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ARAB REFUGEE DEBATE OPENS AT U.N.; ISRAEL WINS ON FIRST ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 4: (JTA) -- The Arab refugee debate opened here this morning before the General Assembly's Special Political Committee with an out-and-out victory for the Israel delegation on the important point regarding Arab insistence for the seating of a so-called "Palestine Arab delegation."

After a brief, but vigorous exchange on this issue between Michael S. Comay, Israel's Permanent Representative here, and Ahmad Shukairy, Saudi Arabia's chief representative, the Committee's vice-chairman Angel Sanz-Briz of Spain ruled that "at the appropriate time" he will call upon "a spokesman" for the Arab refugees to voice his sentiments before the Committee. He implied that the spokesman would be Dr. Izzat Tannous, who, for many years, represented the Arab Refugee Office before this Committee.

Mr. Comay on behalf of Israel, told the Committee that "whoever" appeared before the group on behalf of the refugees, should be directed to stick to the refugee subject and not make political speeches. Mr. Shukairy objected to limitation of the refugee spokesman. However, the vice-chairman's ruling remained in effect and the meeting was adjourned until tomorrow morning.

Earlier in the session, Dr. John H. Davis, director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, gave a report to the Committee which dealt almost entirely with UNRWA's work at special educational institutions for Arab refugee youth and with the agency's budgetary problems.

In regard to the general situation facing the refugees, Dr. Davis noted that "during a period of 13 years, so little progress has been made toward a solution." He pointed out that "the major responsibility" for a general solution of the refugee problem rests with the Palestine Conciliation Commission rather than with UNRWA.

However, he reiterated at another point in his speech, the contention he expressed in his annual report two months ago that "the lot of most refugees continues to be one of hardship, and their insistence on the implementation of Paragraph 11 of United Nations Resolution 194 continues unabated."

The clause to which Dr. Davis referred is in a 1948 Assembly resolution which is constantly being cited by the Arab delegations here when they insist that the refugees be "repatriated" or compensated by Israel, ignoring other alternatives like resettlement or reintegration of the refugees mentioned in the very same resolution.

U.N. Director Admits Thousands of Dead Arabs Still on Relief Rolls

At a press conference after the Committee meeting today Dr. Davis conceded, for the first time in UNRWA history that between 90,000 and 100,000 refugees who died, are still on the UNRWA ration rolls in Jordan alone. He was asked whether he could make an "educated estimate" as to the number of unreported deaths on his agency's relief rolls, and he replied:

"I don't actually know. There is considerable inaccuracy. The basic ration rolls are still the same as they were when UNRWA started (in 1950). We have made a constant effort to rectify the rolls and have met with only very limited success. There is among the refugees a reluctance to report deaths. In Jordan, UNRWA has refused to place newborn children on the ration rolls unless the deaths were reported. As a result, while 30,000 children were added to our register of refugee population, only 4,500 of these children were added to the ration rolls.

"It is true that the host governments resist our efforts to rectify the rolls. But it must be understood clearly that the refugees themselves resist rectification by threatening strikes and riots. They simply do not have confidence in us to deal fairly with them."

It was at this point that Dr. Davis was pinned down to his estimate that, of Jordan's registered figure of 591,439 Arab refugees, the unreported deaths since 1950 totaled between 90,000 and 100,000. However, he said, about 125,000 newborn children have been kept off the UNRWA rolls, thus offsetting the cost of providing rations to the dead.

BEN-GURION LEAVES FOR BURMA; STRESSES ISRAEL-BURMESE FRIENDLY RELATIONS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion left today for an official state visit to Burma during which he will confer with Burma's Premier U Nu; Finance Minister Levi Eshkol will serve as Acting Premier during Mr. Ben-Gurion's absence; In a prepared statement before his departure, the Premier declared:

"I am leaving today for a new country but not a strange one; In all of Asia, there is no more friendly nation to Israel than Burma; Israel and Burma are two old countries with old histories which renewed their independence in 1948; Both are democratic and both follow the same principle in foreign relations--promoting friendly relations and mutual aid with all peace-loving countries irrespective of their internal regimes and without injuring the interests of any other country; loyal to international cooperation based on United Nations principles; Burma had proved her adherence to this policy when she promoted friendly ties with Israel, while, at the same time, maintaining friendly relations with the Arab countries."

