



daily news bulletin

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Vol. XXXIX - Fifty-Fifth Year

Tuesday, May 9, 1972

No. 90

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Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Army Chief of Staff David Elazar arrived at the airport shortly after the plane landed at 7 p.m. local time. The Belgian Ambassador was also present as a Sabena official communicated with the terrorists via radio in the Lydda Airport control tower.

Israel's Transport Minister Shimon Peres was at the airport. He said the terrorists presented a "long list" of names of prisoners they want released. The number was not disclosed. Efforts were being made to persuade the hijackers to release the passengers. But by 11 p.m. local time, apparently no progress was made.

Was On Brussels-Tel Aviv Flight

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14 MORE ACTIVISTS ORDERED UP FOR DUTY

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA)--At least 14 additional Jewish activists have been ordered to report for active duty in the Soviet Army Reserves, it was reported today by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The total is now 27. Of the 14, one is from Moscow, Leonid Kelner; one is from Sverdlovsk, Mark Levin; 11 are from Riga and one from Kovno. The NCSJ also identified the two activists ordered this weekend into active duty as Leonid Tsypin and Prof. Aleksander Voronel, both from Moscow. Twenty-six of the activists are in their 20's while Prof. Voronel is 41 years old.

At the same time, Richard Maass, chairman of the NCSJ, reported that 20 Soviet Jewish activists have received permission to emigrate. "We in the United States are overjoyed for those allowed to leave," he said, "but we fear for the well being of Soviet Jews remaining, and particularly for those

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MRS. RYAN NOT ASHAMED OF HER JOB AS A CONCENTRATION CAMP GUARD

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Asked if she was ashamed of anything she did during her six years as a camp guard, Mrs. Ryan replied, "No, no. I did my job to the best of my knowledge as I was supposed to do." She admitted that she was present when prisoners were marched to the gas chambers at Majdanek. She said she was "shocked" and "scared" by the prisoners' deaths but "it was not in my power to do anything about that. I was too little."

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provisions contained in the convention.

LAWMAKERS THREATEN TO VOTE AGAINST VOA FUNDS UNLESS AGENCY BROADCASTS PROGRAMS IN YIDDISH TO THE USSR

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--Rep. Edward J. Koch (D., N.Y.) and 15 other Democratic and Republican House members have warned Frank Shakespeare, director of the United States Information Agency, that they might vote against appropriations for the Voice of America broadcasts to the Soviet Union if the agency refuses to broadcast in Yiddish. The warning was in a letter written and signed by Koch with the appended signatures of the 15 other Congressmen.

The signers stated they were "dissatisfied with USIA's response to the requests made many times to your agency." The letter, dated May 3, was part of a statement made on the House floor by Koch, who declared that USIA's "opposition" to the broadcasts "has not been predicated on any technical problem but rather on policy." Shakespeare has said that technical considerations were prohibitive.

"Those familiar with the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union," Koch wrote, "know that their spirit will be buoyed by such an acknowledgment by the United States of this national language (Yiddish) no longer taught in the Soviet Union while other groups are encouraged to learn in their national language. Even so, great numbers of Jews in the Soviet Union hold fast to their mother tongue--the Yiddish language--not withstanding the efforts of the Soviet Union to engage in cultural genocide."

WAYS SOUGHT TO END HOSTILITY TOWARD NEW IMMIGRANTS

TEL AVIV, May 8 (JTA)--Government and Jewish Agency leaders are trying to counter a rising tide of sentiment against immigration which holds that newcomers benefit at the expense of the settled population and the poor. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, addressing the convention of the Israeli Rotarian Club, cited the record growth of Israel's gross national product and observed that "were it not for aliya these achievements would have been impossible."

Sapir acknowledged Israel's severe social problems and warned that unless they are solved "the whole future of the State is in doubt." But he predicted that it would take a generation to close all the social and economic gaps between Western and Oriental Israelis. "I know that to anyone who is in need at present, a generation sounds like a thousand years, but there are certain social processes that cannot be completed overnight," Sapir told the audience of businessmen.

Absorption Minister Natan Peled and Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, addressed a meeting of the Labor Party Secretariate here and both urged concerted campaigns of education and information to remove the feelings of hostility toward new immigrants. Pincus said the future of aliya depended on proper absorption and said that many new arrivals felt "out in the cold."

