

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXIV - 50th year

Friday, April 7, 1967

No. 69

NEW BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT MUM ON EXTRADITION OF STANGL FOR TRIAL

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 6. (JTA) -- Speculation was rife here and in other major centers in Brazil today as to the attitude of Brazil's new Government and the new authorities heading the country's Foreign Ministry, Supreme Court, Justice Ministry and Federal police, regarding the possible extradition of Franz Paul Stangl, the former Nazi commandant of the Treblinka and Sobibor concentration camps.

All of the top national officials concerned in the case have been replaced since Stangl's arrest at Sao Paulo on March 2. Brazil's new president, ex-Marshal da Costa e Silva, has retired Justice Nelson Hungria, former president of the Supreme Court, has named two adherents to head the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice; and has replaced the former Federal Police chief with another army officer, Col. Campelo.

The Foreign Ministry's attitude is vital becase three countries -- Austria, West Germany and Poland -- have requested Stangl's extradition, while Israel and other countries have informed the Government that they endorse the pleas for the Nazi's extradition. Former Chief Justice Hungria has issued a statement, declaring that Stangl could not be extradited since more than 20 years had passed since his commitment of the genocide crimes, and Brazilian law puts a 20-year deadline on prosecutions for such crimes.

An effort to have Stangl released on a writ of habeas corpus has been denied by the reorganized Supreme Court. But his attorneys have complained that, thus far, none of the foreign governments has supplied Brazil with documentary evidence of his guilt as a mass murderer. There is wide concern here on that score, many persons fearing that, unless the promised documents are supplied very soon by Austria, West Germany or Poland, the case against Stangl may collapse.

Mystery Surrounds Financing of Stangl's Expensive Defense Lawyers

There is also great interest here in the question of who is financing Stangl's very expensive corps of defense attorneys. Immediately after his arrest, the Volkswagen automobile plant at Sao Paulo named a prominent jurist to act as his counsel. Stangl was an employe of the Volkswagen firm, a German company, and his wife was -- and still is -- employed by another German automobile firm at Zao Paulo, the Mercedes-Benz company.

Shortly after Stangl's arrest, the jurist named by Volkswagen to defend him withdrew from the case. But the three attorneys who have since taken over the defense are counsellors of very wide reputation in this country and have added other prestigious lawyers to their defense corps. The Brazilian press has voiced wide speculation about what it calls the "mystery" of Stangl's defense.

Under the previous Federal police regime, promises had been made that Stangl would be presented at a press conference where he could be questioned by representatives of the press, radio and television. At the request of his principal attorneys -- Basilio Garcia, Ilvio Lopes and Ctavio Teixeira -- the Supreme Court has forbidden the conduct of such a conference, on the grounds that it might jeopardize Stangil's defense.

ISRAEL ENVOY CONFERS IN GERMANY ON SUPPORT FOR COMMON MARKET MOV.

BONN, April 6. (JTA) -- Israel's envoy to Bonn, Ambassador Asher Ben-Nathan, conferred here today with Klaus Schuetz, State Secretary of the West German Foreign Ministry, regarding Israel's application for associate membership in the European Economic Community. Israel's bid for such status in the European Common Market is now pending, and West Germany is one of the six members of the EEC. The others are France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Meanwhile, the East German Communist press has launched a series of attacks against West German Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger for what the controlled press in East Germany calls his "pro-Israel policies." Among others, the East Berlin newspaper, Neues Deutschland, called Chancellor Kiesinger today "an enemy of the Arabs," asserting that Mr. Kiesinger had promised \$2 billion worth of aid to Israel -- an allegation that is totally false.

15,000 ISRAELI SKILLED BUILDING WORKERS REPORTED UNEMPLOYED

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- Fifteen thousand of Israel's 50,000 skilled building workers have lost their jobs in Israel's current economic slump, a meeting of the building workers union was told today. Hope was expressed at the meeting that many of the jobless workers would be reemployed when newly-funded public works programs go into operation.

ISRAELI SENTENCED IN TEL AVIV FOR PARTICIPATING IN ZAMBIA PLOT

TEL AVIV, April 6, (JTA) -- Benjamin Zdoth, one of six Israelis seized in a bizarre international plot to blow up a Zambian bridge, was sentenced yesterday to six months in jail after admitting to the charges on which he was indicted,

The other Israeli defendants are Itzhak Berkowitz, a former member of the underground Stern group, Efraim Romen, Raphael Zorianne; an Iraqi-born member of the Stern group, whose name has not been disclosed; and the Israeli-born wife of an American who was arrested and arraigned in New York in the plot.

The arrests of the Israelis followed the disclosure last November that the Israeli Security Services had tipped off the United States and Zambia about the plot. The bridge is vital to the transport of Zambian copper and its destruction would have seriously affected the world supply of the metal. Edoth testified at his trial here that "our object was to blow up the bridge with the intention of making money -- in which everybody was interested."

Edoth also recounted his meetings with Jay Elliott, who was arrested in New York as the alleged key figure in the plot. Elliott, a traveling representative of the Freidrich Zoellner Corporation, a New York metals firm associated with a West Germany company, and Rolf Duenbier, a Zoellner vice-president, were arraigned in New York last year on charges of having conspired in the United States to injure or destroy property in a foreign country.

