



daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XLII - 58th Year

Tuesday, February 4, 1975

No. 94

GOLDMANN TELLS WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY THAT DANGERS THREATEN SURVIVAL OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN DIASPORA Number One Problem Of Jewish Foreign Policy Is Survival, Future Of Israel

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA)—Dr. Nahum Goldmann declared here tonight that "the number one problem of Jewish foreign policy is to secure the survival and future of Israel." In a lengthy address on "The Jewish People Among the Nations," which opened the Sixth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, the WJC president also stressed the dangers threatening the survival of Jewish communities in the diaspora.

He mentioned specifically, the three million Jews in the Soviet Union and the one million in Latin America. He dwelt at length on the fundamental and far-reaching changes that have occurred in the world during the last 30-40 years, embracing the Nazi Holocaust and the emergence of the Jewish State--the two most important events moulding the external and internal lives of the Jewish people--but also the steady realignment of the world power structure which, he stressed, will have profound effects on the future of Israel and diaspora Jewry.

Addressing the 500 delegates from 65 countries assembled in the Binyanei Ha-Ooma, Jerusalem's convention hall, Dr. Goldmann spoke from the vantage point of 60 years of leadership in the Zionist movement and world Jewish affairs. His speech had the tenor of a valedictory and its content appeared to be a synthesis of the speaker's wide experience in the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds. Dr. Goldmann reiterated many of the views he has expressed on previous occasions--some of which have made him a figure of bitter controversy in Israel and in some Jewish circles abroad.

Decisive Issues Enumerated

He addressed himself to such delicate and potentially divisive issues as activism versus caution in meeting external threats to the Jewish people and Israel; when to resist and when to retreat in the interests of survival; the problem of dual loyalty as it affects diaspora relations with Israel; the need of neutrality by the State of Israel in world affairs; and the dangers inherent in the "unilateral orientation of Jewish world policies...solely with the democratic nations."

Dr. Goldmann stressed at the outset of his address that "every Jew, in my opinion, is entitled to express his views about Israel's policies, but when it comes to the final conclusion he has the duty to stand by Israel, even if he is not in accord with its policies." He noted that the WJC "by its structure, cannot adopt a unified position on any of Israel's internal or external political problems."

Three Basic Principles

He formulated three principles, however, which he said should form the basic approach by the Plenary Assembly to the relationship between Israel and the diaspora: "The unity of the whole Jewish people and the equality of all parts of it; the recognition of the sovereignty of Israel

by the Jews of the diaspora, leaving the State and its institutions the right and privilege to reach binding decisions on its policies; the recognition by Israel of the autonomy of the diaspora, not trying to dominate its internal policies and allowing it to voice its views on Israel's policies."

Dr. Goldmann divided the problems and perils confronting Israel and world Jewry into two categories--external and internal. In the former he listed the diminution of guilt for the Nazi Holocaust on the part of the non-Jewish world; the realignment of the world power structure by the emergence of the Communist bloc of nations and the Third World nations, capable of challenging the democracies in which the Jewish people have traditionally relied.

He suggested: "We have first of all to reconsider and if possible to improve our relations with the Communist bloc and with the Third World, particularly because next to the survival of the State of Israel, the future of the three million more Jews living in the Communist world is a major issue we have to solve."

The WJC president dealt at some length with the problem of Soviet Jewry (See separate story) which he said was threatened "not so much by potential anti-Semitism, although it certainly exists, but by the danger of erosion and assimilation." He said that a second large group of Jews "menaced by external factors" are the one million of Latin America, "again not so much threatened by anti-Semitism...but in danger of becoming the victims of a pre-revolutionary situation which--as our experience of diaspora life proves--tends to make us, as the weakest minority, the primary object."

Need For Increased Aliya

Among the internal problems, Dr. Goldmann stressed the fragility of a "Jewish nation" in which 80 percent of its members live outside of its national state. "We must see to it that aliya increases," he said, "We must induce the important and influential Jewish personalities who are unable or unwilling to join Jewish life in the form of democratic process, to play an active part." He said it was unrealistic to deny the existence of double loyalty which in normal times "should not constitute a problem" but in times of crisis "is bound to crop up."

