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### THREE-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF U. J. A. OPENS TODAY IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 leaders of American Jewish communities from all over the United States assembled in New York today for the 21st annual national conference of the United Jewish Appeal, which opens tomorrow at the Statler Hilton Hotel. They will consider a recommendation for the raising of a special fund over and above the proceeds of the regular 1959 campaign.

The recommendation was made by the Fifth UJA Overseas Study Mission on the soil of Israel last month to deal with the renewed immigration to Israel of thousands of Jews from Eastern Europe and to tackle the dangerous pile-up of unmet needs for scores of thousands of newcomers who found haven in Israel in recent years.

The conference will also take up the further recommendation that communities supporting the nationwide United Jewish Appeal revise the scale of their allocations to the UJA, so that a just and fair allotment of funds may be made to the Appeal. At the same time, the delegates will conclude the 1958 UJA campaign, elect officers and set the objectives for the 1959 drive.

Including aid programs in Israel, the UJA must maintain vital services for more than 600,000 Jews who need help in some 25 countries. Tens of thousands of Jews in North Africa could not survive were it not for daily UJA aid; 21,000 Polish Jews recently repatriated from the Soviet Union must receive welfare aid and vocational training; other thousands of uprooted Jews in European centers must receive assistance while they wait for permanent haven in Israel or other free lands.

Speakers at the conference include U.S. Senator Jacob K. Javits of New York; Shimon Peres, director-general of Israel's Defense Ministry; Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Dr. Dov Joseph, respectively chairman and treasurer of the Jewish Agency; Edward M.M. Warburg, UJA honorary chairman; Morris W. Berinstein, UJA general chairman; William Rosenwald and Dewey D. Stone, UJA national chairmen; and Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, UJA executive vice chairman.

### J. D. C. CONFERENCE ADOPTS \$29,593,000 BUDGET; TO AID 250,000 IN 1959

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A \$29,593,000 budget for 1959 was voted here today at the 44th annual meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee for the relief and rehabilitation activities of the organization in 25 countries. Edward M.M. Warburg was re-elected JDC chairman for the 14th consecutive year.

Addressing the 500 delegates from all parts of the country, Mr. Warburg emphasized the history-making role of the JDC in the life of Jewish communities throughout the world. "We are meeting," the JDC chairman said, "not merely to adopt a budget but to adopt as our very own the hopes of a little boy in Morocco and the dreams of a little girl in Poland, and the vision of a bearded patriarch who has seen many lands in his lifetime and now has come to Israel.

"Thanks to what we do here," Mr. Warburg said, "a family of refugees will find in France the refuge they have been seeking and an end to an odyssey of pain. And in Israel a man of 80 will sift the soil, and breathe the clean air and know that the weary wandering years are done and that here at last will he have peace and a home."

Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice-chairman, told the audience: "We are faced today with a picture of expanding Jewish needs overseas, of larger numbers of men, women and children in critical need of assistance. Despite the great volume of aid which American Jewry has provided since the war to needy Jews abroad, the fact is that in the past year we have been unable to keep pace with the increased needs of Jews in France, sections of Eastern Europe and a large part of the Moslem world."

Mr. Leavitt listed JDC's major responsibilities in 1959 as: aid to thousands of Jews in Poland, including repatriates from Russia and members of the so-called "settled" population; assistance to Hungarian, Egyptian and North African Jewish refugees in France, Italy and other parts of Western Europe; medical, feeding and other supplementary assistance to some 100,000 Jews in Moslem areas, principally North Africa; and continued large-scale

aid to aged, ill and handicapped newcomers to Israel. The JDC leader said that the JDC must aid a minimum of 250,000 Jewish men, women and children overseas during the coming year.

Herbert Agar, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian who also spoke at the session, declared that the creation of Israel "has helped to change the role of the Jew in world affairs." A recent visitor to Poland, Mr. Agar called that country "a shallow graveyard" where one can "hardly put a spade in the ground without turning up the bones of those who died because of the Nazis." He called the Auschwitz concentration camp a "United Nations of the dead."

James H. Becker, chairman of the JDC national council, submitted a report to the delegates declaring that members of the National Council--leaders of Jewish communities from coast to coast "are largely responsible for the continued and warm acceptance by American Jewry of the programs which JDC places before them."

#### \$11,000,000 of the JDC Budget to Be Spent on Malben in Israel

The 1956 JDC budget represents an increase of more than \$1,600,000 over expenditures in 1958. The largest single appropriation, totalling \$11,000,000, will go for support of Malben, the JDC welfare program in Israel serving aged, ill and handicapped newcomers to Israel. The JDC budget is to be submitted this week-end to the National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal, from which JDC receives the bulk of the funds for its humanitarian activities overseas.

The JDC budget was adopted following a report by Charles H. Jordan, director-general for JDC overseas operations, who pointed out that "increased Jewish relief needs in Poland and Moslem areas, and expanded aid programs in France in behalf of unabsorbed Jewish refugees there from Hungary, Egypt and North Africa, largely account for the increase in the budget."

