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SHARETT CHARGES PRAGUE WITH PLOTTING AGAINST JEWS IN "NAZI SPIRIT"

JERUSALEM, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett today charged the Communist Government of Czechoslovakia with "anti-Semitic plotting" against Jews in all countries behind the Iron Curtain and with anti-Jewish agitation "in the spirit of Nazism." In an official statement made in Parliament in connection with the "purge" trial now taking place in Prague, Mr. Sharett said:

"In one respect this shameful spectacle constitutes an innovation. The majority of the accused are Jews and the prosecution has spared no pains to highlight their racial origin and to trace their alleged crimes to this prime cause. The indictment and the court proceedings themselves, as well as the publicity given the trial in the official Czech press are all permeated by a spirit of anti-Semitism.

"The staging of the trial is replete with propagandist effects and anti-Semitic incident in the undiluted tradition of Nazism," the Foreign Minister charged. "The prosecution has unfolded a dark screed of criminal plottings and acts of conspiracy and subversion which these Jewish enemies of the Czech people either perpetrated or sought to perpetrate. But unsatisfied with impugning their Jewish origin, it denounced them as Zionists. Men who have never had any connection with the Zionist movement -- some of whom have indeed persecuted Zionism with vengeance -- have branded themselves with that stigma."

Mr. Sharett stated that the whole Zionist movement, "the movement of liberation and return to the homeland," had been "smeared and slandered as a gang of intriguers and spies bent on undermining the very foundations of the Czech regime, seeking to ruin the country, dishonestly exploiting the property of its citizens for its own nefarious purposes. Attempts of the Jewish survivors to recover a tiny fraction of the immense volume of property of which they were plundered has been denounced as an act of deceit and robbery," Mr. Sharett continued.

Rite Slander Against Israel at Prague Trial

"Israeli citizens who sought to serve the interests of the Czech Republic and its allies have been ensnared in this judicial plot and have been made to admit absurd charges of subversion and sabotage. Finally, libellous allegations have been made against Ministers and accredited representatives of the Israel Government, charging them with having conspired with enemies of Czechoslovakia, both within and without, seeking to encompass the destruction of her economy and undermine her security.

"The Israel Government holds it utterly superfluous to attempt any detailed factual denial of this tissue of libels and fabrications concerning the activities of its

members and emissaries produced from the fertile imagination of the Czech secret police and the public prosecutor," the Foreign Minister stressed. He stated that these slanders "contradict reason" and that "their falseness is obvious to the naked eye, denied as they are by patent facts.

"Israel," he added, "has always entertained a sincere sympathy for the Czechoslovak people. Israel sought to establish and foster friendly relations with the present Czech state. Israel obtained valuable aid from Czechoslovakia during its war of liberation, for which it paid in full. This was arranged with the knowledge and authority of the heads of the Czech state, some of whom still occupy high seats of power.

Says Israel Envoys Never Served as Spies of Any Power

"At one stage, Israel concluded a commercial agreement with Czechoslovakia on terms agreeable to both parties," Mr. Sharett recalled. "Israel admitted thousands of Jews who were officially authorized to leave Czechoslovakia after they left most of their property behind. Under the terms of this commercial agreement Israel paid for a small percentage of her imports from Czechoslovakia with a limited proportion of the immigrants' former possessions.

"None of these operations were performed in the dark," he underlined. "They were not the result of any underhanded manipulation, but of official honorable negotiation between the accredited representatives of both countries. There was no trickery involved, nor any attempt to take advantage of imagined weakness of the opposite party or to damage its vital interests -- it was an agreement freely entered into for mutual benefit.

"Israel representatives never served as spies or agents of any foreign power," the Israel Minister declared, adding that "only those to whom espionage and sabotage come naturally as a matter of daily practice are capable of conceiving that such a fantastic charge can gain credence, and only those to whom international relations are a tangled web of machinations woven in the dark can invent about Ministers of Israel such stories of sinister plotting which every civilized citizen in a free country treats with ridicule and contempt."

Mr. Sharett warned that "history has already passed judgement on those regimes which had recourse to the bogey of anti-Semitism in order to divert the attention of the masses from their own troubles and the failures of their rulers, and to turn their hatred toward the Jews as scapegoats. The liberation of Czechoslovakia from Hitler's storm troopers stands desecrated before the whole world by this attempt to revive its vile spirit within its borders.