This was confirmed by Mrs. Dessia Kamias-kaya, a recent arrival from the Soviet Union. She said that while there are smiling volunteers to greet the immigrants at Lydda Airport; they are soon confronted by grim-faced officials and reams of red tape.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, said today in Tel Aviv that he will soon meet with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in Washington to discuss Soviet Jewry.

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW**THE FORWARD: UNIVERSITY OF LIFE FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE**

By MURRAY ZUCKOFF, JTA News Editor

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA)--Some 30 years ago the prophets of doom predicted that by the beginning of the current decade Yiddish newspapers would cease to exist. Attrition and assimilation would, they said, reduce the readership of the Yiddish press to the zero point. Simon Weber, editor of the oldest and largest existing Yiddish daily in this country, smiled as he recalled this dire prognostication. On May 21, a day after Shavuot, the Forward will celebrate its 75th anniversary and as he sees the future, "We have enough young people interested in Yiddish to give me hope that this paper will live long after I'm gone."

During a recent interview, Weber sat in his office on the ninth floor of the Forward Building on East Broadway and scanned New York's lower East Side that was once the heart throb of the Jewish metropolis of this country and now is a polyglot area of predominately Jewish, Black and Hispanic people. In the past few months alone, he noted, the Forward's readership climbed from an estimated 56,000 to almost 75,000 daily. Part of this increased circulation, Weber said, was due to the tragic demise of the Day-Morning Journal last Dec. But more important to the growth and continued expansion of the Forward, he said, is "the revival of Yiddishkeit" among young people, intellectuals, instructors and assistant professors in the colleges and universities around the country.

"There is a renewed thirst for the knowledge of Yiddish and the contributions of the Jewish people to history, culture, science and the arts," Weber said. "We in turn spur this interest by providing them with certain features, especially features dealing with Yiddish philology, folklore, literature and poetry." In fact, he noted, the Forward devotes more space proportionately to these subjects than to current events.

The 75th anniversary will symbolize not only the longevity and decades of intense and devoted service to the American Jewish community but will also be a testimony to the tenacity of Yiddishkeit in spite of all the forces of assimilation mobilized by the dominant culture and by segments of American Jewry to acculturate the Jewish people.

Capacity To Mobilize Opinion

Since 1897 the Forward has been the university life for the Jewish people in this country. It has been a powerhouse in the Jewish community as an organizer of the Jewish workers, a consistent champion of trade union democracy, font of literary talent, an innovator in the field of creative journalism and investigative reporting, a standard bearer of Social Democracy, an uncompromising opponent of Stalinism and left-wing and right-wing anti-Semitism and a campaigner for the rights of Jewish people everywhere. "The enduring quality of the Forward," Weber said, "is its capacity to mobilize opinion."

Just as the East Side has changed over the years, so too has the readership of the Forward. Despite this, Weber noted that its older readers maintain an abiding loyalty. "I get letters from people who began to read the Forward 50 or 60 years ago and are still reading it." But, he noted, "Whereas many years ago readers of the Forward were mostly shopworkers and the paper and its readers were labor oriented, most of our readers now are mainly retired people, intellectuals, small business people and professionals." His eyes sparkled as he noted that many of his readers are Talmudic scholars. "Let anyone, God forbid, make

a mistake in a quotation from the Talmud and there will be a flow of letters correcting it."

The Forward editorial staff represented, and still does, the quintessence of the Renaissance man to whom nothing human was alien. Some of the most famous writers, critics, essayists and folklorists are featured in the Forward. Isaac Bashevis Singer, Baruch Shefner, Boris Smolar, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Mordechai Strigler, Chaim Grade, Wolf Younin and S.L. Shneiderman grace the pages of the Forward. The latter three came to the Forward from the Day-Morning Journal after its demise. Smolar is the Editor Emeritus of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Dr. Shapiro writes a weekly column in English in the paper's Sunday magazine section.

But the Forward in the past also had ideologues, scholars, poets, playwrights and fiction writers such as Morris Rosenfeld, Abraham Reisen, Sholem Asch, I.J. Singer and Yona Rosenfeld. Scintillating and passionate editorials, sententious epigrams, ideological debates, poignant short stories about immigrant life and serials about Jewish history abounded in the pages of the Forward. During the early decades editorial apprentices were recruited from factories, union offices and the professions. The Forward's feuilletonists were the forerunners of the columnists in today's daily press.

