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Golda Meir Will Visit Washington Sept. 25-26 As President's Guest, White House Says

WASHINGTON, July 22 (JTA) -- Premier Golda Meir of Israel will visit Washington as President Richard M. Nixon's official guest on Sept. 25-26, White House spokesman Ronald Zeigler announced today. He gave no further details.

It was learned that Mrs. Meir will visit the Jewish communities of New York City and Los Angeles and possibly other major cities. Her stay in the United States, sources said, is not expected to be a long one. Arrangements for the whole visit will be announced when they are completed. Her trip to the U.S. and meetings with Mr. Nixon will be her first as Premier.

Geneva Refugee Agencies Are Worried About Fate Of Polish Jews, 'Post' Reports

WASHINGTON, July 22 (JTA) -- Refugee agencies in Geneva are expressing concern over the fate of the estimated 15,000 to 20,000 Jews in Poland who were told by the Gomulka Communist regime more than a year ago they must emigrate and then were told subsequently they cannot leave after Sept. 1, the Washington Post reported today from Geneva.

The report noted that The Netherlands' diplomatic mission in Warsaw, handling Israeli interests on a caretaker basis, had been empowered to grant visas to Israel to departing Polish Jews. The mission reportedly has issued about 10,000 such visas but only about 5,000 Polish Jews have left for Israel, raising the question of what will happen to the other 5,000 since most of them "cannot possibly complete the bureaucratic exit process" by Sept. 1, the Post reported.

The Post said it was feared that many of the other 10,000 to 20,000 who have not applied for emigration will be stateless in Poland, stripped of their citizenship. They will be in the critical position of being forbidden to leave while their presence is declared objectionable.

The remnant of the pre-war 3,000,000 Polish Jews remaining after the Nazi Holocaust coped as best they could with the Communist Government, many of them becoming ardent Communists and rising to high positions in the Wladyslaw Gomulka Government. After the Six-Day War, when Poland severed relations with Israel, Gomulka declared in a speech that "Zionists"--a euphemism for Polish Jews who had adhered to their Jewish ties--were no longer wanted in Poland and he said they could leave, if they went to Israel.

Jews who had risen in the Communist hierarchy were immediately ousted from office, as were economists, university professors and other professionals. After a Polish Jew obtained the Dutch visa, he had to negotiate departure payment with Polish officials, "voluntarily" renouncing his Polish citizenship and submitting possessions he hoped to take with him to Government inspection and occasional confiscation, the Post said. When the process was completed--a procedure of three to four months--he was given a travel document with orders to leave within one month.

He then boarded a train leaving Warsaw, which became known as "the Chopin Express," arriving the next day in Vienna where Jewish relief agency officials helped him on his way to Israel or elsewhere. The Post said that between 30 percent and 60 percent went to Israel and the rest joined relatives in Western Europe or in North and South America.

Since the recent Gomulka announcement which spoke of an end to the liberal visa policy as of Sept. 1, there has been no clarification from the Gomulka regime and no information on what is happening to the Jews. The Post said no one in Geneva knew why the cutoff had been ordered, whether no more travel permits will be issued after that date or whether all departures will end, even for the Jews who have gone through the separation process. Refugee officials were quoted as believing that conditions of life for the trapped Polish Jews "must be as dangerous as they are cruel."

In another development, the Gomulka regime announced yesterday a pardon that could benefit student demonstrators who were convicted last year, some of whom were identified at the time as Jews. The pardon was announced at the start of the regime's 25 anniversary celebration. It provides for full remission of prison sentences of up to two years and up to half of sentences of up to 15 years. Nine Warsaw university students and three teachers were given terms of 18 months to three and a half years for participation in the March, 1968 demonstrations.

Polish Film Producer Leaves Country When Film About Jew Is Stopped

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- World-famous Polish film producer Alexander Ford, who left his native land last month after being stopped from preparing a film on the life of a Jewish educator, has decided to settle in Israel with his family. He has signed an agreement to produce a film based on Russian author Alexander Solzhenitzyn's book "The First Circle" in cooperation with Israeli producer Giora Goddik. Mr. Ford was producing a film entitled "Janos Korczak" in Poland. It was named for a man who perished in a concentration camp with his pupils. Mr. Ford said his film was stopped because Polish authorities, who are still conducting an anti-Jewish propaganda campaign, felt his work was not fitting at this time.

