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FRANCE AND ENGLAND ADVOCATE REUNION OF FAMILIES AT U.N. DISCUSSION

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The question of reunion of families--in which Jewish organizations are particularly interested in view of the fact that Jews in the Soviet Union are not permitted to leave the country to join their relatives in Israel and other lands--was raised today by the representative of France at the session of the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The session is discussing a UN report advocating the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own.

Jean-Marcel Bouquin, the French delegate, told the session that the right to leave their country should be especially granted to members of groups discriminated against on the ground of religion or ethnic origin. He spoke at length on the "tragic problem" of broken-up families and stressed that they are entitled to reunion under paragraph 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Pointing out that the above paragraph makes it clear that everyone is entitled to exert his right to be reunited with his family, the representative of France said that thousands of families are now living separated by all kinds of walls and he urged the Sub-Commission to give special attention to the problem and to appeal to governments to act to allow reunion of families without political considerations.

Peter Calvocoressi of Britain joined in that appeal and added that the problem concerned hundreds of thousands of people.

Jewish Interest in Problem of Reunion of Families Stressed

Dr. Maurice Perlzweig, World Jewish Congress representative, told the mission that his organization appreciated deeply the report prepared for the Sub-Commission by Dr. D. Ingles, Philippine delegate, as the Sub-Commission's request and the recommendations therein acknowledging the right of everyone to leave a country, including his own. However, he added that he would like to emphasize that more place should have been given to the problem of reunion of families, a problem that concerns a Jewish community of 3,000,000 persons. These Jews, he said, must be given the right to associate in order to be able to practice the freedom to live. He said this was not only an individual right but a collective one.

Without mentioning the Soviet Union, he said that "certain Jewish groups" who desire to maintain their cultural and spiritual traditions in Eastern Europe live in an atmosphere of "collective claustrophobia" caused by discrimination. He emphasized that the World Jewish Congress was not involved in the cold war and, on the contrary, was anxious to contribute to the promotion of international understanding.

Nevertheless, he continued, this should not be allowed to stand in the way of the continuity of the practices of states whether of the East or the West which resulted in limiting or the abridgement of rights for large numbers of people. He strongly pleaded for understanding and human insight into the needs of Jewish groups which in order to maintain the values precious to them deserved to move from their present environments to places where these values and traditions can be cultivated in creative freedom.

Speaking on Poland, Dr. Perlzweig said that its leaders had shown a high degree of insight in removing obstacles to Jewish immigration to Israel and elsewhere and the problems which this policy posed for them.

JEWISH AGENCY DEFERS FINAL APPROVAL OF 1963-64 BUDGET UNTIL MARCH

JERUSALEM, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency plenary meeting deferred today to the next Agency executive plenary in March final approval of the Agency's 1963-64 budget. By that time, it was indicated, the special committee named for a joint review of the Government of immigrant absorption needs is expected to submit its report.

Reviewing the Agency's activities, treasurer A.L. Pincus told the plenary session that since the establishment of Israel, 1,083,000 immigrants have come to the country. In the Agency's expenditures on their behalf during the past 14 years, he said, included

\$460,000,000 for organizing immigration and transportation of the newcomers, for their initial absorption and for participating in provision for immigrant housing.

He also reported that during that time, the Agency spent \$670,000,000 for the establishment of 480 new agricultural settlements, \$105,000,000 for Youth Aliyah, \$59,000,000 for educational and organizational activities in countries outside of Israel and \$50,000,000 in participation in educational activities in Israel.

He said more than 83 per cent of the Agency's expenditures went for activities directly connected with immigration, absorption, settlement and Youth Aliyah. During the 14 years, funds at the Agency's disposal amounted to \$1,479,000,000 of which \$750,000,000 came from fund-raising campaigns. Substantial amounts came from West German reparations and in heirless property and Israeli Government participation in settlement. He emphasized that the total of income from all sources was not enough to meet the heavy burdens of immigration and that the Agency was forced into debt financing.

Government-Agency Authority for Immigration from Free Lands Planned

The plenary session discussed today a plan to establish a joint Government-Agency Authority for immigration from the free countries. Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Agency executive, outlined the proposed Authority's terms of reference which were approved by the plenary.

The Authority will encourage immigration from the free countries, plan absorption methods for such immigrants and deal with housing and coordination between Governmental and Agency departments for the immigrants. The overall goal will be to establish one address to which a potential immigrant can turn rather than having to approach various separate authorities.

The plenary meeting also discussed the question of immigration from Latin America. A joint committee has already prepared a number of plans for such immigration which will be submitted soon for approval.

MILITARY GOVERNOR IN GALILEE BANS COMMUNIST-SPONSORED ARAB MEETING

TEL AVIV, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The Military Governor in Upper Galilee ordered the closing of roads leading to two Arab villages in the area to bar a Communist-sponsored meeting to oppose a decision to build a township near these villages, officials here disclosed today.