Noting the recent election of Burma's United Nations delegate U Thant to the post of UN Secretary General, Mr. Ben-Gurion recalled the visits to Israel by Premier U Nu and Burma's Chief of Staff Ne Win; In 1959, he said, it was President Ben-Zvi who visited Burma; "Now," he said, "it is my turn; I am sure I shall meet true friends of Israel in Burma." The Premier was seen off at the airport by all members of the Cabinet; He is expected to arrive in Burma tomorrow.

DEFENSE LAWYER CONFERS WITH EICHMANN IN ISRAEL PRISON; SEES PROSECUTOR

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Dr. Robert Servatius, chief defense counsel for former Gestapo colonel Adolf Eichmann, conferred with his client today at Jalame Prison, near Haifa; The defendant there is awaiting the verdict resulting from his four-month trial, last summer, on charges of crimes against the Jewish people and crimes against humanity in directing the annihilation of 6,000,000 European Jews during World War II.

Dr. Servatius, who returned to Israel Saturday to be on hand for the rendering of the verdict, due to start here a week from today, is expected to outline to Eichmann the defense steps to be taken if the defendant is found guilty by the three-man tribunal that tried him; Yesterday, Dr. Servatius conferred here with Gideon Hausner, Attorney General and chief prosecutor in the Eichmann case;

ENGINEERS, CHEMISTS GO ON WARNING STRIKE IN ISRAEL; SEEK WAGE INCREASE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Six thousand salaried engineers, architects and chemists employed by the Government and other public institutions, carried out a warning strike at noon today, to press for an 11 percent wage increase.

Meanwhile, no end was in sight today to the nationwide strike of diamond workers now entering its third week; The workers in Israel's leading export industry are demanding a six percent wage increase while the major diamond enterprises are prepared to pay increases only if such outlays are backed up by increases in the export premiums which the Government pays the producers; The Government thus far has refused to grant increases in the premiums;

ISRAEL GETS NOTE FROM SOVIET GOVT. ON RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR TESTING

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- A note from the Soviet Government, addressed to all heads of State, dealing with Russia's renewal of nuclear testing, was handed to Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion here today by Mikhail F. Bodrov, the USSR Ambassador to Israel;

The note stresses the Soviet Government's stand in favor of complete and general disarmament, emphasizing the danger to mankind unless such an agreement is reached; The note also recalls the address on disarmament given before the United Nations General Assembly a year ago by Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev;

JEWS IN SOVIET UNION SEEK TO PERPETUATE JEWISH LIFE; SEN. JAVITS REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Russian Jewry's apparent continued interest in Jewish activities--religious and cultural--seems to give the lie to the Government's official position that Jewish institutions in the USSR are dying for lack of adherents, Senator Javits of New York told a news conference here today;

The Republican Senator, who returned last week from a ten-day visit to the Soviet Union, asserted that "every evidence" he saw or was told about, pointed to the fact that Jews are attempting in as many ways as possible to perpetuate Jewish life;

Senator Javits said that one conclusion of his visit to the Soviet Union was that a Jewish culture could flourish there if the Government relaxed its restrictions;

ANTI-SEMITIC STUDENT ORGANIZATION DISSOLVED IN AUSTRIA; WAS NEO-NAZI

VIENNA, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- The dissolution of the students anti-Semitic organization, Olympia, was announced today by Josef Afritsch, Austrian Minister of the Interior. He said the organization was ordered disbanded because of the neo-Nazi activities of most of its members;

Simultaneously, police announced additional arrests of members and the Austrian Government proposed to the Ministries of the Interior and Justice new measures to stem the neo-Nazi activities which have reached a postwar peak in the past few days. These included the desecration of the Jewish cemetery at Innsbruck and the firing of nine shots at the Parliamentary building in Vienna.

