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U.N. DEBATE ON REFUGEE ISSUE OPENS; 'PALESTINE ARAB DELEGATION' ADMITTED

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The annual debate on the Arab refugee question was opened here today by the General Assembly's Special Political Committee and erupted immediately into a series of procedural fights which were lost by Israel and the Central African Republic. As a result of two roll call defeats, Amile Al-Ghoury, a spokesman for the so-called "Palestine Arab delegation," became the first speaker to address the committee from the floor.

Dr. John H. Davis, Commissioner General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, opened the proceedings with a 15-minute oral statement in which he said that education of the refugees and financing of the relief work for the refugees are the matters of prime importance to UNRWA's future. He totally ignored any mention of possible work projects. The current mandate of the UNRWA expires on June 30, 1963 and the United States is reported to be considering a suggestion that the mandate be extended for one or two years only instead of the usual three.

Dr. Leopoldo Benites of Ecuador, chairman of the Committee, then told the Committee that, in accordance with previous precedence he would permit "a spokesman or spokesmen" of the so-called Arab Palestine delegation to address the Committee at the appropriate time. The Arab delegations immediately insisted that Al-Ghoury be heard first.

Ambassador Michahel S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative, made a motion of adjournment--this motion was rejected by a vote of 29 to 17 with 44 abstentions. After the debate, which some of the Arab delegates denounced as a "filibuster," Maurice Hagan of the Central African Republic requested a roll call vote on the specific point whether Al-Ghoury should be permitted to speak today. The vote in favor of an immediate speech by Al-Ghoury was adopted by 34 to 16 with 42 abstentions.

After Mr. Comay explained to the Committee that "it is really a matter of indifference to Israel whether and when this man speaks or not," the Israeli diplomat said he wanted it understood that "there is no Palestine people and this group of 13 does not constitute a principle party" in this debate as claimed by the self-styled delegation.

Al-Ghoury, referring constantly to Israel, only as "the Zionists," told the Committee Israel has "violated" all international law by "robbing" the Arab people of their property in Israel. He demanded the appointment of a UN custodian over such property. He attacked sharply what he called United States support of the "unlawful Zionist occupation of Palestine" and the supply of missiles to Israel by the United States.

He "highly commended" Dr. Davis who had reported earlier to the Committee in a recent report that "works" are unfeasible for the Arab refugees and that "the Arab people want only 'the repatriation' of the refugees to Israel as a solution to the problem.

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER CONFERS WITH GOLDA MEIR ON U.N. PROBLEMS

OTTAWA, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Golda Meir of Israel conferred for 45 minutes today with Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. Their conversation, it was understood, dealt mainly with Israeli-Canadian cooperation in the United Nations.

After the meeting, Mrs. Meir met with External Affairs Minister Howard Green and a number of Canadian and Israeli diplomatic officials in Mr. Green's private office. Mr. Diefenbaker said his talk with Mrs. Meir was "a general review of the situation in the Middle East." There was no official communique.

Mrs. Meir told an official dinner here in her honor last night that Israel valued "the friendship of having Canada as a friend." The dinner was tendered here by Howard Green, Canadian Secretary for External Affairs, and attended by senior Government officials, members of Parliament and other Canadian leaders. Mr. Green welcomed Mrs. Meir as a "friend," who, he said, represented a government of pioneering accomplishment.

He said the Canadian people, together with other peoples of the world, are thrilled by the courage of the people of Israel. They deserve the support of people all over the world, including Canada," he said. He praised Mrs. Meir as one of a generation of pioneers and leaders of Israel. He added that he welcomed the opportunity to exchange views with an outstanding statesman."

DR. GOLDMANN: HOPE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL WILL CONDEMN ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Declaring that Jewish organizations are following the proceedings of the Ecumenical Council, now taking place in Rome, with "great attention," Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, told Jewish leaders here today that he hoped that the Catholic Church would take a clear position in condemning racism, anti-Semitism and intolerance in all forms. He spoke at a meeting of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress.