Haana and Dir el Assad, the two villages, are part of the area on which the new township will be built. All owners of land in the area received full compensation or parcels of land nearby in exchange but Communists have been using the transactions to incite Arabs against the township plans.

They called for a mass protest meeting for the coming Saturday, a meeting which the Governor's order will bar. Some tension has been reported in Arab villages in the Galilee where Communists continued to seek to stir up the Arabs, officials said.

ISRAEL'S LIBERAL PARTY BACKS UNIFICATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Israel's Liberal party and the World Confederation of General Zionists headed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann reached a joint decision today on the need for unification of General Zionists in Israel with General Zionists throughout the world.

The Israeli party, the outgrowth of a merger several years ago of the General Zionists and the Progressive party, and the Confederation decided to set up a preparatory committee to initiate a world conference of Israeli and world General Zionists whose task would be the creation of a World Union of General Zionists.

Spokesmen said the exclusive function of such a world union would be to serve Zionist goals and that it would adhere to non-involvement in politics in Israel or any other country. The work of the preparatory committee will cover all General Zionist and pioneering youth organizations.

DELEGATION OF JEWISH LEADERS FROM HUNGARY ARRIVES IN LONDON

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A delegation of Hungarian Jewish leaders arrived in London today for a visit as guests of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

The visitors were met at the airport by Sir Barnett Janner, president of the Board, and other officers. The delegation included Endre Sos, president of the Central Board of Hungarian Jews, Dr. G.M. Seifert, vice-president, and Rabbi Imre Benoschofsky, Chief Rabbi of Budapest.

The visitors will attend a meeting of the Board of Deputies on Sunday and then will be given a reception at which representatives of major Jewish institutions will have the opportunity to meet them and hear reports from them on the situation of Hungarian Jewry.

CONFERENCE ON RELIGION AND RACE URGES AMERICANS TO FIGHT BIAS

CHICAGO, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The First National Conference on Religion and Race ended today with adoption of an urgent "appeal to the conscience of the American people" to end all kinds of racial discrimination and creation of a follow-up group to mobilize America's three major faiths for that goal.

Both actions were approved unanimously by the 1,000 Christian and Jewish clerical and lay leaders. While the conference was directed primarily to the Negro problem in America, the final declaration was interpreted, particularly by the major Jewish participants, as presaging a new day in Christian concern for anti-Semitism as well.

A series of recommendations were adopted at the closing session of the four-day conference, proposing that organized religion, Christian and Jewish, use its economic resources to fight racial discrimination. The recommendations have the force of the resolutions customarily adopted by conventions.

One recommendation urged church and synagogal organizations and institutions to use the economic power of their substantial pension funds and endowments to promote inter-racial housing projects as well as for the promotion of equality of opportunity in all fields for all races and minorities in the United States.

As organizations which engage in much construction work, the churches and synagogues were urged to exact from building contractors strict pledges against racial discrimination. As employers, the religious organizations were urged to remove racial barriers in their own employment practices. The conference also called for removal of all racial barriers in such religion-linked institutions as hospitals, homes for the aged, child care agencies and other welfare organizations.

Ten Cities Chosen for Pilot Projects in Inter-Religious Work

In another recommendation, Christians and Jews as religious adherents, lay and clerical, were urged to help Negro families obtain homes in all-white suburbs, to aid stabilization of the character of changing urban neighborhoods and to work for federal and state laws against discrimination in employment and housing. They also were asked to act to assure that all of the country's educational resources and facilities be used to help eliminate all racial prejudice and barriers.

The delegates then approved plans for a follow-up committee of Catholics, Protestants and Jews to oversee implementation of the recommendations on the local level. The follow-up plan was presented by A. Harold Murray, director of the Community Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee. The conference also set up a national steering committee of representatives of the three faiths with the Synagogue Council of America as the Jewish religious representative body.

As one of its first steps, the follow-up committee chose 10 cities for pilot projects in inter-religious and inter-racial work for each of the recommendations. The cities chosen were Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, New Orleans, Oakland (Calif.), San Francisco, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Antonio and Seattle. Plans also were considered for convening another national conference on religion and race in the next two or three years.

Evaluations of the conference included a description by Rabbi Philip H. Hiat, executive vice-president of the Synagogue Council of America, of the conclave and the declaration as "a milestone in Jewish, American and world history." Arnold Aronson, of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, said that the organized Catholic and Protestant religions had undertaken an "inescapable obligation to combat anti-Semitism" as well as to battle anti-Negro racism. Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, of the American Jewish Committee, said that the widespread commitment by the Conference to work seriously to overcome bigotry is "a development of the greatest potential significance to the Jewish community."