Many 'Firsts' To Its Credit

The Forward, Weber recalled, had many "firsts" to its credit. In 1947 it launched a campaign to make the world conscious of the plight of Soviet Jewry with the first signs of anti-Semitism under Stalin in the post-war period. It was the first newspaper in any language that reported the arrest of the Jewish writers and the liquidation of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee headed by the renowned actor, Solomon Mikhoels, and the Red Army Colonel and Communist poet laureate, Itzik Feffer. Weber recounted that it was he who got the story from a State Department source that the Soviet government had liquidated the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Oct. 1948 as an alleged center of Zionism. It was the Forward, in the summer of 1952, that alerted the world to the fact that Feffer, Peretz Markish and a group of Yiddish writers were executed by the Stalinist regime.

In 1937 the Forward scored with a scoop in its publication of an interview of Leon Trotsky by M. Rubinshtein, a Yiddish editor from Mexico, when the exiled leader of the Bolshevik revolution was living in Coyacan. In that interview, Trotsky, who was a bitter opponent of Zionism, conceded that under Socialism Jews must have their own culture, develop their own way of life as a people and be granted freedom to emigrate. Trotsky, in that interview, also conceded that the classical Marxist view that the Jewish people would assimilate into the cultures and societies in which they lived was not borne out in view of fascism.

Weber, who before joining the Forward 33 years ago was city editor of the Yiddische Welt in Philadelphia and earlier the city editor of Freiheit, smiled as he said, "You see, it wasn't the Jewish Defense League that began the campaign to save Soviet Jewry but the Forward." The campaign to aid Soviet Jewry, he added, has been an ongoing and fundamental one for the past several decades.

With the demise of the Day-Morning Journal, Weber noted that the task of the Forward is to

serve "the entire Jewish community, not just a segment of it. We are devoting more space to that group which was served by the Journal. Although we considered ourselves the organ of the whole Jewish community there was particular stress on the secular sector. Now that there is no religious daily to serve the Orthodox sector, we are trying to serve them as best as we can without sacrificing our own editorial policy." Weber noted that the Forward's 75th anniversary edition, which will include an English section with "outstanding contributors," will reflect the expanded policy of the paper.

Almost as an afterthought, Weber said as the interview concluded: "I'm not known as an optimist, more a realist. Somehow I have a feeling that the Forward will survive its youngest contributors. Who says that a Yiddish paper can only exist when it has 65-70,000 readers? Who says it can't exist with 25,000. No Yiddish newspaper in the world outside the Forward has more than 25,000 and they are large and influential newspapers in their communities. We will continue and we will go --- forward."

15 CONGRESSMEN ASSAIL SOVIET TERROR AGAINST JEWS ON EVE OF NIXON'S VISIT

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--Fifteen members of Congress wrote to President Nixon urging him to protest the use of his trip to Moscow as an excuse for Soviet police to unleash a campaign of terror against Soviet Jews, Rep. Bertram Podell (D,N.Y.) said today. "While our diplomats have been making arrangements for the President's trip, secret police have embarked on a campaign of repression against the Jews they feel might draw attention to the plight of Soviet Jewry during the visit. We asked the President to make it plain to the Kremlin we do not like that kind of pre-summitry," Podell said.

In their letter, the Democratic and Republican Congressmen specifically charged Moscow with "...sweeping the streets of any Jews who might draw attention to their plight during your visit--activists have been drafted into the army although they have already served; Jews, including pregnant women, attempting to attend synagogue have been brutally beaten and arrested--all in an attempt to frighten the Jews into silence."

The letter then added, "We urge you to protest the use of your trip to launch this campaign. We urge you to use all diplomatic channels to express your extreme displeasure at this brutal repression." The campaign of repression began shortly after the Moscow summit meeting was announced and has built in intensity since, the Congressmen stated.

RECORD \$500,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS PURCHASED BY CINCINNATI BANK

CINCINNATI, May 8 (JTA)--The Provident Bank of Cincinnati has purchased a half-million dollars in State of Israel Bonds, representing the largest Israel Bond purchase in the history of the campaign in Ohio. Joseph F. Rippe, president of the Provident Bank, this week turned over a check for \$500,000 to Gene I. Mesh, chairman of the Cincinnati Israel Bond Committee, to complete the record-breaking purchase. In halting the outstanding Israel Bond purchase, Mesh declared that the economic development made possible by Israel Bonds is helping create jobs for new immigrants from Russia and elsewhere.

