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PRESIDENT TRUMAN IS FOE OF ANTI-SEMITISM; DEFENDED JEWISH ROLE IN WAR EFFORT

WASHINGTON, April 13. (JTA) -- President Harry S. Truman has on a number of occasions shown his sympathy with the work of Jewish organizations and has defended the Jews against slurs, it was pointed out in Jewish circles here today.

In October 1943 he voluntarily appeared at the St. Louis B'nai B'rith centennial meeting and denounced slurs which had been made on the Jewish part in the war effort. During his term as Grand Master of the Masons in Missouri, Truman appointed a rabbi as Lodge Chaplain.

In his first speech after his inauguration as vice-president, made in Chicago on March 17, 1945, President Truman made a strong plea for religious tolerance. He said "bigotry and intolerance are the munitions of our enemies. Evil doctrines of discrimination frequently imported from gangster nations plague certain areas in America. Racial and religious intolerance is being preached here by agents of our enemies as well as by innocent victims of their propaganda."

Truman warned against the enemy doctrine of divide and rule and said that the after-effects of the poison of intolerance would long circulate in the nation's bloodstream unless it were resolutely opposed.

WEEK OF MOURNING FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT PROCLAIMED BY SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America, representing Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jewish congregations and rabbis throughout the country, today proclaimed the week of April 15th a week of mourning to honor the memory of President Roosevelt and called on all rabbis and congregations to offer memorial prayers on the day of the funeral and during the week of mourning.

The Synagogue Council also requested that a five minute period of silence be observed during this week, beginning at three p.m. in all Jewish establishments and that all social events scheduled for this week be cancelled in respect to the President's memory.

Rabbi Norbert S. Goldstein, president of the Synagogue Council, issued the proclamation and stated that in the death of President Roosevelt "the world lost its first citizen, the United States its greatest American and Jewry one of its staunchest friends."

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, in a message sent to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt at the White House, stated the entire nation must be consecrated to the ideas of justice and brotherhood for which the President fought.

A special memorial service for President Roosevelt was held this afternoon on the premises of the Jewish welfare board. Rabbi Isaac Roubin of the Jewish

Welfare Board's committee on Army and Navy religious activities, officiated at the services.

Bacrwald Recalls Roosevelt's Support of Joint Distribution Committee

Paul Bacrwald, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said: "The national and world-wide calamity of the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt fills us with particular sorrow. In this tragic hour, we recall the generous support we have received from Franklin D. Roosevelt for our work on so many occasions. His unique grasp of world conditions and his unbounded sympathy for the distressed gave Franklin Roosevelt a clear understanding of our efforts to help the persecuted and to relieve the needy. We are proud of having had his approval and encouragement, and we shall carry on in grateful memory."

Adolph Held, president of the Jewish Labor Committee, declared: "The Jewish Labor Committee joins in the grief of the American nation over the death of President Roosevelt who was a devoted friend of the Jews and of the labor movement. His sudden death came as a blow to all interested in the fight for liberty and justice. I shall never forget the words uttered by Mr. Roosevelt once, when he received a delegation of our organization. He said: 'I want to live to see the time when I can stand behind a curtain in Berlin, watching Germans beg the American Jew, Herbert Lehman, (director general of UNRRA,) for bread, and this distinguished Jew giving them the bread.'"

Roosevelt Memorial Will Be Erected in Palestine by J. N. F.

Announcing that a fitting memorial to President Roosevelt would be established in Palestine, Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the Jewish National Fund, said that "Among the great ideals to which President Roosevelt's life was dedicated and for the fulfillment of which America is pledged to persevere, is the Zionist cause which he espoused and championed so nobly and wholeheartedly. His interest in the up-building of the Jewish National Home was abiding and profound. His historic declaration of October 15, 1944, in which he pledged his effort for the realization of the Zionist ideal and the establishment of a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine, is a part of the great heritage which he left to the American people and to the world."

Other Zionist groups and leaders also issued statements mourning the President. Rabbi Abba H. Silver said: "His was a heart rich in human sympathies. He believed in and practiced human brotherhood. He recognized no distinctions of race or creed. He was a loyal friend of the Jewish people, and bitterly denounced its Nazi persecutors. Time and again he gave expression to his deep interest in the cause of Zionism and the rebuilding of the national life of our people in its historic home. Israel mourns the passing of a true and faithful friend and a great leader of free men."

The Zionist-Revisionist Organization wired Mrs. Roosevelt expressing the grief of its membership and, at the same time, sent a telegram to President Truman pledging its support of his administration.

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, president of Hadassah, sent a telegram to Mrs. Roosevelt voicing sorrow in behalf of 150,000 Jewish women. The National Council of Jewish women issued a statement by its president, Mrs. Joseph G. Welt, declaring that: "In the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the freedom loving world has lost its greatest leader."

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, in a message issued by its national commander, Archie H. Greenberg, expressed grief over the death of President Roosevelt, and pledged "undivided support and cooperation to our new President and Commander-in-Chief, Harry S. Truman."

PALESTINE JEWS STUNNED AT ROOSEVELT'S DEATH; FLAGS AT HALF-MAST; RABBINATE ORDERS PRAYERS

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) — Flags on all buildings housing Jewish institutions flow at half-mast today as the Palestine Jewish community mourned the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Special prayers in all synagogues in Palestine were ordered by the Chief Rabbinate.

The Jewish National Council, immediately upon receipt of the news of Mr. Roosevelt's death, cabled President Truman as follows: "The entire Jewish community of Palestine is shocked at the tragedy which has befallen the American nation and fighting humanity in the death of President Roosevelt, who guided the Allied ship to the port of Victory. We mourn the sudden death of a leader of humanity and a great friend of the Jewish people."