GERMAN GROUP HOLDS DIALOGUE WITH ISRAELIS ON CULTURAL EXCHANGES

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- A group of West German visitors held a special discussion last night with members of an Israeli group called "Dialogue," who believe in talks and cultural exchanges with present-day Germany. The delegation is headed by Ernst Bende, a member of the West German Bundestag, the lower house of Parliament.

Earlier a six-man West German delegation, representing the German-Israeli Friendship League, attended a ceremony at the Yad Vashem, the Documentation Center for the Nazi Holocaust. During the visit, Berlin Pastor Heinrich Gruber planted a tree in the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles, a section commemorating those non-Jews who worked under threat of Nazi torture and execution to save Jews.

Dr. Gruber, now 76, saved hundreds of Jews during the Nazi period, an action for which the Nazis sent him to the Sachsenhausen and Dachau concentration camps for three years.

U.S. JEWISH NON-ORTHODOX GROUPS APPEAL TO ISRAEL TO BAN AUTOPSIES

NEW YORK, April 6. (JTA) -- An appeal was cabled last night to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol by five major American non-Orthodox Jewish organizations asking action to ban autopsies without family consent, except for special situations.

The cable was signed by the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress and three religious groups -- the Rabbinical Assembly, the association of Conservative rabbis; the United Synagogue of America, the association of Conservative synagogues; and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the association of Reform synagogues.

At the same time, the Religious Zionists of America approved today a resolution voicing "strong opposition to the indiscriminate and needless increase of post-mortem operations in most of the Israeli hospitals,"

The cable of the five organizations declared that "we are deeply concerned over the continuing acrimonious dispute concerning autopsies in Israel. Motivated solely by humanitarian considerations, we urge adoption in Israel of compassionate procedure prohibiting autopsies without family consent, except in cases under coroner's jurisdiction, or where there is a threat to public health."

Rabbi Herschel Schacter, president of the Religious Zionists, told a special meeting of the organization that he had been in constant contact with the Chief Rabbinate of Izrael, the religious members of the Cabinet and Parliament, and with Israeli representatives in the United States on the issue. The Religious Zionist protest criticized "the reckless manner in which the problem of autopsies is being handled by the secular parties in the Israeli Government,"

RIFT WITHIN RANKS OF GERMAN NEO-NAZI PARTY REPORTED INCREASING

BONN, April 6. (JTA) -- The crisis within the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD), in which "moderate" chairman Fritz Thielen is fighting for the leadership against Adolf von Thadden, the more extremist deputy national chairman, seemed today to be widening. With several vital state elections scheduled in key West German provinces this spring, the NPI rivalries were seen by democratic forces here as lessening the chances for NPD's further election successes.

Today's developments were threefold. At an NPD rally in Karlesruhe, Thielen announced that he was taking legal action to remove Ctto Hess from his office as the party's propaganda chief. Hess, a high-ranking member of the Nazi Party during the Hitler regime, is an adherent of the von Thadden faction.

Following that announcement, Wilhelm Guttman, chairman of the local NFD branches, announced at Karlesruhe that he has refused to follow Thielen's leadership. Meanwhile, the NFD's executive at Baden-Wurttemberg announced it is requesting that Thielen resign his national chairmanship immediately.

Despite the Thielen-von Thadden dispute, the NPD is proceeding with its plans to hold a national convention soon. The party's official spokesman announced today that the convention will be opened May 10, at Wiesbaden

A.J. CONGRESS HEAD SAYS HE REGARDS VIET NAM AS A 'JEWISH ISSUE'

WASHINGTON, April 6. (JTA) -- The importance of Jewish involvement in the struggle to end the Viet Nam was stressed today by Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, president of the American Jewish Congress, in an address before his organization's national women's division convention.

Serving notice that the American Jewish Congress regarded Viet Nam as a "Jewish issue," Rabbi Lelyveld said: "We are proud to be the cutting edge of every forward movement of self-respecting ws who take both their identity within the Jewish people and their covenant role seriously. This is why we of the American Jewish Congress have spoken out on Viet Nam -- because we are loyal Americans and because we are faithful Jews."

The Jewish Congress leader said that "everything in our tradition prompts us to believe that there are times when silence is immoral. Thous shalt not stand didly by the blood of thy neighbor is a primary demand of Jewish ethics recorded in the Book of Leviticus," An appeal for peace in Viet Nam also highlighted a convention address by Sen. Ernest Gruening, Alaska Democrat. Mrs. Charles L. Snitow of Scarsdale, N.Y., was elected to another two-year term as president of the group.

Dr. Prinz Claims There Is Lack of Religious Values in Israel

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told the convention that he saw a "lack of religious values, as we understand them, in Israel." He said "our concern is that Israeli youth identifies Jewish religion with ritual." He deplored "the lack of social concerns, the fact that we do not hear the voice of religious Israel in terms of peace and war, social justice, integration, and similar issues,"

Stating that Israel was not merely a sovereign state "but a people of which we are a part," Rabbi Prinz held that American Jewry had "a stake" in "censorship in Israel, secret trials held, certain police regulations from the British Mandate which have not yet been repealed,"

Rabbi Prinz said that American Jews "lought to be not merely permitted but invited by Israel to help solve the problem of separation of church from state, a separation which does not exist in Israel and which permits religious groups to form a political bloc in Israel -blocking not merely politics as they do, but blocking religion itself, chaining religion and the freedom of religion to the exigencies of politics."

