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## U. J. A. CONFERENCE ADOPTS GOAL OF CLOSE TO \$100,000,000 FOR 1955

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The annual national conference of the United Jewish Appeal, attended by more than 1,200 Jewish community leaders from all parts of the country, concluded here today with the adoption of a goal of \$99,521,275 for the 1955 campaign.

In setting this goal as against the almost \$120,000,000 needed by the three constituent agencies of the UJA--the United Israel Appeal, Joint Distribution Committee and New York Association for New Americans--the delegates took into account that some \$20,000,000 will be forthcoming from the reparations funds now accruing to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

William Rosenwald, long prominent as a top leader in Jewish philanthropic activities, was elected UJA general chairman. He succeeds Edward M. M. Warburg, who was elected to the newly-created post of UJA president, thereby continuing as a key figure in the organization. Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz was drafted for a fifth term as the UJA executive vice-chairman. He will be succeeded in 1956 by Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman of Milwaukee. Dewey D. Stone was named a national chairman of the UJA to represent the United Israel Appeal. He succeeds Rudolf G. Sonneborn.

## Urges U. S. Jewry to Give First Priority to U. J. A. Needs

In a resolution hailing Mr. Rosenwald's election, the conference delegates declared they would work wholeheartedly with him to seek "the highest possible income" for the 1955 UJA drive. They issued a call to American Jewry to give first priority to the needs of the United Jewish Appeal.

The call warned that unless Israel is helped to receive and settle the 30,000 men, women and children due to come in 1955 from troubled Tunisia and Morocco "much of the economic progress in Israel during these last few years will be destroyed and a new era of reception camps, tents and idleness may undermine the country's economy." The delegates also asked strong support for programs in North Africa for the welfare, education, vocational training and rehabilitation of Jews who will remain there in the coming year.

Mr. Warburg, in summing up the record of American Jewry's support of the UJA since the end of World War II, called it one of "the most dynamic decades in the 300 year old history of Jewry in America." In this period, he stated, American Jews had contributed more than \$800,000,000 to the UJA to save and aid over 2,500,000 refugee and distressed men, women and children in Israel, Europe, Moslem lands and the United States.

Jewish welfare funds and combined campaigns were urged to give increased allocations to the United Jewish Appeal by the 35-member UJA Study Mission which two weeks ago returned from a month-long survey of Jewish needs in Europe, Israel and

Morocco. Speaking for the mission and quoting from its official report, Max M. Fisher, noted Detroit industrialist, said that "the mission is convinced that Israel's future, and the future of the Jews of North Africa, cannot be viewed or dealt with in terms of routine campaign giving, or in terms of normal campaign budgeting." The mission also urged individual American Jews to raise their standard of giving "immediately and substantially."

### Dr. Schwartz Makes Passionate Appeal to Jewish Communities

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, executive vice-chairman of the UJA since 1951, who was persuaded to remain until the end of 1955 as executive head of the organization, made a passionate appeal to the delegates for maximum allocations by the communities to the United Jewish Appeal. He emphasized Israel needs and the exceptional situation of the Jews in the Moslem countries in North Africa, and urged all communities to follow the "pre-campaign budgeting" system in which UJA requirements should be given proper attention.

Dr. Schwartz informed the conference why the United Service for New Americans does not figure in the 1955 UJA budget. He said that the USNA merged earlier this year with HIAS and by agreement of the various agencies concerned the new organization, known as United HIAS Service, will raise its own funds in 1955. The United HIAS Service, he pointed out, also absorbed the migration service of the Joint Distribution Committee, and from now on there will be a division of labor in handling the refugee problem. The United HIAS Service will assist refugees in their actual migration between countries, while the New York Association for New Americans, with UJA funds, will assist in the resettlement and adjustment of those who arrive in the United States.

Explaining why he would not accept the post of UJA executive vice-chairman for more than another year, Dr. Schwartz told the conference that he had originally assumed this post in 1951 for a temporary period not to exceed two years. "When I agreed to accept the vice-chairmanship," he declared, "an emergency confronted the UJA. But at the end of the 1955 campaign, I will have served five years, a much longer period than I had originally expected to devote to this phase of the work. While leaving it is difficult, it is made easier by the knowledge that the UJA will be in capable hands."