Among measures the Government said it would introduce in Parliament "to protect democracy" in Austria were proposals to bar activities likely to incite hatred against religious and racial groups. Competent sources told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Minister Afritsch was determined to do everything possible to "finally end all activities that could endanger Austria's reputation as a truly democratic country."

(In London, the press reported today from Vienna that, while Austrian authorities have been "compelled officially" to take notice of recent anti-Semitism incidents, "the Austrian Government, privately, tends to dismiss these incidents as the work of ignorant hot-heads instigated by unrepentant, former Nazis." According to the Vienna correspondent, the Austrian Government "has certainly been lamentably weak in dealing with known former SS men still living openly in Austria.")

ANCIENT 'RASHI' SYNAGOGUE, DESTROYED BY NAZIS, REOPENED IN GERMANY

WORMS, Germany, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- The old Rashi Synagogue here, oldest Jewish house of worship in Germany, originally built in 1034, destroyed by the Nazis in 1938, and now reconstructed by the West German Government at a cost of \$125,000, was re-opened here yesterday with impressive ceremonies. In addition to Jewish representatives from all over Germany, as well as from Israel, Britain and France, the participants in the somber ceremony included Vice Chancellor Ludwig Erhard as the official representative of the Federal Republic of Germany. The synagogue was named after the famous commentator of the Bible and Talmud.

"Grief and deep shame" over the Nazi desecrations and depredations were expressed by Mr. Erhard in his address. Warning that anti-Semitism in Germany "is not yet dead," the Vice-Chancellor said that "anti-Semitism, like every other form of inhumanity, is blasphemy." He warned Germany that Nazi crimes against the Jews "must not be forgotten."

The \$125,000 needed for reconstruction of the famous old "Rashi Shul" had been contributed by West German authorities, federal, state and local. Mr. Erhard referred to the fact that only two Jewish families live here--whereas the pre-war Jewish population was over 1,200. "The essential thing, in this Temple," he said, "is missing--the human beings to whom the inscriptions here should speak."

The rebuilt synagogue with a capacity of 300 worshipers, contains Jewish ritual objects donated by the German Ministry of Education, by youth groups and various prominent handicraftsmen. President Heinrich Lübke contributed the almenor. A stone flown here from Jerusalem has been placed in the wall partitioning the women's section in the synagogue from the men's section.

A childless couple, Jacob and Rachel, had built the synagogue which was opened just before Rosh Hashanah in 1034. An addition, named the "Rashi Chapel," was built in 1624. The synagogue contained the archives of the old Worms Jewish community as well as many other priceless memorabilia. A local archivist saved many of these relics after the Nazis destroyed the synagogue in 1938, transferring them after the war to the Jewish National Archive in Jerusalem.

JEWISH DIRECTOR OF RABBINICAL COURTS IN MOROCCO REPLACED BY MOSLEM

CASABLANCA, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Abraham Zagoury, a Jew who has been government director of all rabbinical courts in Morocco, was removed from his post today and replaced by a Moslem, according to an official announcement.

The position requires the director of rabbinical courts to supervise and inspect the work of all Jewish religious tribunals, including "matters of personal status" like marriage and divorce. The announcement stated that Mr. Zagoury was removed due to "incompetence."

Prominent Government officials attended a dinner given here last night by the Moroccan branch of OSE, the Organization for the Protection of the Health of Jews. Among the participants were the Minister of Health and the Governor of Casablanca. Prominent Jews present included two former Cabinet Ministers, Dr. Leon Benzaquen and David Amar.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ASSEMBLY ISSUES CALL TO FIGHT ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW DELHI, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- A resounding condemnation of anti-Semitism as "a sin against God and man," coupled with a call on Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches all over the world to "resist every form of anti-Semitism wherever it is found," was adopted here last night by the international assembly of the World Council of Churches.

