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Report Soviet Authorities Start Campaign Of Harassment Against Georgian Jews

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA)--Sources described as "authoritative" claimed here today that Soviet authorities have started a campaign of harassment against Jews in the Georgian Republic who have signed petitions demanding emigration rights. The same sources also said that preparations were being made for a "show trial" of Jews in Riga who have been active in the movement for the right to emigrate to Israel. The trial is supposed to begin at the end of April, the source said. There was no immediate information, however, whether this "show trial" is the one that had been scheduled to begin late Jan. but then delayed or whether this trial involves another group of Jews. The reports were presented at a meeting of the Israeli Council for Russian Jewry. Speakers denounced unconfirmed but persistent reports from Russia that Soviet authorities were easing their policy on exit visas for Jews.

They said such reports were inspired by the authorities as a propaganda ruse to divert world opinion from the plight of Soviet Jews. The sources said that while the reports were circulating, Georgian Jews who signed petitions were being forced to declare that their signatures were forgeries. The Russians have chosen Georgia for their campaign against the Jews because it is remote from Moscow and far from the eyes and ears of foreign newsmen, the sources claimed. Meanwhile, five Jewish families from Kharkov were expected in Israel late tonight. The last Jewish immigrant from that city, arrived here eight months ago. He is Abraham Bogdanowski, an engineer who now lives in Haifa. The newcomers landed in Vienna last Friday. They were reportedly given a farewell party by 150 friends when they left Kharkov.

The 'Gabriel,' Israel's Top Secret Missile, To Be Introduced At Air Show In France

PARIS, March 22 (JTA)--Israel's new surface-to-surface sea missile, the "Gabriel," the only known Western counterpart of the Soviet "Styx" missile, will be introduced at the Air Show opening at Le Bourget Airport late in May, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. The top secret missile will not be displayed but photographs and printed matter will be featured at the Israeli pavilion. The "Gabriel" was developed and built by Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd. It is believed to be about nine feet long and to have higher speed and greater accuracy than the Styx. The latter, which the Soviets supplied to the Egyptian Navy, sank the Israeli destroyer Elath off Sinai in the fall of 1967. Israel will also display two locally produced commercial aircraft--the twin engine Jet Commander, an executive plane and the all-weather transport, Arava, a short-take-off-and-landing plane designed for passenger and cargo service. The JTA learned that the Arava, built by Israel Aircraft Industries will be produced in France under a license arrangement with Sud Aviation. The French version will have the trade name, Sherpa.

State Department Discounts Reports That U.S. Withheld Arms Deliveries To Israel

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA)--Reports emanating from Cairo that the United States had used the tactic of withholding arms deliveries to get Israel to return to the Jarring talks last December were discounted by a State Department spokesman today. The spokesman, Charles Bray, also dismissed a Cairo report that the U.S. had assured Egypt that Israel would not be permitted to retain East Jerusalem. Both reports were brought up by newsmen at today's press briefing. The report on arms deliveries was attributed by Cairo to remarks allegedly made in Israel by that country's Ambassador to Washington, Yitzhak Rabin. "I wouldn't want to do Rabin an injustice by commenting on a third hand report," Bray said. Asked if there were incidents when arms deliveries were used to persuade Israel to comply with U.S. wishes, Bray said he couldn't say if there were any. On the Jerusalem question he said, "We have made it as clear as we possibly can that the question of settlement rests with the parties."

Bray had no comment on a report that Cairo has told Washington that it would resume shooting in the Suez Canal zone in five days unless more diplomatic progress was made. A State Department source said later that he didn't believe the U.S. has been informed to this effect by Egypt. Bray also said he was not aware that Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban planned to return to Washington after a trip to Mexico but wouldn't exclude the possibility. He said Secretary of State William P. Rogers had "no present plans" to visit the Middle East. But he acknowledged that Rogers would be in Ankara, Turkey on April 29 for a meeting of CENTO. (In Jerusalem, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that Secretary Rogers may visit Israel and other Middle Eastern countries in the near future. He said Rogers would probably be accompanied by Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Joseph J. Sisco who is scheduled to visit Turkey in May.)