"For us it is a question of life and death. A Jewish State will not survive if the diaspora Jewry will separate itself from it, morally, politically and intellectually. The solution of the problem is first of all to admit its existence and to fight for the recognition of such double loyalties," he said.

Avoid Dual Loyalty Charges

On the other hand, Dr. Goldmann said, Israel "has to consider the impact of its policies on Jewish communities in the world whose solidarity it is rightly demanding, and therefore one of the major considerations of Israel's policies should be to avoid possible conflicts and accusations of double loyalty, to keep out of international disputes as far as possible if they do not vitally affect Israel's existence, and thus to make it possible for Jews in all parts of the world and under all kinds of regimes to remain attached and loyal to Israel."

He added, "This is one of the reasons why I

have often suggested, from the beginning of Israel's existence, a policy of neutrality for Israel, which for a certain time was adopted and formulated as non-identification, but which, primarily because of the conflict with the Arab world, was unfortunately not maintained."

Dr. Goldmann posed a dilemma for Jewry--when to yield and when to resist--and left its solution unresolved. "We are not threatened by Inquisition or pogroms, and therefore our stubbornness, when necessary, has to be less dramatic and our flexibility and readiness to yield can be less outspoken," he said. "But the problem itself remains, and in many cases of Jewish policies of our generation...overdoing stubbornness, aggressivity and radicalism was harmful, while in others, our readiness to make concessions or to indulge in undignified policies was no less, or even more damaging."

Era Of Greater Risks

Summing up, Dr. Goldmann said: "The relatively happy period since the second World War is coming to an end and we are entering a new era in which we will have to fight more strenuously and against greater risks for the survival and security of Israel and for the continued existence of the diaspora, for which Israel's survival is a condition. Nothing is more dangerous for any people--especially for ours, with its innate inclination to be optimistic...than to indulge in illusions, see things better than they are, escape from facts when they are tragic and uncomfortable. We must find the courage and coolness of mind to face realities, both in the diaspora and in Israel, where all Jewish problems become more dramatic and more focussed."

PROTEST OPENING OF NAZI MUSEUM

BRUSSELS, Feb. 3 (JTA)--A Nazi museum will soon be opened in Namur, Belgium, for an exhibit of a private collection of Nazi war relics. The conception of such a museum has been contested by the National War Invalid's Social Work Association, which believes that the exhibition could be misinterpreted by young visitors who did not know Nazism during the war.

The Association has made a formal request to the ministries concerned with historical and artistic affairs, in order that measures be taken to ensure that the museum shows the Nazi period in the proper light. The group has also proposed to bring its own contribution to the museum, in the form of films and still photographs of resistance movements and concentration camps.

INFLUX OF ARABS IS SOURCE OF CONCERN FOR HAMBURG AUTHORITIES

BONN, Feb. 3 (JTA)--The Hamburg state immigration authorities are worried about the increasing number of Arabs applying for political asylum. They put the figure at 77 over the past five months. Most say they are either Fatah persecutees or Fatah sympathizers under coercion from their own national governments. About 3000 Arabs are registered in Hamburg, and the authorities fear that the two main groups--Fatah victims and sympathizers--could begin fighting in the city.

The authorities also do not exclude the possibility that some of the Arab immigrants may be terrorists. They observe that Arab immigrants into Hamburg use the same methods and give the same reasons as those entering West Berlin from the Middle East via East Berlin. This has been a constant source of terrorist ac-

tivity in the past. The Hamburg authorities point out that most Arabs employ a lawyer on arrival to get residence terms extended, even before the authorities themselves lay these down.

SILBERMAN IS ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (JTA)--William B. Saxbe was sworn in today as the American Ambassador to India and at the Department of Justice Lawrence H. Silberman took over his duties as the acting Attorney General of the United States.

Silberman, a native of York, Pa., had been deputy to Saxbe, former Ohio Republican Senator, and will serve as acting head of the Justice Department until Edward H. Levi, University of Chicago president, is sworn in as Attorney General. This may not take place for some days. The Senate Judiciary Committee has completed hearings on Levi's nomination by President Ford but it has not yet acted upon it. After the panel's action the full Senate must vote on the nomination.