JDL INVADES AUSTRIAN EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--A group of Jewish Defense League members invaded the Austrian Embassy here this morning and traded punches with

Embassy officials trying to remove a Swastika flag that the JDLers hung from the second floor balcony. The scuffle was witnessed by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency reporter from the sidewalk outside the Embassy.

According to Dr. William Perl, the Washington area chairman of the JDL, a group of seven young JDL members he led into the Embassy building was "attacked" by Embassy officials including Ambassador Karl Gruber. Police were summoned but no arrests were made. After the incident the Ambassador agreed to meet with a delegation of JDLers.

Perl said the JDL entered the Embassy to protest last Friday's acquittal in Linz, Austria of 49-year-old Johann Gogol, a watchmaker accused of war crimes. While on the Embassy premises, two JDL members surreptitiously hung the Nazi flag and the sign from the balcony. According to Perl, Gruber personally removed the flag and tore up the sign following the scuffle. The sign read "Don't Visit Nazi Austria." W. Seutter, the Embassy's administrative officer, refused to comment on the incident.

The JTA reporter stated that he saw blows traded in the conference room on the second floor of the three-story Embassy building as JDLers apparently tried to prevent Embassy officials from entering the balcony to remove the flag and the sign. The 3 1/2 x 6 foot flag hung from the balcony for 45 minutes before the Embassy staff was aware of its presence.

AJCOMMITTEE LEADER URGES NIXON TO PRESS ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWS AT SUMMIT

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA)--Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, called on President Nixon to press the issue of the plight of Soviet Jewry during his meeting with Soviet leaders later this month. In his presidential address to the AJCommittee's 66th annual dinner, he noted that although 22,000 Jews had emigrated from the Soviet Union since the beginning of last year, there were 70,000 more who have applied for exit visas who have not yet been granted the right to leave.

"We are making every possible effort," Hoffman declared, "to keep those doors open. We will continue and intensify our efforts both to release from bondage those who wish to leave and to help those who remain to live as Jews within the Soviet Union, free from oppression." Discussing the Middle East, Hoffman said, Israel must be prepared and able to repel attacks from her enemies. "It is indeed gratifying that there is every evidence that our government is fully understanding of both the opportunities and the dangers in the current situation--not alone for Israel but also for the United States," he added.

Finally, he called on the US Senate to ratify the Genocide Convention, approval of which was recently voted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "It behooves all humanity to do everything in our power to insure that our United States Senate affirms this country's support for the principles of international law and morality which must prevail if man is to prevail," he stated. Hoffman was re-elected president of the AJCommittee, his fourth term. Richard Maass, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, was elected chairman of its Executive Council. Max M. Fisher, Detroit industrialist who served for the past four years as chairman of the Executive Council, was named honorary chairman of the Council.

A budget of \$875,000 was approved in Jerusalem to build more synagogues and mikvahs.



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provisions contained in the convention.

LAWMAKERS THREATEN TO VOTE AGAINST VOA FUNDS UNLESS AGENCY BROADCASTS PROGRAMS IN YIDDISH TO THE USSR

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--Rep. Edward J. Koch (D., N.Y.) and 15 other Democratic and Republican House members have warned Frank Shakespeare, director of the United States Information Agency, that they might vote against appropriations for the Voice of America broadcasts to the Soviet Union if the agency refuses to broadcast in Yiddish. The warning was in a letter written and signed by Koch with the appended signatures of the 15 other Congressmen.

The signers stated they were "dissatisfied with USIA's response to the requests made many times to your agency." The letter, dated May 3, was part of a statement made on the House floor by Koch, who declared that USIA's "opposition" to the broadcasts "has not been predicated on any technical problem but rather on policy." Shakespeare has said that technical considerations were prohibitive.

"Those familiar with the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union," Koch wrote, "know that their spirit will be buoyed by such an acknowledgment by the United States of this national language (Yiddish) no longer taught in the Soviet Union while other groups are encouraged to learn in their national language. Even so, great numbers of Jews in the Soviet Union hold fast to their mother tongue--the Yiddish language--not withstanding the efforts of the Soviet Union to engage in cultural genocide."

