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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE CLARIFIES ITS STAND ON ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Statements accusing the American Jewish Committee of being "anti-Israel" and of favoring isolation of American Jews from other Jewish communities were denied at a press conference here today by Jacob Blaustein, president of the organization. Mr. Blaustein specifically emphasized that the denial covered, among others, a statement to this effect issued recently by the American section of the Jewish Agency.

The American Jewish Committee believes in continued aid for Israel and in close cultural, spiritual and economic co-operation between American Jews and the Jews of Israel, Mr. Blaustein said. At the same time, he asserted, the Committee opposes any policy which would affect adversely the position of American Jews. "We would be derelict if we did not point out to Israel that the pursuance of courses which American Jews consider inimical to them would deter both non-Zionists and many Zionists from their desire to be helpful to Israel."

Discussing the American Jewish Committee's resolution of October 14, Mr. Blaustein said that it was merely the application of the agency's well-known philosophy to the most recent events regarding the relations between American Jews and Israel. He asserted that criticism of the resolution was largely uninformed and misrepresented the American Jewish Committee's position.

The American Jewish Committee, Mr. Blaustein pointed out, "is not a Zionist organization and never has been. Our non-Zionist philosophy is something we have always spelled out clearly. We have differed with the Zionist ideology because of its implications concerning the nature of Jewish life in America and the nature of the kinship which characterizes world Jewry."

Does Not Oppose Granting of Special Status to Jewish Agency

As a non-Zionist organization friendly to Israel, the American Jewish Committee, Mr. Blaustein said, has been "instrumental in bringing about a large degree of unity on the American scene which has helped pave the way for the cause of Israel to be well understood and accepted here." Yet, he added, the Committee has "not sought either special status or special recognition from anyone. We have acted because we are Americans and Jews." The Committee's record of aid to Israel is so clear that it is conceded even by its severest critics, Mr. Blaustein pointed out.

Referring to the question of the special status requested by the recent World Zionist Congress, Mr. Blaustein asserted that "the American Jewish Committee neither advocates nor opposes the granting of special status to the Jewish Agency

within Israel as a service agency regarding the resettlement and rehabilitation of immigrants in Israel. That is a matter for decision by the Government of Israel and the Zionist movement."

But, he continued, the American Jewish Committee is opposed to the basis upon which the World Zionist Organization has requested status. The Zionists have asked to be recognized as "the representative of the Jewish people," a formulation, Mr. Blaustein stated, which "implies that Jews all over the world are an entity that can be represented by a single organization."

The same concept, he said, "underlies the request of the World Zionist Congress that Israel grant special status to the World Zionist Organization with regard to activities outside of Israel in behalf of that country." This point, he added, was likewise made by Prime Minister Ben Gurion in his cable to Ambassador Eban, released on October 9. "Incidentally," Mr. Blaustein added, "our aid to Israel cannot be 'co-ordinated' through the W. Z. O."

Opposes Zionist Educational Programs for U.S. Jews

A further point of difference which Mr. Blaustein discussed was the question of educational programs for American Jews. The American Jewish Committee, he stated, opposed educational programs, such as those sponsored by the Jewish Agency, which, he said, have already caused "serious internal conflicts" in Latin American and South African Jewish communities. Agency emissaries to those communities, he said, have derogated local efforts in Jewish education and "have attempted to impose a uniform philosophy of education upon diverse elements."

The A. J. C., Mr. Blaustein said, will oppose any educational program "that undervalues the quality of Jewish life in the United States or that is calculated to inculcate nationalistic feeling toward Israel." He pointed out that "American Jews do not favor the use of their money, which they contribute to the Jewish Agency for use in Israel, for educational purposes in this country of a kind which will tend to divide rather than to unite us."

Mr. Blaustein called for tolerance and understanding among Jewish groups. He cautioned those who "seek special credit or status not to seek to compromise the position of Jews in America and other countries, or to control the way in which others wish to carry out their obligations and willingness to help Israel."

DR. GOLDMANN REPORTS TO JEWISH AGENCY ON GERMAN REPARATIONS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, co-chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, today reported to a meeting of the executive on the situation regarding the payment of reparations by Germany. The report was followed by a lively debate.

Dr. Goldmann also reported on the problem of obtaining technical experts in the United States for work in Israel, but stressed that the greatest obstacle in fulfillment of a program of recruiting American skilled men was the lack of accommodation for them in the Jewish state. The Agency then appointed a committee to deal with the problem.

PREMIER WARNS ISRAEL OF DIFFICULTIES FACING IT IN FUTURE

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Great difficulties face Israel in the future, after the present problems have been solved, Premier David Ben Gurion declared here today at a celebration marking the fourth anniversary of the United Nations decision to partition Palestine.

The Premier pointed out that the difficulties would be found in the same fields where problems now beset the young Jewish state--in international politics and in the internal and party divisions. However, he expressed the hope that "great deeds" could yet be expected from Israel.

