



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 -

Monday, November 10, 1975

No. 212

SENATE COMMITTEE MOVES AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT ACTIONS IN THE U.S.

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 (JTA)--The Senate Banking and Currency Subcommittee on International Finance has approved legislation that would bring into immediate public knowledge attempts by Arab governments to cause American firms to comply with the Arab boycott. The measure was sent by the 10-member subcommittee headed by Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D.Ill.) to its parent committee for approval and to forward it to the Senate for passage. The House has not yet drafted similar legislation.

The subcommittee's action Friday marked the first concrete legislative step towards exposing attempts by Arab governments to discriminate against American concerns that do business with Israel or which are Jewish-owned or have Jews in managerial positions. Extensive hearings have been held in both branches of Congress since early last winter when Arab governments intensified their boycotting.

Increase Penalties For Violations

Under the legislation introduced in the subcommittee by Stevenson and Sen. Harrison Williams (D.N.J.), penalties that may be imposed on American companies that violate the anti-boycott regulations are increased from \$1000 to \$10,000. The new Senate legislation would require the Commerce Department to make the company reports public and American firms would have to indicate if they intend to comply with the Arab boycotting nation's demands.

It also would make it illegal for an American company to disclose to a boycotting state any information regarding the race, religion or origin of an employee, director, shareholder or officer and, in addition, would make it illegal for a company to provide such information to any other American firm. Another section of the proposed laws would make it illegal for an American company to do business with another American firm pursuant to requirements of the boycotting state.

The present laws call on companies that are requested by Arab governments to supply discriminatory information merely to file notice of the request with the Department of Commerce where the notices are kept secret. The Commerce Department has refused to make the names of the companies available to a House subcommittee headed by Rep. John Moss (D.Calif.).

This issue has yet to be resolved, but it is understood that the Commerce Department is prepared to go along with Congressional legislation that will put the Department in a position where it will do only what the law requires in exposing the demands made on Americans by Arab governments.

PLO ADMITTED TO FAO

ROME, Nov. 9 (JTA)--The governing conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization yesterday gave observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization. The United States and

Israel were the only members of the 131-nation body to object. The PLO in seeking approval had cited a United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for UN agencies to give it observer status. There was no formal vote on the question. But UN officials reportedly said this was the first time the PLO had been admitted to an FAO conference.

DUTCH-BORN JEW BELIEVED STILL ALIVE IN IRAQ: FAMILY WILL NOT BELIEVE IT TILL THEY SEE HIM

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA)--Reports from Amsterdam that Alexander Aharonson is alive, contrary to an Iraqi news agency announcement last Wednesday that the Dutch Jew was hanged in Baghdad as an Israeli spy, has raised the hopes of his family in Holland and relatives and friends in this country. But they are awaiting the Iraqi authorities' response to the demand by the Dutch Ambassador in Baghdad for a meeting with Aharonson.

The Netherlands Foreign Ministry lodged a stiff protest with Iraq following the announcement of the hanging and summoned the Iraqi Ambassador to the Benelux countries to The Hague for an accounting.

On Thursday, however, the Iraqi Charge d'Affairs in The Hague, Sayid Ali Khadi, informed the Foreign Ministry there that he had received a cable from Baghdad saying that Aharonson was detained as a "Zionist spy" but had not been executed. The Iraqi Ambassador was reportedly indignant that the Dutch authorities called him to their capital instead of making telephone inquiries in the case.

Aharonson, a male nurse who survived the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp as a child, was providing medical assistance to Kurds in northern Iraq when he was arrested by Iraqi police last March 24. According to the Iraqi news agency report, he was tried by a revolutionary tribunal last month and sentenced to death for allegedly gathering intelligence for Israel.

ANTI-ZIONIST DRAFT DENOUNCED BY JEWISH, NON-JEWISH, BLACK LEADERS

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA)--The proposed resolution equating Zionism with racism came under attack this weekend from diverse sources as the United Nations General Assembly prepared to vote on this issue early this week. Among those attacking the resolution were New York City's five borough presidents, Black American scholars, the American Civil Liberties Union, Daniel P. Moynihan, the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, General Assembly President Gaston Thorn, seven Jewish NGO officials, and Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Union of American Hebrew Congregations president.

