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Polish Regime Launches Anti-Semitic Drive, Blaming Jews for Student Unrest

LONDON, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The Polish Communist Party is blaming Jews for organizing the continuing street riots and student demonstrations in Warsaw and other cities protesting party control over cultural affairs. According to information received here today from reliable sources in Warsaw, the campaign to make Poland's 18,000 to 20,000 surviving Jews the scapegoats for student unrest is being conducted on the highest levels of party leadership, especially among those elements responsible for security and thus most vulnerable to official criticism for failing to control events. These reports were confirmed today by The Guardian which said that Warsaw newspapers are printing the names of alleged Jewish instigators of the riots and party officials are making speeches blaming the Jews.

(The New York Times reported from Warsaw that a Jew, Fryderyk Topolski, was one of three high government officials summarily dismissed because of alleged involvement of their children in the riots. Topolski was in charge of decentralizing Warsaw industry. His son, Wiktor, was listed as a member of the Babel Club and the Jewish Cultural Society which the newspaper, Kurier Polski, singled out for responsibility for the riots, according to the Times.) Antoni Slonimski, famed Polish-Jewish poet, was one of the intellectuals accused.

The "Jewish Babel Club" was described as the meeting place of the alleged instigators by Slowo Powszechne, an ostensibly Catholic newspaper which is actually supported by the Communist Party security apparatus to counteract genuine Catholic opinion, The Guardian said. The paper blamed "Zionists" for the demonstrations and printed the names of alleged Zionist students and their fathers whom it accused of serving the "anti-Polish party" of West Germany. The Polish Communist Party's official organ, Tribuna Ludu, also published the names of alleged instigators in such a way as to make it clear that they are Jews. It identified one young man as an activist of the Babel Club and son of a well-known editor. "Few of its readers will need to be told that his father is editor of Poland's only Yiddish paper," The Guardian said.

Yiddish Daily and Jewish Community Maintain Silence in Face of Attacks

But that newspaper, the daily Folksstimme, has remained silent on the anti-Jewish campaign as has the Polish-Jewish community, a minuscule fraction of the 3.5 million Jews who lived in Poland before the war, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned. Jozef Kepa, the Communist Party secretary for Warsaw, alleged, however, that the Jews were falsely charging anti-Semitism. He told a meeting of party activists last night that the "trouble makers developed their campaign with a series of leaflets charging rampant anti-Semitism" and were using the "bogy of anti-Semitism at every possible opportunity, particularly since Israeli aggression against the Arabs." But, he added, "we won't allow ourselves to be blackmailed by the bogy of anti-Semitism." (The New York Times said that Kepa rejected charges that the party was anti-Semitic but said the "Zionists" were trying to protect themselves by accusing others of anti-Semitism and that "a number of the joint organizers of the brawls are Polish citizens of Jewish origin.")

The Guardian noted that official anti-Semitism reached a high point in Poland immediately after last June's Arab-Israeli war when a number of Jews resigned from the Communist Party in protest against official government support of the Arabs and a number of Poles likewise resigned commissions in the armed services in sympathy with Israel. At that time, Polish Communist Party chief Wladyslaw Gomulka warned Poles, particularly Jews, against becoming "Zionist fifth-columnists."

Reliable sources in Warsaw said today that the most dangerous aspect of the current anti-Jewish campaign was the word-of-mouth rumors spread by security agents which blame everything on the Jews in the pre-war tradition of Polish anti-Semitism. Party agitators have called numerous factory meetings which passed resolutions blaming the "Zionists" for the current unrest, the JTA has learned.

Conservatives of Communist Party Using Anti-Semitism as Weapon Against Liberal Wing

WASHINGTON, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Commenting on the charges that Jews instigated the rioting, Victor Zorza said today in a dispatch from Warsaw in the Washington Post that "there is certainly real Jewish background to the affair. It is true that the offspring of prominent former officials have played an outstanding role in the student and intellectual ferment in Poland, and that many of these officials were Jews. A considerable proportion of these Jewish party leaders, who were among the most ferocious Stalinists in the early days of the regime, have mellowed greatly since then, and some of them have tried to instill in their children some of the idealism that first brought them into the Communist Party. The Jews have consequently found themselves largely on the liberal side of the party, and the party conservatives have therefore been able to use anti-Semitic arguments with which to beat the liberals."

The dispatch said that "at Warsaw University, a battle with leaflets developed, and anti-Semitic and anti-conservative broadsheets alternated on university notice boards. It is noteworthy that both the official youth organizations at the university, the Communist Party's Socialist Youth Union and the Union of Rural Youth, passed formal resolutions of protest against the anti-Semitic campaign and associated themselves unmistakably with the liberal opposition."

