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EISENHOWER DISCUSSED SOVIET JEWRY WITH KHRUSHCHEV, WHITE HOUSE REVEALS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Reports which were circulating in some circles here to the effect that President Eisenhower personally had raised questions on the status of the Jews in the Soviet Union in his talks with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev at Camp David were confirmed in a letter from the White House made public here today by the B'nai B'rith.

Gen. Wilton B. Persons, assistant to the President, addressed the letter to Label A. Katz, national president of B'nai B'rith, informing him that President Eisenhower had discussed the controversial subject with Mr. Khrushchev. American Jewish leaders were unable to meet with the Soviet Premier for the same purpose during Mr. Khrushchev's tour of the United States.

Mr. Khrushchev told the President that he had been aware of the question, Gen. Persons said, "but that it was his position that, so far as possible, the Jewish people in the Soviet Union are treated like everyone else." This response, ineffect, was similar to the answer Mr. Khrushchev gave to a question prepared by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and asked of him at his televised appearance before the National Press Club here.

"The President," Gen. Persons informed Mr. Katz, "then informed Mr. Khrushchev of the concern that had been expressed to him by representatives of the Jewish people in the United States over the situation of the Jewish people in the Soviet Union."

Mr. Katz lauded the President's intervention, saying that it probably left a "significant impression" on the Soviet Premier, and "this can only have a very favorable effect on the future cultural and religious existence of Jews in the Soviet Union." The B'nai B'rith head said that the President had "rendered the Jewish community a great service."

The B'nai B'rith leader disclosed today that, following his meeting with President Eisenhower on September 23, shortly before the start of the Camp David talks, he had "left the White House with the impression that the President had placed the subject of Soviet Jews on the Camp David agenda." Mr. Katz, Maurice Bisgyer, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith, and Mrs. Charles D. Solovitch, president of B'nai B'rith Women, had met with Mr. Eisenhower to present him with the B'nai B'rith President's medal for his efforts in preserving world peace.

"At that time," Mr. Katz said today, "we expressed to the President the concern of American Jews for the erosion of the religious and cultural community of Jews in Soviet Russia. It was then indicated to us that the President was highly conversant with the subject."

U.S. JEWISH GROUPS ISSUE STATEMENT ON PLANNED TALK WITH KHRUSHCHEV

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Twenty-one national Jewish organizations which were prepared to send a delegation to Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, to discuss with him the status of Soviet Jewry, today issued a lengthy statement giving the background of their decision and emphasizing that they have reason to believe that, although Mr. Khrushchev refused to see their five-man delegation, their views did reach the Soviet Premier.

The statement of the 21 organizations reads:

"When the United States and the Soviet Union announced an exchange of visits between President Eisenhower and Chairman Khrushchev, many groups recognized the possibility for a presentation of a variety of issues. Understandably, American Jews became concerned with seeking an opportunity to bring the plight of their co-religionists in the Soviet Union to the attention of Mr. Khrushchev. At the outset, several groups sought an appointment. In the absence of a single recognized forum, this too was understandable. After some negotiations, 21 major national Jewish organizations, whose names are attached, undertook to consolidate their approach to the problem.

"The concern and attitude of the United States was indicated by the words of the Secretary of State, Mr. Christian A. Herter, who said: 'In the State Department we have requests from a number of different organizations to try to arrange appointments for them with Mr. Khrushchev. The Jewish organizations did it individually, asked for

an appointment with him, then joined together and asked if they might send a representative to represent all of them to see Mr. Khrushchev. We endorsed strongly that request.

"In the short time available, the co-operating organizations faced two tasks: a. To agree on the issue and the position to be taken; b. To select a delegation in the event that Mr. Khrushchev heeded the strong representation of the State Department, which was supported by officials in both executive and legislative branches of the Government."