The borough presidents--Robert Abrams, of the Bronx; Robert Connor, of Staten Island; Sebastian Leone, of Brooklyn; Donald Manes, of Queens; and Percy Sutton, of Manhattan--met Friday at the Isaiah Wall, across from the UN, and denounced the resolution as "a blatant power play on the part of some Arab nations" which they

therefore no aspirant should consider to have the Jewish vote "in his pocket" because of strong stands on Israel, Soviet or Syrian Jews.

Asked this question by reporters at a press conference opening the 53rd Biennial Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations here Friday, Rabbi Alexander Schindler asserted, "While these issues remain paramount and urgent to the Jewish community, Jews, like other Americans, are also deeply concerned about such problems as the collapse of the cities, the economic crisis, crime, civil rights and governmental invasion of privacy and civil liberties."

He noted that on some of these domestic questions "Jews divide, although Jewish voters generally tend toward a liberal voting stance, stemming from Jewish religious values and their stress on social justice." Rabbi Schindler stressed that in offering this advice to the candidates he was "not singling out anyone specifically."

Israel Not The Only Concern

As to assessing the Jewish attitude toward President Ford, Rabbi Schindler said, "on the whole in terms of foreign policy, especially on the Middle East, the Jewish community would be very much in favor of him, but as I indicated, Israel is not our only concern. Jews are citizens of this land, and they feel strongly about domestic issues, and as a result, their attitude toward the Chief Executive is ambivalent. Therefore, we would say 'yes' on foreign policy, but have serious reservations about his very strong conservative streak which ignores the plight of the needy, which allows 8.5 million Americans to be unemployed without any move to resolve their terrible problem."

Rabbi Schindler emphasized that "we Jews have learned a long time ago that we can be safe only in a country which is truly free, so that liberties, the well-being of the American people, are very much in the forefront of our concerns." As an example, he cited Ford's attitude towards New York City. Rabbi Schindler said that "financial support for the city represents a moral necessity."

ISRAEL WILL REJECT UN RESOLUTIONS HOSTILE TO THE JEWISH STATE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA)--Israel will reject UN General Assembly resolutions backing the PLO, officials said here following a Cabinet meeting today.

Premier Yitzhak Rabin reviewed the situation in the General Assembly on the eve of three scheduled votes on anti-Israel resolutions: the anti-Zionist draft of the Third Committee; the Egyptian resolution calling for PLO participation in Middle East peace conferences; and the PLO's own resolution, backed by 50 member states, urging a special committee to work on implementation of the Palestinians' "inalienable rights."

Officials still hoped that a European effort to postpone a vote on the anti-Zionist draft, seen here as the most damaging, until next year, might succeed.

Pessimistic About Resolutions' Defeat

If voted on, the officials believed the anti-Zionist draft would win the required majority despite solid Western and scattered South American opposition and many abstentions.

The Egyptian resolution calling for a PLO in-

volition to the Geneva conference would have even easier passage. It was predicted here. Only West Germany and France were expected to join Israel, the U.S. and a few Latin-American states in opposing it. Other Western states are expected to abstain at best. It was hoped, however, that the West would solidly oppose the PLO resolution, but the latter nevertheless, is expected to win a majority.

Officials said that Israel would never sit with the PLO at Geneva or elsewhere, nor cooperate with any committee set up to implement its "rights." Such resolutions aim to undermine Israel's very existence and threatened the Mideast peace process, these officials said.

No Move Against Sinai Pact

They indicated that while Egypt's actions at the General Assembly are viewed here as a violation of its pledge to tone down diplomatic warfare against Israel, Israel is not proposing at this time to cease implementing the Sinai interim agreement in retaliation.

