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## U.S. JEWISH GROUPS CALL CONFERENCE ON ISRAEL IN WASHINGTON

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Plans for a conference in Washington of representatives of the American Jewish community for the purpose of "reviewing Israel problems of interest to American Jewry including issues of American-Israel relations" were announced today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency. In composition and scope, this will be the first conference of its kind in this country since the establishment of Israel.

Dr. Goldmann made this announcement on behalf of 16 major American Jewish organizations whose presidents have been meeting periodically for informal discussion of American-Israel problems. A subcommittee is working out details of the conference, which is to take place early in March.

The conference will hear and evaluate reports on Israel's scientific and cultural advances, on its economic progress, and on the scope, methods and effectiveness of America's contribution to the welfare of the Middle East.

The presidents of the following organizations are the co-sponsors of the organization: American Jewish Congress, American Trade Union Council for Labor Israel, American Zionist Council, B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Jewish Agency, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans, Labor Zionist Organization of America, Mizrahi Organization of America, National Community Relations Advisory Council, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, United Jewish Appeal, United Synagogue of America and the Zionist Organization of America.

## STATE DEPARTMENT REVIEWS STAND ON ISRAEL; IMPARTIALITY STRESSED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The State Department today published a pamphlet on Israel tracing the history of the Jewish State and the development of American policy toward Israel. The pamphlet emphasizes that the United States considers Israel today a "political reality" and stresses the "impartial friendship" of the American Government to all countries in the Middle East.

"Our policy toward all countries in this vast region is substantially the same," the State Department publication says. It points out that the aim of the United States is "to promote the political and economic stability of the entire region, with a course of action based neither on favoritism nor on prejudice, but on the principle of safeguarding the best interests of the United States and the free world."

Declaring that Soviet attention is being shifted to the Middle East, the pamphlet says: "The unfortunate part is that both Arab and Israeli are more afraid of what the other might do than they are of Communism. It is not so plain to them as it is to us that a Communist takeover would not only rob both Arab and Israeli of further

chance of economic self-development, but would also wipe out the rich heritage which they hold in common with one another and with the rest of the non-Communist world."

The pamphlet claims that there are a number of indications that Soviet intentions are being focused to a new degree on the Middle East. "In the continued tension between Israel and the Arab states, the USSR has a readymade situation which serves its end on at least three counts," it says.

"First, the present unrest can be exploited to keep the non-Communist world divided. So far there has been little need for Moscow to send in special agents or provocateurs. There is enough tension on both sides of the borders to fan the political fires.

"Secondly, a continuation of the economic difficulties and backwardness in the area--they could be partially overcome through a policy of cooperation--will prolong the very conditions of poverty and unrest which invite Communist exploitation.

"Lastly, the constant Israel-Arab fear of each other can overshadow the threat of danger to the area as a whole, thus preventing coordinated efforts for joint defense."

The Communist threat to Israel, the report establishes, is largely an external one. "While Communist Party strength within the country has remained fairly constant, the left-wing elements allied with the party have lost considerable ground. The Communists' hope of success lies in forming a united front of sufficient strength to enter the coalition, but recent political trends are away from this direction," the pamphlet declares.

#### U. S. Seeks to Allay Arab and Israel Fears; Security is Main Objective

Recalling that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles spoke of the Arab's fear of Israel territorial expansion, and of Israel's fear that ultimately the Arabs may try to push her into the sea, the pamphlet says: "Our role in this situation is to allay the fears of both groups, being careful to avoid assisting one group at the expense of the other. Our main objective is the security of the region as a whole. To this end we have asked that:

"1. The Arab nations accept the State of Israel as a member of the Middle East community. 2. Israel look upon herself in that context, mapping her future progress within the framework of the Middle East community."

The United States Government, according to the pamphlet, has given "increasing attention" to ways of reducing tension along the frontier between Israel and the Arab states. "The most serious threat of this continued strife, from the free world point of view, is the danger it presents to the Middle East as a whole," the publication says. "Seeking new directions for further Communist exploitation, the masters of the Kremlin already may be looking upon the troubled waters of Palestine as a good spot for launching their next dangerous activities."