List Their Conclusions on the Position of Soviet Jewry

"The necessities of the situation were such as to make ongoing releases of news, as to steps taken, inadvisable. Now it can be stated that it had been agreed to limit the number of the delegation to five, and that the organizations had indeed reached substantial agreement on the five. Then it became clear that Mr. Khrushchev would not find time for the meeting. Earlier the organizations had reached common ground as to conclusions concerning the position of Soviet Jewry as follows:

"1. The estimated number of Jews in the Soviet Union is approximately three million and the Government of the USSR has always regarded them as a distinct national and religious group.

"2. However, despite the de jure recognition of their status, the Jews are the only religious group which has no nationwide religious association. There is no comprehensive federation of Jewish communities. As the Soviet authorities themselves demand the existence of such a federation as a condition for the organized construction, supervision and maintenance of houses of prayer, and for the manufacture and distribution of articles of religious worship, the denial of the right of federation suffocates the effective operation of Jewish religious life, even in the confines open to other religions.

"Jews are not permitted to maintain religious associations with Jewish religious organizations outside the Soviet Union, such as the relationship permitted between the Russian Orthodox Church and the World Council of Churches. Soviet Jews are not permitted to teach their children the Hebrew language, without which Jewish religious observance is impossible for them. While some synagogues have been allowed to function on a local basis, there have been disturbing reports in recent months, even in this regard. There is authentic information of the closing of synagogues and prayer groups in a number of provincial cities.

"3. From the point of view of group culture, the position of the Jews in the Soviet Union has deteriorated sharply in the past 20 years. In the 1930's, Soviet Jews had a widespread system of cultural and educational institutions in the Yiddish language, including schools, theaters, newspapers, a large literary output, cultural and literary clubs and associations. The process of elimination of these institutions reached its climax in the years 1948-1953, when these institutions were closed. In 1952, scores of leading Jewish writers and other cultural leaders were liquidated. Since 1953, nothing has been done to restore these rights, which were forcibly suppressed, and which are accorded to all other groups in the Soviet Union, even to tiny and dispersed groups, numbering only a few thousand souls.

"4. There also exists a humanitarian problem of broken families, which has resulted from the migrations of recent generations and the dispersed condition of the Jewish people. Many Jews in the Soviet Union are separated from their families elsewhere. Any action by the Soviet Government to alleviate this situation would constitute a great contribution towards better understanding between peoples.

"We have reason to believe that these views did reach Mr. Khrushchev. What will happen in this connection, as in the case of many other issues, must await the passage of time," the statement concludes. The organizations which signed the statement are:

American-Israel Committee for Public Affairs; American Jewish Congress; American Trade Union Council for Labor Israel - Histadrut; American Zionist Council; B'nai B'rith; Central Conference of American Rabbis; Hadassah; Jewish Agency for Israel; Jewish Labor Committee; Jewish War Veterans of the United States; Labor Zionist Assembly; Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi; National Community Relations Advisory Council; National Council of Jewish Women; Rabbinical Assembly of America; Rabbinical Council of America; Synagogue Council of America; Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; United Synagogue of America; and the Zionist Organization of America.

Jewish Labor Committee Publishes Charges Against Khrushchev

NEW YORK, Oct. 11, (JTA) -- Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, as political boss of the Ukraine after World War II, "tolerated open anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish riots in Kiev" against returning Jewish survivors, it is charged in a review published today by the Jewish Labor Committee.

The review, entitled "The Fate of Soviet Jewry," asserts that it was only after the late Joseph Stalin "realized that such riots could be turned against the Government that he sent Kaganovitch to restore order in the Ukraine." The review declares that the Soviet Government "continued its policy of removing all Jews from Government agencies."

22 JEWS ELECTED TO BRITISH PARLIAMENT; 19 LABORITES, 3 CONSERVATIVES

LONDON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Returns in Britain's election indicated today that there will be 22 Jewish members in the House of Commons as in the previous Parliament but there will be one more Conservative and one less Labor deputy. In the previous Parliament there were 20 Jewish Labor MP's and two Conservatives.