### Israel Finance Minister Stresses Decline in U.S. Aid

Israel Finance Minister Levi Eskhol, addressing the delegates, called upon American Jews to increase their support of the UJA to help offset the gradual decline his country faces in United States and other outside aid. He stressed that Israel has still not absorbed all the immigrants who have come to it, and is faced also by a new wave of mass immigration.

Israel would have the funds for this, he indicated, but continued Arab hostility is draining these off for programs of national defense. "Refusal of the Arab states to make peace forces us to carry a heavy burden of expenditure for armament," Mr. Eskhol declared, adding that Israel has no other choice since "we simply cannot afford to find ourselves weaker than the Arab States, which so far have preferred enmity to the friendship we offer them."

With stronger aid from American Jews, he explained, Israel could get on with the "unfinished business" of settling and absorbing its immigrants, expanding its irrigation, increasing its agricultural areas, and producing more both for the home and export markets.

The Israel Finance Minister expressed his country's thanks to American Jews and to the United Jewish Appeal for their work this year in giving Israel a special fund of \$64,000,000 over and above the funds raised through the UJA's regular

campaign. This special fund was raised through the action of 125 of the country's major Jewish communities in floating five-year local bank loans and turning it over to the United Jewish Appeal for transmission to the Jewish Agency.

Moses W. Beckelman, director general of the overseas operations of the Joint Distribution Committee, told the delegates that "death, and a misery as grinding as death" face hundreds of thousands of Jews in North Africa who can be saved if American Jews act in time. He warned that "time is running out for Jews in North Africa."

The JDC director urged American Jews to increase their support of the UJA both for the movement of these Jews to Israel, and for the strengthening of programs in North Africa that will fit these Jews for a self-supporting life in the new state. He called upon American Jews to speed this work "while there is still time."

#### Ex-Head of U.S. Mission Draws Warm Picture of Israel's Efforts

Bruce McDaniel, former director of the United States Foreign Operations Mission in Israel, told the delegates that "while Israel has made good progress, this is a critical time in Israel's economic life." It is a time, he said, "when more, rather than less, effort" should be made "to capitalize on what has been done, and to continue necessary social welfare and educational work." He drew a warm picture of Israel's effort to achieve economic self-support.

Mr. McDaniel, who served as head of the U.S. Mission between 1951 and mid-1954, said that Israel's people "look forward with faith to the time when their country will no longer depend on outside help." But at the present time, he declared, "Israel needs continued support." In this fiscal year alone, he pointed out, Israel requires from outside sources about \$125 for every man, woman and child in the country in order to meet its budget for foreign needs.

Israel Ambassador Abba S. Eban, addressing the final session today, told the delegates that "Western statesmanship has progressed" in its appreciation of Israel's security problems. "Far from dismissing this problem as non-existent," he declared, "the leaders of Western nations now openly declare their understanding of Israel's sense of apprehension and vulnerability, and their belief that measures can be formulated to allay those feelings." The Ambassador termed this "distinct progress."

#### Friendly Discussions in Washington on Israel's Security

At the same time, he cautioned that "we should not, however, confuse recognition of a problem with its solution." The solution, he declared, still remains to be found. He stressed that while Israel's "preoccupation with the effects of western security policy in the Middle East thus continues in full force," discussions are going forward "in the framework of our abiding American-Israel friendship."

Mr. Eban told the UJA conferees that he "would not withdraw a word of what I have said in tense and difficult times about that friendship for Israel and its essential strength in the consciousness of both peoples." The "greater American tendency in recent weeks to articulate and affirm" this friendship, he declared, now obliges "us to use it as an instrument for the solution of problems, and the avoidance of dangers in the domain of Middle Eastern security."

William Rosenwald, in acknowledging the unanimous vote which named him UJA general chairman, declared, "in 1955 we are faced by the same great obligation to save and aid that moved us so many times in the past." He called for "extra and extraordinary support of Israel's free people who need our support to strengthen their democratic way of life and to welcome those who come from lands of danger," and also urged special aid for Jews in "tension-ridden" Tunisia and Morocco.

BRITISH CATHOLICS FORBIDDEN TO JOIN COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Catholics in Britain have been forbidden to join the Council of Christians and Jews by Bernard Cardinal Griffin, head of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in this country, it was revealed here this week-end by the Catholic newspaper, "Universe."

The newspaper said that the instructions had been issued by the Cardinal "because of the danger of indifferentism." It offered no further explanation of the action. The Council of Christians and Jews was formed in Britain in 1942, with the participation of the heads of the major faiths, including Cardinal Griffin, who became co-presidents. It is understood that the Cardinal has resigned his presidency of the organization.