Jews, Arabs Can Learn To Live Together, Says Mrs. Dayan, Active In Promoting Amity

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--Whatever happens in Israel's political situation, Jews and Arabs will have to live together and now is the time for them to learn how, Mrs. Ruth Dayan told a luncheon meeting of the American Jewish Committee's Middle East Committee. Mrs. Dayan described the work of Shem's Sons' World Pact, an organization devoted to fostering "understanding, cooperation and fraternity" among Arabs and Jews in Israel and "among all sons of Shem wherever they be." Mrs. Dayan serves as president of the Pact. Pointing out that a whole generation of Israeli Arabs has grown up since the creation of the State of Israel, she indicated that new approaches were needed to deal with these young people, whom she described as "a new intelligentsia." Indicative of the program of Shem's Sons' Pact, she cited such activities as monthly meetings of Arab and Jewish students, with Arab and Jewish teachers presenting lectures alternately, and exchange meetings between women's clubs in Tel Aviv and women's clubs in Arab villages.

In addition, Mrs. Dayan also cited an institute at Haifa University to study the relations between Arabs and Jews; talks to Arab student groups in which questions of financial aid to education and adjustment within Israeli society are discussed; and assistance "on the 'everyday level'" to Arab families who request help with their specific problems. Mrs. Dayan made special mention of the work of the AJC's Israel Office in the area of Arab-Jewish friendship, and noted particularly that AJC's Israel director, Dr. M. Bernard Resnikoff, had "for the first time, brought together all the 17 voluntary organizations working in the field of Arab-Jewish relations." Charles Bensley, chairman of the Board of Governors of Haifa University and President of the Israel Education Fund, told the luncheon guests that there is ample evidence of increasingly better relations between Arabs and Jews in Israel. He stated that Haifa University employed 15 Arab instructors on a faculty of 470, had 350 Arab students in a student body that numbered 4,200, and was in the process of building a million-dollar dormitory for Arab students.

Syrian Airline Office Hit; Leaflets Left At Site Demand Liberation Of Syria's Jews

PARIS, March 22 (JTA)--The windows of the Syrian Arab Airlines office were smashed last night and leaflets signed "The Fighting Jewish Youth," were strewn over the office floor and on the sidewalk outside. Police are investigating the incident which the airline reported only today. Apparently no one noticed the vandalism, which is believed to have occurred late last night. The airline office is located next to the American Express Office on the Place de la Opéra, normally one of the busiest intersections of Paris. The leaflets called for "The Liberation of Syria's Jews," and demanded that Damascus authorities end the hardships imposed on Syrian Jews and allow all who wish to leave the country to do so.

Eban Says Israel Demonstrating Its Independence Of American Policy

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban said in a taped interview broadcast by the armed forces radio tonight that Israel has demonstrated its independence of American policy. He said, of his recent visit to Washington, "We have succeeded in getting the United States used to the idea that Israel adopts a position of its own, even if it does not meet with the approval of the U.S." The Foreign Minister conceded that there has been no basic change in U.S. policy on boundary issues since the Rogers Plan of Dec., 1969 which was unacceptable to Israel. He said it was hoped however, that the U.S. would continue to adhere to the position that there should be no imposed settlement in the Middle East. The State Broadcasting Service said tonight that Eban was not confronted with specific demands at his meetings last week with Secretary of State Rogers and Dr. Henry Kissinger, White House adviser on national security. The information was attributed to "observers" in Washington, apparently meaning Israeli diplomatic sources there. They said that Rogers and Kissinger asked only that Israel take a "positive step" and suggested that Israel state what it wants instead of what it doesn't want. The same sources referred to a news media campaign to convince the American public that the U.S. was correct in pushing the Rogers plan. That campaign has been discontinued by the administration, the sources said.

Metullah Shelled; Israeli Army Position Fired On; Jordan Army Hits Terrorists

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA)--Several bazooka shells were fired at Metullah in Upper Galilee from Lebanese territory this morning but caused no casualties or damage. The fire was returned. An Israeli was injured yesterday when his tractor hit a mine on a dirt road near Bet Joubrin. Shells were fired from Syrian lines yesterday at an Israeli Army position in the Butamiyah area of the Golan Heights. There were no casualties. Jordanian Army units shelled terrorist concentrations in the Irbid area of northern Jordan yesterday. Israeli settlers near the border reported hearing artillery fire from the region.