But the increased budget, Mr. Jordan warned, "covers only continuing assistance programs. It contains no reserve with which to meet new or unexpected developments, or the possible effect on JDC operations, particularly in Israel, of the recently begun Jewish emigration from certain parts of Eastern Europe. Should this emigration assume the very important dimensions that many observers expect, JDC may require greatly increased funds," he emphasized.

A resolution of support for the nationwide campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal was adopted by the delegates. It declared that "the 44th annual meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee pledges its continued and wholehearted support to the 1959 Campaign of the United Jewish Appeal and to the 1959 Special Fund, and calls upon all Americans to do likewise."

The resolution noted that "the failure of American Jewry during 1958 to provide the full amounts necessary to the United Jewish Appeal for the life-saving programs of the JDC and other UJA agencies resulted in hardships and suffering which might have been avoided if only UJA campaign goals had been fully met."

The resolution added that "tens of thousands of Jews overseas are still faced with harassment, homelessness, hunger and disease. In 1959 some 250,000 men, women and children in various parts of the world must continue to look to the Joint Distribution Committee for aid in order to survive, including thousands of Jews in Poland, refugees in many other parts of Europe and more than 100,000 Jews in North Africa and other parts of the Moslem world."

In addition to re-electing Mr. Warburg, the delegates at the JDC meeting also re-elected Mr. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman; Mr. Jordan, director-general, James H. Becker, chairman of the National Council; and Sol Satinsky, of Philadelphia, Council vice-chairman.

#### STATE STARTS PREPARATIONS FOR NEW TRIAL IN ATLANTA BOMBING CASE

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The state began today assembling its new case against George Bright, first of the five synagogue bombing defendants to stand trial, whose prosecution ended yesterday in a mistrial. The prosecution planned to subpoena additional witnesses, including Atlanta policemen, to testify at the re-trial. Apparently, none of the other defendants will be brought to trial until Bright's case is completed.

It was learned today that the jury, which was dismissed by Judge Durwood Pye after being deadlocked for four days, was split 9-3, with nine voting for conviction with a recommendation for mercy and three voting acquittal. The jurors favoring a recommendation for mercy noted that no one had been injured in the blast, which did \$96,000 worth of damage. Without a recommendation of mercy, Bright faced a capital sentence.

#### U. N. VOTES TO CONTINUE ITS RELIEF PROGRAM FOR ARAB REFUGEES IN 1959

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The General Assembly's Special Political Committee voted unanimously last night a resolution continuing the UN Relief and Works Agency program for Arab refugees in 1959. The 44 to 0 vote came after four Western Powers dropped from the resolution a proposal that the Secretary General report to next year's Assembly a proposal on the future of the refugees.

## ISRAEL TREASURY REPORTS BUDGET DEFICIT OF 62,000,000 POUNDS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The Israel Treasury reported today a budgetary deficit for the first half of the current fiscal year of 62,000,000 pounds, of which 52,000,000 pounds was laid to a deficit in the Israel development budget. This in turn, the Treasury said, occurred because of smaller receipts from American aid, food surpluses and the French loan.

Reporting that only 38 percent of estimated budget development revenue had actually been received, the Treasury explained that the Export-Import Bank Loan and the French Loan were received as expected but that equipment for which orders have already been placed will not arrive until later. This means that anticipated income from the use of such equipment will go to the Development Budget only as of the period of next year, the Treasury stressed.

Treasury officials said that while this lag delays receipt of income, the Government had to proceed with projects to absorb immigrants and also with its redemption of Israel Independence and Development Bonds despite the deficit.

## ISRAEL SUSPENDS TEMPORARILY THE LIBERALIZATION OF CURRENCY CONTROLS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The Israel Treasury today temporarily suspended a recent liberalization of currency controls making available \$100 at a practically free rate. The liberalization applied for Israelis traveling abroad or needing foreign currency for other personal reasons.

The Treasury took the action, it was reported, in an effort to stand firm against demands that the new free rate of two and a half pounds per dollar be recognized as the effective rate for all dollar-linked currencies. This development has been widely predicted.

It was also presumed that all other Israel residents with foreign currency income, including foreign correspondents, who are still forced to sell their dollars at the old rate of 1.8 pounds per dollar would renew their demands for a higher exchange rate.

## ISRAEL REJECTS PRESSURE TO BAN GERMAN FILMS; BANS U.S. FILM ON RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The Israel Censorship Board took note today of growing protests against widespread showings of German-made and German-speaking films by declaring that the Israel Government cannot ban films only because they are German-speaking productions.

The Board added that regulations forbid the showing only of such pictures made during the Nazi period or during the post-Nazi period with the participation of former Nazis. The statement added that if movie-goers really objected to German films they could deal with the problem by simply not attending theaters showing the films.

At the same time, the board disclosed banning of an American-made film, "This is Russia," on grounds of bias. The board cited as an example of the bias a scene in the film showing the Kiev Synagogue with the accompanying commentary that "Stalin killed 80,000 Jews in this city." The board noted that actually, the Kiev Jewish community was exterminated by the Nazis.