The resolution, repeating a stand taken by the World Council in 1948, called on churches to avoid Christian teachings that fasten upon contemporary Jewry "responsibilities which belong to our corporate humanity" in connection with historic events that led to the crucifixion of Christ.

An amendment referring to the Jews as "God's chosen people" was deleted prior to the adoption of the resolution by acclamation and applause. Prominent churchmen expressed the fear that the amendment would prevent the Council from issuing that "clear and simple word" against anti-Semitism which, they said, "continues to exist."

An appeal to the delegates from 198 member church organizations around the world was made by the Rev. Dr. John C. Bennett, dean of faculty at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, warning the assembly that failure to speak out against anti-Semitism clearly "would be a disaster."

"Anti-Semitism," said Dr. Bennett, "is a special responsibility of the churches because, for centuries, Christian teachings and Christian symbols have been wrongly used against the Jews. This cannot be taken merely as a race problem. We are dealing with a deposit of centuries of religious feeling against the Jews." Dr. Bennett pointed out as "significant" the fact that, recently, Pope John XXIII ordered deletion from Catholic liturgy the old reference to "perfidious" Jews.

GOLDA MEIR ADDRESSES 18,000 JEWS AT CHANUKAH FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- Golda Meir, Foreign Minister of the State of Israel, declared tonight that, unlike other countries in the world, "Israel does not fear a population explosion. We regard a substantial increase in population not as a menace but as a challenge and as a great and historic opportunity." She told an audience of 18,000 Israel bond purchasers attending the Chanukah Festival for Israel at Madison Square Garden that Israel hopes to increase her population by one million by 1970 and by "still another million in the decade to follow."

Mrs. Meir said "as long as there are areas in this world where Jews cannot live on a basis of equality with other citizens, Israel must be ready to accept them and do so even if they should come in great and overwhelming numbers." She was the guest of honor at the 11th annual Chanukah Festival, which was presented by the Greater New York Committee for Israel Bonds as a highlight of its drive to raise \$13,000,000 during Israel's 13th anniversary or Bar Mitzvah year.

JAMES G. McDONALD HONORED ON 75TH BIRTHDAY FOR AID TO JEWS AND ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- James G. McDonald, former High Commissioner for Refugees at the League of Nations in the early years of the Hitler regime and later the first United States Ambassador to Israel, was honored here today, on his 75th birthday, at a luncheon arranged for him at the Hotel Plaza by the two noted Jewish leaders, Benjamin Abrams and James N. Rosenberg. He was presented at the luncheon with an Honorary Fellowship of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel in recognition of his activities on behalf of Israel.

Mr. Abrams, who presided, revealed that Mr. McDonald was actually the person who originated the idea of selling Israel bonds in the United States when he was U.S. Ambassador in Israel. Mr. Rosenberg emphasized the efforts which Mr. McDonald as High Commissioner for Refugees made, on behalf of saving Jews from Nazi hands. In spite of getting no moral or financial support from the League of Nations, he nevertheless enabled many thousands of Jews from Germany to find new homelands.

Mr. McDonald, replying to the speakers and to warm greetings received from many leading personalities, including President Truman, Israel President Izhak Ben-Zvi, Israel's Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and other members of the Israel Cabinet, spoke of the years of his public service and stressed that his years of service in Israel and the subsequent years of helping Israel's efforts in the United States, give him the greatest satisfaction in his life. He also lauded President Truman as the only statesman who sincerely wanted to come to the aid of Jewish refugees from Hitlerism as well as to be of active assistance in the development of Israel.

GUATEMALA AND ISRAEL SIGN CULTURAL TREATY; STRENGTHEN FRIENDLY RELATIONS

GUATEMALA CITY, Dec. 4; (JTA) -- A cultural treaty between Israel and Guatemala was signed today at the National Palace here by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Jesu Undu Murillo and Israel Ambassador Joshua N. Shai. The treaty is expected to further strengthen friendly relations between the two countries.