ISRAEL SUPPORTS PAKISTAN PROPOSAL ON DISARMAMENT AT U.N. ASSEMBLY

PARIS, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Israel supports the Pakistan proposal that a sub-committee of the four Great Powers should discuss disarmament, Moshe Sharett, Israel Foreign Minister, said today when he spoke in the debate in the Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.

At the same time, the Israeli spokesman expressed doubt as to the wisdom of the Indian proposal for temporarily shelving the disarmament question to concentrate on creation of a United Nations Reconstruction Development Fund. He said this was an eminently constructive idea but he did not think there was any hope for it now.

Mr. Sharett referred to Secretary of State Dean Acheson's suggestions on criteria for disarmament such as population and wealth. He pointed out that Israel was in a peculiar position in the sense that it was a country surrounded by hostile neighbors. This, he said, should be taken into consideration in working out criteria for the disarmament of his country. He added that while this was a minor point, he felt it his duty to bring it to the attention of the Assembly.

The Israeli Foreign Minister noted that one of the root causes of tension seemed about to be removed - the conclusion of an armistice in Korea and consequent cessation of hostilities which, he said, "we all hope will never be resumed."

EGYPT PROHIBITS U. N. REGIONAL OFFICE IN CAIRO FROM SERVING ISRAEL

PARIS, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Egypt is refusing to permit the United Nations Information Center at Cairo to service Israel, A. Levran, deputy director of the Israeli division of international organizations, declared in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly today.

"This is but one example of the refusal by Egypt and other Arab countries to let regional offices of the United Nations or of its specialized agencies service Israel or function properly in the Middle East," he declared.

"The injurious effects are aggravated by the fact that the information center in Cairo also carries out public information work of three regional offices of U. N. specialized agencies located in Egypt as well as their liaison with the press," the Israeli official told the United Nations.

He protested against proposed cuts in the budget of the U. N. Geneva office which has been temporarily servicing Israel and said the only way to remedy the situation was either to make the Cairo center serve the whole Middle East, as it should, or establish a special information center in Israel.

In answer to the Israeli statement that his country would like Arabic material supplied from the Cairo information center, the representative of Egypt declared that Cairo would "not service Tel Aviv."

AGUDAH OPPOSES INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS TO U. N. ON HUMAN RIGHTS

PARIS, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Support of the Uruguayan proposal for the appointment of a United Nations attorney-general to deal with complaints of violations of human rights was expressed here today by the Agudas Israel World Union representative.

The Agudah representative informed the Uruguayan, British and Israeli delegations of his group's support, but urged that the proposal be changed to permit only governments and recognized non-governmental organizations -- but not individuals -- to make such complaints to the U. N. The Uruguayan proposal was drafted by the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations and later espoused by the South American Government.

GERMAN SENTENCED FOR SUPPLYING POISON GAS TO OSWIECIM CAMP

FRANKFURT, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Gerhard Peters, former director of the German Association to Fight Insects, was sentenced today to four-and-a-half years at hard labor for supplying poison gas to the Oswiecim extermination camp, in Nazi-occupied Poland, where hundreds of thousands of Jews were gassed.

The verdict was handed down by a court in Wiesbaden which rejected the request of the prosecutor that the accused be sentenced to 15 years. The judge said that the request could not be granted because insufficient evidence has been presented to justify a 15-year sentence.

THREE LONDON BOYS DETAINED FOR STABBING JEWISH BOY IN NECK

LONDON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Three 16-year-old boys were found guilty today of stabbing a 15-year-old Jewish boy in the neck outside of a London club. They were held in custody for two weeks pending a verdict.

Magistrate J. McCall, addressing the boys in court, said: "It was utterly shameful and contemptible. You have some absurd idea about racial superiority and you think it gives you an excuse for behaving like sub-normal animals. I don't believe in racial superiority."

ITALIAN JEWS RAISE FUNDS FOR VICTIMS OF FLOOD IN NORTHERN ITALY

ROME, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Jews in Italy are generously responding to a call issued by the Union of Italian Jewish Communities appealing for relief for the victims of the floods in the northern part of the country. The appeal, broadcast over the Rome radio, is bringing in contributions from individual Jews as well as from Jewish organizations. A similar appeal has been issued by Dr. Elio Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Rome.

The Israeli legation in Rome was among the first in the diplomatic corps to send a substantial contribution to the Italian Red Cross. The Association of Jewish Women contributed both money and clothing for the flood victims. The Union of Jewish Communities donated 50,000 lire in addition to contributions from individual communities. The Jewish orphanage in Rome has offered its summer home in Ostia to shelter the homeless victims.

JEWISH CONGRESS FILES BRIEF AGAINST PUBLIC SCHOOL BIBLE READING

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today filed a brief as a friend of the court with the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that a New Jersey law providing for Bible reading in the public schools violates the Constitutional principles of religious liberty and separation of Church and State.

The suit, which was brought by Donald R. Doremus and Mrs. Anna E. Klein against the Board of Education of Hawthorne, New Jersey, is expected to be argued before the Supreme Court sometime in December. The Supreme Court of New Jersey had previously held that the statute was legal and Constitutional.

