



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXIII - 49th year

Friday, December 2, 1966

No. 230

ISRAEL ENVOY TO GERMANY REPORTS IN JERUSALEM ON KIESINGER CABINET

TEL AVIV, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Asher Ben Nathan, Israel's first Ambassador to West Germany, said here today that he had "grounds for believing that the new West German Government will reveal understanding of the problems mutual to Israel and Germany." The ambassador arrived here for a short visit and for a discussion with Israeli officials of the new Government headed by Kurt Georg Kiesinger which took office in West Germany today.

Shimon Peres, secretary of David Ben-Gurion's dissident Israel Worker's Party, Rafi, said: "We will judge Kiesinger and his government on the merit of its deeds not their past record." He added that in some cases, the origin of records about Germans during the Nazi era was dubious. The new Chancellor has been criticized for his membership in the Nazi Party.

Mr. Peres also expressed the opinion that more attention should be given to the fact that 92 percent of West Germans did not vote for the extremist National Democratic Party in the elections this month in the West German states of Hesse and Bavaria, where the NDP won Parliamentary seats for the first time. The Rafi official, a former Deputy Defense Minister, said that the German majority should be encouraged against the neo-Nazis.

U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL SETS PLAN FOR PEACE ON ISRAEL-ARAB BORDERS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant has proposed to the Security Council methods for strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization toward "safeguarding the peace" between Israel and the four Arab states with which it had signed armistice agreements in 1949. The Arab governments that were cosignatories to those armistice pacts are Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

In a special memorandum to the Security Council, given the Council yesterday, Mr. Thant noted that, in the recent Council debates on the Israeli, Syrian and Jordanian conflicts, members of the Council had referred "to the questions of how the UNTSO might be made a more effective instrument for avoiding armed conflict in the area."

He reiterated the UNTSO's present methods, noted that UNTSO's force includes only 133 observers, that UNTSO has only a few border observation posts and cannot "play the buffer undertaken by peace forces." He then called on all the states involved to give their fullest cooperation to UNTSO and proposed these steps:

- 1) The chairmen of the Mixed Armistice Commissions should be enabled "to get in touch with responsible authorities on either side at any time of the day or night."
- 2) "The parties should agree to the deployment by UNTSO of mobile observation posts in sensitive sectors or wherever it may be apparent that a UNTSO presence might avert a military confrontation."
- 3) "The parties should give to UNTSO every facility for getting its observers to the scene of an incident as speedily as possible."
- 4) "The parties should also agree to a wider employment by UNTSO experts in its conduct of investigations, including trackers with UNTSO dogs and handlers, surveyors, demolition and explosive specialists and interpreters for both Arabic and Hebrew languages."

5) "Having a helicopter available and a speedboat stationed on Lake Tiberias would, no doubt, greatly facilitate the conduct of UNTSO investigations, although they would, of course, substantially increase the cost of operation."

Mr. Thant informed the Council that, prior to drafting these suggestions, he consulted Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of UNTSC.

U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR DISCUSSES DESALINATION PROJECT WITH ESHKOL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- United States Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz discussed today the long-pending American-Israel nuclear desalination project and other economic matters with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.

SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY MEETS WITH ESHKOL; APPROVES U.N. CENSURE OF ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Sen. Edward Kennedy, who arrived in Israel last night for a three day visit, told the press here today that he associated himself with the Security Council November 25 condemnation of Israel for its action against Jordan on November 13.

The Massachusetts Democrat came to Israel from a visit to Jordan, during which he visited the Samua area which was the target of the Israeli retaliation raid and the Arab refugee camps. He also told the newsmen that he had always opposed the use of United Nations Relief and Works Agency funds for refugees receiving training from the "Palestine Liberation Organization," and that he continued to do so "after visiting the camps."

The Senator met with the press after an hour meeting with Premier Levi Eshkol in the Premier's office. The Senator called the meeting "frank and useful." Later, he planted a tree in the forest on the outskirts of Jerusalem named after his brother, the late President John F. Kennedy. Then he paid a visit to the Hadassah Hospital Reception Center, also named for the late President. The Senator then had lunch with Foreign Minister Abba Eban and later left for Rehovot where he visited the Weizmann Institute.

Reporting on his visit to Jordan, where he spent a day in consultation with King Hussein and in visits to the refugee camps, he said here that he had found "great human misery in the camps." He deplored the United States decision to cut its contributions to the UNRWA budget and said he would raise that issue on his return to the United States with the goal of achieving restoration of the UNRWA budget.

RULE OF ISRAELI MILITARY OVER ARAB BORDER AREAS IN THE COUNTRY ENDED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Military government over Israeli Arabs in border areas came to an end last night after having been in force since the creation of Israel.

As of today, the functions of the military governors has been transferred to regular police. The travel permits required of Israeli Arabs going to sensitive areas, generally villages near the borders, are now to be provided at police stations instead of military government offices.