WAYS SOUGHT TO END HOSTILITY TOWARD NEW IMMIGRANTS

TEL AVIV, May 8 (JTA)--Government and Jewish Agency leaders are trying to counter a rising tide of sentiment against immigration which holds that newcomers benefit at the expense of the settled population and the poor. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, addressing the convention of the Israeli Rotarian Club, cited the record growth of Israel's gross national product and observed that "were it not for aliya these achievements would have been impossible."

Sapir acknowledged Israel's severe social problems and warned that unless they are solved "the whole future of the State is in doubt." But he predicted that it would take a generation to close all the social and economic gaps between Western and Oriental Israelis. "I know that to anyone who is in need at present, a generation sounds like a thousand years, but there are certain social processes that cannot be completed overnight," Sapir told the audience of businessmen.

Absorption Minister Natan Peled and Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, addressed a meeting of the Labor Party Secretariate here and both urged concerted campaigns of education and information to remove the feelings of hostility toward new immigrants. Pincus said the future of aliya depended on proper absorption and said that many new arrivals felt "out in the cold."

This was confirmed by Mrs. Dessia Kamias-kaya, a recent arrival from the Soviet Union. She said that while there are smiling volunteers to greet the immigrants at Lydda Airport; they are soon confronted by grim-faced officials and reams of red tape.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, said today in Tel Aviv that he will soon meet with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in Washington to discuss Soviet Jewry.

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW**THE FORWARD: UNIVERSITY OF LIFE FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE**

By MURRAY ZUCKOFF, JTA News Editor

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA)--Some 30 years ago the prophets of doom predicted that by the beginning of the current decade Yiddish newspapers would cease to exist. Attrition and assimilation would, they said, reduce the readership of the Yiddish press to the zero point. Simon Weber, editor of the oldest and largest existing Yiddish daily in this country, smiled as he recalled this dire prognostication. On May 21, a day after Shavuot, the Forward will celebrate its 75th anniversary and as he sees the future, "We have enough young people interested in Yiddish to give me hope that this paper will live long after I'm gone."

During a recent interview, Weber sat in his office on the ninth floor of the Forward Building on East Broadway and scanned New York's lower East Side that was once the heart throb of the Jewish metropolis of this country and now is a polyglot area of predominately Jewish, Black and Hispanic people. In the past few months alone, he noted, the Forward's readership climbed from an estimated 56,000 to almost 75,000 daily. Part of this increased circulation, Weber said, was due to the tragic demise of the Day-Morning Journal last Dec. But more important to the growth and continued expansion of the Forward, he said, is "the revival of Yiddishkeit" among young people, intellectuals, instructors and assistant professors in the colleges and universities around the country.

"There is a renewed thirst for the knowledge of Yiddish and the contributions of the Jewish people to history, culture, science and the arts," Weber said. "We in turn spur this interest by providing them with certain features, especially features dealing with Yiddish philology, folklore, literature and poetry." In fact, he noted, the Forward devotes more space proportionately to these subjects than to current events.

The 75th anniversary will symbolize not only the longevity and decades of intense and devoted service to the American Jewish community but will also be a testimony to the tenacity of Yiddishkeit in spite of all the forces of assimilation mobilized by the dominant culture and by segments of American Jewry to acculturate the Jewish people.

Capacity To Mobilize Opinion

Since 1897 the Forward has been the university life for the Jewish people in this country. It has been a powerhouse in the Jewish community as an organizer of the Jewish workers, a consistent champion of trade union democracy, font of literary talent, an innovator in the field of creative journalism and investigative reporting, a standard bearer of Social Democracy, an uncompromising opponent of Stalinism and left-wing and right-wing anti-Semitism and a campaigner for the rights of Jewish people everywhere. "The enduring quality of the Forward," Weber said, "is its capacity to mobilize opinion."

Just as the East Side has changed over the years, so too has the readership of the Forward. Despite this, Weber noted that its older readers maintain an abiding loyalty. "I get letters from people who began to read the Forward 50 or 60 years ago and are still reading it." But, he noted, "Whereas many years ago readers of the Forward were mostly shopworkers and the paper and its readers were labor oriented, most of our readers now are mainly retired people, intellectuals, small business people and professionals." His eyes sparkled as he noted that many of his readers are Talmudic scholars. "Let anyone, God forbid, make

a mistake in a quotation from the Talmud and there will be a flow of letters correcting it."