Warsaw Anti-Semitic Campaign is Denounced from Floor of Congress

WASHINGTON, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Two members of Congress took the House floor today to join the worldwide protest against the anti-Semitic campaign initiated by the Communist regime in Poland. Rep. Edward J. Derwinski, an Illinois Republican of Polish descent, charged that the regime had resorted to anti-Semitism in an attempt to discredit and silence legitimate protest. He expressed the belief that the Polish people would see through the "shabby propaganda" of the "Stalinism maintained by the Polish puppet government that has adapted itself to Moscow's anti-Jewish and anti-Israel line."

Both the Illinois representative and Rep. Seymour Halpern, N.Y. Republican, drew attention to the irony of the coincidence of the anti-Semitic campaign and the forthcoming 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Rep. Halpern said it would be "hypocrisy and a vulgar mockery" if the Polish Ambassador here addressed meetings memorializing the martyrs of the Warsaw Ghetto. He termed the Warsaw campaign "abhorrently reminiscent of Nazism."

Jewish Organizations Condemn Anti-Semitic Measures of Polish Regime

GENEVA, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The World Jewish Congress, in a statement tonight, condemned the Polish Government's anti-Semitic campaign as "the greatest calumny against the small Jewish community of 20,000 souls -- the remnant of three million citizens of pre-war Poland who were the victims of mass murder by the Nazi anti-Semites." The statement made by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the WJC, said it was "unthinkable that the Polish Government should permit the Jews to be exploited as a scapegoat for its present internal difficulties and fail to denounce this attempt to revive the traditional anti-Semitism of former reactionary forces in Poland."

"Jews throughout the world," Dr. Goldmann said, "are deeply disturbed by this campaign because of its possible effects on the situation of the Jews in Poland and the encouragement it must give to anti-Semitic elements in other countries."

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NEW YORK, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee today denounced current anti-Jewish activities in Poland as an effort to blame the country's Jews for "the recent wave of protests against the rigid control of cultural affairs by the ruling United Worker's (Communist) Party." Bertrand H. Gold, executive director, equated the events of the last few days with the "anti-Semitic Stalinist purges in Eastern Europe in the 1950's." He characterized reprisals against the fathers of ~~sons~~ allegedly involved in student protests as "Nazi-like outrages."

The American Jewish Congress, in a statement by Dr. Joachim Prinz, chairman of its commission on international affairs, demanded that the Polish Government "repudiate the incitement to primitive racial and religious hatred and halt their scurrilous and racist appeals to latent anti-Semitism." It said that "the world must not allow the Polish regime to use anti-Jewish incitement in Poland as a weapon to terrorize and silence those who dare speak out for freedom."

In Washington, B'nai B'rith charged the Polish Government with exploiting "the divisive tactic of anti-Semitism" to explain away the anti-Government riots. Dr. William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, said that the singling out of Jewish intellectuals and youth leaders as organizers of the protests was "a grim echo of the Czarist device when the Russian autocracy was confronted with a popular upsurge for freedom and democracy." Noting that the Polish Government was planning to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising against the Nazis, Dr. Wexler said the attempt to "use Jews as scapegoats in a campaign to suppress freedom is a cruel mockery of the Warsaw martyrs."

Polish Government Tells Israeli Ritual Slaughterers To Go Home

JERUSALEM, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The Chief Rabbinate disclosed today that the Polish Government had declared "superfluous" the presence in Poland of ritual slaughterers sent there from Israel to prepare the shipments of meat purchased in Poland by Israel under the Polish-Israeli trade agreement. The slaughterers have been told to leave Poland. Polish-Israeli trade came to a virtual standstill after the Arab-Israeli war last June when Warsaw followed Moscow's lead and severed relations with Israel and Polish beef shipments to Israel have dwindled.

Soviet Mathematicians Protest Incarceration of Jewish Colleague

LONDON, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Three Soviet Jewish mathematicians are among the seven holders of the Lenin Prize who joined 92 of their colleagues in signing a protest to the Government against the confinement of a fellow mathematician of Jewish descent to a mental institution, it was learned here today. The man committed by Soviet authorities is Aleksandr Yesenin-Volpin who was active in the protest movement of Soviet intellectuals. Although of a Jewish family, he is not generally known as a Jew.

The Jews who joined in denouncing Yesenin-Volpin's confinement "without preliminary examination and without the consent of his relatives" are Israel M. Gelfand, Vardim Arnold and Yuli Manin.

Rumanian Jews Observe Anniversary of Sinking of Refugee Ship, Struma

BUCHAREST, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Rumanian Jewry today marked the 25th anniversary of the sinking of the Struma, a refugee ship that foundered in the Sea of Marmora in 1943 with 769 Jews aboard who were trying to escape to Palestine from Nazi-occupied Europe. Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania, in a memorial sermon delivered to worshippers in the Choral Temple here, denounced "those who could have saved" the Struma victims "by lifting a finger, but did not do so." He said the Struma has "become the symbol of a guilt almost as great as that of the Fascist assassins." Rabbi Rosen also took the

occasion to express the grief of Rumanian Jewry over a contemporary sea tragedy, the loss of the Israeli submarine Dakar with 69 aboard.