The move was announced several months ago by Premier Levi Eshkol. Officials said no special police precautions have been instituted but more frequent patrols will be organized in Arab villages.

STATE DEPT. URGED TO ACT ON ARAB BOYCOTT THREATS TO U.S. FIRMS

LONG BEACH, N.Y., Dec. 1. (JTA) -- A strong appeal to the United States State Department not to permit American firms dealing with Israel to be penalized by the Arab boycott, was made in a resolution adopted here today unanimously by the more than 600 delegates attending the 57th annual convention of the Religious Zionists of America.

Dr. Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, reported to the Convention that "the 100,000 Jews in Rumania enjoy firm religious and cultural rights and participate in the growth and development of a flourishing economy." However, he continued, there exists an overwhelming shortage of ordained rabbis, qualified religious leaders and properly trained supervisory personnel in educational and social welfare institutions.

The Rumanian Chief Rabbi said that "it should be the solemn duty of the American Jewish community which is the world reservoir of spiritual resources and possesses great institutions of higher learning, to establish lines of communication between the western and eastern communities and thereby bring a closer association and spiritual ties between Rumanian and American Jewish communities."

NINETY U.S. SENATORS PUBLISH STATEMENT ON TREATMENT OF SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Ninety of the 100 members of the U.S. Senate expressed their "staunch support of the American Jewish community's protests against the anti-Semitic policies of the Soviet Union" in an advertisement to be published Sunday in the New York Times. The advertisement will be sponsored by the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.

The 90 Senators expressed an "insistent demand that the three million Jews of the Soviet Union be allowed to live creatively and in dignity as Jews." Pointing out that "Soviet policy seems to be aiming at the obliteration of the Jewish community and Jewish culture," the statement said that "Jews, alone among all Soviet ethnic groups, are forbidden schools and other institutions of Jewish learning and research, though all are required if the ancient heritage of the Jew is to be perpetuated."

92 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES REPORTED CONDUCTING JUDAIC COURSES

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Judaic studies in non-denominational American colleges and universities have increased sevenfold in the 20 years since the end of World War II, possibly opening the way for "a major upsurge of Jewish scholarship" in the U.S., according to the American Jewish Year Book, published today.

In 1945, Judaic studies were found in only a few American colleges and universities -- generally the major schools with Semitic-language programs left over from the 19th Century, and some schools in the New York City area -- while the current report lists courses today at 92 colleges and universities, including most of the top-ranking schools in the country. Excluded from the report are denominational schools, Christian and Jewish seminaries, and Hebrew teachers' colleges.

The report, believed to be the most comprehensive available, was written by Arnold J. Band, Associate Professor of Hebrew at the University of California, Los Angeles, who defines Judaic studies as "the discipline which deals with the historical experiences, in the intellectual, religious and social spheres, of the Jewish people in all centuries and countries."

Where previous reports on Jewish studies in U.S. colleges and universities tended to concentrate on the status of Hebrew in the curriculum, Professor Band points out that Hebrew is no longer "the totality of Judaic studies" even though it remains an integral part of most courses in this area. Other subjects included within Judaic studies today are Bible, Jewish history, Hebrew literature, and Jewish philosophy, mysticism and ethics.

Professor Band's study, based in large part on material supplied to him in response to a detailed questionnaire sent to the 92 U.S. colleges and universities, points out that "the increase in positions and programs (in Judaic studies) is out of proportion to the increase in college population since 1945-46." Among the reasons for this growth offered by those answering his poll were these: "the inspiration of the State of Israel, the impact of the holocaust, the awakening of religious yearnings since World War II, the greater acceptance by Jews and Judaism by the Gentile community, and the response of Jews to this acceptance."

On the matter of financing, Professor Band states that at least two-thirds of the funds needed to support Judaic studies today comes from general university budgets -- including grants for language study from the Federal Government. No more than 10 endowed chairs exist, he says, sponsored by the Fillel Foundation, the Hebrew Cultural Foundation, the American Jewish Committee, and some local groups.

Prepared by the American Jewish Committee, the Year Book is published jointly by the Committee and the Jewish Publication Society of America. The Year Book is a 618-page compendium of events and trends in Jewish life, including articles on Jewish population data, civil and political issues, communal affairs, adult education and Jewish affairs throughout the world.

FOUR GROUPS FILE SUIT AGAINST FEDERAL AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The first major test cases challenging the constitutionality of public funds for sectarian schools under the billion-dollar Federal aid to education law were filed today in Federal and State Supreme Court here. Both suits filed today challenge the use of public funds for church and synagogue schools as violations of the church-state separation guarantee of the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. Leaders of four civic groups -- the American Jewish Congress, New York Civil Liberties Union, United Federation of Teachers and United Parents Association -- joined in filing two suits. One or both of the cases are expected to reach the U.S. Supreme Court.