The Forward editorial staff represented, and still does, the quintessence of the Renaissance man to whom nothing human was alien. Some of the most famous writers, critics, essayists and folklorists are featured in the Forward. Isaac Bashevis Singer, Baruch Shefner, Boris Smolar, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Mordechai Strigler, Chaim Grade, Wolf Younin and S.L. Shneiderman grace the pages of the Forward. The latter three came to the Forward from the Day-Morning Journal after its demise. Smolar is the Editor Emeritus of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Dr. Shapiro writes a weekly column in English in the paper's Sunday magazine section.

But the Forward in the past also had ideologues, scholars, poets, playwrights and fiction writers such as Morris Rosenfeld, Abraham Reisen, Sholem Asch, I.J. Singer and Yona Rosenfeld. Scintillating and passionate editorials, sententious epigrams, ideological debates, poignant short stories about immigrant life and serials about Jewish history abounded in the pages of the Forward. During the early decades editorial apprentices were recruited from factories, union offices and the professions. The Forward's feuilletonists were the forerunners of the columnists in today's daily press.

Many 'Firsts' To Its Credit

The Forward, Weber recalled, had many "firsts" to its credit. In 1947 it launched a campaign to make the world conscious of the plight of Soviet Jewry with the first signs of anti-Semitism under Stalin in the post-war period. It was the first newspaper in any language that reported the arrest of the Jewish writers and the liquidation of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee headed by the renowned actor, Solomon Mikhoels, and the Red Army Colonel and Communist poet laureate, Itzik Feffer. Weber recounted that it was he who got the story from a State Department source that the Soviet government had liquidated the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Oct. 1948 as an alleged center of Zionism. It was the Forward, in the summer of 1952, that alerted the world to the fact that Feffer, Peretz Markish and a group of Yiddish writers were executed by the Stalinist regime.

In 1937 the Forward scored with a scoop in its publication of an interview of Leon Trotsky by M. Rubinshtein, a Yiddish editor from Mexico, when the exiled leader of the Bolshevik revolution was living in Coyacan. In that interview, Trotsky, who was a bitter opponent of Zionism, conceded that under Socialism Jews must have their own culture, develop their own way of life as a people and be granted freedom to emigrate. Trotsky, in that interview, also conceded that the classical Marxist view that the Jewish people would assimilate into the cultures and societies in which they lived was not borne out in view of fascism.

Weber, who before joining the Forward 33 years ago was city editor of the Yiddische Welt in Philadelphia and earlier the city editor of Freiheit, smiled as he said, "You see, it wasn't the Jewish Defense League that began the campaign to save Soviet Jewry but the Forward." The campaign to aid Soviet Jewry, he added, has been an ongoing and fundamental one for the past several decades.

With the demise of the Day-Morning Journal, Weber noted that the task of the Forward is to

serve "the entire Jewish community, not just a segment of it. We are devoting more space to that group which was served by the Journal. Although we considered ourselves the organ of the whole Jewish community there was particular stress on the secular sector. Now that there is no religious daily to serve the Orthodox sector, we are trying to serve them as best as we can without sacrificing our own editorial policy." Weber noted that the Forward's 75th anniversary edition, which will include an English section with "outstanding contributors," will reflect the expanded policy of the paper.

Almost as an afterthought, Weber said as the interview concluded: "I'm not known as an optimist, more a realist. Somehow I have a feeling that the Forward will survive its youngest contributors. Who says that a Yiddish paper can only exist when it has 65-70,000 readers? Who says it can't exist with 25,000. No Yiddish newspaper in the world outside the Forward has more than 25,000 and they are large and influential newspapers in their communities. We will continue and we will go --- forward."

15 CONGRESSMEN ASSAIL SOVIET TERROR AGAINST JEWS ON EVE OF NIXON'S VISIT

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--Fifteen members of Congress wrote to President Nixon urging him to protest the use of his trip to Moscow as an excuse for Soviet police to unleash a campaign of terror against Soviet Jews, Rep. Bertram Podell (D,N.Y.) said today. "While our diplomats have been making arrangements for the President's trip, secret police have embarked on a campaign of repression against the Jews they feel might draw attention to the plight of Soviet Jewry during the visit. We asked the President to make it plain to the Kremlin we do not like that kind of pre-summitry," Podell said.