The Struma was one of several small, over-aged ships that transported Jewish escapees from Nazi Europe from Balkan ports but was denied entry to Palestine and other countries. The vessel went down with all aboard in a storm on the sea which lies between the Dardenelles and the Bosphorus.

Three Nazis Given Life Sentences, 12 'Small Fry' Freed in Bialystok Case

WUPPERTAL, W. Germany, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Nine of 12 defendants accused of massacring Jews in Bialystok, Poland during World War II, were found guilty here today but only three of them received sentences from the judge who termed the others "small fry" who had been "misled." Three other defendants were acquitted.

Sentences of life imprisonment were given Rolf Joachim, 53, a former police chief who was responsible for burning alive more than 700 Jews who were packed into the Bialystok synagogue on June 27, 1941; Friedrich Rophols, who participated in the murder of 30 Jews and also shot four Russian soldiers, and Wilhelm Schaffraph who participated in 35 other murders. The defendants were all members of a police battalion in Bialystok which was ordered to kill the Jews after the German invasion of Russia on June 22, 1941.

120,000 Cases Still Being Investigated, Justice Minister Reports

BONN, Mar. 13 (JTA)--One hundred and twenty thousand investigations of suspected Nazi activities are still pending in Germany, the Minister of Justice in North Rhine-Westphalia, Dr. Joseph Neuberger, told a group of German judges today.

Dr. Neuberger revealed that up to January 1, 1967, 6,179 persons had been found guilty by the courts and 47,000 others were either acquitted or had died. Of those found guilty prior to 1949, 12 were sentenced to death. Up to January 1967, 85 others were sentenced to life imprisonment and 5,957 were given lesser prison terms. The death sentence was abolished in Germany in 1949.

The minister said there was no denying that lenient sentences had been imposed in a number of Nazi trials and said that the reasons advanced for these easy sentences were unacceptable.

Israelis See Further Action By Jarring as Dependent on Egyptian Change

JERUSALEM, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The peace-seeking mission of U.N. envoy Ambassador Gunnar Jarring has clearly entered the doldrums and, while not suspended, is unlikely to pick up momentum unless Egypt has a change of heart on negotiations with Israel, diplomatic circles here indicated tonight.

In face of Egypt's categorical rejection of negotiations on Cyprus along the lines of the Rhodes armistice talks of 1949, Dr. Jarring is not expected to make any further suggestions at this time, these sources said. Rather, it is believed, he will wait until Egypt softens its stand, which may occur if Nasser is convinced that there is no other way, save through negotiations, to regain the territory he lost in last June's war with Israel. The sources here believe that Ambassador Jarring will discontinue his frequent visits to Israel and Arab capitals but he will always "be on call" should any changes develop. Dr. Jarring is expected to go to Amman tomorrow.

(The Washington Post quoted "authoritative diplomatic sources" at the United Nations as the source for assertions that Israel was to blame for collapse of the Jarring plan to bring Israel and Egypt together on Cyprus for peace talks. These sources asserted that Israel, by announcing that the occupied territories were no longer considered "enemy territory," had given President Nasser of Egypt a pretext to reject peace proposals. Some sources said, the paper reported, that the Israeli action had "tilted the balance by causing Arab Governments to lose face.")

(The London Financial Times said today that many independent and reliable observers of the Middle East scene believe that if left to himself President Nasser of Egypt would like to reach a settlement with Israel even if it meant abandoning Jerusalem and Jordan to their own fates. But, the paper said, Nasser is adjusting himself to the new realities and is trying to maintain a balance between opinion at home and abroad. He can be expected, therefore, "to give full vent to all the anti-Israel shibboleths and to stress the inevitability of a military solution.")

Soviet Charges of Vandalism of Russian Church Property in Israel Rejected

JERUSALEM, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry today branded as "slander" and "totally unfounded lies" a charge made in Moscow by the Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Nikodim that Russian church property in Israel had been damaged and vandalized. President Zalman Shazar, to whom the charges were addressed, expressed amazement at them. They contained no details of the alleged damage nor did they say which church property was involved.

Cabinet Votes Medals for Pre-1948 Para-Military Groups That Fought for Independence

JERUSALEM, Mar. 13 (JTA)--The Cabinet has authorized a special medal that will be awarded to all members of military or para-military organizations that fought to achieve Israel's statehood prior to independence in May, 1948. To be included among the recipients will be former members of such dissident military activist groups as the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang which fought Arab terrorists and British Mandatory authorities after World War II.