Decline In European Anti-Semitism Linked To Peace In The Middle East

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--Peace in the Middle East will speed up the eradication of Western European anti-Semitism, according to the European Affairs Specialist of the American Jewish Committee. Jerry Goodman, in an address before the Spring Conference of the alumni of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary held several days ago at Yeshiva University, linked the reduction of Middle East tensions to an over-all strengthening of the community life of European Jewry. Goodman said that the issue of Israel is of great concern to both the Vatican and World Council of Churches because of their interest and involvement "with Third World countries who reject the colonialism and expansionist policies they feel Israel is practicing." Despite this concern, Goodman said, Jews are being accepted as part of Western European society, and "organized anti-Semitism has nowhere near the impact it had in the first part of the century." He pointed to a recently completed study by Louvain University, Brussels, which showed a greater acceptance of Jews by Catholics. Speaking of communal life among Western European Jews, Goodman said, "Jewish communal life is being revived in all countries of Western Europe, in different ways and on different levels. But there is need to fortify this communal life by strengthening the European Council of Jewish Communities. There must be a more intensive and systematic relationship with organizations in America in the areas of culture, religion and community services. Of equal importance is the fostering of closer relationships with Israel's vast resources."

CJC Leader Calls On Kosygin To Let Soviet Jews Emigrate

MONTREAL, March 22 (JTA)--Monroe Abbey, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, has advised Soviet Premier Alexsei N. Kosygin that "the continued protests and sit-ins by Jews in Moscow and other Soviet cities is evidence that substantial numbers of your Jewish citizens wish to emigrate because they are discriminated against." Abbey's message continued: "Soviet Jewry has a special claim on the conscience of mankind for it represents the last group of Jews who have survived the Holocaust. The Soviet Union is a signatory of the International Declaration of Human Rights, which includes the mobility of peoples. In addition, your statement in Paris of Dec. 2, 1956, guaranteeing joinder of families divided by Hitler's war, has not been implemented."

Peaceful Rally For Soviet Jewry Not Same As Violation Of U.S. Embassy In Moscow

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA)--A State Department spokesman said today that there was "no way to equate" the peaceful public demonstration for Soviet Jewry on the Washington Elipse yesterday with "official violation of the United States Embassy in Moscow." Charles Bray said the State Dept. had "no view" on the demonstrations which brought some 3,000 youths and adults to the nation's capital yesterday. He said the U.S. "takes a very grave view" of the violation of Embassy property by Soviet police and was still awaiting replies to protest notes presented to Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin. Bray said in reply to questions that there had been no representations by the Soviet Embassy here over yesterday's demonstration. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today that 689 of the demonstrators on the Elipse were processed by police on the spot and immediately released. The processing consisted of photographing and identity checks. Only 124 of the group were taken to police headquarters for booking on charges of violating District of Columbia traffic regulations when they blocked an intersection near the Soviet Embassy. All were released after paying a \$10 bond. Replying to questions by newsmen, Bray said he thought the police handled the matter very well. The latest Embassy violation in Moscow occurred a week ago when police used force to try to remove a Soviet citizen from the Embassy gate. The man, identified as of Russian nationality, was reportedly seeking information on immigration to the U.S.

Labor Party 'Young Guard' Forced To Change Resolution On Palestinian Entity

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA)--A resolution by the Labor Party's "young guard" recognizing the establishment of a "Palestinian entity" was altered after Premier Golda Meir demonstrated her displeasure by boycotting the opening session of the group's national conference here. The government's policy is opposed to the creation of a separate Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan which it believes would only be a source of future trouble. The resolution was changed to read, "Within the borders of historic Eretz Israel there is room for two states, a Jewish state and an Arab state." The term "historic Eretz Israel" encompasses the present Kingdom of Jordan which many Israelis believe should constitute a Palestinian state inasmuch as a majority of its inhabitants are Palestinians. The resolution went on to say that "there should be agreement on a just and lasting peace based on mutual concessions by both Israel and the Arabs of Jordan, Judea and Samaria who regard themselves as Palestinians. The rights of the Palestinian people should be recognized." The "young guard," which represents about 40,000 of the Labor Party's 280,000 members, are those 35 years of age or younger.

