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N. PALESTINE COMMISSION PRESENTS REPORT; OMITTS JOHNSON'S PROPOSALS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission, which for two years has had a special envoy in the person of Dr. Joseph Johnson, charged with trying to ease the Arab refugee problem, filed its report today to the General Assembly's Special Political Committee without mentioning a single word about any results from Dr. Johnson's special mission.

The PCC submission, a brief document labeled "20th Progress Report," merely noted Dr. Johnson had conferred in the various relevant capitals with the prime ministers of foreign ministers of the five states involved, saw other "pertinent authorities" and resumed his consultations in New York. The PCC commended Dr. Johnson "for the dedication, persistence and imagination which he devoted to this difficult task." The five states concerned are Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt.

The so-called Johnson proposals, which would have dealt with a plan for an informal discussion among the refugees on their desires to "return" to Israel or accept compensation from Israel, thus died without ever being officially presented. The Arabs and Israelis alike had rejected that proposal, as did the U.S. State Department and America's partners in the PCC, France and Turkey.

Says Arab Refugees Own 453,000 Parcels of Land in Israel

The PCC did report on its major, continuing task, under way now for about 12 years, attempting to identify and evaluate properties left by the refugees before they fled Israel in 1948. The Commission reported that, thus far, 453,000 separate parcels of Arab-owned lands have been identified in Israel.

Over-all values of this property are being computed on the basis of their worth as of September 29, 1947, the report said. The date is the one when the U.N. adopted the Palestine partition plan, at Lake Success. However, the value of the parcels has not yet been reported by the PCC. Arab representatives here claim that the values reach billions of dollars, a figure which Israel has derided as "fantastic."

The PCC also reported continuing aid from Israel in unfreezing of monies left by refugees in banks inside Israel. So far, the Commission stated, Israel has turned a grand total of 3,532,088 pounds sterling (\$9,889,846) of such monies, paid over to Arab holders of those previously blocked accounts.

Meanwhile, the UN Special Political Committee continued today its debate on the Arab refugee problem. Most of the speakers were Arab representatives, including several from the so-called Arab Palestine "delegation" which represent no one but Arab propaganda organs.

Another verbal fight broke out on the floor this morning when the Tunisian representative, charged in his speech that Israel treats North African Jewish immigrants as second-class citizens. Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative here, who has been fighting the Arab vilifications toe-to-toe, denounced that charge as false. Several Arabs spoke up, only to be answered sharply by Mr. Comay's insistence that they were "fabricating."

Thus far, Mr. Comay has been carrying the entire burden of Israel's side of the debate, Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, has sat silent. However, she is now scheduled to make Israel's full presentation of its views on the refugee question, on Friday.

Israel Delegation Satisfied with U. S. Stand in U. N. Debate

Israeli sources, commenting today on the United States position in the refugee debate at the General Assembly's Special Political Committee, declared that Israel considers today's American speech "on the whole constructive," although there are "a few points" to which Israel cannot agree. The sources pointed out that Israel is "always prepared to consider every proposition for solutions by peaceful means, providing they do not touch on the sovereignty or security of the State of Israel."

The Israeli sources indicated they were satisfied with the U.S. statement which distanced the U.S.A. from certain remarks made in his annual report this year by John H. Davis, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency

for Palestine Refugees. It was indicated clearly that those Davis remarks concerned political matters to which the UNRWA chief had alluded in his report.

As for America's rejection of the Arab resolution for the appointment of a UN custodian over property left in Israel by the refugees, it was noted with satisfaction that, not only did the U.S.A. take such a position, similar to Israel, but Washington did so exactly on the grounds held by Israel in this regard--the fact that, as the U.S.A. stated, the step "is clearly designed to strike at the very foundations of Israel's sovereignty."

Two African representatives, both of them among the 19 co-sponsors of the so-called "Brazzaville Resolution" which calls for direct Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, addressed the committee last night with powerful pleas for a rapprochement between the Arab states and Israel. One of them, Dr. T.O. Dosumu Johnson, of Liberia, injected a new note by suggesting that the United Nations request Secretary-General U Thant to try to resolve the Arab-Israeli question through arbitration, mediation or conciliation.

The other, Michael Gallin-Douathe, of the Central African Republic, asked "our Arab brothers" to agree to negotiate peace with Israel, starting by approving the 1947 UN Palestine Partition plan which they have always rejected.

SYRIAN CIVIL DEFENSE AND HOSPITALS MOBILIZED IN DISPUTE WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- General Carl von Horn, chief of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, was reported today to have informed Israeli officials that his flying mission to Damascus in connection with renewed Syrian attacks against Israeli settlements in the Lake Tiberias area had been useful.

However, the Damascus Radio declared today that the talks with General von Horn had failed and announced that the Syrian civil defense had been mobilized and private hospitals placed at the Syrian army's disposal.

The UN chief made a flying visit to Damascus yesterday and conveyed to Syrian officials, including the Syrian Chief of Staff, that Israel viewed the border situation with gravity as well as the concern of the United Nations over border incidents. The latest occurred last Tuesday when an Israeli settlement member was injured during several hours of shooting.

