (JTA) -- Milton Shapp, a Jewish communal leader and well-known businessman, yesterday won the Democratic nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania. He won over State Senator Robert Casey who was favored by most Democratic Party leaders.

Mr. Shapp has been active in the American Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League. He is believed to be the first Jew to run for Governor of Pennsylvania on a major party ticket. He has a collection of 15 awards, including organized labor's Good Citizenship Award of 1963. Unions representing his employees endorsed him.

SEVEN AUTHORS WIN JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL AWARDS FOR BEST JEWISH BOOKS

NEW YORK, May 19. (JTA) -- Meyer Levin's novel, "The Stronghold" has been named the outstanding English-language work of fiction of Jewish interest published in the United States during 1965, it was announced today by Dr. Gilbert Klapperman, president of the National Jewish Welfare Board Jewish Book Council of America.

Mr. Levin will receive the \$400 Harry and Ethel Daroff Memorial Award at the Jewish Book Council's annual meeting on June 1. Six other prizes totaling \$2,550 for 1965's best Jewish books in Jewish thought, the Nazi Holocaust, Yiddish, Hebrew and English poetry and in the juvenile field will also be awarded at the annual meeting.

The \$500 Leon Jolson Award for the best book on the Nazi Holocaust will go to Zosa Szajkowski for his "Analytical Franco-Jewish Gazeteer, 1939-45." Rabbi David Polish will receive the Frank and Ethel S. Cohen Award of \$400 for the best book on Jewish thought as the author of "The Higher Freedom, A New Turning Point in Jewish History."

The \$400 Isaac Siegel Memorial Juvenile Award has been voted to Betty Schechter for "The Dreyfus Affair." The Harry and Florence Kovner Memorial Awards of \$250 each for volumes of poetry will go to Ruth Finer Mintz in English poetry for "The Darkening Green;" Dr. Simon Falkin in Hebrew poetry for "Crossing the Jabbok," and to Kadia Molodowsky in Yiddish poetry for "Licht fun Dorenboim."

COLUMBUS JEWISH LEADER ESTABLISHES VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN ISRAEL

COLUMBUS, May 19. (JTA) -- Samuel M. Melton, leading Columbus industrialist and philanthropist, has donated \$250,000 to the Israel Education Fund of the United Jewish Appeal for the construction of a vocational high school in Bat Yam, Israel. The announcement was made at a luncheon here today honoring Mr. and Mrs. Melton by Ralph I. Goldman, IEF executive director.

Israeli Consul Aviv Ekroni of Chicago represented Israel in congratulating the donors. The Melton School, on which construction will begin next month, is the tenth vocational high school established by the Israel Education Fund in its one and a half years existence.

GROUND BROKEN IN ISRAEL FOR THEODORE R. RACOOSIN HIGH SCHOOL

TEL AVIV, May 19. (JTA) -- Ground was broken tonight at Ramle for the Theodore R. Racoosin Comprehensive High School, a project of the Israel Education Fund of the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Racoosin, a well-known American Jewish philanthropist, attended the ceremony as did Foreign Minister Abba Eban, the Mayor of Ramle, representatives of the Education Ministry and of the Jewish Agency. The school is one of 26 IEF projects under construction or in active planning throughout Israel in a major program to meet the country's shortage of secondary schools.

\$1,000,000 FUND RAISING DRIVE ANNOUNCED FOR TRI-FAITH CHAPELS

NEW YORK, May 19. (JTA) -- Plans were announced here today for launching a joint \$1,000,000 fund-raising campaign for the completion of the new Jewish, Catholic and Protestant chapels at John F. Kennedy International Airport here. The Jewish chapel, which is sponsored by the New York Board of Rabbis, adjoins the other two houses of worship at the airport's Tri-Faith Chapels Plaza, sponsored by the Protestant Council of the City of New York and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn.

A total of \$580,000 has already been raised separately for construction of the Jewish chapel which is estimated to cost a total of \$940,000. The balance of the funds required will be raised through the Tri-Faith Chapels development fund drive.

ISRAELI STUDENT AT PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY NAMED "STUDENT OF THE YEAR"

PHILADELPHIA, May 19. (JTA) -- Ran Grad, a 30-year-old Israeli student at the University of Pennsylvania, was today named the 1966 "Student of the Year" by the International House here. Mr. Grad, a native of Eifa, is studying accounting.