



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

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Vol. XL - Fifty-Sixth Year

Wednesday, December 12, 1973

No. 236

HOUSE ADOPTS TRADE ACT BANNING MFN, CREDITS TO USSR BY 272-140 VOTE

Vanik Bill Adopted By 319-80 Vote, Administration Measure Killed By 298-106
By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--The House of Representatives, by a vote of 272-140, today adopted the 1973 Trade Reform Act embodying bans on U.S. trade credits, investment guarantees and most favored nation status for the Soviet Union until it modifies its emigration practices. The measure will go to the Senate which is to hold hearings on the trade bill beginning early next year and where more than 3/4 of the members have already endorsed identical restrictions on trade with the USSR embodied in the Jackson Amendment.

The vote on the Trade Reform Act followed an overwhelming manifestation of support for an amendment sponsored by Rep. Charles A. Vanik (D, Ohio) to deny trade credits and investment guarantees, directly or indirectly, to the Soviet Union until it eases its policies on the emigration of Jews and others. The Vanik motion was adopted 319-80 and the House then went on to kill by a vote of 298-106, a motion by Administration supporters to delete the entire Title Four (Mills-Vanik) from the Trade Act.

Today's vote on the Vanik measure restored in its entirety the original legislation sponsored by Vanik and Rep. Wilbur Mills (D, Ark.) linking U.S. trade concessions with Soviet emigration policies. The ban on credit and guarantees had been dropped earlier during consideration of the Mills-Vanik bill by the House Ways and Means Committee. The ban on granting most favored nation status (tariff parity) to the USSR was left intact. The Soviet Union is known to be more interested in U.S. credits than MFN.

Last Ditch Stand By Administration

The vote in favor of the Vanik amendment exceeded the number of co-sponsors of the original Mills-Vanik bill which totalled 284 and was substantially greater than the 2/3 vote required to override a Presidential veto. The vote in favor of the full Trade Reform Act, however, was not veto-proof. Nixon has threatened to veto the bill if it contains the Mills-Vanik amendment.

Administration forces only half-heartedly opposed the Vanik amendment today, obviously aware of the overwhelming sentiment in favor of restrictions stemming from Soviet actions in the Middle East and other actions militating against free emigration. The motion to have the entire Title Four deleted from the bill, entered by Rep. Barber B. Conable (R, NY), a Nixon stalwart, represented a last stand by Administration forces to defeat Mills-Vanik in the House.

The Nixon Administration has argued strenuously during the past few months against any restraints in its trade dealings with the USSR on grounds that they would hinder detente and jeopardize delicate negotiations on the Middle East. The Administration is expected to make a final effort to remove the bans when the Senate considers the Trade Act next year.

Vanik, in a personal telephone call to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here, said, "The tre-

mendous vote" today is a "clear mandate on the part of the Congress of the United States in support both for human rights and decency and an expression of compassion for the State of Israel." Many Congressmen had not committed themselves prior to the Soviet-supported Arab attack on Israel on Yom Kippur and they endorsed the legislation in view of the Kremlin's Middle East policies despite the President's opposition to the Mills-Vanik proposals.

ISRAEL MAY NOT GO TO GENEVA IF SYRIA WITHHOLDS ISRAELI POW LIST

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said today that Israel may not go to the Geneva peace conference next week if Syria has not by then submitted a list of Israeli prisoners of war in its hands. Dayan, who made the remark to a reporter while visiting wounded soldiers at Hadassah Hospital, said that was his interpretation of the government's decision not to sit at a peace table with Syria until it complies with the Geneva Convention requirements on POWs.

The government said yesterday that Damascus would have to submit a POW list and permit Red Cross representatives to visit the POWs. Dayan said, however, that he thought there was a good chance that the Geneva conference would open Dec. 18 as scheduled. He said the present cease-fire is not institutionalized or stable and warned the public to be prepared should it collapse. Dayan said he did not see any possibility at this point of the Israeli-Egyptian cease-fire talks resuming at the Kilometer 101 checkpoint.