One of the highlights of the Labor setback was the loss of his seat by Ian Mikardo, vice chairman of the Labor party, member of the Poale Zion and of the British Committee of the Histadrut. Another Jewish Socialist who lost his seat was Maurice Ohrbach.

While most of the Jewish MP's retained their posts, they did so with reduced majorities. Those returned to Parliament were Barnett Janner, president of the British Board of Jewish Deputies, Maurice Edelman, author and journalist, Emanuel Shinwell, Sidney Silverman, member of the world executive of the World Jewish Congress, Julius Silverman, Marcus Lipton, David Weitzman, Austin Albu, F. Allam, M. Cliffe, John Diamond, M. Lever, N.H. Lever, G. R. Strauss, Leo Abse, G. Jeger and J. J. Mendelson. Two new Jewish Labor MP's elected were M. Galpern and D. Ginsburg.

The two Conservative Jewish MP's, Sir Henry Davigdor Goldsmid and Sir Keith Joseph, were reelected. The third Jewish Conservative MP is A. Royle.

Sir Oswald Mosley, the British Fascist, was at the bottom of the list in the election in the North Kensington constituency and forfeited his election deposit. Mosley polled 2,800 votes, compared with 15,000 for the Labor candidate, 14,000 for the Conservative entry and 3,000 for the Liberal candidate, a Jew.

POLL IN GERMANY SHOWS LARGE PROPORTION OF YOUTH BELIEVES IN NAZISM

FRANKFURT, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The German Institute of Social Research today released the results of a nation-wide poll of West German youth indicating such youth is still influenced to a considerable degree by Nazi ideology.

A majority replied in the affirmative when asked if they considered the German nation superior to other nations. Twenty-five percent replied "yes"; and 42 percent said "no."

To the question as to whether Hitler would have been Germany's greatest man had there been no war, 42 percent said "yes," 36 percent said "no," the remainder giving indefinite replies. An older group--in the 30-to-44-year-old bracket--were asked the same question. Fifty-five percent said "yes," 35 percent said "no," and the remainder said they did not know. The youth group interviewed was in the 18-to-29-year category.

Another question asked whether it was better or not better for Germany to have Jewish citizens. Forty percent said Germany should, 24 percent said it should not, and the rest did not know or had no opinion.

U.S. JEWS MUST BE VIGILANT OVER ANTI-SEMITISM IN GERMANY, ENGEL SAYS

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- There is a growing concern among West Germans about the need for education for citizenship and democracy, Irving M. Engel, honorary president of the American Jewish Committee, reported here today following his arrival from Germany, where he discussed this problem with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

He said West German political leaders also discussed this problem with John J. McCloy and Dr. James B. Conant, former U.S. High Commissioners for Germany; Shepherd Stone, of the Ford Foundation; and Dr. Harry Gideonse, president of Brooklyn College. West German participants included representatives of the Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats, as well as heads of two West German states and leading West German educators, he reported.

"Like Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, with whom I discussed this problem last Thursday, there are many responsible leaders aware of the serious vacuum that exists in German education," Mr. Engel said. He added that it was clear "to all that this task of re-education must be done by the Germans themselves, and cannot be done by outsiders,"

"While various attempts are being made at local and state levels throughout Germany to improve the situation in the field of civic education and enlightening prejudice, a much more substantial effort is needed," he asserted. "The Germans themselves recognize that a general coordinated effort by the Federal Government, the various states, and non-governmental bodies of leadership is still required."

Noting that "we hear much of anti-Semitic attitudes and anti-Semitic incidents in Germany," the AJC leader said: "We must continue to be vigilant. At the same time, we should pay increasing attention to and try to help those elements in Germany conscientiously striving to make democratic roots sink deeper into German soil."

12 PERCENT OF DEPUTIES IN COMMUNIST GERMANY ARE EX-NAZIS, STUDY SHOWS

PARIS, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Twelve percent of the members of the East German Parliament are former Nazis, according to a study of Communist Germany published here today by the Association for International Political Studies and Information.