#### Deals with Jerusalem Status, Arab Refugees and Jordan Development

With regard to the U. S. stand on the status of Jerusalem, the State Department publication quotes Secretary Dulles as saying: "World religious community has claims in Jerusalem which take precedence over the political claims of any particular nation." It describes the American protest against the movement of Israel Government offices from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and predicts that "a permanent solution for the Jerusalem area will doubtless rest with the disposition of other issues."

The present status of the Arab refugee situation is depicted as one in which "the Arabs would like assurance from Israel that refugees have a right to return, even though both groups might readily acknowledge that it would be impractical for all

or even a majority to do so." The pamphlet adds that "observers believe, if given the choice, most Arab refugees would now prefer to remain on Arab land."

On the prospect of Jordan River development, the report says the two problems which form the root of Israel's economic troubles are the need for more arable land and for more electric power. "Both can be supplied," it explains, "by the Jordan River and its tributary waters." The report traces the missions of Presidential envoy Eric Johnston and quoted Ambassador Johnston as reflecting optimism that an early understanding is now a possibility.

#### Israel Development Attributed to Financial Aid from Abroad

The report flatly states that "Israel has been able to maintain herself financially only because millions of dollars in foreign capital have come into the country." It lists principal sources of this aid as including approximately \$101,000,000 in U.S. Government aid for economic cooperation and technical assistance since 1948; United Nations assistance, German reparations, Israel bonds and private contributions.

Israel's "most valuable natural resources," said the report, "lie in the ingenuity and strength of her people." Israel is described as "the only nation to have built up a majority of its citizenry through a policy of deliberate immigration or 'ingathering of the exiles.'"

The development of cultural interchange between America and Israel is reviewed. In the academic year of 1953-54, the pamphlet says there are to be found 859 Israel students enrolled in American colleges. A supplementary program, conducted by the State Department, has brought 48 Israelis to the United States and in 1950 sent 14 Americans to Israel.

The report was issued as a result of the huge volume of mail regarding American policy toward Israel that has been received by the government in recent months. Letters have come to the State Department from individuals throughout the nation and have been forwarded to the Department by Congressmen. These letters fall into the two large categories of reflecting pro-Israel and anti-Israel sentiments.

#### U.S. DIPLOMATS DISCUSSING AMERICAN AID TO MIDDLE EAST LANDS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The meeting of American diplomats in the Middle East which is now being held in Damascus, is discussing--among other things--American economic aid to countries in the area as well as military aid to the Arab states, it was learned here today.

The high-level meeting is also discussing general development problems in the countries of the Middle East, including the Johnston Plan for regional water development. George V. Allen, newly appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, is presiding over the meeting.

#### NATO CONFERENCE IN PARIS TO DISCUSS ARAB-ISRAEL RELATIONS

LONDON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- A discussion of the role of the Middle East in Western defense plans and relations between Israel and the Arab states is expected to take place at the NATO parley opening in Paris today, it is believed here.

The reason for this belief is the presence of Evelyn Shuckburgh on the British delegation. Mr. Shuckburgh, a senior official in the Foreign Office, had just completed a lengthy tour of the Middle East states, including Israel.

#### ISRAEL TO RENEW ACTION ON "BAT GALIM" IF SHIP NOT RELEASED

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Unless the Bat Galim is freed within the next few days, Israel will renew its complaint against Egypt before the Security Council here next week. That became apparent today when word reached Israel circles here that the pressures applied against Egypt by the United States and Britain have not produced a definite promise to date that the Bat Galim would be released.

ITALIAN JEWS PROTEST AUSTRIA'S REFUSAL TO MEET JEWISH CLAIMS

ROME, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- A note protesting the Austrian Government's failure to implement its promises to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement with world Jewish organizations on restitution and heirless property claims was presented to the Austrian Embassy here today by Giorgi Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities. The note called on the Austrian Government to change its attitude toward the demands of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria.

BAVARIAN PARLIAMENTARY BODY SEEKS REPEAL OF RESTITUTION LAW

MUNICH, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Legal Committee of the Bavarian Parliament has adopted a unanimous resolution calling for cancellation of the Military Government law dealing with the restitution of identifiable property, and demanding the re-opening of cases that have already been closed through return to Jewish owners of houses, real estate or businesses involved.