SYRIAN PASSENGER PLANE VIOLATES ISRAEL AIR SPACE; IS INTERCEPTED

TEL AVIV, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A Syrian passenger plane which violated Israel air space over Acre was forced to land at Lydda airport this morning by Israel fighter planes which intercepted it. Israel has complained to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

The plane, which was en route from Damascus to Cairo, carried a crew of five and five passengers, four Arabs and one American. The American was released as soon as he identified himself. The four Arab passengers are in custody, together with the crewmen who are being investigated by the Israel authorities.

A Syrian military spokesman admitted yesterday that Syrian forces had made five Israel soldiers prisoner, it was reported here today. The admission was made after an Israel query to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission about the fate of the five men, missing since last Wednesday. It was reported that the five disappeared on a routine patrol after persons in the neighborhood heard an exchange of fire from the general area where the patrol was assigned.

EGYPT CHARGES 13 JEWS WITH ESPIONAGE; CHARGES CALLED "FABRICATED"

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Egypt's Supreme Military Court began the trial of 13 Egyptian Jews this week-end on charges of espionage on behalf of Israel and of allegedly having placed bombs in British and American buildings in Egypt in an attempt to discredit Egypt abroad, it was reported here today from Cairo. The prosecutor demanded the death penalty.

The dispatch said that all 13 Jews pleaded innocent to charges. The defendants are being tried in absentia. They are charged with organizing espionage in Egypt for Israel; conveying vital information to Israel; trying to cause disorders in Egypt through terror and bombings, and placing bombs in the U. S. Information Office, British Embassy and other places in Egypt frequented by foreigners.

(An Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem, commenting on the trial in Cairo, declared yesterday that the charges against the Egyptian Jews were "fabricated" and calculated to justify the detention of the Bat Galim, Israel vessel seized in the Suez Canal.)

SHOLOM ASCH SPEAKS IN ISRAEL ON CHRISTIAN-JEWISH UNDERSTANDING

TEL AVIV, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- "I am a Jew and I remained a Jew, and although I think that there is no possibility of reaching an understanding with the majority of the Catholic world, I still am convinced that there is a possibility for an understanding between Jews and a great part of the Christian world," Sholem Asch, noted novelist told an audience here at a special Histadrut gathering. He was applauded by the audience which filled the hall to capacity.

## SLOW PACE OF INDEMNIFICATION DRAWS CRITICISM IN BONN PARLIAMENT

BONN, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The slow pace of German indemnification of individual victims of Nazism drew the fire of three major parties in the Bonn Parliament this week-end. The debate developed over a motion by the Social Democrats, who were joined in criticism of the indemnification program by a leading Christian Democrat and a leading member of the liberal wing of the Free Democratic Party.

In support of his motion, Social Democrat Dr. Adolph Arnd demanded to know why the government had failed to issue implementation and administrative regulations to the Federal Indemnification Law, which was passed 18 months ago. He also insisted that the equivalent of \$60,000,000 be set aside for individual indemnification claims next year instead of the \$36,000,000 planned by the government.

Replying, Secretary of State Hartmann, said that the regulations, in draft form, were now in the hands of the Cabinet. (These drafts have already drawn the fire of the Central Council of Jews in Germany as "inadequate.") Herr Hartmann indicated that the budget estimates for indemnification would not be increased unless, "contrary to expectations," it was found that \$36,000,000 was insufficient for the purpose. The Social Democratic motion was then referred to the Budget Committee, presumably to be consigned to a pigeon hole.

During the debate, one of the strongest voices raised in criticism of the government's lagging in indemnification was that of Prof. Franz Boehm, Christian Democrat and one-time head of the German delegation which worked out the Luxemburg agreement for reparations payments to Israel and world Jewry. He insisted that the Federal Government and the various provincial governments were attempting to out-wait each other on providing funds for indemnification.

Prof. H. Reif, leader of the Berlin Free Democrats, declared that the present state of affairs in indemnification was not to be tolerated any longer. The Parliamentary debate took place against a background of greater public awareness that former Nazis now in the Bonn Government have been assisting Ukrainian Fascists and Fascist groups from other East European countries who aided the Nazis during the war and are now refugees in Germany.