"In view of the great influence the Catholic Church wields in many parts of the world, particularly in the field of education, such a pronouncement would be of great significance, especially in view of the resurgence of anti-Semitic movements in countries where the Church carries great weight," he declared.

Such a position taken by the Church would certainly be deeply appreciated not only by the Jewish people but by all elements in the world "which believe in the peaceful co-existence of the different religions and national and cultural groups." Dr. Goldmann added that in view of "certain actions already taken by the Pope, Jewish public opinion looks forward with a certain amount of hope and confidence to the final decisions of the Ecumenical Council in this respect."

The WJC leader reported that there was no fundamental change in the situation of Russian Jewry which is denied "many facilities, both religiously and culturally, and especially with regard to possible contact with world Jewry." But he felt that the leadership of the Soviet Union was "beginning to become aware of the existence of this problem, and that is the first condition to any hope for a change for the better."

He said that the main problem facing Soviet Jewry was not the physical, political or economic life of the individual Jew, but the difficulty for the Jews, recognized as a national and religious minority, to maintain their Jewish identity and remain part of the Jewish people.

Urges Jews to be Alert Against Resurgent anti-Semitism

Dr. Goldmann called on Jews all over the world to mobilize in a fight against resurgent anti-Semitism. Although warning against over-estimating the immediate danger of recent anti-Semitic attacks, he said that the fast-moving and unstable situation in many parts of the world was fertile soil for anti-Semitic tendencies.

"Anti-Semitism today is more than ever internationally organized, and the various local movements are in close contact with each other," he said. The international character of the neo-Nazi movement demanded action, by an organized, worldwide counter movement replacing isolated reaction in individual countries, he emphasized.

Reporting on his negotiations with West Germany on supplementary laws concerning restitution and indemnification, Dr. Goldmann said that after lengthy talks and delays, a draft for the new legislation was finally being prepared. There was reason to hope that the Federal Government and the various German states, which are responsible for this legislation, "will realize that the unprecedented action of restitution and indemnification which Germany has undertaken, must continue in a generous spirit, and that those victims of Nazi persecution, who have either received no, or insufficient, compensation, must be provided for by the new legislation," he added.

SOVIET CHARGED WITH DISTORTING THE TRUTH OF JEWISH SITUATION IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- An official Soviet organ--the Moscow News--was charged here today with "distorting the truth" about the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union by publishing data which gives a false picture on the condition of Soviet Jewry. The charge was made in a public statement by the Jewish Labor Committee issued by Adolph Held, its national chairman.

Mr. Held said that Soviet claims that more than 7,500 Jews were elected to local government offices in the Soviet Union "is nothing to boast about. A closer look at the facts," he said, "shows that as of 1960 more than 1,800,000 such deputies were elected. The so-called 'large' number which the Soviets claim comes to less than one-half of one per cent of the total of elected deputies."

"Then," Mr. Held continued, "the Soviets say that although Jews are 1.1 per cent of the population, they rank third in the number of students. They cite a figure of some 420,000 Jews as having either secondary or specialized education. The fact of the matter is that Jews today represent 3.1 per cent of all students in higher education. This must be contrasted with the year 1935 when their proportion was 13.5 per cent. During this same 27-year period, the Jewish proportion of the total population decreased merely from 1.6 per cent to 1.1 per cent. There is a quota system for Jews in all of the higher educational institutions within the Soviet Union."

"The handful of important Jews in Soviet life alluded to by the Moscow News, the economic czar Veniamin Dymshits, Ilya Ehrenberg and the world famous scientists cannot cover up the large areas of discrimination against Jews," the JLC chairman stressed. "None of these men have ever identified themselves as a Jew in any way. Ilya Ehrenberg applauded the Hitler-Soviet Pact!"

