

**JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS**

LONDON (WNS) The Soviet Government has handed a note to Israeli Ambassador Katriel Katz demanding that Israel halt, what is called, its "unconcealed military acts" against Syria. In referring to the recent air clashes over Syria, the note said they were "fraught with danger" since they allegedly occurred "near the Soviet borders." The note apparently referred to the aerial dogfight of April 7, when Israeli jets shot down six Syrian Mig-21 jets of Soviet make.

TEL AVIV (WNS) Two Israeli journalists who were released from prison on the eve of Passover after serving part of a year's term imposed on them for violating security regulations deemed harmful to the state have urged abolition of the law under which they were convicted.

BOSTON (WNS) The National Committee for Labor Israel announced launching a nationwide campaign for the construction of a Cardinal Cushing Medical Center in Nazareth, Israel.

RIO DE JANEIRO (WNS) At the request of the government's chief prosecutor, the Brazilian Supreme Court postponed for two weeks the scheduled hearings on petitions by the government of Poland, West Germany and Austria calling for the extradition of Franz Paul Stangl, accused Nazi war criminal.

JOHANNESBURG (WNS) The need for vigilance and effective action "against the Nazi and anti-Semitic propaganda" that "is entering South Africa through various channels" was stressed here by Dr. Teddy Schneider, president of the South African Jewish Board of Guardians.

MONTREAL (WNS) The Israel pavilion at Expo 67, which opened here last week, depicts the history of the Jewish people and its eternal link with the land of Israel.

NEW YORK (WNS) Svetlana Alliluyeva, Stalin's daughter, declared here at a press conference that while she had little knowledge about discrimination against Jews in the Soviet Union, she had known of cases in which Jewish applicants for university admission had been rejected while less-qualified students met with acceptance.

GENEVA (WNS) The Federation of Jewish Communities in Rumania and the Joint Distribution Committee have reached a working agreement on a program aimed at meeting the special needs of the Jewish communities in Rumania.

NEW YORK (WNS) World Jewish Congress president Dr. Nahum Goldman, in a public report on his recent visit to Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Rumania, suggested formation of a federation of Jewish communities of the Socialist countries which would enable its members to cooperate and consult with each other and to establish relations with international Jewish organizations such as the World Jewish Congress.

ATLANTA, Ga. (WNS) The National Council of Jewish Women, at its five-day biennial convention, voted a resolution calling on the Soviet Union to grant its Jewish nationals "the same freedom accorded other nationalities to practice, enhance and perpetuate their culture and religion."

JERUSALEM (WNS) Sharp denial of a Lebanese press report that Israel was conducting underground atomic tests was made here on the floor of Knesset by Premier Levi Eshkol, who said "there is no truth" to the report.

JERUSALEM (WNS) Premier Levi Eshkol in talks with Agudath Israel here was reported to have indicated that his government will recommend changes in the existing autopsy law when Knesset reconvenes after the Passover recess, it was disclosed in a telephonic communication with the headquarters in New York of Agudath Israel of America. The proposed change would permit autopsies only with the permission of the family unless public health is involved.

BONN (WNS) The Jewish cemetery at Frechen, near Cologne, has been desecrated by vandals who removed a skeleton from one of the graves.

NEW YORK (WNS) The National Council on Art in Jewish Life announced launching of an appeal for funds to help the Jewish community of Florence, Italy, repair and restore its ancient synagogue, library and museum that had been severely damaged in the recent catastrophic floods.

BONN (WNS) The Hamburg-Atlantic Line has purchased "Shalom," Israel's 25,000-ton vessel, and will rename it "Hanseatik," it was announced here by company officials who said the ship will be cruising the North Atlantic.

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**ON ISRAELI UNEMPLOYMENT**

STATEMENT ON UNEMPLOYMENT BY PRIME MINISTER L. ESHKOL, IN THE KNESSET (PARLIAMENT) FROM CONSUL MOSHE YEGAR

Unemployment is a symptom of the transition period from over-employment, resulting from excessive economic activities in non-productive areas to an economy based on production for export.

It is of course true that if a man is unemployed, he is 100% out of work. We shall do all that is within our power in order to prevent people from going hungry in this country. But the bogey which has been created of hundreds of thousands of unemployed is a complete slander and an absolute untruth. Those who spread these rumors -- while claiming they value the State's reputation -- seek to affect its good name and influence potential immigrants against coming.

We employ in Israel a number of methods for numbering inactive manpower in the economy. According to one method, a survey of all those not employed on active labor is held including housewives, youths, recipients of pensions, and those who are in fact unemployed. This method is important in order to establish the labor potential which exists in the economy, but it does not accurately measure the extent of those for whom labor is the real source of their livelihood.

According to the survey which I have described, there were in Israel in 1965, when we experienced over-employment and a lack of labor, no less than 37,000 unemployed; during 1966 there were 77,000 and in the last quarter of 1966 we reached 96,000. On the other hand, the number of unemployed workers seeking active employment, and this includes everybody who at any time registered with the Labor Exchange, whether or not he found employment, whether he was registered once or twenty-five times, at the end of 1966 stood between thirty-five and forty thousand, including youths.

The Minister of Labor announced in the Knesset when presenting the budget of his Ministry on February 21, 1967, that "according to figures supplied by the Employment Service, the number of registered unemployed was 38,000. 32,320 of these were adults excluding academically trained personnel, 5,000 youths and 680 academicians. Of these, 15,500 adults and 1,000 youths were found employment in public works. This compares with the daily average of 8,600 unemployed who were found jobs in public works in the last quarter of 1965. In other words, there has been an addition of 15,700 newly registered unemployed, and an addition of 12,840 employed in public works."

TEL AVIV (WNS) A forecast of increased unemployment in Israel Passover holidays are over was made by Minister of Labor Yigal Allon.

Addressing a meeting of the Maritime Club at Ashdod, Mr. Allon said the recent reduction in joblessness was triggered by seasonal holiday employment opportunities.

At the same time the Minister of Labor told the gathering that he supported the government's current economic policy which, he asserted, will carry the country through "the transitional period."

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