Silberman, who is 38 years old, thus becomes the first Jew to head the Department of Justice. Levi will be the first Jew actually designated by a President as Attorney General. Silberman, it was said, will leave the Department to return to private law practice here after Levi's accession to the post.

MOSHE STARKMAN DEAD AT 68

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Moshe Starkman, director of Yiddish publicity of the United Jewish Appeal and Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Joint Campaign, died of a heart ailment yesterday at the Mt. Sinai Hospital. Mr. Starkman was stricken while handling press relations for the 37th annual conference of the UJA-Federation's Council of Organizations in that city. Mr. Starkman was 68 years old and resided in New York.

A former city editor of the now-defunct New York Yiddish daily, "Day-Morning Journal," Mr. Starkman was a past president of the Yiddish Pen Club, and at the time of his death was serving on the boards of directors of YIVO, the Yiddish Scientific Institute, and the Jewish Culture Congress.

Mr. Starkman was an authority on Yiddish literature, and was the author of numerous monographs on that subject, a number of which appear in the Encyclopedia Britannica. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow at the Riverside Chapel in New York City.

SEEK TO COMBAT TAY-SACHS DISEASE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Rep. Joshua Ellberg (D.Pa.) has introduced legislation to establish a national program for the diagnosis, control, and prevention of Tay-Sachs disease. Ellberg said the measure authorizes the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare to initiate Tay-Sachs screening and counseling programs in existing health centers across the nation and to set up an information program about the disease. A total of \$3 million is authorized for the plan.

"Approximately 700,000 Americans are afflicted with this disease which will affect one-fourth of all the children born to parents who both carry the gene mutation which causes it," said Ellberg. "This means that one of 30 Americans of Eastern European Jewish descent or 20 percent of the U.S. Jewish population are potential parents of a Tay-Sachs child," Ellberg noted.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The Swiss government contributed 145,500 pounds of powdered milk to the Joint Distribution Committee during 1974, it was announced by Samuel L. Haber, JDC executive vice-chairman.

GOLDMANN: SOVIET JEWRY IS A MAJOR ISSUE CONFRONTING WORLD JEWRY

Cites Two Errors in Dealing With Problem

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Declaring that the future of three million Jews in the Soviet Union is one of the major issues confronting world Jewry today, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, charged tonight that the Jewish people committed two errors in attacking the problem. One was over-reaction and exaggerated acts against the Soviet regime and the other was "the unilateral or even exclusive concentration on the issue of emigration," he told 500 delegates from 65 countries attending the opening session of the Sixth Plenary Assembly of the WJC.

Dr. Goldmann said, "Acts like those of the Jewish Defense League, the molestation of individual Soviet diplomats, the attempts to disturb concerts and artistic performances by Soviet artists, even Jewish artists, the identification of Soviet anti-Semitism with Nazism were unjustified and could only boomerang."

On the matter of emigration, he asserted, "The Soviet Jewish problem has two aspects: one, that of the 100,000 or so who want to go to Israel; the other, that of the millions who will remain in Russia and must be assured of facilities to live as Jews."

The Issue Of Soviet Emigration

Concerning emigration, Dr. Goldmann said, "I hope that we have gained a real victory, but we will have to wait and see....In the meantime, it has become obvious for all and is no longer a controversial issue that, with the same emphasis as we put on the struggle for the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate, we must fight for their right to live as Jews, particularly as they are formally and constitutionally recognized as a minority." He said that those who deny that this can be accomplished "fail to realize that it may mean giving up or writing off millions of Jews which would be an historical crime."

Dr. Goldmann said that the Soviet repudiation of its 1972 trade pact with the U.S. "due to a large degree though not exclusively to the Jackson Amendment, naturally alters the situation as regards emigration." He said he did not believe the repudiation "means the end of the policy of detente or indicates a change in the principle of the Soviet Union to improve relations with the U.S....I hope it is not wishful thinking when I contend that emigration will go on more or less as in the last year."

