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ARAB COMPLAINT AGAINST U. S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO ISRAELIS RESENTED

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA) -- Resentment was expressed here today against a statement made yesterday by a spokesman for the Arab delegations at the United Nations in which he said that "the Arabs object to the practice of allowing Americans to make tax-free contributions to Jewish charities."

The Arab spokesman said that such contributions "indirectly support Israel's military budget." He cited Arab opposition to U. S. Government officials' publicly espousing bond drives for Israel. At the same time, Prince Feisal el-Saud, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, who represents his country at the current U. N. General Assembly session, said he was encouraged by his recent conversations with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and predicted that "the United States would modify its policy and recognize the importance of the Middle East."

Observers here emphasized that the remarks by the Arab spokesman constitute intervention into the internal affairs of the United States and are contrary to the spirit of the United Nations Charter. They pointed out that this new Arab propaganda move is part of the tactics of bolstering Arab morale and of influencing American public opinion in favor of a pro-Arab policy by the U. S. Government.

PRO-ARAB PROPAGANDA AGAINST U. S. AID TO ISRAEL ASSAILED

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA) -- "Mischievous propaganda" which is being spread by pro-Arab elements to the effect that "the American Government has especially favored the State of Israel and has poured fabulous sums of money into that country," were assailed here tonight by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. He spoke at a dinner marking the formal opening of the 15th annual campaign of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

Dr. Silver pointed out that Israel has received from the United States Government only \$276,000,000 in aid and contrasted that with the total of more than \$30,000,000,000 given to all countries receiving such aid in the first five post-war years and the \$7,000,000,000 spent on foreign aid last year alone. Recalling that some of the nations receiving U. S. Government help are the "oldest and most powerful in Europe," Dr. Silver declared:

"The new State of Israel, recovering from the ravages of invasion and war, harassed by the continuing Arab boycott and blockade, confronted with the necessity of absorbing 700,000 impoverished refugees and of defending its frontiers at the very time that it was setting up the machinery of government and laying the bases

for its agricultural and industrial development, has received since its founding aid in the amount of \$276, 000, 000, half of which was in the form of a loan from the Export-Import Bank, which is being repaid at three and a half percent interest. "

Dr. Silver emphasized that "Israel is profoundly grateful for the aid which it has received from this country, which was the first to grant it recognition and which did so much to bring it into existence." By so doing, he pointed out, the United States has assured for itself and mankind "a faithful and dependable ally for freedom and democracy in a most critical and strategic area of the world." The recent violent outburst and denunciation both of Israel and of Zionism on the part of the Soviet bloc are clear proof of this fact, he stressed.

"Whatever aid the United States will deem it wise and just to extend to Israel in the future as part of its foreign aid program will of course be deeply appreciated by the hard-pressed young State of Israel," he continued. "A strong Israel will be a deterrent to any attempt at aggression on the part of any unreconciled neighbor and will insure peace in a part of the world where an outbreak of war may be difficult to localize."

Dr. Silver also called for continued support by American Jews of efforts to strengthen Israel economically. He particularly asked increased contributions to the United Jewish Appeal to speed the absorption of 240, 000 recently arrived immigrants who "still dwell in the economic wasteland of temporary villages under "primitive conditions."

Rosenwald Asks Moscow to Release Jews as Peace Gesture

William Rosenwald, a national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, voiced a plea to the Soviet Union's new Premier Georgi Malenkov and to those who rule the Communist world with him to allow the Jews of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, "who now live in dread of renewed persecution," to emigrate to Israel. Speaking after receiving an award for distinguished service to the causes represented in the U. J. A. of New York, Mr. Rosenwald said:

"It is not too late for the masters of the Kremlin to change the anti-Jewish and anti-Israel policies which are indicated by their recent actions and pronouncements. Today, the leadership of the Soviet Union is in new hands. Malenkov and those who rule with him have it in their power to reverse the ominous trend of Soviet anti-Semitism. They have it in their power to let the Jews emigrate."

Mr. Rosenwald expressed a belief that such a move would have an ameliorative effect on the cold war. "The Communist rulers," he stated, "can show the world that the Kremlin has not lost all humanity. They can remove the issue of anti-Semitism from the struggle between East and West and thus help to relieve the tensions which shake our world. Such an action would give to millions of people all over the world a renewed hope for peace."