The officials noted that apart from the UN activities and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's anti-Jewish statements, Egypt was carrying out its part of the implementation according to the agreement. The first Egyptian nationals will return to the Ras Sudar oilfield over next weekend, the first Egyptian return to former Israel-held territory under the agreement.

JNF CALLS FOR EXPANDED PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA)--The biennial meeting of the Jewish National Fund of America heard a call for an expanded JNF program in the fields of scholarships, cultural and educational activities in America. In his biennial report, Abram Salomon, JNF executive vice-president, stressed that "the allocations by the welfare funds and federations for cultural and educational purposes, are totally inadequate to meet the accelerating needs of the Jewish day schools in the present economic situation."

He proposed the formation of a special committee "to study the feasibility of the JNF, as a Zionist institution, allocating an increased portion of JNF's net intake in this country for scholarships for students in day schools, for those students interested in continuing their education in Israel and for other educational objectives." Dr. Maurice S. Sage of New York, was elected national president of the JNF, succeeding Meyer Pesin. Dr. Sage, formerly JNF national treasurer, most recently served as president of the Religious Zionists of America.

ESTHER WILENSKA DEAD AT 57

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA)--Esther Wilenska, a former Communist Member of the Knesset, died here last night at the age of 57. Mrs. Wilenska served 14 years in the Knesset as member of the Constituent Assembly and then the second, third and fifth Knesset. Born in Poland, she came to Palestine in 1938. She joined the Communist Party and at a young age became a member of its central committee. Her first husband was Meir Wilner, who is now head of the Rakah Communist Party. She later married Tzvi Breitstein, a member of Maki Communist Party, to which she also belonged. In recent years, Mrs. Wilenska started the Israel Communist Opposition, an opposition group within Maki.

warned could launch "a new era of anti-Semitism."

The borough presidents also urged New Yorkers to attend a massive rally against the resolution in Manhattan's garment center at noon Tuesday sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. They termed the Zionist movement "the expression of the historic aspiration of the Jewish people for national liberation and self-determination."

Black Scholars Urge Draft's Defeat

In an appeal to the General Assembly, 28 Black American scholars, educators and other intellectual leaders urged that the anti-Zionist resolution be rejected because "The prospects of a concerted United Nations drive against African apartheid has been effectively thwarted by an amendment which introduces an extraneous issue to a worthy United Nations undertaking." The statement said that "Unfortunately, concern for the anti-Semitic implications of this amendment, however legitimate, will heavily compromise African hopes of expunging apartheid from the world conscience."

The United Nations Association of the United States of America has also sent a statement to UN delegates warning that approval of the "offensive" text would damage the UN's support in the United States. The American Civil Liberties Union in a letter to Moynihan said the equation of Zionism with racism "threatens to undermine the entire struggle against racism."

Moynihan in an interview on Israel Television Friday night, said the resolution might be passed by the General Assembly despite the opposition of the U.S. and others. He said if this happens "we will be faced with the terrible choice of taking seriously--as we would like to take seriously--UN resolutions, or accepting a pronouncement which we think is untruthful, morally wrong and destructive." But he added, "If it is between accepting that doctrine and supporting the United Nations, we will never accept this doctrine."

In another development, Gaston Thorn, president of the General Assembly, warned that approval of the anti-Zionist measure would mean "trouble for the United Nations." He stressed he was speaking as Prime Minister of Luxembourg, not as the Assembly's president.

Jewish NGO Leaders Write To Thorn

Meanwhile, the leaders of seven Jewish bodies which have consultative status in the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), said that they would not be able to participate in the United Nations program for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination if the General Assembly adopts the anti-Zionist draft.

In a letter to Thorn, the NGOs declared: "The intrusion of the Middle East conflict into the United Nations program for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination places us in an agonizing predicament. We are committed to the original purposes of the Decade, but we would violate our conscience and our deepest convictions if we were to subscribe to a program of which the draft resolution... is an integral part."

The signers and their organizations are: Dr. Isaac Lewin, chairman, American section of the world executive, Agudas Israel World Organization; Rene Cassin, honorary president, Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations; David M.

