

JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 66C First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

Contents copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement.

Vol. XXXV - Fifty-First Year

Wednesday, April 10, 1968

No. 70

Chancellor Pledges Austria Will Amend Laws on Payments to Victims of Nazism

NEW YORK, April 9 (JTA)--Chancellor Josef Klaus of Austria assured a delegation representing the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations here today that legislation will again be introduced in the Austrian Parliament to amend existing laws on pensions and reparations payments to victims of Nazism and to eliminate inequities in the present laws affecting persons living abroad.

Dr. Kraus also told the delegation headed by Rabbi Herschel Schachter, Conference chairman, that his government was dealing with the denazification problem in Austria. He said that Jewish history would be incorporated into the curriculum of all Austrian highschools when the Institute of Judaism at the University of Vienna completes preparation of texts. The Austrian Chancellor drew the delegation's attention to the action of the Archbishop of Vienna in ordering the deletion of all unfriendly references to the Jewish people, dating back to the Crucifixion, from Catholic textbooks.

The Chancellor praised the "brave and heroic stand" of the people of Israel during the Six-Day War and declared that Israel could continue to count on Austrian support. Rabbi Schachter expressed appreciation to the Austrian leader for the support given Israel by Austria at the United Nations.

British Government Says It Will Do All It Can To Fight Discrimination Against Jews

LONDON, April 9 (JTA)--A deputation representing the Anglo-Jewish Association was assured by a Foreign Office spokesman today that Her Majesty's Government will do all in its power to discourage and prevent the practice of discrimination suffered by Jews in various parts of the world. The group, headed by Harold Seabag-Montefiore, was received at the Foreign Office by Goronwy Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The delegation raised the subject of the Association's work in the field of human rights and was told by Mr. Roberts that the Government took a grave interest in the matter.

The current anti-Semitic campaign in Eastern Europe, especially in Poland, was traced today to the failure of Soviet policy in the Middle East which led to last June's Six-Day War and subsequent violent attacks on Zionism and Israel in the Soviet press. According to Sir Barnett Janner, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Soviet propaganda quickly developed into indiscriminate propaganda against Jews generally.

Addressing a press conference here, Sir Barnett said the Soviet campaign spilled over into Poland where anti-Semitism was being used blatantly in the power struggle between rival factions in the ruling Communist party and as a means of suppressing liberal manifestations in Poland. "The Polish Government has not balked at making a tiny Jewish minority of some 18,000 souls the scapegoat for internal troubles in a land of over 32 million population," Sir Barnett said. He added that the Board of Deputies "protests in the strongest terms this shocking development" and noted that "past experience has shown that the use of Jews as scapegoats is a device which is aimed at the destruction of liberty."

The Jewish leader said that, speaking for Anglo-Jewry, he wanted to express appreciation to Prime Minister Harold Wilson for his representations in Moscow on behalf of Soviet Jews last January and to other private and public bodies which have tried to alleviate the plight of Jews in Eastern Europe.

Belgian Movement Scores Polish Government's Anti-Semitic Campaign

BRUSSELS, April 9 (JTA)--The Belgian Movement Against Racism, anti-Semitism and Xenophobia (MRAX) sent a letter to the Foreign Minister of Poland today expressing deep concern over the plight of the Jewish minority in that country. The letter charged that the accusation of "Zionism" against Polish Jews, like the charges of "Judeo-Marxism" in other times, was an attempt to arouse anti-Semitism as a diversion from the Government's internal problems.

Italian Jewish Youth Send Protest to Polish Government on Anti-Semitism

ROME, April 9 (JTA)--The Italian Jewish Youth Federation has protested to the Polish Government against its current anti-Jewish campaign. The charge that Jews are the organizers of student unrest in Poland "is nothing but a painful repetition of classical anti-Semitism," the group said.

Cologne Court Refuses Defense Demand to Remove Judge in War Crimes Trial

COLOGNE, April 9 (JTA)--The court here rejected today a demand by the defense attorney in the Grodno war crimes trial that the presiding judge be removed for alleged prejudice. The demand arose from the dismissal by Judge Von Mallinckrodt of a prosecution witness who collapsed from exhaustion while undergoing cross examination on April 4. The witness, Max Dolub, of New York, made serious charges against one of the defendants in connection with the massacre of Jews in Grodno, Poland, during the Nazi occupation in World War II. The defense objected at the time because Dolub had announced prior to the trial that April 4 was the only day he would be available to give testimony. The judge released him from further appearance in court.