Jewish War Veterans Criticize Rev. King on Viet Nam Issue

WASHINGTON, April 6. (JTA) -- The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S. A. today sharply criticized Dr. Martin Luther King for equating America's defence of Viet Nam with abhorrent Nazi practices during World War II. JWV National Commander Malcolm A. Tarlov referred specifically to Dr. King's likening the use of new weapons in Viet Nam to the Nazi experimentation with new medicines and tortures on concentration camp inmates

"It is utterly incredible that Dr. King's denunciation of our Government should manifest itself in such an ugly parallel," Mr. Tarlov said, referring to a speech made by Dr. King, "We do not argue Dr. King's right to dissent on this issue, but we consider his extremist tirade to reveal an ignorance of the facts."

MISCHA ELMAN, WORLD FAMOUS JEWISH VIOLINIST, DEAD; FUNERAL TODAY

NEW YORK, April 6. (JTA) -- Mischa Elman, one of the legendary Russian-born Jewish violinists who enchanted concert audiences throughout the world for more than 60 years, died yesterday afternoon at his Manhattan home at the age of 76. Death was attributed to a heart attack. Funeral services will be held here tomorrow.

Born in Talnoye, in the Ukraine in 1891, the grandson of a Russian violinist of some repute, the boy began study of the violin at the age of four. At the age of nine, he was accepted in the Leopold Auer violin class at the St. Fetersburg Conservatory. He made his professional debut at the age of 13 in Berlin and was an instant success.

He continued his extraordinary career as a child and youth prodigy with an appearance in London in 1905 and already was then ranked among the world's leading violinists at the age of 15. He made his first appearance in the United States in New York in 1908, with the Russian Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Elman gave scores of concerts thereafter. He was a particular favorite of American audiences. He became an American citizen in 1923. Recalling his sufferings as a child in Russia, he gave concerts in 25 American cities in 1939 for the benefit of refugees from Nazism.

Although he had limited his concertizing in recent years, he remained active. He spent three days in March at the State University of North Carolina, giving concerts and conducting a master class for violin students. He made an extended tour of Europe last year. After returning from Europe in January he toured the west coast. His last New York appearance was at Carnegie Hall on January 17.

WISCONSIN VOTES TO PAY BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

MILWAUKEE, April 6. (JTA) -- A constitutional amendment to allow the state to pay for the bus transportation of religious and other non-private school children was approved by a large margin by Wisconsin voters in a two-day referendum, election officials announced today.

The vote reversed the views of the Wisconsin electorate which in 1946 defeated the identical proposal by 545,000 to 437,000 votes. Approval this time was by a vote of 461,354 to 355,782. Supporters of the amendment said it appeared that the voters had been influenced by a new ecumenical spirit, by more federal school aid programs and by the hard work of favoring organizations.

HOFFBERGER FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES DEAF-MUTE SCHOOL IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- Ground was broken yesterday for a vocational high school here for deaf-mute children, which is being constructed through a gift to the Israel Education Fund of the "hited Jewish Appeal by the Hoffberger Foundation of Baltimore. Charles C. Hoffberger, a member of the board of directors of the Foundation, accompanied by Mrs. Hoffberger, represented the family at the groundbreaking ceremonies.

(LeRoy E. Hoffberger, the Foundation's president, said in Baltimore that the \$150,000 pledge to the Israel Education Fund was made in addition to the Foundation's increased support of the 1967 Combined Campaign of Baltimore's Associated Jewish Charities and Welfare Fund.)

The new vocational high school will enroll nearly 80 boys and girls from throughout the State of Israel. Theoretical training in vocational subjects will be stressed, as well as practical instruction, so that its graduates will be prepared to compete successfully for employment opportunities. Among the innovations will be a project involving the use of teaching machines, through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

ARGENTINE JEWS PRESENT TORAH TO JEWISH COMMUNITY IN PARAGUAY

BUENOS AIRES, April 6. (JTA) -- The Argentine Federation of Jewish Communities presented a Torah scroll today to the Jewish community of Asuncion, Paraguay, where a fire recently destroyed all the synagogue's Torah scrolls.

In a solemn ceremony here today, Hirsch Triwaks, secretary of the Argentine Jewish Federation, and Rabbi Shlome Benhamu of Buenos Aires, personally handed over the scroll to Dr. Isaac Segla, leader of the Asuncion Jewish community. The Argentine Jewish leaders described the presentation as a symbol of the Federation's solidarity with all other Jewish communities in Latin America.

ISRAELIS TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIFATE IN WORLD CHESS GAMES IN TUNISIA

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- Israeli Chess Federation officials indicated today that Israel will be able to participate in the next world championship chess tourney in Tunisia, a Moslem country.