To Probe Boston Hockey Team's Baiting of League's Only Jewish Player

TORONTO, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Clarence Campbell, president of the National Hockey League, said today that he would go ahead with an investigation of the clash between Larry Zeidel, the only Jewish player in the league, and a member of the Boston Bruins here last week which Zeidel said was provoked by anti-Semitic slurs from the Bruins. One remark purportedly involved a reference to the "gas chambers."

Campbell said that he felt the investigation was necessary because the incident had brought a "slur" against professional hockey. Zeidel said today that he considered the matter closed. He and Eddie Stack of the Bruins were given penalty suspensions after a brawl in the Maple Leaf Gardens during a Flyers-Bruin game. Initially, Zeidel said he would protest the four-game suspension penalty he received. Shack was given a three-game suspension penalty.

Zeidel said after the incident that he had gone out of his way all season "to turn the other cheek" but that the anti-Semitic slurs had finally provoked him beyond control. "When they say 'Jew boy' and 'You're the next for the gas ovens,' they're on sensitive grounds," the 19-year-hockey veteran said, disclosing that his grandparents had been murdered in Nazi death camps.

Declaring that "I can't live with myself listening to that abuse," Zeidel reported that several Bruins had taunted him during the game last week but he emphasized that Shack was not one of them. He said he had been told by some former Bruin players that a number of Bruin players were "out to get him." In earlier incidents, he managed to hold his temper, he said. "All the time I told myself that I have to keep cool," he said, "but when Shack kept running at me, the Bruin bench would say 'shove it down the Jew boy's throat' and 'Jew boy — we're going to put you in the gas chambers.' I didn't want to get into any trouble but it just went too far."

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In New York, the American Jewish Committee called for apologies to Zeidel. Acknowledging that "we don't expect Garden Club language at a hockey game," Nathan Perlmutter, the committee's director of domestic affairs, added that "a full apology to Zeidel and to the millions of Jews and non-Jews who were brutally murdered by the Nazis is in order."

Scale Model of Projected Haifa University Campus To Be Shown at Brooklyn Museum

NEW YORK, Mar. 13 (JTA)--A 30-foot scale model of Haifa University's projected new campus on Mt. Carmel will be on display in the main entrance hall of the Brooklyn Museum from March 20 to April 30, the University of Haifa Foundation announced today. The new campus, ultra-modern in design, is the work of Oscar Niemeyer, the architect who designed Brazil's new capital city, Brasilia. Haifa University has an enrollment of 2,000. It is expected to reach 8,000 by 1975.

New Program at 12 Colleges To Revive Student Interest in Israel, Judaism

NEW YORK, Mar. 13 (JTA)--A new campus program designed to revive interest among Jewish college youth in Israel and Judaism has been instituted at 12 American colleges under the auspices of Yavneh, the Torah Education and Culture Department of the Jewish Agency's American section. Highlighted by a six-week tour of Israel, including three weeks of study at an Israeli campus, the new project also includes courses to be given on campus in the United States prior to departure for Israel.

Valuable Torah Presented to Hillel Foundation at Stony Brook

STONY BROOK, L.I., Mar. 13 (JTA)--A Torah valued at over \$1,500 was donated to the B'nai B'rith Hillel Counselorship at the State University of New York at Stony Brook by Harry Stark of Brad-dock, Pa. The sacred scroll, flown in from Pittsburgh, was dedicated at a special breakfast on the college campus.

Insulated Uniforms To Be Provided for Troops Stationed in Golan Heights

TEL AVIV, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Israeli soldiers manning the demarcation line in the cold Golan Heights region and on the snow covered slopes of Mt. Hermon in Syria will soon be issued specially insulated nylon uniforms to protect them from the low temperatures. They will also be served two hot meat meals a day, the Quartermasters Corps announced today.

Both are innovations for an army that hitherto has seen duty in the hot Negev desert and in other parts of Israel proper where the climate is mild, temperate or sub-tropical the year round. The cold weather problem along the northern cease-fire line set in with winter. Up to now it has been solved by improvised measures, the Q.M. said.

Another innovation developed from experiences in last June's Six-Day War is a special fire-proof uniform with a built-in rescue device for tank crews. The device is a strap by which an injured crew member can be pulled from the narrow hatch.

Life on West Bank Has Returned to 'Normal,' London Times Reports

LONDON, Mar. 13 (JTA)--Life in the occupied West Bank territory has more or less returned to normal although there were some "Israeli excesses in the first enthusiasm of victory" after the June war, according to Peter Nichols writing from Jericho in The Times today. The correspondent said that whatever the truth is about the alleged shooting of Arab refugees who tried to return to Jericho, it is now in fact "a city of no return." The Israelis, he said, "have no intention of allowing the Arabs to undo the effect of their mass emigration in the summer."