Israeli Planes Cross Suez To Attack Canal Egyptian Positions, 2nd Raid In 3 Days

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- Israeli planes crossed the Suez Canal today to bomb Egyptian artillery, mortar, tank and missile positions, silencing them, for the second time in three days, an Army spokesman said. All planes were reported to have returned safely to base following the raid which came after Israeli positions on the Canal's east bank were shelled. The spokesman had no comment on a Jordanian allegation that Israeli planes had attacked two El Fatah guerrilla bases in northern Jordan.

Israeli authorities disclosed that great care was taken during the bombing strikes across the Canal to avoid bombing Soviet ships or personnel. The target area included a sector just below Port Said, a seaport where Russian warships are based. An Israeli spokesman said no hits were scored on Russian warships because Israel avoided bombing the dock areas. There were no indications that Soviet personnel were hit. However, Israelis said they could not be certain whether Russian technicians and instructors based at ground missile sites were killed. Two such sites were singled out for heavy bombing by Israeli jets.

On Sunday, Israeli planes bombed ground installations in Egypt for the first time since the June, 1967, Six-Day War. They bombed and strafed Egyptian ground-to-air missile bases, anti-aircraft positions and artillery installations between Port Said and Qantara. Israel reported it lost two planes in the attack, while Egypt claimed shooting down 19 planes.

Meanwhile, Gen. Odd Bull, the United Nations chief truce observer, flew to Cairo today to discuss the increase in military activity along the Suez Canal. Gen. Bull was reportedly planning to ask Egypt to restrain its military operations following Sunday's battle and to discuss a safety agreement for the UN observers stationed along the Canal. UN truce observers reported damage to four observation posts on the Egyptian side of the Canal as a result of the fighting. The damage, they reported, was from Israeli bombs, rockets, mortars and small arms fire. The report listed three Egyptian liaison officers and a civilian injured.

Soldiers At Nahal Yam--A Fishing Outpost--Injured By Bazooka Shells

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- Seven Nahal soldiers, including two girls, were injured today when several bazooka shells exploded in their settlement in the Sinai Peninsula, east of Qantara. They were members of Nahal Yam, a fishing settlement--Israel's first--on a lagoon of the Mediterranean. Normally Nahal units, which are posted near Israel's borders, combine agricultural and security functions.

An investigation revealed that several bazookas had been set up to be fired in the direction of the pioneer settlement. Unfired shells were dismantled. Nahal Yam had escaped attack previously. In another incident, two Israeli soldiers were wounded today when their vehicle ran over a man on a dirt road near Rafiah in the Gaza Strip.

11 Kibbutz Members Injured By Grenade In Hebron Marketplace

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- Eleven kibbutz members, all believed to be settlers from Argentina, were injured today when a hand grenade was thrown by a young Arab into a passenger truck in the marketplace of Hebron, an Israeli military spokesman said. Hebron, 21 miles south of Jerusalem, is a popular tourist spot which features the Cave of Machpelah where Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob and Leah are buried.

Rabbi Untermann Upholds Tisha B'av As Mourning Day Although Jerusalem Is Reunited

JERUSALEM, July 22 (JTA) -- Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Isser Untermann yesterday upheld the ninth of Av (Thursday) as a day of mourning despite the fact that Jerusalem is "no more a destroyed city." The mourning and fasting of Tisha B'av (the ninth of Av) is observed to mark destruction of the First and Second Temples.

The prayers which note that Jerusalem was "destroyed, laid waste and despoiled," are, in the opinion of many, anachronistic now that Jerusalem has been reunited and Jews are restored to the Old City. Rabbi Untermann said there was no contradiction between the festivities of Jerusalem Day, which celebrates the 1967 reunification of the city and return of Jews to the Wailing Wall, and the mourning of Tisha B'av. The latter he said should be retained as there is no reason to break age-old tradition.

In a related development, some 30 ultra-religious Jews, in an attempt to prevent further archaeological digging near the Western Wall, today held morning prayer at the digging site, preventing workers from renewing their chores. The workers were cautioned against interference with the services.

Some 300 persons, praying at the Western Wall, joined the demonstration and left the site several hours later only when they were warned that the police might be called. Prof. Benjamin Mazar, head of the excavation, said work will continue unless he receives instructions from the Government to discontinue operations.

El Fatah Members Sentenced To Life, Fought With Band That Killed 3 Israeli Soldiers

TEL AVIV, July 22 (JTA) -- A military tribunal in Nablus has sentenced an El Fatah member, convicted of participating in a clash with an Israeli Army patrol that left one soldier and two officers dead, to life imprisonment. Sentenced was Yussef Sayid Abed Mustaffa, 22, a resident of Kuwait, who was one of nine El Fatah members in the incident.