Blumberg, co-chairman, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations; Dr. Rose S. de Herzog, president, International Council of Jewish Women; Lord Nathan, chairman, International Council of Jewish Social and Welfare Services; Raya Jaglom, president, Womens International Zionist Organization; and Phillip M. Klutznick, chairman, governing body, World Jewish Congress.

'We Are All Of Us Zionists'

In Dallas, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, told the opening session of the UAHC biennial assembly that if the General Assembly adopts the anti-Zionist account, it would be "the beginning of the end of a beautiful dream, for we will witness the moral collapse of the United Nations." He termed the draft "a canard, a libel not just of Israel but of the Jewish people as a whole. It is as though Hitler, Goebbels and Streicher had returned to earth to mock the pitiful remnant of those who survived the holocaust."

Rabbi Schindler stressed that it would be of no avail, "We are all of us Jews and whether we use a small 'z' or a large 'Z,' we are all of us Zionists. The land of Israel which is Zion, and the children of Israel who constitute the Jewish people, and the God of Israel are all bound together in a triple covenant. At no time in our history have we ever stopped working for Zion. We shall continue to do so for the rest of eternity. And against the scheming and the maledictions of our enemies, we will extend our stake in Israel. We Reform Jews, too. We will stay and we will build!"

LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES URGED TO VOTE AGAINST ANTI-ZIONIST DRAFT

BUENOS AIRES, Nov. 9 (JTA)--Representatives of Latin American Jewry meeting here are urging all South and Central American governments to vote against the resolution equating Zionism with racism when it is submitted to the United Nations General Assembly plenary this week. Governments that supported the draft when it was adopted by the General Assembly's Third Committee on Oct. 17 were asked to reverse their positions, and governments that were absent or abstained at that time were called on to cast negative votes.

Letters to that effect were dispatched to Latin American heads of state at a meeting of the Latin American Jewish Congress Executive. The letters expressed the gratitude of the Jewish community to those governments that opposed the Arab-inspired draft in the Third Committee.

The LJ Congress also wrote to the Confederacao Israelita do Brasil, the central representative body of Brazilian Jewry, asking it to convey thanks to the Brazilian news media and personalities who publicly opposed the Brazilian government's vote in favor of the anti-Zionist draft.

The LJ Congress Executive meeting was attended by representatives of the Jewish communities of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Venezuela and Mexico; the Federation of Communities of Central American and Panama Jews; the Latin American Zionist Council and the Federation of Latin American Zionist University Students.

SCHINDLER SAYS U.S. JEWS DO NOT VOTE FOR PRESIDENT ON ONE ISSUE

DALLAS, Nov. 9 (JTA)--The head of Reform Judaism's congregational body reminded Presidential candidates that American Jews do not vote on the basis of appeals to one issue alone, and that

ADL REPORTS FAR RIGHT AND LEFT WINGS IN U.S. ON THE DECLINE

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA)--Extremist movements of the far right and left in America which manifest anti-Israel sentiment and "a quotient of anti-Semitism" are on the decline with respect to their public activities and ability to draw media attention, according to the results of a survey reported at the 62nd annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

A report presented by John L. Goldwater, chairman of the ADL's fact-finding committee which monitors the activities of extremist groups at both ends of the political spectrum, found that the far left has failed to mobilize mass opposition to Israel in the U.S. as a substitute for the Vietnam war issue partly because "the public recognizes the fact that the Israeli situation and the one in South Vietnam are totally dissimilar."

The report attributed the attempts by Marxist-Leninist groups to rally sentiment against Israel to the fact that these groups have lost much of their following with the end of the Vietnam war and the policy of detente. Rallies and demonstrations called during the past year for the expressed purpose of supporting Arab causes have been poorly attended, Goldwater reported. He warned, however, that the far left's repeated denunciations of Israel as "racist" and "colonialist" are "contributing toward some dilution of support for the Jewish State among left-of-center elements, especially young people."

