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RABBIS ASK HIGH SOVIET CLERGY TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF JEWS

DENVER, March 4. (JTA) -- High Soviet Russian clergymen, headed by Archbishop Nikodim of the Russian Orthodox Church, met here this weekend with a group of Denver rabbis, and promised to convey to Soviet officials the concern of the American rabbinate over the lack of the freedom to pursue their religious rights and practices endured by the Jews in the USSR. Announcement of the meeting, believed to have been the first of its kind, was made here today by Rabbi Samuel Adelman, president of the Rabbinical Council of Denver.

The Russians, guests here of the National Council of Churches, which concluded its annual board meeting yesterday, included representatives of the Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Armenian Church, the Evangelical Christian-Baptist Union, and the Lutheran Churches of Estonia and Latvia. The Denver rabbis welcomed the Russians on their behalf, as well as on behalf of the Synagogue Council of America, and made these points, among others:

American Jewish religious leaders cannot meet with their counterparts from the Soviet Union, although Christian clergymen do not suffer such restrictions; Russian Jews have been forbidden to obtain matzoth from State bakeries; there is a lack of Jewish prayer books, prayer shawls, phylacteries and other religious articles needed by practitioners of the Jewish faith in the Soviet Union; nine synagogues in the USSR have been closed recently; there are only four students at the single yeshiva in the Soviet Union, in Moscow, and two young rabbis ordained there recently have not been given pulpits.

In general, according to Rabbi Adelman, the replies were that the visiting clergymen would convey the protests to higher authorities in the USSR. The Russians insisted, however, that they had no "special status" with the Soviet Ministry of Cults. At one point, Archbishop Nikodim, who spoke in fluent Hebrew asked why the problems mentioned were not being tackled by Moscow's Chief Rabbi Yehuda Levin.

The Soviet churchmen left Denver yesterday and will visit, under the auspices of the National Council of Churches, in San Francisco, Indianapolis, Austin, Tex., Atlanta, Des Moines, Dayton, Minneapolis, Chicago, Buffalo and Boston. In addition to Rabbi Adelman, the group that met the Russians included Rabbis Robert Hammer, Daniel Goldberger, Earl Stone and Manuel Laderman.

CLAIMS CONFERENCE ALLOCATES \$10, 059, 644 FOR VAST 1963 PROGRAMS

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- Allocations of \$10, 059, 644 for programs aiding 170, 000 Nazi victims in 32 countries were granted last night by the board of directors of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany at the close of its annual meeting. Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore, senior vice-president of the Conference, presented the budget for 1963. The allocations will raise to \$100, 000, 000, in all, the sums granted by the Conference since 1954.

Mr. Blaustein presented the major components in the budget as follows: \$7, 757, 637 for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement, of which \$7, 000, 000 is earmarked for programs in Europe and Australia; \$1, 917, 757 for cultural and educational reconstruction; and \$384, 250 for other expenditures. The allocation for Europe and Australia will be administered by the American Joint Distribution Committee which will supplement this sum by \$2, 290, 000 received from other sources, and bring to \$9, 290, 000 the funds expended for these programs.

Mr. Blaustein called special attention to the 1963 allocations for France which will reach some \$4, 700, 000, the greatest granted for any single country in Conference history. "Over 150, 000 refugees have entered the country in the past three years, the great majority in 1962," Mr. Blaustein said. "With their coming, the Jewish population swelled by some 40 per cent. The newcomers came from North African lands, in the great majority, but thousands also stemmed from Eastern Europe. Their arrival gave

rise to such staggering problems in the fields of individual and communal rehabilitation and Jewish education that no major program in France aided by Conference funds over the years could fail to escape the financial impact."

The allocations granted for 1963 formed but a fraction of the sums requested by applicants, Mr. Blaustein pointed out. "Some 450 applications, calling for nearly \$25,000,000, have come to us from 34 countries inhabited by Nazi victims. The task of scaling down those huge demands to the \$10,000,000 we expect to receive this year is more difficult than ever before."

The Claims Conference, made up of 23 national and world-wide Jewish organizations, obtains its funds for allocation under the special agreement it reached with the German Federal Government in 1952. By that agreement, \$107,000,000 is being turned over to the Conference, in 12 annual installments, for the benefit of needy Nazi victims throughout the world. These funds are in addition to the much larger sums paid by the German Federal Republic to the Government of Israel as well as to individual Nazi victims for indemnification and restitution. The West German legislation governing the latter payments was also enacted under the terms of the 1952 agreement.

Education Gets \$1,917,757; Reconstruction Projects Planned

The allocation of \$1,917,757 for cultural and educational reconstruction includes grants of \$1,118,583 for Jewish education on the primary, secondary, supplementary, higher and adult levels, making up the most far-reaching program in this area. "These allocations have grown more than twofold since our operations began, and for 1963 they will set a 10-year record. The magnitude of the expansion testifies to the great importance attached by the Conference to that field of activity," Mr. Blaustein said.

