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SOVIET DELEGATION AT U. N. DISSEMINATES STATEMENT ON JEWISH RELIGION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 24. (JTA) -- The Soviet delegation at the United Nations today went out of its way to disseminate a statement stressing that the Jewish religion enjoys full freedom in the USSR and that there are even a "Mikveh" and a "Sukkah" in the Moscow synagogue.

The statement estimates that about 3,000 Jews attend services at the synagogue on Jewish holidays and that an average of 10,000 persons attend the synagogue each month. It reproduces the full text of a prayer for peace included in a Siddur "published on the initiative of the Jewish community" and edited by Moscow Chief Rabbi S. M. Schliffer.

"Soviet Jews," the statement says, "guarantee to religious people complete freedom to perform their rites and to observe all dictates of their faith. The Soviet Government sees to it that they are able to exercise this freedom. For example, a big state bakery supplies matzo for the Passover holidays. Matzo may be bought in 30 stores at Moscow. The Jewish community, which has charge of the Moscow synagogue, decides all its problems independently. Its affairs are conducted by the board of the community and auditing commission."

The statement, dated May 10 and obviously prepared in Moscow, was written by L. Rogachevsky whose identity is not established. It describes the Moscow synagogue and says the synagogue possesses "unique editions of old prayer books and most valuable manuscripts." It says that "several American delegations" have visited the synagogue and that "foreign visitors have made oral and written statements attesting that there is freedom of worship in the USSR for all religions, including the Jewish religion." Sixteen British delegations have visited the synagogue in the past few years and Lord Stangate, president of the Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, prayed in the synagogue.

"Delegations from Latin American countries," the statement continues, "have also seen the Jewish community. Argentinian school teachers who visited the synagogue said they were satisfied that there is complete freedom of religious worship in the Soviet Union. Mr. Goldman, editor of the Argentinian Tribune, wrote in the visitors' book expressing deep gratitude to and respect for the people who invest their knowledge, energy and love in the struggle for peace. He also paid glowing tribute to the leaders of the Moscow Jewish community."

ARABS AND ISRAEL AGREE ON INCREASED NUMBER OF U. N. MILITARY OBSERVERS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 24. (JTA) -- Encouraging reports were received here today indicating that some of Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's unfinished business is making progress in connection with his recent "peace mission" to the Middle East. At the same time energetic steps were taken to convene the Security Council on "the Palestine question" next week. Council members were quite certain today that a meeting will be held not later than next Thursday, possibly Tuesday.

One indication of progress toward implementing the Hammarskjold mission was seen in an announcement this morning by the Secretary General that the number of United Nations military observers has been increased by more than one-third. Mr. Hammarskjold declared that Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden have appointed a total of 21 military officers, ranging in rank from captain to colonel, to act as U. N. observers on each side of the Egypt-Israel demarcation line along the Gaza strip.

The 21 newly-appointed military men will become part of a team of 40 others already in the area, under command of Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns. The 40 observers now on Gen. Burns' team have come from Belgium, France, Denmark, Sweden and the United States. Mr. Hammarskjold's announcement of the addition of the 21 observers came as word was received here that Gen. Burns had received agreement from both Egypt and Israel with regard to the placement of the observers in fixed posts on both sides of the frontier.

With a solid point of agreement on the observers having been obtained, members of the Council felt it was time to convene to vote official thanks to Mr. Hammarskjold for his achievements to date, to request the Secretary General to continue his efforts to reduce tensions, and to ask Israel and the neighboring Arab states to continue to cooperate in the reduction of tension along the armistice lines. These points are expected to be incorporated into a Council resolution which, it is believed now, will have the backing not only of the Western Big Three, but of the Soviet Union as well.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE WANTS U.S. TO ACT FIRMLY ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA) -- Although the United States policy has been aimed at preserving peace in the Middle East, recent actions have failed to put the "necessary teeth" into this policy, the American Jewish Committee charged today. In a statement, the AJC buttressed its charge by citing the following:

"1. Our fear of starting an arms race in the Middle East has tipped the balance of power among the nations in that area and increased the likelihood of war; 2. Our failure to remember Arab alignments in the past has caused us to woo questionable 'allies.'; 3. We have succumbed to a series of brazen assaults on the rights of American citizens and American business interests."