In a cable to Mrs. Roosevelt, the Council said: "Jewish Jerusalem is filled with deep mourning at the tragic news of your husband's death. Heartfelt condolences from Zion." Isaac Ben-Zvi, president of the Council, accompanied by Bernard Joseph, legal adviser of the Jewish Agency and the president of the Jerusalem Jewish community council, called on U. S. Consul-General Lowell C. Pinkerton to whom they conveyed their condolences.

Weizmann and Jewish Agency Voice Grief At Death of Roosevelt

LONDON, April 13. (JTA) — Dr. Chaim Weizmann, the Jewish Agency office here and leaders of the Board of Deputies of British Jews expressed deep sorrow today at the death of President Roosevelt in messages sent to Mrs. Roosevelt and to U. S. Ambassador John G. Winant.

In a cable sent to Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House, Dr. Weizmann said: "The world has lost an inspired leader and fighter for freedom and peace, America a great president and noble son, and the Jewish people a true friend and their most powerful champion. For myself, may I express to you my feelings of personal grief and tender my most profound sympathy."

The Jewish Agency, in a message to Mrs. Roosevelt, stated: "The Jewish Agency for Palestine respectfully tenders to you our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your husband. In this crucial hour the world has been deprived of his wise and noble spirit. Jewish, in its hour of need, mourns a steadfast friend who was possessed by vision, and a great champion of their cause in Zion." The blue-and-white Jewish flag was flown at half-mast over Agency headquarters.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE NAMES PANEL OF NINE HEADED BY MONSKY FOR SAN FRANCISCO

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) — The American Jewish Conference announced today that a panel of nine will represent it at San Francisco.

In response to the invitation extended by the State Department, the Conference designated Henry Monsky, a member of its three-man Interim Committee, and president of the B'nai B'rith, as its consultant, at the same time, informing Secretary of State Stettinius that any of the other eight members of the panel would be in a position to act in place of Mr. Monsky.

The members of the panel, in addition to Mr. Monsky, are: Louis Lipsky and Dr. Israel Goldstein, both of whom are members of the Conference's Interim Committee, Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath, Prof. Myim Fineman, Myim Greenberg, Rabbi Joseph Lookstein, Judge Morris Rothenberg and Norman Shulman.

The Conference announced that its delegation will cooperate fully with the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the World Jewish Congress.

JUSTICE FOR JEWS ASKED BY SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL IN PLEA TO U.S. SAN FRANCISCO DELEGATION

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) -- A four-point memorandum recommending practical steps for the achievement of an international bill of rights, justice to the Jews, the outlawing of racial and religious incitement and universal disarmament was submitted today to the United States delegation to the San Francisco conference by the Synagogue Council of America, which represents the rabbinical and lay leadership of Orthodox, Reform and Conservative congregations throughout the United States.

The memorandum supplements the Synagogue Council's endorsement of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals which was made public earlier this year. It urges the creation of machinery to prevent war, commissions to safeguard human rights everywhere, full restoration of civil and political rights, abrogation of the 1939 White Paper affecting immigration into Palestine. It regards as "imperative that the United Nations charter include provisions for the outlawing of incitement against religious and racial groups as well as discrimination against them."

In a section on "Justice to the Jew," the memorandum said: "The desperate need of the Jewish people, despoiled, disfranchised, and decimated in twelve long years of Nazi barbarism, must challenge the conscience of humanity. The postwar treatment of the Jews is a touchstone of the effectiveness of the new world organization in establishing and maintaining peace and justice. The civil and political rights of Jews of Europe must be restored by the vigorous enforcement of the recommended international bill of rights. In addition, we believe that whatever the precise form of the ultimate political structure of Palestine may be, the democratic and peace-loving nations of the world are honor-bound to respect the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine, a pledge approved by 52 nations of the world and often reiterated by the leaders of the United Nations. It is tragically urgent that immediate steps be taken to abrogate the 1939 White Paper, never sanctioned by the League of Nations, and to open the gates of Palestine to free and unrestricted Jewish immigration and land colonization."

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION SPONSORING PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN 7th WAR LOAN DRIVE

WASHINGTON, April 13. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America has pledged on behalf of its nationwide membership to raise in U. S. War Bonds an amount sufficient to sponsor the purchase of an aircraft carrier of the "Coral Sea" type (45,000 ton), according to an announcement issued today by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the organization. The cost of building such an aircraft carrier is estimated at approximately \$95,000,000. The 500 chapters of the Zionist Organization of America throughout the country will participate to the fullest extent in the 7th War Loan Drive, which officially begins on May 14.

RICHARD BEER-HOFFMAN, AUSTRIAN JEWISH AUTHOR, RECEIVES \$1,000 AWARD

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) -- Richard Beer-Hoffman, 78-year-old Austrian-Jewish poet and dramatist, who has been living in this country since 1939, has been awarded the newly created "Award for Distinguished Service" by the National Institute of Arts and Letters, it was announced today. The prize, which carries a cash award of \$1,000, has been originated to bestow upon some eminent foreign-born writer or composer living here.

Dr. Beer-Hoffman has been hailed as the "last surviving representative of the Young Vienna school of writers, which included Arthur Schnitzler, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Theodor Dörsel and Hermann Behr," an announcement by the institute said. "The German nation, which so recently expelled him, awarded his first play their highest honor, the Schiller Prize, and extolled his poems as the greatest since Goethe's."

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