He added, however, that "the denunciation of the trade agreement indicates that Russia is less amenable to American pressure or American public opinion. This means that future public action to induce the Soviet Union to continue or even increase Jewish emigration must be even more cautious than in the past, since any exaggerated attacks might provoke the USSR to stop emigration completely."

KISSINGER: NO TO PLO

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger reiterated publicly today that he has "repeatedly" said "there is no possibility of negotiations (by the United States with the Palestine Liberation Organization) as long as the PLO does not recognize the existence of Israel."

After addressing a National Press Club audience for the first time in his career, Kissinger

said in response to questions that if he did not believe "that there were some possibility of progress in further negotiations, I would not, obviously, go to the Middle East." He added, "of course, any step that is taken should only be considered as an interim step toward a final peace and that all of the other nations in the Middle East will have to participate in a negotiation for a final peace."

Kissinger made those responses in relation to his forthcoming visit to Israel and Arab countries in the Mideast and after he was asked whether it will be "possible to have another military disengagement" in the Sinai without "further progress with Syria on the Golan Heights."

Asked to explain how the U.S. could ship warplanes to the Arab countries in view of a possibility of a renewal of the oil embargo, Kissinger referred to his remarks on criteria for sales of arms at his news conference last week which included whether the U.S. has an interest in the stability and security of the countries concerned. However, he said today that in view of the various balance of payments considerations those factors also were "in our interest but the controlling decision is not commercial." The controlling decision, he said, "is a political one."

Oil Embargo Would Be Devastating

Kissinger's formal speech to the National Press Club was devoted entirely to the energy problem and contained no direct references to the Arab-Israeli conflict. It apparently was intended to support President Ford's energy program which is running into strong opposition in Congress. The Secretary warned that unless "strong corrective steps" are taken in American energy consumption, "a future embargo (of oil) would have a devastating impact on American jobs and production."

He warned that economic distress "is fertile ground for conflict, both domestic and international," adding that while the situation "is not yet so grave" it "threatens to become so." He forecast that the U.S. would have proposals on Feb. 5 to the International Energy Agency on Consortiums to offset the dependence on imported oil. He said higher prices for oil would be forthcoming and that production of synthetics "can never compete with the production costs of Middle Eastern oil."

MAY WILL BE JEWISH PRESS MONTH

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA)--The closing session of the World Conference of Jewish Journalists decided today to declare the month of May as "Jewish Press Month" during which special efforts will be made to raise the standards of the Jewish press throughout the world. The observance will coincide with the 300th anniversary of the first Jewish newspaper in Amsterdam. There will be organized exhibits of Jewish newspapers in an attempt to attract youth to them. A special committee was also set up to deal with professional matters such as improving newspapers and bringing younger people into Jewish journalism.

JOHANNESBURG (JTA)--Rabbi David Rosen, son of the late Rabbi Kopul Rosen, who was the founder of Carmel College, and the youngest practicing rabbi in South Africa, has accepted a call to the largest congregation in South Africa, the 10,000 member Sea Point in Cape Town. He will assume his duties in March. Rosen came to South Africa 18 months ago as a student advisor to the Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation. He replaces Rabbi Newman who recently emigrated to Israel.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES AGRANAT REPORT SEEN AS WHITEWASH OF THE POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT

By Uri Benziman

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA)--A wholly unexpected reaction to the Agranat Committee's final report on the Yom Kippur War--public resentment and indignation against the committee itself--appeared to emerge today. Most Israelis, including the leading political and military commentators, are hard put to compose an intelligible picture of the panel's overall findings and recommendations from the tiny segment made public last week--42 pages out of a document more than 1500 pages long.

The feeling here is that the committee underestimated the public's intelligence and its ability to absorb unpleasant facts about shortcomings of the political as well as military leadership during the war.

The portions of the report made public only feed a cynical belief that the Agranat panel was out to whitewash the political establishment at the expense of the military; that it cracked down too harshly on Gen. Shmuel Gonen, commander of the Sinai front when the war broke out and other military leaders while conferring absolution on then-Defense Minister Moshe Dayan by omitting any reference to his activities at the time.