At a news conference, the four organization spokesmen said the lawsuits were designed to attack: 1. The use of Federal funds for sectarian school instruction, counseling, textbooks and library services; 2. The use of state and city funds and facilities for sectarian schools, including the assignment of public school teachers to such schools; and 3. The "discriminatory administration of the law in favor of sectarian schools over public schools."

BANK CANCELS ORDER ON NCN-PAYMENT TO EMPLOYEES FOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- A Philadelphia bank canceled yesterday an order withholding pay for Jewish employees not reporting to work on Jewish holidays. The Western Savings Fund Society, in announcing the withholding order, had said it was doing so in line with a Federal Government ruling that payment for such holidays not worked was "discrimination in reverse."

In making the cancelation known, Townsend Munson, bank president, said the bank had been advised wrongly about the meaning of the order issued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Therefore, he said, the bank would continue "its long established practice of recognizing religious holidays with pay for all our employees."

JEWS IN FLORENCE ENCOURAGED BY AID RECEIVED TO RECOVER FROM FLOOD

FLORENCE, Nov. 30. (JTA) -- The Jews of Florence, struggling with the disastrous impact on their institutions of the recent devastating Italian floods, have been greatly encouraged by help from other Italian and overseas Jewish communities, Charles H. Jordan, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, was told today during a visit here.

The message was conveyed to Mr. Jordan by A. Benadi, president of the Florentine Jewish community. He told the JDC official that the Jewish community was slowly emerging from the mud left by the inundation of November 3 and that the total extent of the damage was only now becoming apparent.

He also expressed thanks for immediate help in food and personnel and for the allocation from the JDC of \$25,000, adding that help and encouragement were needed because, apart from Florence's ancient and beautiful synagogue, all of the damaged buildings were new. Mr. Jordan, who said he had come to see the situation at first hand, described it as "bad indeed."

SHIP SAILING UNDER ISRAELI FLAG ORDERED SOLD AT AUCTION IN MIAMI

MIAMI, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The cruise ship Nili, one of the ships of the debt-ridden Somerfin Company, was ordered sold at auction by the Federal District Court here today to satisfy a bankruptcy claim. The 500-passenger ship has been tied up here since November 18 when the Israel Government asked a legal attachment on a claim that Somerfin had failed to meet a mortgage payment.

The Nili, which flies the Israeli flag, was tied up earlier this month for five days. The tieup stranded 500 passengers planning to make a Bahamas cruise. The ship's local agent posted bond with the district court which cleared the Nili to sail November 22. The ship was seized again before that date.

Richard Ralph, a Miami attorney representing the Israel Government, said Israel will bid on the Nili in the auction to protect its interest in the mortgage of about \$8,000,000. Other creditors also have filed claims. Date for the auction will be set soon.

PSYCHIATRIC PARLEY DISCUSSES ADJUSTMENT OF NAZI VICTIMS IN ISRAEL

GENEVA, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- A Hebrew University psychiatrist said here last night that Jewish survivors of the Nazi holocaust who had emigrated to Israel have shown a "relatively painless vocational and social adjustment."

Speaking at a conference on social psychiatry, organized by the Joint Distribution Committee, Prof. H.Z. Winnick of the Hebrew University Medical School, said such newcomers have managed to function socially despite clinical evidence, obtained after their arrival, that fewer than five percent of them were free of psychosomatic complaints.

Prof. Otto Klineberg of the Sorbonne told the meeting that the mental health of the Jewish immigrants was largely dependent on the degree to which the whole society accepted the principle of pluralism and the degree of prejudice and discrimination characteristic of that society. Mrs. Phyllis Falgi, an anthropologist in the Israeli Health Ministry, said that the immigrants to Israel from Eastern Europe and North African nations had shown "remarkable progress" in integration.

The conference was organized by the JDC, in cooperation with the International Council on Jewish Social and Welfare Services and the World Federation for Mental Health, because of the unusually high incidence of emotional disorders among the Jewish Nazi victims and refugees served by the JDC.

MORE MOSLEM COUNTRIES DECLINE INVITATION TO ATTEND NOBEL PRIZE AFFAIR

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The Ambassadors of Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan and Tunisia notified the Swedish Academy today they were declining invitations to attend the presentation on December 10 of Nobel prizes and the banquet held as part of the presentation ceremonies because the presentations have "political tendencies." The envoys of Egypt and Algeria declined their invitations previously.

The rejections were stimulated by the fact that the Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded this year to two Jewish writers, S.Y. Agnon of Israel and Nelly Sachs of Sweden, specifically for the Jewish content of their works. Officials here said that the rejections marked the first time that foreign envoys have declined invitations to a ceremony considered the social and cultural event of the year in Europe. The rejection by the Tunisian envoy caused surprise because Tunisia has not in recent years followed the Arab League stands on attitudes toward Israel.