The dinner launched the active fund-raising phase of the New York UJA, which has already passed the \$7, 500, 000 mark. It was tendered as a testimonial to the general chairman of the New York UJA campaign who are: Samuel Hausman, Benjamin Lazrus, Abraham Levitt, Jerome I. Udell and Jack D. Weiler. They were presented with atlases and illuminated globes, symbolizing the worldwide scope of the work of the agencies benefitting from the campaign.

In addition to Dr. Silver and Mr. Rosenwald, speakers included Louis Broido, president of the New York UJA, who presided over the dinner; Edward M. W. Warburg, general chairman of the nationwide UJA drive; and Samuel D. Leidesdorf, treasurer of the New York UJA.

ARAB INFILTRERS SUFFER "COSTLY DEFEAT" WHEN INVADING NEGEV

TEL AVIV, March 12. (JTA) -- A gang of Arab infiltrers who invaded the Western Negev today suffered a costly defeat, a military spokesman revealed here tonight.

The marauders, after they had penetrated a considerable distance inside Israel, walked into an ambush laid by an Israeli military unit. After an exchange of shots the Arabs withdrew, but stumbled into a minefield. There a number of them were killed. The remainder fled toward Gaza.

HISTADRUT LEADER CALLS FOR SOLUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

TEL AVIV, March 12. (JTA) -- Maximum efforts must be devoted to solving the problem of Israel's unemployed, Mordecai Namir, general secretary of the Histadrut, today told a meeting of the Mapai Party Council which was attended by representatives of the party's organizations throughout Israel.

Mr. Namir expressed confidence that Israel would be able to overcome both internal and external difficulties. Among the latter, he listed the Communist attacks on Israel, the threats by Israel's Arab neighbors and the "perplexity and hesitation" of the Western Powers toward Middle East problems.

Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett devoted the major portion of his address to a discussion of education and youth problems. He said that education in Israel would continue along a "trend" basis, but that there will be no special administration for each type of party or movement school, as heretofore. He demanded that pioneering be emphasized in the education of all youth. Mr. Sharett, who recently returned from a tour of Far Eastern capitals, stressed that Israel must "increase her achievements" in order to increase her influence with the other Asiatic countries.

Meir Argov, chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, reported that the Mapai Party had 128,000 members as compared to 53,000 for the General Zionists and 43,000 for the Mapam.

ISRAEL FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT FOUR SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES

BUENOS AIRES, March 12. (JTA) -- Israel Minister Yaacov Tsur today outlined the details of Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett's trip through South America this Spring. Mr. Tsur told newsmen that Mr. Sharett would arrive in Argentina April 13 for a ten-day stay.

The Foreign Minister has been invited by the Governments of Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Brazil. Mr. Sharett, who will present to Argentine President Juan Peron a personal letter from President Ben Zvi of Israel, will assist in the celebration of Israel's fifth Independence Day. He will also attend the inauguration ceremonies of the 1953 United Israel Campaign in this country.

JEWISH AGENCY LIQUIDATES EIGHT IMMIGRANT WORK VILLAGES

TEL AVIV, March 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency has closed eight immigrant work villages in the last half year and has moved their inhabitants into permanent homes in urban, suburban and rural areas, it was announced here today. The Agency announcement added that more maabarot will be closed down as soon as the current housing program is completed.

EX-NAZIS IN AUSTRIA FIGHT ANTI-NAZI LAWS ON "HUMAN RIGHTS" GROUNDS

VIENNA, March 12. (JTA) -- Pro-Nazi elements in Austria, silent during the Nazi regime when the human rights and lives of Jews were violated, have begun a new campaign to remove Austrian anti-Nazi laws from the books on the grounds that they contravene the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights.

Die Neue Front, weekly publication of the neo-Nazi League of Independents, is currently campaigning against laws punishing Austrian Nazis on the grounds that the Human Rights Declaration condemns punishment for crimes committed at a time when there were no laws prohibiting such offenses on the legal books. The newspaper attacks Chancellor Leopold Figl's recent statement that Austrian legislation on Nazi Party members is fully in accord with international declarations on human rights.

FRANKFURT MAYOR REITERATES BAN ON FILM PRODUCED BY EX-NAZI

FRANKFURT, March 12. (JTA) -- The Veit Harlan film, "The Immortal Beloved," has once again been banned from cinemas in Frankfurt on orders from the Mayor, it was announced here today.