Question Of Implementing Recommendations

While the public understands that "security reasons" may have precluded the publication of parts of the final report, commentators can't help wondering how the public can be assured that the Agranat Committee's recommendations will be implemented. If the public doesn't know what the findings were, how can it be sure that the right conclusions were drawn and the correct remedies prescribed, one source asked today. How can it know that the tragic mistakes and misunderstandings of the Yom Kippur War will not be repeated?

When the Agranat Committee was first appointed by Premier Golda Meir at the end of Nov. 1973, it enjoyed universal respect. The Cabinet asked Dr. Shimon Agranat, president of the Supreme Court, to form an investigative panel and he chose widely respected figures: Justice Moshe Landau; State Controller Dr. Yitzhak Nebenzahl; and two former chiefs of staff, Haim Laskov and Prof. Yigael Yadin, an eminent archaeologist and scholar. Public confidence in the committee was high.

Its first interim report, published last April, stated that no Cabinet Minister--including Dayan--was responsible for the failure to correctly interpret the intentions of Egypt and Syria to go to war. The blame for misreading intelligence or failing to act on correct intelligence was laid squarely on the then-Chief of Staff, Gen. David Elazar, and four senior officers of army intelligence, leading to their resignations or demotions. The interim report recommended the suspension of Gonen pending further investigation.

Fundamental Questions Not Answered

What can be gathered from the minute portion made public is that the final report does not go beyond confirming the findings and recommendations of the interim report. No hint of blame has been laid on the political leadership.

But the Israeli public cannot help but believe that there was a close connection between the

army's incompetence in the initial days of the war--thoroughly documented by the committee--and its civilian administrator, namely the Minister of Defense. Moreover, people are still asking themselves whether the adverse political consequences of the war were not the bitter fruit of a wholly mistaken conception maintained by Premier Meir and Dayan.

None of these fundamental questions appear to be answered by the final report. Premier Meir decided, rightly at the time, that a full dress inquiry was necessary if only to relieve the bitterness and tension that built up in the country after the Yom Kippur War. The committee's efforts in that respect have been a failure.

CHURCH SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL IS NOT A SENTIMENTAL MATTER BUT IN AMERICA'S NATIONAL INTEREST

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Sen. Frank Church (D, Idaho) told a group of some 150 Jewish leaders in Scarsdale why he supports military and economic aid to Israel but not to South Vietnam. Church said the war in Vietnam is a civil war between two despotisms while Israel is a democratic country determined to defend itself against enemies who have said they want to annihilate her. In addition, Vietnam requires American troops while Israel has never asked for soldiers from the United States, he said.

Church, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, spoke yesterday at a fund-raising meeting of the United Jewish Appeal in Westchester County. He noted that this was the first time he had been asked to address a meeting raising funds for Israel. Church declared that most of all Southeast Asia did not involve any economic or strategic importance for the United States while the Middle East was the crossroads of the world. He said support for Israel "is not a sentimental matter...it is beyond this a matter of our own national interest."

"If we were ever to see the day that the Syrian and Egyptian forces, armed by the Russians, were to roll over Israel that day would bring the Soviet Union to an unprecedented position of influence and control in the Middle East," Church said. "I cannot imagine any situation so fraught with peril to the United States and its allies."

On the question of Soviet Jewry, Church said that after visiting the Babi Yar memorial in Kiev and seeing no mention of the fact that most of the victims of the Nazi massacre were Jews, he could understand why Soviet Jews want to leave the USSR for Israel.

Church noted that if the United States could break the stranglehold on oil by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), then it would not have to sell arms to Middle East countries to make up the American balance of payments deficit.

YARIV FORMALLY RESIGNS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (JTA)--Information Minister Aharon Yariv formally handed in his resignation to the Cabinet yesterday. It will take effect Tuesday. No decision has yet been taken as to the fate of the fledgling Information Ministry. Yariv himself recommends that it be retained in its present structure, but as a department within the Prime Minister's Office rather than as an independent ministry. The alternative would be to dismember it, and return the various units that comprise it to the Foreign Ministry, the Education Ministry and the other ministries and agencies whence they came.