The resolution describes as "contrary to public policy and morals" a principle of restitution legislation which stipulates that property taken from the Jewish owner under Nazi pressure must be returned, regardless of the "good faith" of the present holder, but provided the Jewish restitution claimant pays the price he himself received when forced to sell.

A neo-Nazi deputy, Dr. Becher of the "German Community," introduced the resolution. It was supported by the Social Democratic chairman of the committee, Jean Stock, as well as by the rapporteur, Dr. Bezold of the Free Democratic Party, and by the co-rapporteur, Dr. Fischer of the Christian Social Union.

Dr. Becher's original motion had also contained a clause encouraging German judges to refuse to sit when assigned by German authorities to restitution cases which fall "under legislation dictated by the occupation power." This was opposed by the other committee members, however, "in the interests of an orderly administration of justice." A number of judges had in the past refused to serve on restitution panels without being called to account, noted Dr. Fischer.

Supporting Dr. Fischer was Dr. Wuellner of the BHE Refugee Party. "Surely," he said, "every judge knows that the Restitution Law, which has been forced upon us, does not constitute the will of the American people. It emanated from a certain group, which has in the meantime had to take a back seat."

The committee recommendations are not likely to have practical consequences, since Bavaria is not a party to the Restitution Law. Nonetheless, it is considered disquieting that the resolution served to elicit such arguments and managed to obtain the unanimous support of all political parties.

ANTI-SHECHITA BILL TO BE INTRODUCED IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT

LONDON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Jews in Britain may be faced with a situation where they will have no kosher meat if a bill to amend the present Slaughter of Animals Act is passed by Parliament. The House of Commons yesterday gave R. G. Crouch, Conservative, the right to introduce such a bill, but stipulated that it could not be submitted before April 29, 1955.

Mr. Crouch's measure would amend the regulations governing slaughter of animals in such fashion as to be unacceptable to the Jewish religious authorities. It is expected that strong representations will be made against the bill by the Jewish community.

SWEDISH JEWS SEEK RIGHT FOR ALL RABBIS TO PERFORM MARRIAGES

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Central Council of Jewish Communities in Sweden has applied to the government to grant permission for all rabbis of communities affiliated with the Council to perform marriages. At present, only rabbis of Stockholm, Gothenberg and Malmo may solemnize marriages, and Jews from other parts of the country must travel to these three cities to be wed.

## JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS HAIL CONGRESSIONAL REPORT ON HATE GROUPS

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today issued statements hailing the report on neo-Fascist and anti-Semitic groups prepared by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. The report is expected to be issued in Washington tomorrow.

Irving M. Engel, AJC president, said that the report was "an eloquent, timely, and instructive warning to the American people on the dangers presented by groups on the extreme right." Henry Edward Schultz, national chairman of the ADL, described the report as "important in the defense of American democracy."

"The American Jewish Committee fully approves the Congressional committee's finding," declared Mr. Engel, "that such individuals and organizations are 'unscrupulously exploiting the menace of Communism to promote other activities equally subversive and equally un-American.' Though the report is described by the House Committee itself as only preliminary, it reveals how these groups weaken America's fight against Communism by spreading suspicion and disunity. Ample documentation from the literature of these groups and statements of their leaders demonstrate clearly the subversive quality of their activity."

Mr. Engel recalled that little more than a year ago, President Eisenhower publicly declared: "Generalized and irresponsible attacks that sweepingly condemn the whole of any group of citizens are alien to America." The President's statement was made in reaction to the wholesale charge of subversive activity against important sections of American clergy. Subsequently, the House Committee invited the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. and the American Jewish Committee to offer assistance in order that the work of the House Committee might be carefully appraised for any suggestions which they might offer.

Mr. Schultz said the House Committee was to be congratulated. He added that the report of the Committee which specifically cites a Yorkville neo-Fascist group called the National Renaissance Party, and "Common Sense," a hate publication edited by an anti-Semitic publisher, Conde McGinley, in Union, New Jersey, was "necessarily preliminary in nature."

"It is essential," the ADL chairman said, "that the Committee delve into the more widespread and dangerous hate-mongering of the Gerald L. K. Smiths, the Joseph P. Kamps, the reborn Ku Klux Klan movements and the many other individuals and organizations who constitute a threat to American beliefs and practices. The financial resources of these men and their organizations are far greater than those whom the Committee have already begun to investigate."