KISSINGER REAFFIRMS U.S. SUPPORT OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242

BRUSSELS, Dec. 11 (JTA)--In an impromptu press conference today, U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said he did not justify America's Mideast policy at the meeting of the NATO foreign ministers here today. "I did not come here to seek European Economic Community support of America's policy in the Mideast... We have always supported the UN Security Council Resolution (242) and our policy has always consisted of aiding the parties to the conflict in reaching a lasting peace," he said.

Yesterday, during the NATO meeting, Kissinger said America's policy during the recent Mideast war resulted in a military and political atmosphere conducive to a fair peace settlement. The settlement will preserve western influence in the Middle East, he said.

French Foreign Minister Michel Jobert, however, sharply disagreed with Kissinger over U.S. action in the Middle East crisis. Jobert strongly condemned what he called America's failure to consult with its European partners before calling a worldwide alert of its armed forces during the war. Observers here said that Kissinger was concerned that the current dissension in the Atlantic Alliance might harm the west's position at the forthcoming Geneva peace conference and perhaps strengthen the Arabs.

KISSINGER UNDER HEAVY SECURITY GUARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger is under the heaviest

guard given any American apart from the President because of a threat reported to have come from the Black September gang of Arab terrorists on his life during his travels in Europe and the Middle East this week.

State Department spokesman John King would neither confirm nor deny that Black September is involved. He said "there was a threat" but would not identify its source except to say it was "from overseas." King added, "Based on the information received and the source it came from we had to take it seriously. We reasonably believed there to be a possibility of a threat on the Secretary." According to reports received from European capitals, a Palestinian terrorist was reported to have left the Middle East for Europe last week to lay the groundwork to assassinate Kissinger.

"Appropriate precautions" taken to protect Kissinger include a cover of about 100 Secret Service and State Department agents, some armed with shotguns, for Kissinger's arrival in a London airport today from Paris where he had conferred the past two days with NATO officials, it was reported here. He leaves London tomorrow for talks with leaders in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Israel before going to Geneva Dec. 17 for the conference expected to begin there Dec. 18 between Israelis and Arabs.

GREEK JEWS' SITUATION UNCHANGED

LONDON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--The position of Greek Jews has not changed in any way as a result of the latest change of government, the JTA was told by Joseph Lovinger, chairman of the Jewish community in Greece who attended the meeting of the European Executive of the World Jewish Congress, together with Lazar Eliezer, one of the leaders of the community.

Lovinger said: "The new government of Greece did not bring about any changes in the position of the Jewish community. Greece never had any kind of anti-Jewish program. Greek Jews have always lived in peace, and on a basis of complete equality among the Greeks. This was the case under all governments, and it remains the case under the present one as a matter of fact."

Regarding the Middle East, Lovinger said: "The new government did not change the foreign policy of the country. This means, of course, that the Middle East policy of Greece also remains unchanged."

WALDHEIM DUE TO LEAVE FOR GENEVA

By Yitzhak Rabi, JTA UN Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Secretary General Kurt Waldheim is expected to leave for Geneva this weekend in preparation for the Arab-Israeli peace conference scheduled to open Dec. 18, it was learned here today. To date, there has been no official word as to the exact nature of Waldheim's participation in the peace conference. A UN spokesman said today only that Waldheim "will attend as a participant."

Recently the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported that Waldheim was seeking a more meaningful role than the one of an observer. Diplomatic sources, however, said today that the Security Council is likely to meet this week to discuss Waldheim's role at the Geneva conference. Some non-aligned members of the Security Council want Waldheim to preside over the conference and report to the Security Council on the conference, the JTA learned.

Meanwhile, informal consultations are taking place here between members of the Security Council with regard to the Geneva conference. Wald-

heim himself is continuing his meetings with diplomats on the Middle East situation. In recent days he has met with the UN Ambassadors of Israel, Egypt and the Soviet Union.

Responding to reports that Egypt wants to see France and Britain take part in the conference, a United Kingdom spokesman said today that the overriding priority is that "the talks should start." He added, "If we are wanted we will be happy" to attend.