The rebuilding of the Jewish communities that suffered at Nazi hands is one of the major responsibilities the Conference has undertaken. Its allocations for capital projects are playing a life-renewing role in that task, Mr. Blaustein pointed out. The 1963 grants, cutting across programs for relief and rehabilitation and cultural and educational reconstruction, reached a record sum, \$1,860,000. Over 40 per cent of the funds are earmarked for projects in France and most of the rest is going to other countries which fell under Nazi occupation.

"Some 144 institutions will benefit from the capital grants," Mr. Blaustein noted, "and even the briefest statistical enumeration makes impressive reading: 73 Jewish schools; 28 community and youth centers; 13 homes for the aged; 13 religious institutions; 8 summer camps; 4 medical institutions and a number of children's and youth homes and related undertakings."

Capital allocations granted over the years, including those for 1963, tally up to some \$11,350,000 all told. Three categories - schools, community centers and homes for the aged - have held the focus of Conference interest, and absorbed over 75 per cent of all capital allocations. The great bulk of the funds are aiding in the reconstruction of the Jewish communities in Europe, and a limited share has been going to overseas lands sheltering many Nazi victims.

In actual fact, these funds are meeting only the smaller part of the costs, Mr. Blaustein said. "It is notable," he declared, "that Jewish communities, organizations and other local sources are shouldering the major share. But many capital projects which were undertaken and carried to completion would never have progressed beyond the blueprint stage without the stimulus provided by Conference aid."

ISRAELI SCIENTISTS TO PROBE SPACE WITH "SHAVIT-TYPE" ROCKETS

TEL AVIV, March 4, (JTA) -- The Israeli Aeronautical Society said today that a "series" of Shavit-type rockets will be used in a special space probe project in which the society will cooperate with the Haifa Technion.

Jerome Schafer, president of the society, said the agreement was approved at the final session of the annual meeting of the society held at the Technion in Haifa. He said also that Technion scientists were already working on instruments for the project, which will probe the upper atmosphere. He said technical plans called for recovery of the instruments after launch.

The Shavit-II is a two-stage solid-fuel rocket which was first launched by Israel in July, 1961. Though there have been reports of plans for a second launch, there has been no announcement that a second firing ever took place.

UNKNOWN SOLDIER MEMORIALIZED IN ISRAEL ON ANNIVERSARY OF MOSES' DEATH

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- The Seventh Day of Adar, the traditional birth and death anniversary of Moses, was marked throughout Israel yesterday as Memorial Day for the Unknown Soldier.

GOLDA MEIR WARNS OF NASSER HEGEMONY; LAUDS HELP BY U. S. A. AND FRANCE

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, said here today she was profoundly astonished over the way the world "reconciles itself unprotestingly" to Egyptian President Nasser's "latest intervention in Yemen."

Addressing the Parliament on her Ministry's proposed 40, 500, 000-pound (\$13, 500, 000) budget for the coming year, Mrs. Meir called the Egyptian action "this brazen violation of the United Nations Charter and principles of international law." She added that she simply could not comprehend "the thinking of those 'experts' who see in Nasser an 'anchor of steadiness and moderation' when he is in fact the main instrument of unrest in the Middle East."

She said Israel wanted peace and would spare no efforts to bring it nearer. But, as long as the Arabs persist in their avowed aim of exterminating Israel and arming themselves for that purpose, she declared, "we shall equally do everything in our power to strengthen our State, within and fortify it against dangers from without."

She indicated the likelihood of further weapons aid from the democratic countries with the comment that "it would be no surprise if the world draws matter-of-fact conclusions from Nasser's declarations that he has the means to hit with missiles any spot south of Beirut and it therefore provided the destined victim with the means of defending its life and assets." She warned Syria not to tax Israel's patience with attacks on Israeli frontier settlements, and stressed Israel's continued "firm links" with the United States.

She noted the "pleasant duty" of recording the United States' "understanding of Israel's security problems" and continued economic aid from the U. S. A. "on a substantial scale." Reviewing Israel's "deepening" ties with West European countries, Mrs. Meir stressed "once more the unique bond between us and France." Welcoming the free world's continuing process of "de-colonization," she stressed the need for a world-wide effort in providing aid to new and developing nations, and described Israel's efforts in this field. She said that, in 1962, 1, 600 non-Israeli's underwent training in Israel, while 326 Israeli experts were sent abroad.

JEWISH AGENCY TO STREAMLINE HANDLING OF IMMIGRATION FROM FREE LANDS

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency moved today to streamline the handling of immigration from the free countries of the world. The Agency set up machinery to coordinate the activities of its own immigration department; PATWA, the organization handling the immigration of professional and technical workers; the economic department and the absorption department. The new set-up was described as the first step toward the establishment of a coordinated agency to handle immigration from free countries.