Israeli sources indicated that the behavior of the Syrians in the demilitarized zone could be the only measure of the extent of the UN chief's success in his mission. He was to meet later today with Israeli Foreign Office officials for further talks.

SYRIA ASKS FRANCE TO BE 'NEUTRAL' IN THE 'PALESTINE QUESTION'

PARIS, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Syrian Government has officially asked France to adopt a "neutral" attitude over the "Palestine Question," it was reported here today from Damascus.

Khaled En Azem, the Syrian Premier, told Pierre Sebilliau, the French Ambassador to Syria, that his government was much more concerned with France's position on the Arab-Israel dispute than with any loans or technical assistance.

The Syrian Premier told the French envoy that France had voted at the United Nations Special Political Committee "with those who prevented the Palestinian delegate from addressing the committee." He emphasized that Syria wants the French Government "to observe a more neutral attitude and to try to convince its former African colonies to adopt a more neutral attitude in regard to the Palestine issue." He said support of Israel by such former colonies was "to the detriment of the Arab nations."

ISRAEL'S STAND ON AID TO AFRICAN LANDS OUTLINED AT DAKAR PARLEY

DAKAR, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- An Israeli official told the first Conference on African Economic Development Plans today that while Israel was happy to contribute its skills to developing African countries, it was not an intermediary between those countries "and capitalist countries."

That comment by Mark Jarblum of the International Department of the Histadrut, Israel's Federation of Labor, was prompted by a comment from Dr. Carlo Schmidt, West German Social Democrat. Dr. Schmidt said that Israelis were more qualified to help Africans than the European countries and for that reason the European nations should supply the means to Israel to continue its help to African countries.

Israeli participants, though convinced that Dr. Schmidt has been well-meaning, feared that his remark might be misinterpreted as meaning that Israel would be willing to operate as an intermediary of European interests in Africa.

The Histadrut official also told the delegates from 19 African countries to the conference that Israel "does not have dollars, rubles or sterling, only experience. We are happy that your pupils are learning skills in Israel and that we can send you experts. Israel's contributions come from its own efforts and means and not from other countries. Our help is small but sincere and moral."

ADOPTS RESOLUTION ASKING GOVERNMENTS TO OUTLAW RELIGIOUS BIAS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A resolution calling upon all governments to outlaw racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance, pending here in form or another for nearly three years, finally won full approval of the entire General Assembly here today.

The resolution, while it does not mention the term "anti-Semitism," stems from a design to outlaw anti-Semitism initiated here in January 1960 by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. At that time, the commission was exercised by the world-wide spate of swastika-smearings and anti-Semitic sloganeering following the desecration of the synagogue at Cologne, Germany, on Christmas Eve of 1959.

The resolution asks all governments to take all "necessary steps to rescind discriminatory laws" which have the effect of creating or perpetuating racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance "wherever they still exist"; recommends educational campaigns in all countries to discourage such bias; "invites" all of the UN's own Special Agencies to do likewise; and calls upon governments as well as UN agencies to report these efforts by next year. The measure requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly on this topic at the Assembly's next session, beginning in Sept. 1963.

ON TRIAL FOR KILLING 180,000 JEWS DENIES SHOOTING CAMP PRISONERS

CNN, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- One of the 13 former Nazis on trial here on charges of participating in the wartime slaughter of 180,000 Jews in the Chelmo concentration camp occupied Poland testified today that he was "humane" and that he had always "been just beating defenseless prisoners."

The defendant, 69-year-old former SS lieutenant Alois Haefle, was in charge of a Polish labor command unit set up for road-building and to sort out the possessions of the murdered prisoners. He emphatically denied having whipped and shot to death the Jewish prisoners.

The indictment charged him with having told his SS subordinates that "men, women and children will be trampled down like beetles." The indictment also charged that his aim was to deceive the Jews about their ultimate fate and to ensure that they proceeded to the poison gas vans in an orderly way.

WITNESSES TESTIFY AT TRIAL OF NAZIS WHO KILLED MINSK JEWS

OBLENZ, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A former Nazi police supervisor in the Minsk ghetto testified today in the trial of 12 former Nazis accused of wartime mass murders that one of the defendants, Artur Harder, of Frankfurt, tortured and burned to death six to eight Polish men and women.

Hans Rudolf Ruebe, the witness, said that Harder, a former SS captain, had the victims tied and chained in pairs to a stake with Georg Heuser, the principal defendant in the trial here, looking on. The 12 former Nazis are charged with the mass murder of some 100 Jews in the Minsk ghetto during the Nazi occupation of the Soviet city. Ruebe recalled in particular one atrocity in which one of the women freed herself from the stake and was thrown into the fire again.

Hans Ruebe, a retired Karlsruhe Criminal Investigation Department member, said that, in 1943, Harder's commando unit 1005 exhumed mass graves of murdered Jews in occupied Poland and Russia, and subsequently cremated the bodies to remove all traces of evidence. Ruebe was sentenced to prison after the war but was later released.

Court officials indicated today that the trial, which began on October 14, was not likely to end before the end of January. Of the total of 102 witnesses found by the prosecution only 72 have been heard.