U.N. PLANS WORLDWIDE CELEBRATION OF DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A special United Nations committee drew up plans today for worldwide celebration next December of the 15th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration was adopted and proclaimed by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948, a date now recognized in many countries as Human Rights Day.

Appointment of the special committee was authorized by an Assembly resolution last December in which the Assembly declared that "definite progress" had been achieved in affirming and developing human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Assembly, however, also recognized that compliance with the terms of the Declaration remained "unsatisfactory" in many parts of the world.

QUEBEC ASKED TO PERMIT JEWISH VOTERS TO SWEAR ON OLD TESTAMENT

MONTREAL, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A request that Quebec permit voters to swear on the Old Testament, when they have to take an oath, instead of "on the Holy Gospels," was made here by the Canadian Jewish Congress in a letter to Quebec's city election officials.

MIAMI ANTI-SEMITE GETS 20 YEARS PRISON SENTENCE; PLOTTED TO KILL JEWS

MIAMI, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Donald Branch, key figure in a plot to kill a number of leading Miami Jewish personalities, was given a 20-year prison term today to add to two previous terms totaling 12 years in trials arising from the plot.

Branch pleaded guilty last Friday to the bombing of the home of Don Shoemaker, editor of the Miami Herald. The bomb took place a month and a half before an abortive attempt by Branch to bomb the Anshe Mussa congregation.

At the same time, an American Nazi party member, Roger C. Foss, completed a 180-day jail term for disorderly conduct charges arising from picketing the Florida office of the Anti-Defamation League with anti-Semitic placards. One of the reasons for the trip of Foss to Miami was to try to help Branch, a 26-year-old former Miami municipal employee.

Branch was arrested last April 28 as a result of undercover work by Miami police and the Dade County State Attorney office. When Branch was detained, police found his home filled with American Nazi party literature. However, leader George Rockwell, who came to Miami for a visit last June, disavowed any connection with Branch or the Minute Men group to which he belonged.

Branch was first sentenced to six years last June 21, after undercover operator Stefan Plumacher foiled Branch's plan to bomb the synagogue by substituting duds for the dynamite which Branch planted at the synagogue. On October 12, Branch received a second six-year term for possession and transportation of explosives. Two Minute Men cohorts were exonerated. During the trial, it was brought out that Branch intended to assassinate several Miami Jewish community leaders, including State Attorney Richard Gerstein.

PROGRAM TO BUILD 50 TENNIS COURTS IN ISRAEL LAUNCHED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- "Operation Tennis in Israel," a program designed to build 50 tennis courts at a cost of \$175,000 in Israel during 1963, was launched here today by approximately 75 tennis celebrities. The project is sponsored by the United States Committee-Sports for Israel.

The program seeks to provide funds, made available through public contribution, to Israel for the preparation, surfacing and enclosing of courts at a cost of \$3,500 per court. Israeli municipalities will supply the necessary land as well as the coaching and supervisory personnel. The first courts will be built in Israel's newer municipalities, such as Ashdod, Ashkelon and Beersheba, where sports facilities as a whole are rather meager and tennis, therefore, has a better chance to take root.

Tennis centers will be founded in the older established cities, such as Tel Aviv and Haifa, where the program will also operate through the existing school system. Wherever sufficient land is available, schools will set it aside and prepare the surface. "Operation Tennis in Israel" will then supply the necessary equipment.

AMERICAN RED MOGEN DOVID STARTS DRIVE FOR 50 AMBULANCES FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A nation-wide effort to provide 50 ambulances as a gift to Israel on the state's 15th anniversary was announced today by the American Red Mogen Dovid for Israel.

Congressman Emanuel Celler, national chairman, said that each ambulance would bear the name of the donor or the donor's community "each one a demonstration of our love for Israel, of our joy on its birthday."

ISRAELI MAYORS AWARDED BRAZILIAN NATIONAL ORDER BY PRESIDENT

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Brazil's President Joao Goulart today awarded the national order of "Cruzeiro do Sul" to Mayor Mordechai Ish-Shalom of Jerusalem, Mayor Moshe Sahar of Tiberias and to Yitzhak Vardimon, Governor of Israel's Negev. President Goulart recently returned from a visit to Israel as a guest of the Israeli Government.

JOSEPH SHAPIRO, LEADING ORTHODOX PHILANTHROPIST, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Joseph Shapiro, a leading Orthodox layman and philanthropist, who died here yesterday at the age of 69. Born in Horodok, Poland, he came to the United States and was active in the textile industry. He administered a \$2,250,000 David and Esther Shapiro Free Loan Fund established by his parents.

He was a member of the national board of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, chairman of the presidium of the Mesifita Tifereth Jerusalem, treasurer of Torah Vodaath, Yeshiva, treasurer of Torah Umesorah, the Society for Hebrew Day Schools and a vice president of the Lubavitcher Yeshiva.