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MOSCOW JEW SENTENCED TO DEATH BY SOVIET COURT FOR 'ECONOMIC CRIMES'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- A Jew has been sentenced to death for alleged "economic crimes" for the first time since the ouster of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, it was reported here today from Moscow.

The Soviet newspaper Trud said that M. Rabinovich, 43, was convicted and condemned by a Moscow city court for leading a ring of factory employes who allegedly made more than \$407,000 "by conspiring to steal state-owned materials, selling goods made therefrom for personal profit."

It was charged that Rabinovich and accomplices, most of them with Jewish names, took jobs and then "did business on the side" by reducing the amount of material designated for each garment. "The material stolen in this manner was then used for private manufacture of dresses, shirts, sweaters, and underwear," the Soviet newspaper stated. It was alleged that Rabinovich organized the conspiracy.

From 1962 to 1964 more than 150 persons were executed for economic crimes in the Soviet Union; over one-half were Jews. It was charged in many quarters that the alleged criminals were victims of anti-Semitism. The trials halted abruptly at the time of Khrushchev's ouster.

ISRAEL CABINET HOLDS EXTRACRDIRINARY MEETING ON SYRIAN ATTACK

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- Premier Levi Eshkol reported to an extraordinary meeting of Israel's Cabinet today on developments of the clash yesterday at Lake Tiberias between Syria and Israel, and on his talks on the situation with Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

The meeting was called to examine steps necessitated by the clash in which Syria used both ground and air weapons, and in which two Soviet-made Syrian MIGs were shot down by Israeli jets. It was reported that the Cabinet was also disturbed by a statement in the official Syrian communique on the clash, broadcast by Radio Damascus, asserting that Syria had "decided to pass from a defensive strategy to one of attack against Israel."

The Premier told the Cabinet that he had invited Gen. Bull to meet with him "urgently" and that he had drawn Gen. Bull's attention to "the gravity with which Israel views" the clash of Monday. During the 30-minute meeting, the Premier stressed that Syria had broken all past undertakings to respect U.N.-arranged cease-fire agreements, including a pledge growing out of a July clash.

The Premier also called to Gen. Bull's attention the "bellicose" statements broadcast by Damascus Radio and similar statements in the Syrian press today which asserted that the attack yesterday was a "punitive operation undertaken for last month's Israeli reprisal!"

Eshkol Voices Stern Warning to Syria; Speaks Near Site of Clash

The Premier meanwhile warned Syria that, in future air attacks on Israel, Syria could no longer count on its frontier as a "protective barrier" against Israeli pursuit. Speaking at a kibbutz near the site of the clash, the Premier called the Syrian action "unwarranted and shameless aggression."

Salvage operations on the Israeli coast guard cutter, which was stranded on a sandbar in Lake Tiberias, thus drawing the initial Syrian attack, were resumed today. The operations, which began last night under U.N. supervision, were interrupted this morning because of Syrian opposition. They were later resumed, but the vessel remained stranded despite efforts by Israelis using four ships to free the vessel.

Calm continued in the area otherwise, although intense Syrian air activity was seen some distance from the border. The Syrians also built trenches on a hill near the spot where the Syrian MIG fell into the lake. Their apparent intention was to prevent the Israelis at all costs from salvaging the Soviet-made plane.

Israeli envoys abroad were cabled a full background report and an explanation of the incidents yesterday and were instructed to make the facts known to the governments to which they are accredited. They were asked, in such communications, to stress the "gravity of the situation."

ISRAEL COMPLAINS TO U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL AGAINST SYRIAN ACTION

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 16, (JTA) -- Israel complained to the United Nations Security Council today that Syria committed "grave acts of aggression" against Israeli nationals and territory yesterday and that those acts violated the 1949 armistice agreement between Syria and Israel.

The complaint was lodged by Ambassador Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative at the United Nations, in a letter to the current president of the Security Council, Apollo K. Kironde, of Uganda. Mr. Comay's letter did not ask for a Security Council meeting on the Israeli complaint.