The AJC demanded a firm U.S. stand to insure: 1. No change in the status quo by Israel or the Arab countries through force of arms; 2. Cessation of any and every aggressive act on the part of any nation in the Middle East; 3. Economic and technical aid to all the people of the Middle East, to help overcome poverty, disease, illiteracy and other social ills which have plagued the peoples of this area for centuries; 4. Sale of defensive arms to Israel, so that she may protect herself against the threat of aggression.

"Decisive action now from the Western powers is essential if war between the Arab countries and Israel is to be averted in the coming months," the American Jewish Committee urged. It also charged that "the activities of some Arab representatives in the United States have come to bear ominous resemblance to the Nazi campaign" in the pre-Pearl Harbor years. Citing some of the anti-Semitic literature from Arab sources circulated in the United States, the AJC asserted: "The Arab-Israel controversy in the U.S.A. has been pushed beyond the bounds of honest argumentation into the danger zone of demagoguery and incitement to religious hatred."

WHITE HOUSE CORRECTS EISENHOWER'S DATA ON U.S. ARMS FOR SAUDI ARABIA

WASHINGTON, May 24. (JTA) -- The White House today corrected a statement by President Eisenhower at a press conference yesterday to the effect that Saudi Arabia had been sent or would be sent this year a total of \$16,000,000 worth of military aid.

The White House said today that the \$16,000,000 total covers all the states in the Middle East. The State Department said last February that equipment worth \$7,000,000 would go to Saudi Arabia. All the other Arab states together would get \$6,000,000 in military aid, the State Department added, and Israel would receive \$3,000,000.

U.S. EXPERT SAYS ISRAEL HAS GOOD PROSPECTS FOR USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY

HAIFA, May 24. (JTA) -- An encouraging picture of the prospects for early use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes in Israel was presented here today at the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Israel Institute of Technology.

Dean Joseph Weill of the Engineering College of Florida University told the board that the world is on the brink of a new industrial revolution and that Israel lacks only one product with which it could participate in that revolution--fuel. Given the necessary power, Israel will apply nuclear energy to industrial purposes and will become one of the great industrial centers of the world. That time is not far off, he stressed.

JEWISH YOUTHS IN BRITAIN VOLUNTEER FOR BORDER SETTLEMENT IN ISRAEL

LONDON, May 24. (JTA) -- The first group of volunteers for border settlement in Israel will leave Britain at the end of this month, it was announced here today. The group will leave under the "Hinat Sherut" emergency scheme recently launched by a committee representing all sections of the Zionist movement in this country.

The one-year plan is open to all men and women between the ages of 18 and 27. Volunteers will live and work in border settlements for a period of one year. Their fares to and from Israel are paid. When they arrive in Israel, they will spend one month in an older settlement or in Jerusalem, where they will be given the opportunity of studying Hebrew.

The first contingent consists of 20 young people, two of them girls. Their average age is 22 and their occupations range from toolmaker to economist--and include telephone operators, electricians and salesmen. They come from London, Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds. Only four members of this group have ever been associated with Zionist activities. The rest have never belonged to any Zionist youth movement.

SENATE BODY APPROVES NOMINATION OF SOBOLOFF AS FEDERAL JUDGE

WASHINGTON, May 24. (JTA) -- A Senate Judiciary subcommittee today approved the nomination of Simon E. Sobeloff as Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th District. Mr. Sobeloff, now Solicitor General, was nominated last year by President Eisenhower but Southern Senators last year succeeded in obstructing confirmation of the appointment.

The nomination now goes before the full Judiciary Committee. In the vote taken by the subcommittee today three members voted for Mr. Sobeloff while two abstained.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION APPEALS FOR UNITY AMONG JEWISH GROUPS

LONDON, May 24. (JTA) -- An appeal for greater unity among British Jewish organizations in matters of national and foreign policy was voiced here today by R. N. Carvalho, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association. He pointed out that the lack of unity during the recent visit to England of Soviet Premier Bulganin and Communist Party chief Khrushchev had resulted in contradictory approaches to the Soviet leaders and the failure of Jewish groups to obtain an interview with the Soviet leaders.