Biroh Society, Liberty Lobby Still Active

According to the report, the far right has suffered a decline "because the American political mainstream has become more conservative." Goldwater said that the John Biroh Society and the Liberty Lobby are the only top radical right organizations still active. The Birohers, with a membership of about 55,000 and an \$8 million budget, sponsor a radio program carried by 87 stations. The Liberty Lobby, with a membership of 25,000 and a \$1 million budget broadcasts daily on 165 stations.

But that is a far cry from the situation 10 years ago when radio "was saturated with radical right propaganda," Goldwater said. He cited that fact as "dramatic evidence" of the movement's decline. The survey found, however, that the Liberty Lobby, branded "an anti-Semitic organization" by the ADL, has stepped up its activities in the past year. The Washington-based group puts out a weekly publication, "National Spotlight," which has 110,000 paid subscribers, he said.

Bias in Public Schools

Another study made public at the ADL meeting found that racial prejudice directed against Jews and Blacks was "rampant" in American public schools. Benjamin R. Epstein, ADL director, said the findings "shatter widely held assumptions about the degree of prejudice among the younger generation and have special significance for reducing tensions in multi-cultural schools."

The study, conducted in three communities within a 200-mile radius of New York City found a "surprisingly large" amount of teen-age hostility toward Jews and a strong correlation between prejudice and socio-economic class. Nearly 5000 students in the 8th, 9th and 12th grades were surveyed in the communities which were given pseudonyms in the report to preserve their anonymity. Young people with the least educational achieve-

ment and economic affluence were found to be the most anti-Semitic and racially bigoted, according to the study, and retained their bigotry after leaving school. An unaccounted for exception was that Black teenagers, although generally more deprived than white, revealed less prejudice against Jews.

The study found that the teenagers tended to attribute traits they saw in their Jewish and Black classmates to the fact that they were Jewish or Black and to view even positive traits invidiously. The study found that a substantial majority in each of the three communities said that Jewish teenagers are intelligent, ambitious, and successful but those positive traits were given negative connotations by 60 percent of the students who claimed their Jewish classmates were conceited, selfish and bossy. Where non-Jewish white students were disliked by their classmates they were assessed as individuals, but Jews were assessed as a religious group, the study reported.

THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN JEWS SAID TO BE RETURNING TO TRADITION

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Nov. 9 (JTA)--"Thousands of American Jews, groping for identity, are quietly shifting gears away from spiritual assimilation and are returning to Jewish tradition," Rabbi Shaul Shenker, director of the Jewish Education Program of Agudath Israel, told the 3000 delegates at the Agudath Israel of America's 53rd national convention. "While the problems of assimilation and intermarriage have by no means diminished, we are now witness to a new trend in the opposite direction," Rabbi Shenker said. "Thousands of American Jews are now sending their children to day schools, which in 30 years have grown from only seven schools outside the New York area to a total of 422 throughout the land, and thousands more are adopting kashrut."

In light of these developments, Rabbi Shenker said, Agudath Israel's Jewish education program has intensified its efforts to enroll more Jewish children in day schools. The expanded program includes release hour programs servicing Jewish public school children, scholarship grants to summer camps and yeshivas, educational publications, and a buddy system teaming up Orthodox youth activists with children of meager Jewish background to explore their common Jewish heritage.

Key Lesson Of Holocaust

At another session of the convention this weekend, Rabbi Yaakov Weinberg, dean of the Ner Israel Rabbinical College of Baltimore, and Rabbi Yaakov Perlow, dean of the Yeshiva Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch of New York, took issue with an interpretation of the Holocaust common among secular historians that the Holocaust is one among countless other national tragedies. The two deans said that the Holocaust should be remembered as a uniquely Jewish tragedy, highlighted by "spiritual heroism" which should serve as an "inspiration for future generations to preserve their Jewish heritage."

NEW YORK (JTA)--The headline in Friday's Bulletin noted that fund-raising employees of UJA-Federation of Greater New York went on strike. Actually, only the Federation personnel struck. The UJA personnel were respecting the picket line.