At the same time that the Comay letter was delivered to Mr. Kironde, a statement was issued here in the name of Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, Chief of Staff of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine. Gen. Bull noted in his statement that the incidents of yesterday on and around Lake Tiberias, in which Syrian gunposts fired at Israeli ships on the Lake, then sent jet fighters over the lake, drawing a reprisal air action from Israel, constituted violations by both Syria and Israel.

The members of the Security Council were studying today not only Mr. Comay's letter but also the preliminary report by Gen. Bull. Gen. Bull reported that he had sent to the Israel Director of Armistice Affairs a letter in which he told him that "it was with deep concern that I followed developments this morning (August 15) in connection with incidents in the northeast corner of Lake Tiberias."

"Investigations of both Israeli and Syrian complaints are underway," Gen. Bull said in his report. "Without prejudging the results of these investigations or the causes of the incidents, the reports from United Nations observation posts of exchange of fire and of the deplorable use by both sides of military aircraft requires me to record that both Israel and Syria have violated their unconditional obligation to observe the cease-fire ordered by the Security Council."

Submits Details of Syrian Attack on Israeli Patrol Boat

In his letter to the Security Council, Mr. Comay reported in detail on the events on Lake Tiberias yesterday morning after an Israeli police patrol launch had drifted aground on a sandbar in the northeastern part of Lake Tiberias, about 50 meters from the shore. Mr. Comay noted specifically that Lake Tiberias was entirely within Israel's territory.

At a press conference here, Mr. Comay reported later today that efforts by Israel to pull its stranded vessel off the sandbar in Lake Tiberias were suspended this morning when Syria demanded through the United Nations that Israel permit Syria to salvage from the waters of the lake the Syrian MIG-17 jet fighter which Israeli jets shot down over the lake yesterday. Mr. Comay said that Israel had refused to grant such permission to Syria, but had informed the United Nations that Israel would be willing to return to Syria the Syrian MIG and the body of the Syrian pilot, after they had been recovered.

The Israel representative noted in his letter that Syria deliberately sent its aircraft to the scene about two hours after its gun batteries on land had stopped firing. He reported that Syria postponed accepting cease-fire proposals made by the United Nations and already accepted by Israel. "The Syrian aggression on August 15," Mr. Comay declared, "was marked by features which indicate that it was organized and deliberate."

ARAB PILOT OF IRAQI JET FIGHTER LANDS IN ISRAEL; ASKS FOR ASYLUM

TEL AVIV, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- The pilot of a Soviet-built MIG-21 jet fighter, bearing the insignia of the Iraqi Air Force, surrendered to Israel with his plane today and asked for asylum.

The plane was seen coming into Israeli air space this morning, across the Jordanian border. Iraq had no common border with Israel. When Israeli jet planes arose to challenge the MIG-21, the pilot of that plane, a captain, signaled that he would like to have permission to land and to surrender. He was given such permission.

PRO-ISRAEL ARABS OPEN CONVENTION IN HAIFA; 600 DELEGATES ATTEND

HAIFA, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- The first convention of the Israeli Arab Committee for Israel opened here last night with 600 Israeli Arab delegates from all parts of Israel in attendance. Speakers at the convention asked for equal rights for Israeli Arabs with the Jewish population while pledging their loyalty to Israel.

2,000 ORTHODOX JEWS DEMONSTRATE IN JERUSALEM AGAINST AUTOPSIES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- Two thousand religious zealots demonstrated last night in the center of Jerusalem against autopsies. After police authorized the demonstration, the zealots started marching through the main street, shouting insults at police and passing drivers. After a brief clash with the police, the demonstrators dispersed.

JEWISH AGENCY APPROVES REORGANIZATION OF ITS OPERATIONS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive approved today a radical reorganization and streamlining of its operations, including a probable merger of its immigration and absorption departments.