In criticism of the role of the Board of Deputies of British Jews in the affair and in the problem of unity in general, Mr. Carvalho said that the failure to achieve Jewish unity in advance of the arrival of Bulganin and Khrushchev had resulted "not only in a failure, which might have been the result anyway, but in the receipt by the Russians of two largely contradictory memoranda and a most unfortunate loss of dignity and prestige which falls, not only on the Board of Deputies, but unhappily on the whole Anglo-Jewish community."

The AJA leader insisted that the visit of the Soviet chiefs would have been an appropriate occasion for the Board of Deputies "to have buried any rancor and ill feeling which may have existed from previous attempts at cooperation between Anglo-Jewish bodies and to have displayed goodwill and diplomacy in attempting to establish at least a degree of unity as far as the Russian situation was concerned." He scored the Board's failure to call a roundtable conference of Anglo-Jewish groups to "discuss what was best not for us but for the Jews of Eastern Europe" since there were clear indications that "only a joint delegation stood even a remote chance of being granted an interview" with the Soviet leaders.

JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS CONVENE IN ST. LOUIS TO DISCUSS COMMUNAL NEEDS

ST. LOUIS, May 24. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 Jewish social workers from all parts of the United States will discuss various aspects of Jewish communal life in this country at the 58th annual meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service which opens here next Sunday. More than 80 sessions are scheduled during the four-day gathering.

The keynote address, to be delivered by Isador Sobeloff, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, will deal with re-adaptation of existing Jewish communal services to meet the new social needs the shifting of Jewish population from the cities to the suburbs has created. In addition to covering every area of Jewish communal service on the domestic front - religious and cultural, vocational guidance, care of the aged, group work, community centers, child care, family services, health and rehabilitation, community relations - the conference also has scheduled sessions to discuss major overseas needs and problems.

Two sessions will be devoted to exploring the forces within the Jewish community and in American life today which make for increased participation of the synagogue in Jewish community services. During these sessions, the discussants will analyze the sociological and ideological factors which enhance the role of religious groups in Jewish life here, appraise the respective roles of the rabbi and the Jewish communal worker and examine the special characteristics which distinguished the American Jewish community from Jewish communities of Europe.

The extent and nature of discrimination against Jews applying for admission to colleges and professional schools, and the reflection of this discrimination in problems of vocational counseling and placement, will be covered in the session devoted to "Problems and Methods of Combatting Discrimination." Several of the sessions will be devoted to overseas problems - refugees, immigration, indemnification of Jewish victims of war and persecution, and communal welfare in Israel.

ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH-JEWISH NEWSPAPERS OPENS FOUR-DAY PARLEY

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA) -- The 14th annual convention of the American Association of English-Jewish newspapers opened here today at the Park Sheraton Hotel to discuss the role of the English-Jewish press in the life of the American Jewish community as well as problems concerning the growth and development of English-Jewish publications in this country. The convention was opened by Jacques Back, publisher of the "Observer" of Nashville, Tenn., and president of the Association. Publishers of 28 English-Jewish weeklies are attending the four-day parley.

Following the morning session, delegates to the convention paid a visit to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency headquarters here where they received a concrete picture of how the JTA gathers and disseminates news all over the world. They studied the editorial system of the JTA as well as its mechanical apparatus for receiving and sending wireless transmissions from and to many countries, including Israel, England, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, South Africa.

Tomorrow's session of the convention will feature a seminar at which representatives of practically all major national Jewish organizations will exchange opinions with the publishers on the role of the English-Jewish press. Philip Slomovitz, publisher of the "Jewish News" of Detroit, will preside.