In their letter, the Democratic and Republican Congressmen specifically charged Moscow with "...sweeping the streets of any Jews who might draw attention to their plight during your visit--activists have been drafted into the army although they have already served; Jews, including pregnant women, attempting to attend synagogue have been brutally beaten and arrested--all in an attempt to frighten the Jews into silence."

The letter then added, "We urge you to protest the use of your trip to launch this campaign. We urge you to use all diplomatic channels to express your extreme displeasure at this brutal repression." The campaign of repression began shortly after the Moscow summit meeting was announced and has built in intensity since, the Congressmen stated.

RECORD \$500,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS PURCHASED BY CINCINNATI BANK

CINCINNATI, May 8 (JTA)--The Provident Bank of Cincinnati has purchased a half-million dollars in State of Israel Bonds, representing the largest Israel Bond purchase in the history of the campaign in Ohio. Joseph F. Rippe, president of the Provident Bank, this week turned over a check for \$500,000 to Gene I. Mesh, chairman of the Cincinnati Israel Bond Committee, to complete the record-breaking purchase. In halting the outstanding Israel Bond purchase, Mesh declared that the economic development made possible by Israel Bonds is helping create jobs for new immigrants from Russia and elsewhere.

JDL INVADES AUSTRIAN EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA)--A group of Jewish Defense League members invaded the Austrian Embassy here this morning and traded punches with

Embassy officials trying to remove a Swastika flag that the JDLers hung from the second floor balcony. The scuffle was witnessed by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency reporter from the sidewalk outside the Embassy.

According to Dr. William Perl, the Washington area chairman of the JDL, a group of seven young JDL members he led into the Embassy building was "attacked" by Embassy officials including Ambassador Karl Gruber. Police were summoned but no arrests were made. After the incident the Ambassador agreed to meet with a delegation of JDLers.

Perl said the JDL entered the Embassy to protest last Friday's acquittal in Linz, Austria of 49-year-old Johann Gogol, a watchmaker accused of war crimes. While on the Embassy premises, two JDL members surreptitiously hung the Nazi flag and the sign from the balcony. According to Perl, Gruber personally removed the flag and tore up the sign following the scuffle. The sign read "Don't Visit Nazi Austria." W. Seutter, the Embassy's administrative officer, refused to comment on the incident.

The JTA reporter stated that he saw blows traded in the conference room on the second floor of the three-story Embassy building as JDLers apparently tried to prevent Embassy officials from entering the balcony to remove the flag and the sign. The 3 1/2 x 6 foot flag hung from the balcony for 45 minutes before the Embassy staff was aware of its presence.

AJ COMMITTEE LEADER URGES NIXON TO PRESS ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWS AT SUMMIT

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA)--Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, called on President Nixon to press the issue of the plight of Soviet Jewry during his meeting with Soviet leaders later this month. In his presidential address to the AJ Committee's 66th annual dinner, he noted that although 22,000 Jews had emigrated from the Soviet Union since the beginning of last year, there were 70,000 more who have applied for exit visas who have not yet been granted the right to leave.

"We are making every possible effort," Hoffman declared, "to keep those doors open. We will continue and intensify our efforts both to release from bondage those who wish to leave and to help those who remain to live as Jews within the Soviet Union, free from oppression." Discussing the Middle East, Hoffman said, Israel must be prepared and able to repel attacks from her enemies. "It is indeed gratifying that there is every evidence that our government is fully understanding of both the opportunities and the dangers in the current situation--not alone for Israel but also for the United States," he added.

Finally, he called on the US Senate to ratify the Genocide Convention, approval of which was recently voted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "It behooves all humanity to do everything in our power to insure that our United States Senate affirms this country's support for the principles of international law and morality which must prevail if man is to prevail," he stated. Hoffman was re-elected president of the AJ Committee, his fourth term. Richard Maass, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, was elected chairman of its Executive Council. Max M. Fisher, Detroit industrialist who served for the past four years as chairman of the Executive Council, was named honorary chairman of the Council.

A budget of \$875,000 was approved in Jerusalem to build more synagogues and mikvahs.