The decision was adopted by the 17-member executive without opposition. The goal of the reorganization is elimination of the duplication and bureaucracy with which immigrants have to cope, and implementation of the Agency's budget retrenchment and economy drive.

The decisions, adopted under the chairmanship of Agency executive head Aryeh Pincus, were listed under four headings. One was that the executive found it necessary to introduce complete and far-reaching reorganization of its work by reducing the number of its departments through reunification. The second was that the executive is to proceed immediately with its deliberations on general reorganization of its activities.

The third was an announcement that a special subcommittee of the executive would prepare detailed proposals to implement the changes for submission to the plenary of the executive in September. The fourth proposal was that the executive considered it "particularly urgent" to unite all the various arms dealing with immigration and absorption to merge them into one department.

The possible unification of the immigration and absorption departments was understood to involve also the economic department, as well as the Professional and Technical Workers Agency (PATWA) and Committee on Manpower Opportunities in Israel. Other departments dealing with education, youth and pioneering for Israel in other countries also will be submitted to reexamination.

\$12, 110, 540 RAISED BY HADASSAH DURING YEAR; CONVENTION HEARS REPORT

BOSTON, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- Hadassah raised a total of \$12, 110, 540 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966, delegates to the organization's 52nd annual convention here were told today. The report was made by Mrs. Max Schenk of New York, the Hadassah treasurer.

Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, chairman of the Hadassah Medical Organization Committee in the United States, told the delegates that the organization was establishing a division of child psychology at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem. The division, first of its kind in Israel, is being made possible by a gift from Herman Dana of Boston, she said.

Dr. Kalman J. Mann, director general of the Hadassah Medical Organization, told the 2, 500 delegates and guests last night that the average life expectancy in Israel had increased to more than 70 years and that the percentage of people above the age of 80 was increasing by two and a half percent annually. Dr. Mann also reported that as the aged segment of Israel's population increased, so did the number of sufferers of chronic diseases, cancers and emotional disorders.

Including those born incapacitated, he said, there were now 3, 000 child victims of cerebral palsy, 4, 000 cancer patients, 6, 000 victims of hemiplegia, 10, 000 chronic invalids awaiting hospitalization, and "tens of thousands" of persons "whose lives are cursed by anxieties, phobias and psychiatric problems."

Delegates Laud President Johnson for U.S. Aid to Israel

In a special statement, the delegates hailed the "realistic and statesmanlike measures" taken by President Johnson to preserve stability in the Middle East. The statement said that the President's decision "to enable Israel to acquire deterrent weapons in the United States is evidence of the Administration's determination to carry out the American commitment to oppose the threat or use of force in the Middle East."

The convention also expressed satisfaction that Congress "has once again expressed its opposition to giving economic assistance to the United Arab Republic while it continues to acquire vast supplies of sophisticated Soviet weapons, threatening the security of Israel and other neighbors."

Sen. Edward Kennedy, Massachusetts Democrat, told the convention that as long as the Arab refugee problem continued and as long as the Arab states "refuse to bend in any way, the threat to Israel's security will exist." He called the picture of peace in the Middle East and the security of Israel a "brighter" one. While some Arab leaders "are still dedicated to the destruction of Israel," militant Arab leaders "are running into increasing difficulties with more moderate Arab states," he said.

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of Englewood, N.J., a member of the Graduate Faculty of Columbia University, told the convention that the responsibility of American Jewry today was to preserve the "international unity of the Jewish community, and above all, its continuing life" in countries outside Israel.

PROF. OLIVER, KNOWN FOR STRONG ANTI-JEWISH VIEWS, QUILTS BIRCH SOCIETY

BELMONT, Mass., Aug. 16. (JTA) -- The resignation from the John Birch Society of Prof. Revilo P. Oliver, known for his outspoken views against the Jews, was confirmed today to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by the headquarters of the Society here. However, no comment could be obtained on whether Oliver's resignation had anything to do with his anti-Jewish views, which he expressed at a rally last month in Boston. The rally, on July 2, evoked strong criticism against him and against the John Birch Society.