The American Jewish Congress brief pointed out that although the organization and the Jewish community generally strongly favored religious education and Bible study, it felt that such education was the responsibility of the home, the church and the synagogue. The brief said that whenever sectarianism is brought into the public school the result is conflict and bitterness among the children and their parents along religious lines.

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH CHAPLAINS PROTESTS AGAINST "DESERT FOX"

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The Association of Jewish Chaplains of the U.S. Armed Forces today issued a statement protesting against the showing of the film "The Desert Fox" glamorizing Gen. Rommel, the Nazi military commander. The statement termed the film as "perhaps the most cynically immoral picture ever to come out of Hollywood."

"As chaplains who served with those military forces which at great sacrifice successfully resisted the Nazi onslaught, we are dismayed at the callous forgetfulness of our fellow-Americans, and at the sordid motives of the producers who have capitalized on our own moral indifference," the statement says.

RADIO STATIONS WHICH BROADCAST ANTI-SEMITISM GET NEW LICENCES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The Federal Communications Commission yesterday granted a renewal of licences for the radio stations of the late G. A. Richards, who was accused of broadcasting anti-Semitism. The Commission granted permission for the transfer of control of the licences to Mrs. G. A. Richards. One commissioner opposed the action. The stations are KMPC, Los Angeles; WJR, Detroit; and WGAR, Cleveland.

AMERICAN CAPITAL SOUGHT FOR ISRAEL'S BUILDING INDUSTRY

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- American capital and modern techniques are needed to develop Israel's building industry and to speed up actual building operations, now proceeding at the rate of many millions of dollars per year. I. Abramski, president of the Building Contractors Federation in Israel, said at a press conference here today.

Mr. Abramski said he came to the United States to seek sponsorship for new projects in Israel. "One of these projects," he reported, "is the establishment of a new cement plant, which Israel needs very urgently, the second being an enterprise for heavy duty earth-moving equipment. Factories for the production of sand-lime and clay bricks, as well as various other plants are also being considered. The cement plant alone will require \$3,000,000 in foreign capital investment, while the equipment firm needs about \$250,000 in American machinery."

BURTON BERRY TO SUCCEED MCGHEE AT STATE DEPT. ON NEAR EAST AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- George C. McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, will be succeeded temporarily by Deputy Assistant Secretary Burton Berry should he be appointed as Ambassador to Turkey before the Congress re-convenes, it was announced here today by the State Department.

Asked if Henry G. Byroade, Director of the Department's Division of German Affairs, was to take over Mr. McGhee's job as Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, a Department spokesman did not rule out this possibility, but did emphasize that no final decision has been taken. He said no decision will be made on a permanent successor until Congress is back in session.

MORGENTHAU ARRIVES IN ISRAEL FOR CONFERENCES WITH GOVT. LEADERS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Henry Morgenthau, Jr., head of the board of governors of the Israel bond drive in the United States, arrived here today for conferences with Israel Government leaders. Mr. Morgenthau, who was accompanied by his wife of a week, was met at Lydda airport by Labor Minister Golda Myerson, representatives of the U.S. Embassy and of the Israeli Finance and Foreign Ministries and by Henry Montor and Julian Venetzky, his associates in the bond drive.

In a statement issued at the airport, Mr. Morgenthau said that he was "happy to report that the bond drive is a definite success." He recalled that when the project was first considered in September, 1950, it was regarded as a "bold unattainable venture." Today, he added, "it is the most important instrument for the economic upbuilding of Israel."

WEIZMANN'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVED IN NEW YORK; LIPSKY HONORED

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 guests gathered tonight in the main ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel to celebrate the 77th birthday of President Chaim Weizmann of Israel and to honor the scientific achievements of Sir Robert Robinson, president of England's Royal Society, and Zionist leader Louis Lipsky on the occasion of his 75th birthday and over 50 years service in the cause of Zionism.

Proceeds of the affair, which was sponsored by the American Committee of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovoth, Israel, will go towards the creation of a department of experimental biology at the Institute. Among the speakers who spoke in praise of President Weizmann and Mr. Lipsky and the Weizmann Institute of Science were: Abba Eban, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S.; Sir Robert Robinson; Dr. Isaac Berenblum, head of the department of experimental biology at the Weizmann Institute; Dr. Herman Mark of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute; Harry Scherman, president of the Book of the Month Club; and Dewey D. Stone, chairman of the dinner. Mr. Lipsky, who was himself being honored, extolled the achievements of President Weizmann.

Mr. Scherman, as chairman of the committee seeking to establish a Louis Lipsky Exchange Fellowship Fund at the Weizmann Institute in honor of Mr. Lipsky's Zionist achievements and 75th birthday, said: "For this Fellowship, the sum of \$75,000 has been pledged by friends of Mr. Lipsky, a round thousand for each of his present years. This Fund will bring into Israel promising scientific workers from American research centers and, reversely, give young scientists in Israel the opportunity to work intensively in research centers here."