NAZI TECHNIQUES IN KILLING JEWS IN MINSK DESCRIBED IN GERMAN COURT

COBLENZ, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- A former Nazi stormtrooper testified today in the trial of 12 ex-Nazis charged with the wartime mass murder of 35,000 Jews in the Minsk Ghetto that "the cries of the victims are still in my ears."

Johann Hassler of Wassenburg, describing the Nazi multiple killing techniques, told the jury court that "ten minutes after the Jews were pushed into the poison gas vans, they were dead." He said he knew they were dead because their faces had turned blue and red. He added that in the really extensive slaughter operations, Jews were shot in ditches, instead of being gassed, because "the shooting was quicker than gassing."

Another witness, Karl Gebl, 64, of Kleinfeld, who drove one of the gas vans, broke into tears as he testified that when the gas supply failed, the Jews were removed from the vans in the woods and shot in masses.

Konrad Kosnopfl testified about the inhuman conditions in the Minsk security service prison. He recalled reports of execution of a Jewish woman in the courtyard of the prison by Georg Heuser, the principal defendant in the trial.

EX-NAZI CHARGED WITH MURDER OF JEWS IN LVOV GHETTO; TRIAL CPENS

HANOVER, West Germany, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Oskar Waltke, 56, a former SS member, pleaded innocent today to charges of murder and complicity to murder from 1942 to 1944 of Jews in the Lvov Ghetto during the war.

Hyman Wiesenthal, a former Lvov architect who is now director of the Vienna Jewish Document Center and author of a book entitled, "I Hunted Eichmann," testified at the opening of Waltke's trial before a jury court here today.

He said he had watched Waltke arrange transports of Jews from the ghetto to a nearby labor camp. He also said Waltke, now a Hanover businessman, was known to the Lvov Ghetto prisoners as one of the most cruel of the SS men.

FRANKFURT POLICE RE-SCREENED; SUSPECTS OF MURDERING JEWS ARRESTED

FRANKFURT, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Frankfurt municipal officials reported today that the intensive re-screening of Frankfurt police, which was ordered after the surprise arrest of two Frankfurt police officers as Nazi war criminals, has turned up two more suspects.

The two new suspects, whose names were not disclosed, proved to have been members of the notorious Battalion 306, which had the assignment of slaughtering Jews, Gypsies and partisans behind the German lines in Russia during World War II. Information on the two, both police inspectors, has been transmitted to the Ludwigsburg Central Office for Investigation of Nazi Crimes.

The officials said that orders had been issued that all Frankfurt policemen will have to fill out new forms under oath stating where they had been stationed and what duties they performed during the war.

DANGER FOR JUDAISM SEEN IN MIGRATION OF YOUNG JEWS TO LARGER CITIES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Two leaders of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations today warned that a new migration of young Jews in America from small and middle sized towns to large cities presents dangers in the future growth of Reform Judaism.

These concerns were voiced by Rabbi Jay Kaufman, UAHC vice-president and Myron E. Schoen, director of the UAHC Commission on Synagogue Administration, at the opening session of a four-day leadership conference here.

Lay and rabbinic leaders representing the 640 member congregations of the UAHC in the western hemisphere, with more than 1,000,000 members, are here to dedicate the UAHC's new Religious Action Center in Washington. The center is designed to implement programs of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, a joint body of the UAHC and the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Rabbi Kaufman and Mr. Schoen observed that among the dangers confronting Reform Judaism are the disintegration of the old congregations in smaller communities; the loss of thousands of young families in urban centers due to lack of synagogue facilities; retirement of older members who move to other communities, and the constant shifting of industries and government projects from one part of the country to another.

Plans for a \$2,000,000 subsidy to build synagogues in metropolitan centers to retain the younger generation were announced.

BRAZILIAN ELECTION COURT INVALIDATES MANDATE OF JEWISH DEPUTY

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- A Jew elected recently to the Brazilian National Legislature was among seven newly chosen deputies whose election was invalidated here today by the highest Elections Court in the country. He is Mario Schemberg, of Sao Paulo.