## THOUSANDS OF FRENCHMEN VISIT EXHIBITION OF NAZI ATROCITIES

PARIS, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Thousands of French men, women and young people have visited a month-long exhibition here on German atrocities committed against French Jews and non-Jews during the Nazi occupation. The exhibit, held at the Pedagogical Museum, under the sponsorship of a committee set up by the French Ministry of Veterans Affairs, closed this week-end.

The exhibit reminds Frenchmen that the Nazis deported 120,000 persons from France on racial grounds and 100,000 for political reasons. Only 3,000 of the racial persecutees and 35,000 of the political prisoners ever returned from the Nazi concentration camps. The exhibit features photographs, documents, posters and other material which reveal what the Jews and non-Jews suffered at Buchenwald, the executions in France and elsewhere and the tortures applied to Jews and Maquis by the Gestapo.

## JEWISH POETESS IN MOSCOW PUBLICLY HITS "COSMOPOLITANISM" CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- For the first time since the Soviet campaign against "cosmopolitanism" was started in 1949, a Jewish poetess in Moscow, Margarita Aliger, came out publicly against this campaign, the Associated Press reported from Moscow.

The poetess, holder of the Stalin Prize for literature, has been in disfavor in official circles because after World War II she began writing poetry stressing her consciousness of her Jewish traditions. She has not written much in recent years, probably because of this disfavor.

JEWS GI'S VOLUNTEER FOR DUTY TO FREE CHRISTIANS FOR CHRISTMAS

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Some 4,000 Jewish troops assigned to duty at nearby Fort Dix, New Jersey, have volunteered to take all guard and kitchen details during the Christmas week-end in order to free their Christian fellow soldiers during the holiday, it was reported here today. Fort Dix is one of the major bases in this part of the country.

B'NAI B'RITH HAILS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The sixth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was hailed here today by Philip M. Klutznick, president of B'nai B'rith, who pledged his organization anew to the furtherance of individual freedom. Asserting that at the root of almost every international problem there lies a denial of human rights, Mr. Klutznick said: "The people in other lands look to our government and to us to understand their needs. They will not succumb to the false blandishments of Communism if they know how sincerely we uphold human rights, both overseas and at home. They will judge us by the vigor and sincerity with which we hold to the words of the Declaration."

HADASSAH PRESIDENT PRESENTS ART COLLECTION TO ISRAEL MUSEUM

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A valuable collection of twelve outstanding paintings by twelve different distinguished American artists was presented to the State of Israel today by Mrs. Herman Shulman, national president of Hadassah.

The paintings, which were presented through Hadassah in memory of Mrs. Shulman's late husband, Herman Shulman, were accepted on behalf of Israel by Avraham Harman, Israel Consul General. A reception for Israel Government officials and Hadassah leaders followed the formal presentation at the Israel Consulate. Many of the paintings included in the gift collection have been exhibited in museums both in this country and overseas. In Israel, they will be exhibited at Bezalel, Israel's National Art Museum in Jerusalem.

TWO YIDDISH, ONE HEBREW WRITER RECEIVE PRIZES FOR BEST BOOKS

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Three Louis LaMed Foundation annual prizes of \$500 each for the best Yiddish and Hebrew books of the year were presented to Dr. Jacob Shatzky, Dr. N. Brussiloff and Prof. Z. Sharfstein at a public meeting here last night.

Dr. Shatzky received one of the two Yiddish prizes for a history of the Jews of Warsaw. Dr. Brussiloff received the award for his novel, in Yiddish, "By the Rivers of Polesia." Prof. Sharfstein received a Hebrew prize award for his autobiography "There was Spring in the Land." The second Hebrew prize was not awarded this year.

ORT LEADERS LEAVE GENEVA FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH J. D. C. IN U. S.

GENEVA, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the executive of the World ORT Union, left today by plane for New York to start negotiations with the Joint Distribution Committee for further cooperation between the two groups. The JDC has been giving financial support to the ORT for its vocational training activities in Europe, North Africa and Israel.

CHIEF RABBI OF AMSTERDAM DEAD; WAS HIDDEN FROM NAZIS BY PROTESTANT

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Amsterdam Chief Rabbi Justus Tal died here this week-end at the age of 73. From 1918 until the outbreak of World War II, he was Chief Rabbi of Utrecht. During the war he was hidden from the Nazis by a Protestant clergyman. Afterwards, he assumed the post in Amsterdam and was elected president of the Dutch Conference of Chief Rabbis.