Max Luchner, a member of the German Air Force during the Nazi period, testified that it was useless to appeal above Heuser to higher Nazi officials. He said that he saw Jews beaten to death by men under Heuser's command. Asked why he did not protest he told the court: "Would you denounce the devil to his own grandmother?"

Another witness, Otto Edel, a tax collector, described some of the atrocities committed against Jewish prisoners but contended that "Heuser was not responsible for any execution." He was merely transmitting orders.

SACRAMENTO LABOR BACKS U.N. MOVE AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM IN RUSSIA

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Sacramento Labor Council has approved a resolution urging a United Nations investigation of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

The resolution noted that the issue had been raised in the United Nations Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee by action of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. The Sacramento AFL-CIO central body also noted that anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union was government-instigated, citing the findings of a study by the Jewish Labor Commission.

HIGH PROPORTION OF JEWISH STUDENTS CHANGING COLLEGES REPORTED

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The high proportion of Jewish high school graduates who take a "blind man's bluff" approach to picking a college is adding to the spiraling transfer problem on American campuses, B'nai B'rith Vocational Service reported today.

Some 12,000 Jewish students are among the nearly 200,000 college undergraduates who will be applying for transfer by the end of this academic year, Dr. Maurice Jacobs, chairman of the B'nai B'rith counseling program, told the annual meeting of its national commission. The number of Jewish transfers approximates the six per cent ratio of Jewish students in the college population.

The problem is not unique with Jewish students, Dr. Jacobs said, "but conforms to the increasing tendency among all high school graduates for grab-bag enrolling in schools unsuited to their backgrounds, talents or future prospects, because they are fearful of being shut out by crowded universities." But since 65 per cent of Jewish college age youth enter higher education, as against 22 per cent of non-Jewish youth, "it is becoming a particularly noticeable problem in the American Jewish youth community," he said.

Field reports from B'nai B'rith's career counseling centers in 19 major cities show an "unusually high" ratio of college transfer cases among the 40,000 persons serviced through group and individual guidance programs the past year, Dr. Jacobs said. In the process of changing schools, many transfer students forfeit course credits. Case studies by B'nai B'rith Vocational counselors disclose many students enrol in college: they have never before seen, located in areas they know nothing about.

JUDGE EXPLAINS WHY HE ORDERED JEWISH WITNESS TO REMOVE SKULL-CAP

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Secaucus Magistrate George W. King explained today, in a statement issued to the press, why he instructed an Orthodox Jewish defendant to remove his skull-cap in court. His action against Morris Steigman was protested yesterday by the New Jersey region of the American Jewish Congress as a "direct impairment of religious freedom."

The magistrate said in his statement that in his 37 years of law practice he had never witnessed anyone wearing a hat in court and that he had never heard of a law or rule covering such a situation. He pointed out that it had always been customary and traditional for a person to remove his hat in court, and added that the defendant had refused, at the request of the court officer, to remove his "cap;" he therefore informed the defendant that he would have to do so.

The judge said that Mr. Steigman "said it violated his religious principles but he removed it without any further comment." The judge added that there were no threats made of holding the Brooklyn man in contempt of court.

\$500,000 RAISED AT TECHNION DINNER IN N. Y.; NEW PROJECT LAUDED

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- More than \$500,000 was raised here last night at the annual dinner of the American Technion Society which took the form of a tribute to Dr. Selman A. Waksman, Nobel Prize winning American scientist. Featured speaker at the dinner was Israel Foreign Minister Golda Meir.

In her address at the dinner, Mrs. Meir lauded the establishment at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa of a new \$300,000 research center to be devoted to general, marine and industrial microbiology. The establishment of the new center will be under the leadership of Dr. Waksman. Mrs. Meir expressed confidence that the new addition to Israel's growing number of teaching and research facilities will become an important landmark in the nation's continuing efforts to attain economic self-sufficiency.

RINAT CHOIR, ISRAEL'S LEADING CHORAL ENSEMBLE, PERFORMS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Rinat Choir, Israel's foremost choral ensemble, performed at Carnegie Hall here tonight under the direction of Gary Bertini. The choir appeared in New York City as part of a cultural exchange tour on behalf of the National Cultural Center in Washington, D. C. and is sponsored by the Music Alliance of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation.

The Rinat Choir, composed of 40 mixed voices, is considered a leading a capella choir in Europe. Founded in 1955, it won first prize a year later in the International Choral Contest in Paris. In 1960 it was acclaimed as the outstanding choral group at the Fifteenth Festival of Sacred Music in Perugia, Italy.

SON OF EX-PRESIDENT OF U. N. ASSEMBLY HONORED BY JEWS IN BRAZIL

SAO PAULO, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Oswaldo Aranha, Jr., son of the late Ambassador Oswaldo Aranha, who had presided over the United Nations General Assembly when the Palestine partition plan was voted in 1947, was honored here last night on "Mosaico na TV," a weekly television program. A citation was awarded to him by the Oswaldo Aranha Lodge of B'nai B'rith, named after his father.

In his acceptance address, on the air, he said his father was interested in the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine because of his appreciation of Jewish humanitarianism.