British UN Association Bars Resolution on Plight of Polish Jews

EDINBURGH, April 9 (JTA)--The General Conference of the United Nations Association here rejected an emergency resolution on the plight of Polish Jews for technical reasons today and accepted an amendment to a Middle East resolution which called for the designation of Jerusalem as an "international city under the United Nations." The Association is a voluntary body of organizations and individuals friendly to the United Nations. It has no official status.

The resolution on Polish Jews, introduced by Jack Barnett, general secretary of the British section of the World Jewish Congress, protested Poland's official anti-Jewish propaganda campaign and the Warsaw regime's treatment of the Jewish population of that country. The conference's procedural committee ruled that the resolution was out of order because one of its paragraphs was addressed to the Polish Government. Mr. Barnett was not permitted to challenge the ruling or to amend the resolution to meet the objections. However, he brought up the plight of Polish Jewry during the debate on human rights and his remarks were warmly received.

The conference also rejected a proposal by Edward Heath, leader of the Conservative Party, that would have supported action to prevent the unilateral dismissal of United Nations peace-keeping forces as was done by President Nasser, of Egypt, in May 1967, or to undermine such forces by the withdrawal of individual national units.

The Middle East resolution adopted by the UNA conference was based largely on the position taken at the United Nations by Lord Caradon, chief of the British delegation. It was regarded as more acceptable than previous resolutions on the subject adopted by the Association. The Jerusalem amendment was sponsored by a student group.

Saudi Arabia Withdraws Agreement to Accept Jewish Diplomat as British Envoy

LONDON, April 9 (JTA)--The Saudi Arabian Government withdrew today its agreement to accept Horace Phillips, a diplomat with long experience in that country, as Britain's new Ambassador. Mr. Phillips, a Glasgow Scot, is of a Jewish family. His wife is non-Jewish. According to the Evening News, the Saudian action was the result of pressure brought to bear by Egypt. The designation of Mr. Phillips as Ambassador to Saudi Arabia was announced last January. He had been stationed in that country as first secretary and consul and later Counsellor in the British Embassy and was highly regarded in Jeddah as an authority on the Middle East.

Israel Tells Security Council Jordan Must Halt 'Continuous Aggression'

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 9 (JTA)--Israel told the United Nations Security Council today that Jordan must take steps to halt "continuous acts of aggression." Ambassador Yosef Tekoah reported to Security Council President Yakov A. Malik last night in a letter that Israel had had to react to a "new series of grave violations of the cease-fire" from Jordanian territory. He called them "the latest in a continuous series of violations of the cease-fire committed by regular and irregular forces from Jordan during the past week."

The Israeli envoy described the operation Monday when Israeli forces pursued saboteurs across the cease-fire line and reported that "considerable quantities of arms and documents were found. He said "I have to reiterate that it is essential for the government of Jordan to put an end to such continuous acts of aggression," Mr. Tekoah did not ask for a meeting of the Security Council.

Jordan Says Israel Planting Mines on Jordanian Side of Cease-Fire Line

WASHINGTON, April 9 (JTA)--Jordanian sources asserted today that Israel has indicated new policy of dealing with terrorism by planting mines on the Jordanian side of the cease-fire line, according to dispatches received here from Amman. Israeli forces which entered Jordan yesterday in pursuit of terrorists sowed the cease-fire area with mines, a Jordanian spokesman said. He said that two Jordanian mining technicians were killed and a third wounded when a mine exploded this morning.

The Jordanian spokesman said this was the first known instance in which Israelis had planted mines across the cease-fire line. The area of the fighting yesterday below the Dead Sea was "infested" with mines, he said.

Observers in Amman said today's mine explosion was the new Israeli method of retaliating for similar mining by El Fatah inside Israel. The Jordanians were hit when their vehicle detonated an anti-vehicle mine.

Izvestia Links Economic Conclave With Israel 'Plot' To Annex Arab Areas

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 9 (JTA)--According to the Soviet Government newspaper, Izvestia, the world economic conference in Jerusalem proved a link between Western capitalists and alleged plans by Israel to annex occupied Arab territories. The charge was made in an Izvestia article by Sergei Zykov, quoted in the Soviet Press Review distributed here by the Soviet Mission to the United Nations. According to Zykov, "800 bankers and industrialists who discussed the question of lending assistance to Israel" gave prominence to "projects concerning the 'domestication' of lands seized by Israel from the Arab countries last June."

"Is there any need for accentuating the direct line between projects of this kind, which promise huge profits to Western bankers and monopolists, and Israel's policy which tries to annex the occupied Arab territories?" Zykov asked.