The ban was reimposed when protests flooded the Mayor's office after an announcement that the film would be shown. This time, as they did a year ago, trade unions and liberal political groups joined Jews in protesting the showing of films produced by Harlan, top producer of Nazi films including the anti-Semitic "Jud Suess"

PARIS GROUPS ASKED TO SEEK RETURN OF ABDUCTED JEWISH BOYS

PARIS, March 12. (JTA) -- The concern of the Israeli public with the removal of two Jewish children from France by Catholic priests who had been ordered to turn the children over to an aunt in Israel, was expressed today in letters sent two non-governmental, international organizations concerned with child welfare by Moshe Kol, director of the Youth Aliyah movement in Israel.

Mr. Kol's letters, addressed to the Federation Internationale des Communautés d'Enfants and the Union Internationale pour la Protection de l'Enfance, asked the groups to use their influence to help return the Jewish war orphans to their legal guardian.

The children, Robert and Gerald Finaly, were left at an orphanage in France by their parents who were subsequently murdered by the Nazis. Recently, during the court battle to recover the children, the Catholic authorities of the institution baptized the children and, when the court decided against them, took the children to Spain.

AMERICAN PRESS LAUDS ORT WORK; DEVOTES EDITORIALS TO "ORT DAY"

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA) -- Leading New York newspapers editorially lauded the activities of the American ORT in commenting on the celebration of ORT Day in New York City today.

The New York Times said that the ORT has "done much to aid and rehabilitate the uprooted and downtrodden Jewish people of the world. On its twenty-sixth anniversary it can report notable progress in breaking down the walls of the economic ghettos which have plagued the Jews throughout their history." The New York World-Telegram and Sun, reviewing the record of the ORT, said that the organization has "every reason to be proud of this impressive record."

JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS WORRIED OVER SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

ATLANTIC CITY, March 12. (JTA) -- "Grave concern over the accusations and vilifications by the Communist-dominated countries against the Jews in their own lands and Jews everywhere" was expressed in a resolution adopted here by more than 100 Jewish leaders from 24 communities attending the Central Atlantic Regional Conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

The resolution called upon American Jews to speed up their 1953 campaigns "so as to strengthen Israel as a haven of refuge for Jews subjected to persecution anywhere." The resolution emphasized that Jews in the United States must continue to mobilize their resources in defense of their brothers overseas and in Israel "and thereby help to preserve freedom and democracy everywhere. The American Jewish community is the great reservoir of Jewish strength in the world and our responsibility is the great and continuing help of our fellow Jews overseas," it pointed out.

The conference also adopted unanimously a resolution urging the revision of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, calling it "contrary to the democratic principles of our country." The resolution stated that the act "injures our national reputation with other peoples of the world."

Principal speakers at the conference were Edwin Wolf II, vice-president of the Philadelphia Allied Jewish Appeal, Philip Bernstein, associate director of the CJFWF, and Harold Glasser, director of the CJFWF Institute on Overseas Studies. Mr. Wolf urged a long range view in allocating funds rather than responding to immediate pressures. He called for "new criteria" to determine future budgeting.

Priorities in Allocating Jewish Community Funds Urged

"The first priorities," Mr. Wolf said, "should lie with those institutions which will assure an active Jewish community a generation from now, because without that community in the future, all our plans stand but on a foundation of sand and all our programs are but written in water. The next priority should lie with those agencies which have Jewish content for they can receive support only from a sectarian fund. Finally we come to those agencies which could just as well not be Jewish and perhaps should be financed differently."

Mr. Glasser reported that the American Jewish community successfully carried out the mass emigration of a million Jews and the rehabilitation of the Jewish communities of Western Europe. "Two major overseas programs remain to be completed," he said, "the modernization of the Jewish communities in the Moslem countries and the economic establishment of the State of Israel. Israel has the full potentiality of economic success, but it can be achieved only by giving highest priority to agricultural development," he declared.

Addressing the closing session of the conference, Mr. Bernstein reviewed Jewish communal responsibilities in 1953. Citing current changes in Europe, Israel and America, he declared: "We face grave responsibilities in a troubled, anxious world, which leaves no room for complacency. That surely is evident to the leaders of our federations, welfare funds and community councils who are concerned not alone with one need, but with the totality of needs. We recognize that we can only meet overseas problems as we build a strong American Jewry to do it. And we know, too, that we cannot have a dignified, secure American Jewry if we permit second class citizenship or destruction of Jewish life anywhere."

Irving D. Peisner of Passaic, N. J., was elected president of the CJFWF Central Atlantic Region for the coming year. Nathan Kuss of Wilkes Barre, Pa., and Moses Lavinsky of Camden, N. J., were elected vice-presidents and Abram S. Berg, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., was elected treasurer.