Strike Ends Against NCJW; Union Calls Settlement Victory For Strikers

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--The workers' strike against the National Council of Jewish Women ended today after 34 days. The strikers, 60 members of Local 1707 of the Community and Social Agency Employees, AFL-CIO, won a new two-year contract, retroactive to Jan. 1, under which clerical workers will receive an additional \$5 to \$6.50 a week and professional workers an additional \$500 a year, with both also getting \$10 a week across the board for each of the 52 weeks of 1971. Further, the weekly minimum wage, heretofore \$65, will be raised to \$100. Erik Strong, spokesman for the union, called the contract "a victory" for the workers. A spokesman for the National Council could not be reached after word of the strike's end was received late this afternoon. The walkout was the first in the 65-year history of the now-100,000-member Council.

Sir Alec: Government To Take Initiative If Opening Appears In Stalled Jarring Talks

LONDON, March 22 (JTA)--Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home told the House of Commons today that the British government would be quick to take the initiative if the "slightest opening" appeared in the stalled Jarring peace talks. "It is now more necessary than ever that these negotiations should be enabled to make progress and the government will continue to play their full part in encouraging the parties to this end, both in bilateral discussions and through the Four Power talks in New York," Sir Alec said. He noted that United Nations special Mideast intermediary Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring still sought a commitment from Israel on withdrawal from Arab territories according to the terms of the Nov. 22, 1967 Security Council Resolution 242. Earlier Sir Alec confirmed that he has accepted an invitation to visit Israel though no date has been set. He will visit Cairo late next August or early September. In the House of Lords, former Labor Foreign Secretary Lord George Brown called today for a statement clarifying the intent of Resolution 242 which, he said, provided for Egyptian sovereignty over certain areas and safeguards for Israel's security.

Lord Lothian, Undersecretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth office, observed that Dr. Jarring asked both Israel and Egypt for conditional commitments on withdrawal and peace respectively but so far has received a commitment only from Egypt. Lord Shinwell, former Defense Minister, suggested that Dr. Jarring continue his efforts to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and Egypt because they "represent the only chance for reaching a successful conclusion." Minister of State Joseph Godber said today that "the status of Jerusalem must be discussed as an important aspect of the settlement which the British government is anxious to see achieved in the Middle East as a whole." He made that remark in a written reply to Labor MP Christopher Mayhew who had called on the Foreign Secretary to condemn Israeli plans to construct Jewish housing in East Jerusalem as "an act injurious to peace in the area." Godber noted that the Security Council has already censured in the strongest terms all unilateral measures taken to change the status of Jerusalem.

Car Driven By Weizman Kills 81-Year-Old Man

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA)--A car driven by former Transport Minister Ezer Weizman ran down and killed an 81-year-old man last night in Neveh Magon, a residential section of Tel Aviv. The victim was identified as Dr. Benjamin Gellert, a factory director, who was said to have been on his way home from evening synagogue services when the accident occurred. Gen. Weizman, chairman of the Herut faction's executive committee, was scheduled to appear before a magistrate today to be officially charged. Eye-witnesses said Gellert was hit by Weizman's car as he tried to avoid another vehicle travelling in the opposite direction. Weizman's daughter, a passenger in the car, was injured slightly when he applied the brakes trying to avoid hitting Gellert.

Conference Explores Growth Of Catholic-Jewish Relations; Parochial Schools Praised

QUEENS, N.Y., March 22 (JTA)--Speaking at the third annual "Bishop's Day" of the Brooklyn-Queens Catholic-Jewish Relations Committee, the Most Reverend Francis J. Mugavero, D.D., Bishop of Brooklyn, said yesterday "that the Catholics of North America are determined, with you, to establish mutual respect between Catholics and Jews." Stating that "many centuries ago we stopped even speaking to each other and withdrew into all-Christian and all-Jewish worlds," Bishop Mugavero, who is Episcopal Moderator of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said that Catholics and Jews "have discovered that we share a past. We are learning how to live together in the present." The Bishop spoke at an observance of the fifth anniversary of the Vatican Council's Declaration on Catholic-Jewish Relations in the Forest Hills Jewish Center. The meeting, followed by a reception for Bishop Mugavero, was jointly sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn. In addition to Bishop Mugavero, the gathering of several hundred clerical and lay leaders was addressed by the Reverend John J. Keating, C.P.S., executive secretary of the Commission on Catholic-Jewish Relations of the Canadian Bishops' Conference, and Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser of the Forest Hills Jewish Center.