U. S. LABOR ZIONISTS DEMAND RESTORATION OF JEWISH CULTURE IN U. S. S. R.

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA) -- A demand that Zionists be released from prisons in Communist states and that Jews in those countries be accorded "an opportunity to re-establish their press, publish their books in Yiddish and Hebrew, maintain fraternal and spiritual contact with Jews in other parts of the world" and emigrate to Israel was voiced here by the central committee of the Labor Zionist Organization of America, Poale Zion. The resolution noted Communist admissions of liquidation of Jewish culture and communal life.

Another resolution hailed the Dag Hammarskjold "peace mission" to the Middle East as a "step in the right direction." However, it noted that the cease-fire which emerged from the mission will not of itself avert the danger of war in the Middle East, "if the aggressive designs of the Egyptian and other Arab regimes are not curbed, and if they continue to receive arms from the Soviet satellites" while Israel is denied arms.

The Labor Zionists also hit the Administration in Washington for tacitly acquiescing in the discriminations practiced by the Arab states against American Jews by denying them the right of entry or transit visas to Arab countries and by boycotting American business enterprises owned or managed by Jews. American Jews were urged to reassert their rights as American citizens and to demand that "their government protect these rights in dealings with foreign states."

SHORTAGE OF JEWISH TEACHERS STRESSED AT TWO EDUCATIONAL CONVENTIONS

ATLANTIC CITY, May 24. (JTA) -- The critical shortage of teaching personnel in Jewish schools was stressed here today by Dr. David Rudavsky, president of the National Council for Jewish Education, at the annual convention of the organization. The same situation is "problem number one" on the agenda of the annual convention of the American Association for Jewish Education which is scheduled to take place here this week-end.

In a statement issued today by Philip Lown, president of the Association, it was emphasized that top priority will be given at the convention of his group to the question of the shortage of teachers for Jewish schools. "The American Jewish community," he said, "must be alerted to the burning urgency of developing both a long range program and a series of stopgap measures for coping with a personnel crisis that seriously imperils the transmittal of our Jewish heritage to our children."

The attempts to introduce religious training in public schools were severely criticized today by Dr. Rudavsky in his presidential address to the National Council for Jewish Education parley. The problem of "Religion and the Public School" also figures as a major topic on the agenda of the convention of the American Association for Jewish Education.

TWO DEAD SEA SCROLLS STOLEN BY ARABS, AMERICAN SCHOLAR REVEALS

BALTIMORE, May 24. (JTA) -- Two recently discovered Dead Sea scrolls have been stolen by Arabs and are being held for ransom somewhere in the Palestine area, Dr. William F. Albright, professor of Semitic Languages at John Hopkins University, revealed here today.

In the course of a lecture, Prof. Albright said that two scrolls, whose discovery had not previously been announced, were stolen by Bedouins who removed them from under the noses of their guards. The scrolls were found in a limestone cave in the same area where other Dead Sea scrolls have been discovered during the past nine years.

HASHOMER HATZAIR APPEALS TO U. S. JEWISH YOUTHS TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 24. (JTA) -- An appeal to American and Canadian Jewish youth to come to Israel to settle was voiced here today at a convention of members of Hashomer Hatzair kibbutzim who originally came from the United States. The convention marked the 10th anniversary of the settlement in Israel of Hashomer Hatzair members from North America.

Richard Yaffe and Abraham Shenkar, American Hashomer Hatzair delegates to the recent World Zionist Congress, reported to the convention on organizational activities in the U. S. The convention decided to name a committee of North American settlers in Israel to advise Mapam central bodies on activities dealing with party education in the U. S.

U. S. ARMY DECORATES GEN. SARNOFF FOR "EXCEPTIONAL" CIVILIAN SERVICE

WASHINGTON, May 24. (JTA) -- Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff received yesterday the Army's decoration for "exceptional" civilian service at a reunion luncheon of the 1953 Committee of the Department of Defense Organization, an organization of seven leaders in the world of business, education and government who advised Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson in reorganizing the Defense Department.

The award was presented by Secretary Wilson, who first read a citation praising Gen. Sarnoff's contributions to national defense activities. He succeeded the late Maj. Gen. Julius Ochs Adler as chairman of the National Security Training Commission.