COJO Parley Pledges Support To Israel, Expresses Anger At Soviet Anti-Semitism

GENEVA, July 22 (JTA) -- A pledge "to support Israel in its efforts to secure a just, honorable and genuine peace" was approved yesterday at the closing session of a plenary of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) which also expressed the "profound indignation" of the participant organizations over the "Soviet anti-Semitic campaign masquerading as anti-Zionism."

The resolution added that COJO was "particularly disturbed by the effects of this propaganda on neighboring countries--of which Poland is the most outstanding example of the way in which anti-Semitism has been used to undermine and destroy organized Jewish life." The resolution singled out East Germany as having become "an instrument of anti-Jewish and anti-Israel propaganda which is particularly repulsive, coming as it does from a place populated by Germans so soon after the Holocaust," reports JTA's European editor S. J. Goldsmith.

The delegates re-elected Dr. Nahum Goldmann as COJO chairman and Yehuda Hellman as secretary-general. Louis A. Pincus, Jewish Agency chairman, and Dr. William Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, were re-elected co-chairmen. Michael Fidler, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, was re-elected COJO vice-chairman. Other COJO participant organizations represented were the American Jewish Congress; Canadian Jewish Congress; the Conseil Representatif Des Juifs de France; the DAIA, the central representative organization of Argentine Jews; Executive Council of Australian Jewry; American Jewish Labor Committee; South African Jewish Board of Deputies; World Jewish Congress and the World Zionist Organization.

In another resolution, COJO noted "the campaign of misrepresentation and distortion unleashed in recent months against Israel" and called on its member groups "to re-double their efforts in the fields of information and education to ensure that Israel's just cause and the policy and record on which it is based shall be rightly known and understood."

Another resolution noted the recent extension by West Germany of the effective date of the statute of limitations on prosecutions of Nazi war criminals and expressed "deep disappointment" about recent interpretations of West German penal laws "which will provide immunity for numerous persons guilty of murder and other crimes as administrators of the extermination machine during the Nazi era." Another resolution expressed concern about the plight of Jews in Arab countries.

Rabbi Miller Calls Soviet Jews' Plight A 'Major Problem Of Our Generation'

Rabbi Israel Miller, former chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, said that, after Israel, the situation of Soviet Jews was "the major problem in Jewish life in our generation," adding that in respect to the spiritual attrition of Russian Jews, "time is never on our side." Dr. Israel Goldstein said there were now 25,000 Falasha Jews in Ethiopia, compared with the 50,000 when they were first discovered by Jewish leaders. He blamed conversion and assimilation for the drop and urged that world Jewry not forget "this remote Jewish tribe."

Chaim Finkelstein, Jewish Agency executive member, and Rabbi Jay Kaufman, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith, who are co-chairmen of the COJO Commission on Jewish Education, presented a series of Commission proposals on Jewish education. In the discussion, several speakers, including Dr. Goldmann, suggested that the Commission might be placed under sponsorship of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture. Several other speakers, including Mr. Pincus, argued against changing present arrangements. No resolution was adopted on the matter and the Commission will continue to operate as heretofore.

Dr. Goldmann told one of the sessions that "as the revolutionary processes grow in the world, Jewish communities are bound to suffer, even in places where anti-Semitism is not endemic or pronounced." He added that the current situation was "historically a dangerous period for Jewry" and that "above all" what was needed now was "solidarity and a joint effort." He said world Jewry was now "absolutely and irrevocably tied with Israel," and that "we are responsible for what Israel does." Hence, he asserted, "it seems justified to expect that Israel and the Diaspora should be thinking and discussing together the issues that affect the whole of the Jewish people, not only in days of crisis but at all times."

Dr. Prinz Says Solidarity With Israel Does Not Necessarily Imply Total Unanimity

Dr. Joachim Prinz, former president of the American Jewish Congress, said that solidarity with Israel did not necessarily imply unanimity on all problems. He added that he was "severely strictured" by Premier Golda Meir "for having views of my own on certain problems, young people and their attitude toward Israel, for example, and for voicing them in public in Israel." He declared that non-Israeli Jewry "did not want to become the political counselors to Israel but we are surely entitled to have our own views." Adding that he was not frightened by charges of dual allegiance, he said "I have dual allegiance. My loyalty to Israel is part of me and there are many Jews who think and feel likewise."

Shmuel Divon, head of the department for the Diaspora at the Israel Foreign Affairs Ministry, told the delegates that the term "alliance," often used to describe the relations between Israel and other Jewries, was both "misleading and inappropriate." He said the partnership was based on a common tradition and a common destiny and not "a mere alliance." A special session was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Committee of Jewish Delegations

to Paris, established during the Versaille Peace Conference to present Jewish views and demands. Dr. Goldmann addressed the meeting at which Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld, president of the American Jewish Congress, presided.