"This campaign of desecration is calculated to serve as a threat to the Jews of Czechoslovakia and of the neighboring countries," he charged. "Its object is to discredit Israel in their eyes and to stamp out their Jewish pride. It seeks to make them hated by the masses and to provide in advance justification for any future acts of discrimination and persecution of which they become victims. In this hour our hearts are with the multitudes of our Jewish brethren who are cut off from the main body of the Jewish people and from any contact with the State of Israel."

Concluding his statement, Mr. Sharett asserted that the "Prague trial has cast a dark and ugly blot on the glorious record of friendship between Czechoslovakia and Israel. It has imposed a heavy and grievous burden on the memory of the Jewish people." A four-hour debate on the subject will be held tomorrow.

JEWISH AGENCY SUBMITS \$17,250,000 BUDGET TO ACTIONS COMMITTEE

JERUSALEM, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- A budget of \$17,250,000 to cover the activities of the Jewish Agency during 1953 has been submitted to the Zionist Actions Committee, which is currently meeting here, by Dr. George Josephthal, Jewish Agency treasurer.

The largest expenditure contemplated in the budget is for agricultural development, consolidation of settlements, irrigation, etc., for which \$58,335,000, almost one-half of the entire budget, has been assigned.

The budget provides \$6,965,000 for transportation of immigrants, \$9,660,000 for their maintenance and initial absorption, and \$8,400,000 for the Youth Aliyah. It assigns \$5,950,000 to the Jewish National Fund and sets aside \$1,659,000 for educational and cultural activities.

During today's general debate at the Actions Committee session, Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the Zionist Organization of America, hailed the agreement reached here yesterday between Premier David Ben Gurion and American Zionist leaders on the expansion of the American Zionist Council. He expressed confidence that the agreement will "not remain on paper" but will be implemented by all Zionist groups. Rabbi James Heller, president of the American Zionist Laborites, said that the agreement will be judged by the actions of the parties concerned.

Zvi Herman, head of the organizational department of the Jewish Agency, praised the agreement. He said that the main tasks of the Zionist movement must be: 1. Mobilization of maximum economic assistance for Israel; 2. Political assistance to Israel; 3. Organization of emigration of Jews from various countries to Israel; 4. Spreading the Chaiutz ideal among Jewish youth; 5. Educational activities among Jews throughout the world.

Eliahu Dobkin, member of the Jewish Agency executive, reported on Zionist activities among Jewish youth and on the Chaiutz movement. He said that there are today about 900 Chaiutzim under training in all parts of the world, the majority of them in Latin American countries. He stressed the necessity for increased Zionist work among the Jewish youth in countries outside of Israel.

Rabbi M. Kirshblum, president of the American Mizrahi Organization, discussed the decreased Jewish immigration to Israel. He said that it was not austerity which prevents Jews from settling in Israel but the lack of suitable conditions for Jews now living in Western countries who might be interested in moving to Israel. He called for the creation of such conditions.

OFFICIAL PAKISTAN MISSION REFUSES TO SET FOOT ON ISRAEL SOIL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Members of a Pakistan Government mission refused to set foot on Israel soil today when the plane in which they were travelling to London set down at Lydda for refueling. The delegation from the Moslem country was headed by Finance Minister Mohamed Ali Khan.

U.S. LAW EXPERT ARRIVES IN ISRAEL TO HELP DRAFT BASIC CODE

TEL AVIV, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph Laufer of Harvard University arrived here today as a guest of the Israel Government to assist the Ministry of Justice in drafting a basic legal code.

CJFWF ASSEMBLY ENDORSES NCRAC COMMUNITY RELATIONS STAND

BOSTON, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- A resolution reaffirming the objectives of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds with regard to coordination in the field of Jewish community relations, and endorsing the action taken at the Atlantic City plenum of the National Community Relations Advisory Council last September, was adopted here last night at the concluding session of the 21st General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

These objectives were: Continuous reassessment of community relations programs; integrated planning, including logical and practical division of labor; strengthening of NCRAC as the instrument of voluntary cooperation; and an improved system of financing related to evaluation of the needs of the entire field.

The resolution further urged the American Jewish Committee and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League to "rejoin the cooperative process which is the N. C. R. A. C.," and instructed the C. J. F. W. F. national-local relations committee or a special committee to "work with all of the national agencies and the N. C. R. A. C. for the reestablishment of full cooperation within the framework" of the objectives outlined in the resolution. Emphasis was placed on keeping the door open for efforts to bring about such reaffiliation.