## SEN. MORSE CRITICIZES CONGRESSIONAL REDUCTION IN U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Congressional "whittling down" of American assistance to Israel was criticized here today by Senator Wayne Morse addressing the Women's Division of the American Friends of the Hebrew University. "This action by our government increases the obligations of American Jewry to make capital investments necessary to build up Israel," the Senator said.

"The State of Israel, as a beachhead of freedom in the Middle East, will survive only if her economic productive power is so strengthened that she becomes the industrial Switzerland of that area," he pointed out. The Senator added that "Israel has the assets for the development of such an economic productive power, however, her friends around the world owe her a great moral obligation to invest in her potentialities."

One of the greatest resources that Israel has is the brains of her people, Sen. Morse said. "We, free people, must never forget that we will keep ahead of Communist Russia not by virtue of our manpower but by our brainpower. The greatest economic generator for free nations have been their universities and their centers of learning." He stressed the importance of the Hebrew University as "a strength of freedom in the Middle East."

**SOVIET WRITERS ASKED TO ESTABLISH FATE OF "MISSING" YIDDISH AUTHORS**

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Jewish Labor Committee today cabled a request to a convention of the Soviet Writers Association now being held in Moscow, asking the convention to establish the fate of Yiddish writers in the Soviet Union who have "disappeared," and to inform the Jewish world whether these writers are still alive.

Pointing out that nothing in Yiddish has been published in the USSR for the last five years, the Jewish Labor Committee said in its cable: "According to reports, all leading Yiddish writers, poets and critics have been annihilated. We request that you raise your voice against this annihilation. We also request that you investigate and establish the details and inform the Jewish world about their whereabouts and their fate, if they are still alive."

**BRAZILIAN JEWS, RESIDENT IN ISRAEL IN 1952, LOSE THEIR CITIZENSHIP**

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Brazilian Jews living in Israel in 1952, when the Israel citizenship law was proclaimed, who did not reject the automatic Israel citizenship conferred in that law have lost their Brazilian citizenship, the Justice Department here ruled today.

The case has been under study since 1952 when the Israel citizenship law was promulgated and the Brazilian legation in Tel Aviv questioned whether Brazilian citizens living in Israel had not been denaturalized by the law. The Foreign Ministry here was in doubt whether the Israel citizenship had been accepted by Brazilian Jews in Israel--many of whom were chalutzim--or whether it had been forcibly thrust upon them.

The matter was referred to the Justice Department, which has now ruled that since the Brazilian citizens in Israel had an opportunity to reject Israel citizenship, and failed to seize this opportunity, they had in fact concurred in their new citizenship status and had forfeited Brazilian citizenship.

**EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN U.S. DISSEMINATES "JEWISH ATROCITY" PROPAGANDA**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- A violently anti-Semitic pamphlet, entitled "Jewish Atrocities in the Holy Land," is being distributed in Washington by the Egyptian Embassy to tourists visiting the Embassy.

An introduction to the pamphlet, which contains fraudulent atrocity photos, states that it intends "to expose the malicious, barbaric and inhuman methods of extermination by the Jews of Palestine in violation of the accepted rules of civilized or chivalrous warfare." A "bacteriological warfare" charge is made against Israel.

**250,000,000-YEAR-OLD REPTILE FOSSIL FOUND IN ISRAEL**

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The petrified head of a reptile believed to be some 250,000,000 years old has been found in Wadi Ramon, in the Central Negev, the Israel Geological Institute revealed here today. The reptile is believed to have been some 30 inches long and 20 inches wide.

The Institute announcement said that this is one of the oldest animal remains ever found in the world and the first of its kind, which belongs in the genus "psephosaurus." Since it is the first of its species found, the Institute will name it "psephosaurus negevensis" in honor of the site where it was unearthed. The specimen was found in stone strata of the Triassic period, which is the label given to a period extending back a quarter of a billion years.

The rump of the reptile was found over a year ago and was sent to Sweden's Royal Geological Institute for restoration and was recently returned to Israel. The latest find was made by a team directed by Dr. F. Brotzen, a Swedish geologist assigned to Israel by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, and Prof. E. Haas of the Hebrew University.