Except in the United States, a "chief emissary" will direct and coordinate the activities of the representatives of these departments. In the U. S. A., this function will be exercised by the American branch of the Jewish Agency. In Israel, the absorption of these immigrants will be the function of the Jewish Agency's absorption department. On the Government side, these activities will be concentrated in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Sharett Urges WIZO To Aid Newcomers; Says Immigration is Rising

TEL AVIV, March 4. (JTA) -- Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive today urged members of the Israel WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization, to intensify their efforts in absorbing newcomers. Addressing the 350 delegates attending the 12th national conference of the organization, Mr. Sharett noted that the rate of immigration into Israel was steadily rising. He said the newcomers should be received with open arms because they not only increase the strength of the country but also widen its economic and cultural base.

ISRAEL PREPARES TO OBSERVE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO REVOLT

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet today appointed a special joint committee, representing the Government and the Jewish Agency, to draw up a program for commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising which falls on April 21, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Day. Foreign Minister Golda Meir heads the committee.

(In New York, the World Jewish Congress announced that a special WJC delegation will go to Warsaw to commemorate the Warsaw Ghetto uprising on April 21. Israel M. Sieff, of London, a vice-president of the WJC, will head the delegation.)

CANADA'S SUNDAY BLUE LAW HIT AS VIOLATION OF FREEDOM OF RELIGION

OTTAWA, March 4. (JTA) -- A case affecting all Sabbatarians in Canada, involving claims that the present Federal Blue Laws violate the Bill of Rights guaranteeing freedom of religion, was taken under advisement here today by the Supreme Court of Canada.

The immediate issue concerned an appeal by two bowling alley operators in Ontario who had been fined \$25 each for operating their establishments on Sunday in violation of the Lord's Day Act. John J. Robinette, their attorney, told the High Court that the act imposes a Christian religious observance on all Canadians, whether or not they are Christians. He maintained the act violated the religious freedom clause of the Bill of Rights.

W. C. Bowman, counsel for the Province of Ontario, argued that the Lord's Day Act was not aimed solely at the observance of the Christian Sabbath on Sunday, but established a day of rest for all Canadians. Jews and other Sabbatarians in Canada are awaiting the High Court's decision with great interest.

CONNECTICUT SWASTIKA SMEARER APPEALS SENTENCE TO SUPREME COURT

WASHINGTON, March 4. (JTA) -- The United States Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal by a Norwalk, Conn., man who was sentenced to 60 days in jail for painting swastikas on Beth Israel Synagogue in Norwalk three years ago. Harold Fahy, 24, of Norwalk, appealed to the Supreme Court after the Connecticut State Supreme Court of Errors upheld the conviction last July.

Fahy, in his appeal, is claiming that his constitutional rights were violated when evidence, a can of black paint and a paint brush, were taken from his home by police without a search warrant. State Supreme Court Justice Raymond E. Baldwin upheld that contention, but ruled that other evidence used in the case was so overwhelming as to be sufficient to uphold the conviction.

Phila. Court Frees Five Nazis After Jewish Jurors are Dismissed

PHILADELPHIA, March 4. (JTA) -- Five members of the American Nazi party were acquitted here today of charges of conspiracy in their attempted picketing last October of a speech by Gus Hall, general secretary of the Communist Party of the United States. Prior to the trial, John Rogers Carroll, attorney for the Nazis, had three Jewish jurors replaced from the panel.

The Nazis were taken into custody after they were rescued by police from an angry mob shouting: "Kill the Nazis - lynch them." When they were arrested they were wearing black boots, khaki uniforms and arm bands with the Nazi swastikas.

Jewish Nazi Victims Protest Rockwell's Appearance at U. of Chicago

CHICAGO, March 4. (JTA) -- The University of Chicago was criticized today by the Jewish Nazi Victims Organization of Chicago for providing a forum on February 22 for George Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi party.

The group declared in a resolution that it "deplores" the action of the University officials in allowing use of campus facilities "to again foment the hate and terror which cost the lives of six million of our brethren in the world's greatest holocaust." The resolution warned that giving platforms to such hatemongers might "help trigger a catastrophe greater than any atomic war."

AMERICA-ISRAEL CULTURAL FOUNDATION RAISES \$200,000 AT DINNER-CONCERT

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- The America-Israel Cultural Foundation raised more than \$200,000 for support and maintenance of a network of cultural projects and institutions in Israel at its annual dinner-concert here tonight.

More than 1,300 persons attended the \$150-a-plate dinner and paid tribute to Robert W. Dowling, cultural director for New York City. He was honored by the Foundation for "distinguished contributions in the field of cultural exchange." Samuel Rubin, president of the Foundation, presented Mr. Dowling with a biblical and topographical history of Palestine written 350 years ago in Latin by a 16th Century Catholic scholar.

A proclamation by Mayor Robert F. Wagner was presented to the Foundation declaring March 4-10 "Cultural Exchange Week." The Foundation's annual budget of \$2,000,000 supports 50 cultural projects in Israel, an American-Israel cultural exchange program, and a scholarship program for Israeli artists at home and abroad.