Prof. Oliver, a teacher of Greek and Latin at the University of Illinois, is a founder of the Society. He was one of the 11 men who attended the Society's initial organizational meeting at a motel in Indianapolis in 1958. He was a member of the organization's 25-member ruling council and associate editor of American Opinion, the Society's official organ. His resignation was attributed to a dispute over his anti-Semitic views and to his dissatisfaction over the complete authority over affairs of the Birch Society held by Robert F. Welch, Jr., principal founder and president of the Society.

Prof. Oliver was the principal speaker at the July 2 New England Rally for God, Family and Country in Boston. In a speech lasting more than an hour, he attacked what he called the "conspiracy of the Jews" and asserted that the "conspiracy" antedated "the conspiracy of the Illuminati and the Communists" and had helped produce "the evils of today." He asserted that one of the reasons for many of the protests on American college campuses was the spread of drugs, particularly LSD, which he said was "imported from Israel."

He was also reported as saying at the rally that "it is a lie that the Nazis killed 6,000,000 Jews." He also told the rally hypothetically that "if only by some miracle all the Bolsheviks, or all the Illuminati, or all Jews were vaporized tomorrow, we should have nothing more to worry about. The trouble with that beatific vision, of course, is that every educated man knows it just can't be so."

(The New York Times reported today that Prof. Oliver declined to discuss his differences with the Birch Society and denied that anti-Semitism had been an issue in his resignation.)

ARGENTINE BISHOP FEARS JEWISH DOCTORS MAY BE 'EASED OUT' FROM HOSPITALS

NEW YORK, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- An Argentinian Bishop has foreseen the possibility that Jewish doctors in his country may lose their hospital positions under the new military regime ruling Argentina, The New York Times reported here today from Buenos Aires.

According to the Times, Bishop Jeronimo Jose Podesta, of Avellandea, a suburb of Buenos Aires, was asked whether the new regime was anti-Semitic in an interview with a correspondent for Marcha, an Uruguayan weekly. The Bishop, who has visited Israel several times and is known to be a friend of Argentine Jews, replied:

"I wouldn't use that word. But don't be surprised if you hear, for example, that Jewish doctors are being eased out of their hospitals."

INDIA MAY ISSUE POSTAGE STAMP FOR 400th ANNIVERSARY OF COCHIN SYNAGOGUE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- The Jews of Cochin, a state on the west coast of India, are planning to celebrate the 400th anniversary of their main synagogue in 1968, it was announced at a press conference here today by Samuel S. Koder, president of the synagogue's tetracentennial committee.

Since the Jews have been living in Cochin peacefully and happily for 1,900 years, the community is now making an effort to associate other Indian Jews in the Cochin Jewish celebration, Mr. Koder said. One non-Jewish group, the Kerala History Association, has also agreed to join the celebration, he said. Support for and interest in the forthcoming celebration, he declared, has also been received from the United States and from other parts of the world.

Mr. Koder said that Mrs. Indira Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, has requested all Indian Governments to extend special facilities to the Cochin Jewish anniversary celebration plans. Mr. Koder said that the Indian Government may also issue a special postage stamp in 1968 to help commemorate the event, and that Mrs. Gandhi as well as the President of India have been invited to attend the celebration. (According to the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, there were about 1,450 Jews in Cochin in 1940.)

PRESIDENT JOHNSON NAMES ALVIN B. RUBIN A U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16. (JTA) -- Alvin B. Rubin, noted Jewish attorney of Baton Rouge, La., was nominated by President Johnson to be United States District Judge in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Born in Alexandria, La., in 1920, he received his law degree from Louisiana State University where he later lectured on law as a visiting professor. He is a member of the national council of the Joint Distribution Committee, B'nai B'rith and other Jewish and non-Jewish philanthropic and civic organizations.