FEW JEWISH CHILDREN ARE BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK, NEW YORK SURVEY SHOWS

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Jewish couples wishing to adopt children in the New York area face more difficulties than prospective adoptive parents who are Catholic or Protestants, according to a New York Times survey published today, dealing with religious laws and other factors influencing adoptions.

For each Jewish baby available for adoption, there are seven to eight Jewish applicants, the survey shows. However, that ratio applies only to white children. There is greater difficulty, the survey shows, in placing for adoption children born of a Jewish mother and a Negro father.

There are fewer Jewish white children offered for adoption, according to the survey, because "compared with Catholic and Protestant women, relatively few Jewish women give birth to children out of wedlock. An increasing number of childless Jewish couples are turning away from adoptive agencies to private adoption, because the agencies observe the State law which forbids a child to be placed with a family of a religion different from the child's parents or different from that of the child's mother.

New York law holds that, when practicable, a child must be placed only with persons of the religious faith preferred by its natural parents if they are married, or by its natural mother if the baby is born out of wedlock. Catholics insist on strict observance of that law. Some prospective adoptive parents who are Jewish object to that law, as do persons who practice Ethical Culture. Jewish law, however, also upholds the principle of the child belonging to the faith of the mother.

WELLESLEY TOWN OFFICIALS TO SEEK ELIMINATION OF BIAS IN HOUSING

BOSTON, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Top town officials of Wellesley, Mass., have announced their unanimous decision to seek the elimination of discriminatory housing practices in their areas, it was reported here today.

Following an informal conference with representatives of the Wellesley Fair Housing Practices Committee, the Jewish Community Council and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Wellesley's Selectmen issued a statement of "heartly support" of the principle of fair housing practices.

The three officials, James P. W. Davidson, Robert B. Kimnach and David H. Locke, declared that "equal opportunities for seeking a place to live must be assured regardless of the race, religion, or nationality of the prospective resident of our community."

NEW HAIFA SUBWAY RUNS FROM SEA LEVEL TO MT. CARMEL IN SIX MINUTES

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Several hundred passengers were trapped in the new Haifa subway during one of its first runs today. After a 45-minute wait, while a mechanical breakdown was repaired, the Carmelite resumed its six-minute, one-mile run between the top of Mount Carmel and downtown Haifa.

Subway officials used the system's loudspeaker to notify passengers of the breakdown, and averted panic or injuries. The subway proved to be such an attraction for children that they filled the train one afternoon, leaving no room for adults. An order was issued barring use of the subway to children unless accompanied by parents.

PRESIDENT OF CHILE PLEASED TO SEE HIS NAME INSCRIBED IN J. N. F. BOOK

SANTIAGO, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Jorge Alessandri, President of Chile, expressed gratification today over the decision of the Chilean Zionist Federation to inscribe his name in the Jewish National Fund Golden Book in Jerusalem.

The President expressed his appreciation in a letter to Israel Pollak, newly re-elected president of the Federation, in which he also hailed the people of Israel for their spirit of labor and sacrifice.

C. J. F. W. F. ANNOUNCES LURIE FELLOWSHIPS FOR JEWISH SOCIAL WORK

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds announced today that Harry L. Lurie Fellowships were again available for the academic year beginning September, 1960.

Two types of grants were announced: educational fellowships for students in graduate schools of social work, and research grants. Applications must be filled with the CJFWF by next February 15. The Fellowships were established in tribute to Mr. Lurie, who was executive director of the CJFWF from 1935 to 1954.

RABBI EISENSTEIN NAMED PRESIDENT OF RECONSTRUCTIONIST FOUNDATION

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation announced today that Rabbi Ira Eisenstein, former president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America and former rabbi of Anshe Emet synagogue in Chicago, has been elected president of the Foundation and editor of the Reconstructionist magazine.