## ISRAELI EDITORS OPPOSE GOVERNMENT'S NEW PRESS RESTRICTIONS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The editors of Israel's daily newspapers will meet in an emergency session next Sunday to consider measures to be taken to combat what they consider the government's latest attack on freedom of the press.

The editors object specifically to the latest order to civil servants not to give newsmen access to any information--secret or non-classified--unless it was intended for publication purposes.

Among the countermeasures to be considered by the editors are: a refusal to publish official government communiques; instructions to reporters to boycott government press officers, and, possibly an appeal to international organizations and world public opinion.

The height of absurdity in relation to the new instructions was reached here today, according to local newspapermen, when a government office refused a list of the names of judges in a public architectural competition for a government building. At the same time, advertisements were taken in the press listing the very names denied reporters.

## ISRAEL BANK OPENS INFORMATION OFFICE IN GERMANY; EXPECTS INVESTMENTS

FRANKFURT, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Bank Leumi Le Israel, the state bank of Israel, has opened an information office here to advise residents of Germany who may wish to invest in Israeli enterprises. The bank office will also handle questions concerning the financing of imports and exports to and from Israel.

### 33,000 JEWS TRAINED IN ORT SCHOOLS DURING 1958, LEADER REPORTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Vocational training programs of ORT in 19 countries enrolled 33,000 persons during the eleven months of 1958 for which figures are available according to a report made today by Max A. Braude, director general of the World ORT Union. Mr. Braude has just arrived in the U.S. for discussions with the Joint Distribution Committee and American ORT officials concerning the budget for the more than 500 trade schools and other training units in the ORT network.

Mr. Braude announced that the ORT budget for 1959 would be between \$5,750,000 and \$6,000,000. While the number of trainees rose by 31 percent in 1957 and over 20 percent in 1958, ORT income has lagged far behind. Mr. Braude declared that there is real danger of cutbacks in the school program unless financial support is increased. Addressing a meeting of the American ORT executive committee, Mr. Braude reported that the program instituted in Poland a year ago for Jewish repatriates from the Soviet Union had provided trade instruction to over 3,500 persons in 18 cities.

### CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS REPORTS GROWTH OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

MONTREAL, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The number of Jewish congregations in Canada increased from 153 to 200 in the 25 years between 1933 and 1958, the Canadian Jewish Congress revealed today on the basis of a survey in depth of the Canadian Jewish community.

While Orthodox congregations, always out front in the total number, increased from 140 to 170, the Conservative movement nearly tripled its congregational strength, from nine to 25. Reform congregations increased only one, from four to five.

The number of children attending Jewish schools nearly quadrupled in the generation, rising from 6,000 to 24,000. Day school registration gained most of the percentage increase in school attendance, moving from two percent of the total in 1933 to 30 percent this year.

Salaried employees among Canadian Jews still account for 56 percent of all breadwinners, but self-employed businessmen and industrialists increased from 24 to 34 percent and professionals from 5.1 to 8.4 percent.

From the end of World War II to the close of 1957, the survey indicated, 44,579 Jews entered Canada as immigrants, more than half settling in Quebec province. The next largest group, 36 percent, settled in Ontario while the remainder were scattered among the western and northern provinces.

### CONFEDERATION SEEKS EQUALITY FOR U.S. AND ISRAEL AT ZIONIST CONGRESSES

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Equality of representation, as between Israel and the United States at future Zionist Congresses, was urged by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the World Confederation of General Zionists, in a statement issued from the headquarters of the Confederation in New York.

Dr. Neumann made the statement following a meeting of the world executive of the Confederation where the question of elections and representation at the next Zionist Congress was considered. "On the basis of the so-called 'double shekel,' Dr. Neumann pointed out, 'Israel had 43 percent of all delegates to the last Zionist Congress as against 24 percent for the United States. The balance of 33 percent was distributed among all other countries.'"

The special Shekel and Election Committee of the World Zionist Organization in Jerusalem has considered favorably the possibility of fixing in advance the number of Congress delegates to be allotted to each country, without regard to the number of shekel holders. It would take into account other factors, such as the size and importance of the Jewish population and the intensity of Zionist activity.

### KOVNO TO ESTABLISH MUSEUM IN MEMORY OF 70,000 KILLED BY NAZIS

PARIS, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A museum will shortly be established in Kovno, former capital of Lithuania and now part of the USSR, to commemorate the 70,000 Jews and others murdered by the Nazis in the city, once a flourishing center of Jewish life and culture, it was reported here today.

The museum will house a collection of documents and photographs detailing the barbaric Nazi treatment of their victims, who now lie buried in mass graves, just outside the city.

### AMSTERDAM CITY CONVERTS THEATER INTO MEMORIAL FOR NAZI-KILLED JEWS

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The Town Council of Amsterdam today approved a proposal to convert the former Jewish Theater in the center of this city into a chapel with an eternal light burning in memory of the Jews murdered by the Nazis. During the German occupation the theater was used as a marshalling point for Jews to be deported from Holland to extermination camps.