NINE-HOUR DAY MOOTED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11 (JTA)--A ministerial economic committee is to broach with the Histadrut the suggestion of introducing a nine-hour day in factories, offices and other work places so as to share the burden more fairly between the reservists in the armed forces and the rest of the labor force. The decision came at the committee's weekly meeting yesterday in Jerusalem. The proposal was originally mooted by Deputy Transport Minister Gad Yaacobi--and Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir is said to support it. Koor Industries Director-General Meir Amit has taken the thing a stage further by actually introducing a nine-hour day in the huge Koor industrial network (Koor is Histadrut owned.)

Meanwhile, economists and columnists are warning the public that a long period of belt tightening is scheduled. Forced loans and voluntary loans have eaten into family incomes, and increased food and electricity prices have made further encroachments. Last week--in the wake of electricity raises of some 30 percent--the price of water skyrocketed by 20 percent. And, following fuel price hikes, taxi fares went up 15 percent in Jerusalem and 20 percent in Tel Aviv.

The Central Bureau of Statistics, in a perverse-ly-timed statement, announced that in January-September 1973, 32,500 new cars had been purchased, 70,300 TV sets, 72,600 washing machines and 55,300 refrigerators--an average rise of 31 percent over the same period last year.

JDL ATTACKS FRENCH MISSION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Jewish Defense League chairman William Perl today described the attack on the French Cultural Mission in New York earlier today as "an apparent demonstration against the perfidious policy of the Pompidou government" towards Israel. Objects thrown at the Mission by persons as yet unidentified shattered several of its windows and damaged its interior. No one was reported hurt.

Perl, who lives in nearby Maryland, said that the JDL was "not taking official credit for this noble deed" but "applauds the patriotic action." He said the Pompidou government "tries by all means, including organization of the oil blackmail, to complete in Israel what Hitler almost completed in Europe."

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Netherlands Foreign Minister Max van der Stoep said last night that it was very probably the Soviet Union, despite its stated policy of detente, greatly encouraged the outbreak of Mideast hostilities in Oct. Speaking at the NATO meeting in Brussels, van der Stoep added the Soviet Union greatly benefitted from the conflict. He also accused the USSR of instigating the Arab oil countries to put long-existing plans for using oil as a weapon into operation. He said the Soviet Union purposely wanted to put pressure on Western Europe and sow discord.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Ministry of Tourism expects 2500 tourists to arrive in Israel at the end of Dec. for the X-mas festivities.

POSTAL WARNING ON LETTER BOMBS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--An alert to all postal stations to be on the lookout for "terrorist letter bombs in the mail stream" was published in the Postal Bulletin of the U.S. Postal Service here. The alert contains a detailed description of letter bombs "addressed to Israeli officials in this country or to Americans of known close ties to Israel."

The alert, in the Nov. 29 Postal Bulletin, states: "Although most of the letter bombs which have been sent by terrorists to targets in the United States have been carried in the mails, none of these bombs has exploded except in the process of being opened. The two types encountered to date each require that the insert be removed from the wrapper for the detonating mechanism to be activated. In their unopened condition, these letter bombs appear capable of withstanding the rigors of handling without detonation."

The notice stated that "letter bombs intercepted in the United States addressed to Israeli officials in this country or to Americans of known close ties to Israel were mailed in the Netherlands, Malaysia and Greece. The bombs were enclosed in conventional plain or air-mail envelopes of different colors and sizes with addresses both typed and handwritten and contained thin, flat strips of plastic explosive wrapped in sheets of letter paper, making a packet of the thickness of a bulky letter." The notice reported that more recent bombs addressed to British officials and mailed from Paris were contained in thin paperback books.

JEWES ARRESTED AT RUMBULI

NEW YORK, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Three hundred Soviet police descended on about 200 Jews making a pilgrimage Sunday to the graves of Jewish martyrs at Rumbuli outside Riga, arrested many of them and dispersed the rest, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today. Those arrested received 15-day sentences, according to Jewish sources in the Soviet Union, the NCSJ reported. Rumbuli is the site of a massacre of Jews by the Nazis during World War II. It has been the practice of Riga Jews to lay wreaths at a monument on the site. Those arrested were reportedly released later, the NCSJ reported.

Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today that Soviet authorities have lately tightened their restrictions on Jews in the Riga area. They reported that Valery Kaminsky was arrested recently and given a 15-day administrative sentence on charges of "hooliganism." Another Riga Jew, Valery Buyko, was questioned by the KGB (secret police) for six hours while his home was searched.

The NCSJ also reported that five Leningrad Jews have appealed to the Mayor of that city and to the head of the Internal Affairs Department in Leningrad for permission to assemble on Dec. 16 in front of the municipal building to protest the denial of exit visas. The five are Iosif Blihk; Raul Braz; Arkady Rabinov; Grigory Goman; and Boris Rubinshtein.

MAPAM TO BACK GOVERNMENT IN GENEVA

TEL AVIV, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Mapam leader Yaacov Hazan said last night that the Party would back the government at the Geneva peace conference and predicted that its outcome would be an acceptable compromise. The government will go to Geneva with a maximalist position but will gradually give up ground and stand on a plan very close to Mapam's peace plan, Hazan told a meeting of the Kibbutz Artzi Executive at Ein Hami-

fratz.

The Mapam kibbutz movement voted 47-0 with 23 abstentions in favor of the resignation of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. Hazan's colleague, Mapam veteran leader Meir Yaari, claimed that Dayan alone should not be blamed for mistakes by the government. He said Deputy Premier Yigal Allon was no more a dove than Dayan and that the "Allon Plan" was not calculated to bring peace with the Arabs. The movement agreed to back Premier Golda Meir, though with reservations and on condition that she does not reappoint Dayan when she forms a new government after the Dec. 31 elections. Mapam is a member of the Labor Alignment.

While calling on Dayan to resign in acknowledgement of the mistakes for which he was responsible, Hazan said Mapam itself was not blameless for the situation that existed before the Yom Kippur War. "We lived as if there was no tomorrow," he told his colleagues. "We let ourselves deal with marginal problems and tried to forget that the Arab world wants to destroy Israel. We allowed permissiveness and abandoned Socialist education. We replaced ideology with psychology." He added, however, that even while the conflict with the Arabs continues, "we shall continue to believe in ultimate Arab-Jewish peace."

LATE NEWS BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (JTA)--The House of Representatives today, by an overwhelming vote of 364-52, adopted the \$2.2 billion measure to resupply Israel with weapons lost in the Yom Kippur War. The authorization measure now goes to the Senate where hearings will begin Dec. 13 before the Foreign Relations Committee. Since this sum was requested by the Administration no complications are expected.

This bill is not to be confused with the foreign aid authorization now at the White House for the President's signature which calls for a credit to Israel of \$300 million for military purposes and a grant of \$50 million in economic supporting assistance. Both the resupply and the foreign aid bills require appropriation legislation before they can be implemented.

VIENNA (JTA)--The first group of Soviet Jewish emigrants arrived Tuesday at the new transit camp in Woellersdorf which has replaced Schoenau. The Red Cross in lower Austria will run the aid station. Although Red Cross officials do not expect any attacks by Arab terrorists, Austrian police took no chances; heavily armed policemen with sub-machine guns in their hands guarded the entrance of the former army barracks. They checked every car passing the gate. * * *

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Mouhamed Atoumi, a Libyan national who hijacked a Libyan airliner to Israel last Aug. 16 as a gesture of his "friendship for Jews," was sentenced Tuesday to an indeterminate period in a mental hospital. Tel Aviv District Court Judge Max Kenneth pronounced sentence after hearing the case presented by District Attorney Victoria Ostrowsky-Cohen and defense counsel Itzhak Aderet. The judge based his ruling on a psychiatric report by Prof. A. Winnik who said Atoumi was mentally ill and could commit further uncontrollable acts unless confined. * * *

LONDON (JTA)--Valery Panov has been threatened with imprisonment by Soviet authorities who charge that he is a "parasite," according to reports received here from Moscow. The 33-year-old former ballet star lost his job after applying to emigrate to Israel. The threat reportedly came during a 3-hour police questioning last Thursday.