Israel Cabinet Planning Special Meeting To Review Jarring Mission

JERUSALEM, April 9 (JTA)--The Israel Cabinet will hold a special meeting this week for further discussion of Israel's position toward Jordan in the light of the United States announcement that it considers the continuance of King Hussein's regime as being in Israel's interest, it was learned today. The date for the meeting was not disclosed. Cabinet deliberations have been focussed on the issue of whether Hussein still actually controls Jordan.

The Cabinet position that Israel will not indicate possible concessions to the Arabs in return for peace treaties also was understood to be under review. It was indicated that one possibility under consideration was that of giving Gunnar Jarring, the special United Nations peace-seeking emissary, a list of subjects on which Israel would be willing to talk but the Cabinet was reportedly split on this idea. It was understood additionally that even those Cabinet members favoring making substantive proposals to the Arab leaders through Dr. Jarring also insist that only signed peace treaties will bring evacuation of some of the occupied Arab territories.

Goldmann Issues Statement to JTA to Clarify Talks With Sen. Fulbright

GENEVA, April 9 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann issued a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today covering his conversations with Senator J. William Fulbright, his contacts with East European governments which severed diplomatic relations with Israel last June and his decision, announced yesterday, not to seek election to another term as president of the World Zionist Organization. Dr. Goldmann told the JTA that he was making the statement in order to clarify several facts "with regard to the discussions in Israel concerning myself."

The World Zionist leader said: "My talk with Senator Fulbright in New York was in lieu of a previous appointment which had to be postponed. It was purely personal and off the record and the Senator has since apologized to me in writing for having referred to it. I wanted to discuss with Senator Fulbright his position on Zionism -- at the suggestion of a number of friends. But the conversation concentrated primarily on the situation in the Middle East about which I gave him my views. No specific problem was discussed nor did I ask for any action with a view to influencing the Israeli Government. I informed my colleagues on the Jewish Agency Executive in New York about the appointment beforehand and reported to them fully afterwards."

Turning to Eastern Europe, Dr. Goldmann said: "My contacts with representatives of Eastern European governments, which I regard as useful, particularly after the break in diplomatic relations between them and Israel, are maintained with the full knowledge of the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and other members of the Israeli Government. I obviously keep them fully informed about these contacts of mine. This also relates to a conversation I had two weeks ago with the Soviet Ambassador to Washington."

Dr. Goldman said that his decision not to seek re-election to the WZO presidency "has nothing to do with attacks on myself recently in the Israeli press." He added, however, that "I have not resigned and will not do so, certainly not a very few weeks before the (World Zionist) Congress assembles. But I am not a candidate for re-election. I will be delighted if a younger leader assumes this difficult and responsible office."

Dr. Goldmann said that even before the last Zionist Congress, "I intended not to continue as president of the WZO." But "the untimely death of my friend, Moshe Sharett, who, I had hoped, would be my successor, and his demand in the last days of his life that I continue as president, prevented me from taking that step at the time. For a number of reasons, which I will explain to the Zionist Congress which elected me, I now revert to the original decision."

Dr. Goldmann said he announced his decision when "Itzhak Koren, chairman of the nominations committee which prepares for the elections of the Executive and other officers at the next Congress, informed me yesterday (April 8) that the committee would be meeting soon and would discuss, as the first item on its agenda, the presidency of the WZO. I asked him to inform his committee that I am not a candidate." Dr. Goldmann said that he would always "be ready to help my colleagues on the incoming Zionist Executive whenever they will ask for my assistance."

Pincus Declares Dr. Goldmann Being Hounded Over Fulbright Meeting

JERUSALEM, April 9 (JTA)--Aryeh Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, deplored today attacks on the World Zionist Organization president, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, and said that the Zionist leader was being hounded and that he deserved better. The question was brought up by newsmen at a press conference with Mr. Pincus. They referred to the recent strong criticism of Dr. Goldmann in the Israeli press and by some public figures here in connection with his meeting in New York with Senator J. William Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Pincus asserted that even if Dr. Goldmann's meeting with Fulbright had been a mistake, the atmosphere being created around it was detrimental to Zionist work. He reiterated, however, that Dr. Goldmann does not consult with members of the Jewish Agency Executive before his political meetings, including the one with Senator Fulbright and that even if he had, he would have been told that it was no concern of the Executive because the Jewish Agency does not engage in politics. The Jewish Agency Executive issued a formal statement yesterday dissociating itself from Dr. Goldmann's meeting with Fulbright and the contents of their talks.