Addressing the parley, Dr. Jacob Herzog, director-general of Premier Golda Meir's office, denied that Israel had suffered a regression in world esteem as a result of being the victor in the Six-Day War, but he asserted that there were "dangerous fissures" in the intellectuals' understanding and appreciation of Israel and that Israel had not yet found dependable channels to such circles. That issue was touched on by Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, which attended the COJO meeting with observer status. Rabbi Schacter told the delegates that the Presidents' Conference considered public relations on behalf of Israel as one of its most vital current tasks and had accepted as a duty the sponsorship of such public relations activities in the United States.

Rumanian Federation Operates Holiday Resorts, Convalescent Homes, Rabbi Rosen Reports

GENEVA, July 22 (JTA) -- The Federation of Jewish Religious Communities of Rumania is operating holiday resorts and convalescent homes with accommodations for 500 persons, Dr. Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, reported here. He told JTA that the holiday resorts are patronized by students and young intellectuals who may attend courses in Hebrew, Jewish studies and Jewish music, both religious and popular. He said the courses are given by resident instructors and visiting lecturers. Rabbi Rosen said the resorts and convalescent homes offer kosher cuisine.

West German Vandals Smear Swastikas On Memorials, One Aimed At Berlin Jewish Leader

BONN, July 22 (JTA) -- Unknown vandals smeared swastikas on two memorials to the anti-Nazi resistance movement early Sunday as West Germany marked the 25th anniversary of the thwarted assassination attempt against Adolf Hitler.

In West Berlin the vandals painted 15 large Nazi emblems in reddish brown paint on the walls, door, and floor of the former Ploetzensee Prison site. In Wuppertal red paint was splashed on a monument to the victims of the Nazis.

Many resistance fighters were executed in Ploetzensee during the war. Some were strangled, others shot, and yet others hung up on meat hooks. In 1952 a memorial was built on the site. On the wall of the former execution room, the vandals painted the words: "Away with the Galinskis." Heinz Galinski is the leader of the West Berlin Jewish community.

On the walls around the memorial courtyard the intruders painted in white letters stretching some 40 yards the words: "And I passed on the order to burn out, down to the raw flesh, the cancers of our internal poisonous political propoganda and the venom from abroad." President Gustav Heinemann deplored the vandalism, declaring, "This attack affects all of us. It warns us."

Soviet Union Track Team Target Of Protests, Pleas On Behalf Of Russian Jewry

LOS ANGELES, July 22 (JTA) -- A Soviet track team which competed here recently with American and British athletes was approached by several Jewish groups on behalf of Russian Jews. The groups were seeking religious and cultural freedom for their co-religionists, the right to emigrate to Israel, and protested the arrest and conviction of Boris Kochubiyevsky, a young engineer now in prison for allegedly slandering the Soviet state and social system.

The Soviet athletes, housed at the University of Southern California, were confronted by some 50 members of the California Students for Soviet Jewry who presented a Russian-language letter, also addressed to the Soviet Government, and engaged in debate with several of them. A telegram of protest was hand-delivered to Vladimir Popov, head coach, by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, a New York-based organization. And a telegram was sent to Leonid Khomokoff, director of the Russian Amateur Athletic Organization, by the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry in San Francisco.

Members of the California Students group, representing seven colleges, confronted the Russians and debated with them for about two hours, the organization reported. Their letter demanded Mr. Kochubiyevsky's immediate release from prison, cessation of cultural and religious persecution, and emigration for Russian Jews.

Three spokesmen for the athletes were said to have pleaded ignorance of the first and third points and denied that Jews were persecuted in the Soviet Union. One cited the existence of the Jewish republic of Birobidjan as evidence for his argument and said that Jews who wanted rights similar to those granted to Ukrainians and Armenians would have to go to Birobidjan to get them. Yehuda Ben Russi, a UCLA and demonstration leader, replied that religious, cultural and national ties do not exist between Jews and Birobidjan because of the "arbitrary nature" of the assignment of that area to Jews, the organization said.

When one athlete was asked if Soviet Jews could emigrate to Israel at will, he reportedly said, "any Soviet citizen who wishes to do so may emigrate from the USSR." The demonstrators did not see the coach who told an intermediary that he was in Los Angeles for an athletic event, not a political forum. Mr. Ben Russi emphasized that the protest was directed against Soviet policy, not the team.