HEAD OF NEGRO UNIVERSITY LAUDS ISRAEL'S AID TO AFRO-ASIAN LANDS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Israel's role in the development of new Afro-Asian states was lauded by President James M. Nabrit, Jr., of Howard University, a Negro institution, in an address sponsored here today by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington. He also commented on controversial minority problems he observed during a recent study tour of Israel.

Mr. Nabrit, explaining the slow assimilation of Afro-Asian Jews in Israel, said that since the European Jew, a product of Western civilization, arrived first in Israel, he occupied a leading status and vocational position while Afro-Asian Jews were generally employed as unskilled laborers. This problem, he said, provided propaganda ammunition for Israel's enemies because "when people see only dark persons in inferior positions and white persons only in higher positions, no explanation will really satisfy (observers) that race is not a factor."

The university president said that the Kibbutz concept appeared to him to have once been of great importance in Israel's development. But, he added, "I look on the Kibbutzim like we look on our frontier practices in America--great in their time but of increasingly less value now." He depicted Israel as "a dynamic country, attuned to an historic destiny, committed to a prophetic role and certain to succeed."

Mr. Nabrit spent a month in Israel observing mainly the educational facilities, the integration of minorities, and similar matters. Many African and Asian students, under various educational exchange programs, attend Howard University which Mr. Nabrit heads.

RINAT CHOIR OF ISRAEL GIVES CONCERT IN WASHINGTON AT GALA AFFAIR

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- The Rinat Choir of Israel presented a program of Israeli concert and folk songs and of American songs tonight at the inaugural dinner of the United States National Cultural Center at which President and Mrs. Kennedy headed 5,000 guests.

The choir, which consists of 40 adult mixed voices, was the only non-American participant at the dinner. Roger L. Stevens, chairman of the center board of trustees, called the choir's participation "an inspiring way of cementing cultural relations" between the United States in Israel.

The choir will make a month-long tour of the United States under sponsorship of the American-Israel Cultural Foundation and its constituent, the American-Israel Music Alliance. Founded seven years ago, the Rinat Choir is comprised of amateur singers. It won first prize at the Paris International Choral Contest in 1958 and various other international awards. Gary Bertini, the conductor who made his American debut in 1959, is choir leader.

\$1,000,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS PURCHASED AT DINNER HONORING LABOR LEADER

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Six hundred leading union representatives honored Morris Iushewitz, secretary of the New York City Central Labor Council AFL-CIO, at a dinner last night which produced sales of nearly \$1,000,000 in Israel Bonds. The dinner was a key event in a drive in the New York metropolitan area to raise \$15,000,000 in Israel Bond funds this year.

Mr. Iushewitz, a member of the New York City Board of Education, received the "Labor Man of the Year" award. The award was presented to him by David Hachoen a member of Israel's Parliament and former Ambassador to Burma. The citation lauded Mr. Iushewitz as "a labor statesman who has earned the affection and respect of the trade union movement" and one "whose leadership in the Israel Bond effort has been a shining example of the fruitful partnership" between the American labor movement and Israel.

RABBI KOTLER, NOTED TALMUDIC SCHOLAR, DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS 71

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (JTA) -- Rabbi Aaron Kotler, who was considered one of the foremost Torah scholars of the world, died today in the Harkness Pavilion Medical Center here after an illness of three weeks. He was 71.

Born in Sislovich, Poland, he was head of the Yeshiva in Kletzk, Poland, until World War II when he came to the United States in 1939. He founded the Beth Medrash Gevoah in Lakewood N. J. for graduates of yeshivas throughout the United States and was head of that academy at his death.

He was chairman of the Grand Rabbinical Council of Agudas Israel and chairman of the Rabbinical Council of Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools. The body will be flown Sunday to Israel for interment there.