Dr. Joseph L. Lichten, director of the Anti-Defamation League's department for intercultural affairs, whom Bishop Mugavero described as "a pioneer in the area of Catholic-Jewish relations," told the gathering that the developing Christian-Jewish dialogue must have meaning "not only for our scholarly exchanges but also for our daily experiences." In illustrating the ways in which the Jewish community responds to Catholic concerns, Dr. Lichten said: "We know that the Catholic community is currently intensely occupied with the future of its children's education. This is a serious problem. Each closed school, whether public or parochial, slows the education process and necessarily brings anguish to the community affected." Dr. Lichten, who in his address briefly reviewed the history and significance of the Vatican Council statement, praised the Catholic parochial schools for the excellent programs of inter-religious cooperation they have developed with the Anti-Defamation League, and said "that many of my coreligionists feel deeply uneasy regarding the sword of Damocles which hangs over the Catholic school system."

Jewish Draftees May Ask Deferment During Passover

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--The National Jewish Welfare Board's (JWB) Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy has been notified that all draft boards have been asked to give "favorable consideration, wherever possible," to requests of registrants of the Jewish faith for postponements of physical examination or induction into the Armed Forces during Passover. The announcement came in the form of an official communication to JWB from Curtis W. Tarr, director, Selective Service System. This communication was addressed to Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, spiritual leader of Temple Beth El, Cedarhurst, N.Y., and chairman of the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy. Selective Service Operations Bulletin No. 81, amended as of July 1, 1970, entitled "Jewish Holy Days" gives Jewish registrants scheduled for physical examination or induction immediately prior to or during the holiday the right to request deferment until after Passover. Requests for such deferment should be made directly to local draft boards.

Aliya Seen As Best Answer To Arab, Soviet Enmity Toward Israel

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--The counselor to the permanent mission of Israel to the United Nations, told more than 500 persons at an Aliya Conference of the Zionist Organization of America yesterday that the best answer to the menace of Arab enmity and their Soviet supporters is the ingathering of Jews from all parts of the world. Lt. Col. Giora Navon also told the ZOA gathering that Americans have already had a share in creating Israeli society and that American aliya influences Israeli society. He cited Americans' contributions to the development of sciences in Israeli institutions of higher learning and American influence in kibbutzim toward a good life style. Also addressing the conference was former ZOA leader Louis Sitkoff who emigrated to Israel and who spoke on his adjustment to the country during the past nine years. Declaring that Americans who come to Israel were "masters of their own destiny," he added that American aliya this year is anticipated to be about 10,000. In 1970, he said, it was 9,400 Americans who settled in Israel.

Hamagshimim Launching New Israel Summer Programs For American College Youth

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA)--Several new Israeli programs for American college youth will be launched this summer by Hamagshimim, the Student Zionist Movement, it was announced here by Hillel Solomon, coordinator of Israel Programs. According to Solomon, the programs, which include "Hamagshimim Summer in Kibbutz," and "Hamagshimim Archaeology Seminar and Tour," will emphasize a new participatory approach to an Israeli experience. Hamagshimim, he reported, will aim at imbuing participants with what he termed "a sense of Israel" and personal obligation to do Israeli and Jewish work on their campuses. In this respect, he noted, the new programs would fill a void, since many existing programs tend to leave the participant with little sense of personal obligation to Israel. As part of its "Archaeology Seminar and Tour" program, Hamagshimim will send some 120 students to Israel early in June to receive classroom instruction in Israeli archaeology, participate in "dig" work and attend various lectures and discussions on Israel's social problems. This program, Solomon reported, is in cooperation with the American Zionist Youth Foundation and the Tel Aviv University. The newly-created "Hamagshimim Summer in Kibbutz," he said, is oriented "at those desiring a serious experiment at kibbutz life." This program, offered in cooperation with the AZYP and the Kibbutz Aliya Desk, will include some seminar and discussion group time as well as actual participation in kibbutz activities.

\$2.4 Million Sought To Plant 3 Million Tree Forest For Soviet Jewry

LONDON, March 22 (JTA)--A campaign to raise \$2.4 million to plant a three-million tree forest near Jerusalem in the name of Soviet Jewry was announced here today by Dr. Isaac Levy, director of the British Jewish National Fund. He said it would be the largest afforestation project ever undertaken by the JNF in Britain.