Jewish Leaders and Community Join in Final Tribute to Martin Luther King

ATLANTA, April 9 (JTA)--Thousands of Jews, including many national and local Jewish leaders, joined here today in the funeral services for the slain Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in special services in many other cities.

Consul-General Zeev Boneh of Israel, attended the rites in Atlanta as personal representative of President Zalman Shazar, who asked Mr. Boneh to participate, to indicate Israel's respect and esteem for the assassinated Negro rights leader.

A memorial service, timed to coincide with the rites in Atlanta was held by the staff of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds at the organization's New York headquarters. A similar service was held at the Stephen Wise House of the American Jewish Congress in New York at the same time.

More than 700 Jewish schools in the New York metropolitan area, attended by some 150,000 pupils, were closed today to commemorate the funeral, according to the Jewish Education Committee of New York. The offices of many national and local Jewish organizations were closed today as a mark of respect and mourning for Dr. King.

Orthodox Rabbis Ask Columbia Board to Repudiate Advice Given to Jewish Students

NEW YORK, April 9 (JTA)--The Rabbinical Alliance of America, an organization of Orthodox rabbis, called today on the Jewish Advisory Board of Columbia University to "disassociate" itself from advice given Jewish students by Rabbi A. Bruce Goldman, Jewish advisor to the student body, who reported that he encouraged "meaningful" premarital sex relations among students.

In a letter signed by Rabbi David Weinberger, the Alliance urged the board to ask Rabbi Goldman "to desist from such preachments to our college students" and asserted that "we will feel compelled to urge all Jewish students at Columbia to refuse to visit with Rabbi Goldman." The letter called Rabbi Goldman's advice "a direct contravention of the teachings of Judaism" and charged that he was encouraging "promiscuity and free love."

Ohio Authorities Warn Employment Agencies Against Bias in Job Processing

COLUMBUS, O., April 9 (JTA)--All private employment agencies in Ohio have received a warning from the State Department of Commerce against discrimination in processing job applicants, it was disclosed today, following announcement of a survey by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith of agencies in the Youngstown-Warren area showing such bias. The memorandum from Lloyd T. Lindsley, chief of the division of licensing of the state department, cited provisions of the State law and said that reports of such discrimination would be investigated "and appropriate action taken if it is found that the law is being violated."

Willard P. Dudley, administrator of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, sent a letter to all bureau employees reminding them not to accept any work orders which "refer to race, color or creed." He indicated one employee had been suspended for accepting a suspected biased order. The Youngstown Fair Employment Practices Committee, which cooperated with the ADL in the study, is reviewing the findings for possible action, according to Dr. Sidney M. Berkowitz, FEPC chairman.

Canadian Jewish Congress Plans Start of Samuel Bronfman House

MONTREAL, April 9 (JTA)--The Canadian Jewish Congress will shortly begin construction of the Samuel Bronfman House, its new museum and archives building, in downtown Montreal. E. Leo Kolber, chairman of the advisory building committee, said that the building is being named after Mr. Bronfman in recognition of nearly a quarter of a century of outstanding service as national president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, "which under his leadership developed into the true voice of Canadian Jewry." Mr. Bronfman is now chairman of the board of governors of CJC.

The structure, to be completed within 18 months, will house CJC's national archives and museum, its bureau of Jewish information, libraries and educational departments.

25 Yeshiva U. Teachers Institute Seniors to Study in Jerusalem

NEW YORK, April 9 (JTA)--Twenty-five seniors at Yeshiva University's Teachers Institute for Women have been selected for a six-month's study program at Machen Gold in Jerusalem to improve their qualifications as future Hebrew teachers. The girls, all from the New York Metropolitan area, represent the largest contingent in the 15-year Israel program of the institute.

Rabbi Baruch N. Fainvelson, director of the institute, explained that the girls already speak Hebrew in all of their classes but return to their environments after school. "Those girls who have spent six months in Israel," he said, "have proven themselves to be the best Hebrew teachers simply because they can speak the language better than their contemporaries."

Katriel Katz Among 121 Survivors of Crash of BOAC Jetliner in London

LONDON, April 9 (JTA)--Katriel Katz, Israel's former Ambassador to Poland and the Soviet Union, was among 121 passengers who survived the crash here yesterday of a BOAC jet airliner bound for Tel Aviv and Australia. Mr. Katz, who is chairman of the Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, was hospitalized with a broken leg and a broken wrist but was otherwise reported well and in good spirits.