This "shall in no way involve compulsion by N. C. R. A. C. or the creation of the N. C. R. A. C. as an authoritarian body or infringe upon the autonomy of N. C. R. A. C. member agencies or their right of dissent," the resolution declared. It also stated that agencies voting in the minority should have the right to act on their own decisions.

Prior to the passage of this resolution, which was recommended by the resolutions committee, a substitute resolution brought to the floor by a minority group within the resolutions committee was rejected by a vote of 126 1/2 to 46, with 40 1/2 abstentions. It stated that an effort should be "made to find a common ground for the reconstitution of the NCRAC," and called for appointment of a committee to work with the agencies and the NCRAC for "the reestablishment of full cooperation," but without the reaffirmation of the objectives and framework set forth in the resolution finally adopted here.

In a joint statement Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, and Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith, later asserted that the action taken here "can only serve to aggravate the situation that has unfortunately developed in this field."

Another major resolution passed by the Assembly urged the new national Administration and the 83rd Congress "to give prompt attention to the need for revision of the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1952 (McCarran Walter Act) in order to bring American immigration policy into harmony with American democratic concepts."

This resolution urged the elimination of discriminatory features of the act, as well as the deportation provisions except in cases of fraudulent or illegal entry. The resolution also called for the provision of adequate appellate procedures in immigration and naturalization cases, establishment of a visa review board, and equality under the law for both native and naturalized citizens.

In other nations, the Assembly reaffirmed its gratitude to the U. S. Government for its continued assistance to Israel through grants-in-aid and technical assistance and cited the need for immediate cash payment on philanthropic pledges to meet "pressing needs, overseas and at home." Julian Freeman of Indianapolis was re-elected president of the Council for 1953.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY TO ESTABLISH \$1,000,000 SCHICK MEDICAL DEPT.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Bela Schick, world famous pediatrician and discoverer of the Schick test of immunity to diphtheria, was honored here last night by 500 leaders of American medicine at a dinner given in his honor by the new College of Medicine of Yeshiva University.

In recognition of his contributions to the field of medicine, friends and colleagues of Dr. Schick will inaugurate a \$1,000,000 fund for the establishment of the Bela Schick Department of Pediatrics at the new college. At a special academic convocation held before the dinner, Dr. Schick, who is celebrating his 75th birthday, received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters conferred by Yeshiva University. Also, an award was presented to him on behalf of the Finnish Pediatric Society.

Earlier in the day, speaking before the Council of Organizations of Yeshiva University, Mayor Vincent Impellitteri, called for the doors of America to be kept open for immigrants fleeing from Communism, asserting that leaving the doors open provided the only hope for such people. Prof. Albert Einstein, in a message to the University, commenting on the building of the new medical school, declared: "To my mind, this undertaking is of the greatest importance to American Jewry; it is an act of self-help to make it possible for many of our young people in this country to study medicine."

U.S. LABOR ZIONISTS TO BUILD A CENTER IN ISRAEL FOR AMERICANS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Construction of a Jewish National Workers Farband House in Israel to mark the 40th anniversary of the "Farband," American Labor Zionist order, was decided on at a meeting of Histadrut officials and Louis Segal, secretary of the American fraternal organization.

The House will serve as a tourist and information center for American visitors. Mr. Segal announced he would present the plans for the project to the "Farband" in New York and would help raise funds for its construction.

MORITZ M. GOTTLIEB, NOTED COMMUNAL LEADER, DIES AT 59

BOSTON, Nov. 24. (JTA) -- Moritz M. Gottlieb, well known Jewish communal and philanthropic leader, died here yesterday while attending the 21st General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. He was 59 years of age.

Mr. Gottlieb was a member of the national campaign cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal and was chairman of the U. J. A. 's Division of Regions. He was also president of the Central Atlantic Region of the C. J. F. W. F. and a director of the United Israel Appeal, Joint Distribution Committee and National Jewish Welfare Board. A resident of Allentown, Pa., he had served as president of its Jewish Federation. The U. J. A. nation office will be closed in his honor tomorrow, the day of the funeral.

Edward M. M. Warburg, general chairman of the U. J. A., commenting on Mr. Gottlieb's death, declared: "There have been few citizens of our community whose passing will so deeply be mourned by so many. Despite his constant self-effacing attitude he was and will always be remembered. He loved his host of friends and they were enriched by his deep human understanding. He gave to all and wanted nothing in return except the cheerful comradeship of those who would join with him in helping those who needed help."