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CARDINAL BEA DELIVERS POWERFUL ADDRESS ON JEWS AT ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

ROME, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Bishops at the Ecumenical Council who yesterday opposed adoption of the Vatican document rejecting Jewish responsibility for the death of Christ were criticized today by Augustin Cardinal Bea, president of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity.

Cardinal Bea, speaking before the Ecumenical Council, said that the work of drafting the document had been started two years ago on explicit instructions of the late Pope John XXIII and not on the initiative of his Secretariat. He told the prelates that the draft was submitted to the central Commission of the Council in June 1962, but was not discussed then not because of doctrinal opposition but because of unhappy political circumstances of those days.

The Cardinal emphasized that the draft had been submitted in full to the late Pope John in December 1962, and that the Pontiff a few days later expressed to the Cardinal his complete approval. The Cardinal said his presentation today was not to influence the decision of the Bishops but to shed light on the spirit and intent of the draft.

Cardinal Bea emphasized also that the statement was neither a political nor a national matter and that under no circumstances was it meant to imply Vatican recognition of the State of Israel or an act in favor of Zionism. He added that his Secretariat had so notified the Arab states.

Discussing the content of the document, the Cardinal reiterated the bonds between the Catholic Church and the Chosen People who gave the Church "the founders and first missionaries." He quoted extensively from St. Paul, citing the words that "divine grace on Israel was never revoked."

Deplores 'Harsh' Words Against Jews for Crucifixion of Jesus

He added that nevertheless it could not be denied that inside the Church there had often been said "harsh and unhappy" words against Jews in connection with the crucifixion. Referring to the events of that time, Cardinal Bea said that there had been a minority among Jews opposed to Jesus and less still of those who had shouted "crucify him," whereas "we know that the majority of the people were against his condemnation." He added that the Gospels indicated that not all the Jews in Jerusalem and still less all in the Holy Land or those scattered through the Holy Roman Empire of that time "can be held responsible for Jesus' death."

Cardinal Bea pointed out that St. Peter had even absolved the leaders because they were ignorant "so how could it be possible to blame the Jews 19 centuries later?" He added there could indeed be no question of blaming them for the deed. Besides, the Cardinal added, Jesus' last words were an invocation to God to forgive his executioners because they "did not know what they were doing." The Cardinal added: "How can it be doubted that such a prayer was fulfilled by God and how could the Church and her followers do otherwise?"

"Now we are asked why is all this to be repeated in the Council," the Cardinal continued. "Those are all known things and no new things. Exactly, because they are no new things and therefore they are nearly forgotten and this is one reason to repeat them."

Address Greeted with Tremendous Applause by Council Fathers

The Cardinal declared that another major reason for absolving the Jews was the Nazi propaganda of the recent past which initiated the Nazi persecution that "cost the lives of millions of Jews." "It is felt that the Nazi propaganda has affected even Catholics and it is therefore necessary to remove that influence," he stated.

Cardinal Bea added that he knew "very well" that anti-Semitism was not based primarily on past or present teachings of the Catholic Church. "It has other roots too but the Church does not deal with them," he said.

Cardinal Bea's address was greeted with loud applause which the Moderator was unable to interrupt. After Cardinal Bea spoke, Archbishop Desmedt of Belgium discussed the chapter on religious liberty. Other speakers during the day who discussed the proposed chapter on the Jews said it should be located in another Schema or in an autonomous proposal. Cardinal Leger of Montreal, declaring he supported the chapters on the Jews and on religious liberty, said they should not be part of the Christian Unity Schema. The Patriarch of Jerusalem also declared his support of both chapters.

SEVEN JEWS IN SOVIET LATVIA CHARGED WITH IMPORTING COATS FROM U.S.

LONDON, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Seven persons, all with Jewish names, have been listed by Sovietskaya Latvia, as members of an import ring in the latest "economic crimes" charges against Jews, it was reported here today from Moscow.

The Latvian Soviet newspaper asserted that the seven had imported 160 nylon coats from the United States and sold them illegally in Riga for \$77,000. The newspaper declared that "they will get what they deserve." The story did not indicate whether those accused had been tried. Their names were listed as Shanda Shapir, Berk Geland, Yakov Brusilovsky, Elizabeta Katzman, Sophia Hatskeyish, Frendi Mirtskaya and Blum Zimmerman.

The newspaper said that a "Mexican capitalist" named Brossi who had relatives in the Ukraine had often sent parcels to the seven Jews and that they had obtained an import license to receive personal gifts from abroad after arranging with Brossi to send the coats.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON REFUSES TO RECEIVE JEWISH DELEGATION

LONDON, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Sir Barnett Janner, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, reported to the organization today that all efforts to meet with the Soviet Ambassador to London to discuss the situation of Jews in the USSR, "have proved unsuccessful." He told the Board's monthly meeting that the efforts centered on a proposed Jewish delegation that would have included Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie. The Jewish community here, he stated, "continues to be gravely disturbed about the present position of Soviet Jewry."

Sir Barnett also hailed the proposed document on the Catholic attitude to the Jewish people, currently under debate by the Ecumenical Council in the Vatican, as "a momentous and highly significant statement." The draft decree, he declared, represented "a profound step toward removing accusations which have helped in the past to recreate animosity against our people." Catholics throughout the world, he said, should heed a guidance of this nature from the Vatican, and "nothing but good can come from it."

TWO NAZI OFFICERS SENTENCED FOR KILLING THOUSANDS OF LODZ JEWS

HANOVER, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Guenther Fuchs, 52, an SS captain under the Nazi regime, was sentenced here yesterday to life imprisonment on conviction on nine counts of murder, ten counts of attempted murder and 15,000 counts of aiding and abetting murder in the Lodz Ghetto during World War II.

His co-defendant, Dr. Otto Bradfisch, 60, who headed the Gestapo in Lodz, was sentenced to 13 years at hard labor for complicity in the murder of 22,000 Jews. Bradfisch was brought to Hanover for trial from prison where he was serving a sentence of ten years imposed on him two years ago by a Munich court in connection with another series of war crimes. He will serve the Hanover sentence concurrently with the prior one.

Fuchs had been an official of the Lower Saxony Ministry for Refugees until 1960. Bradfisch had been an insurance agent until his arrest. The prosecution had demanded 15 years for Bradfisch.

The two former Nazis had been charged with having arranged for the deportation of Jews from the Lodz Ghetto to the Kulmhof murder camp near Danzig. During the two-month trial, Bradfisch repeatedly insisted he had no knowledge of the mass executions at the Kulmhof camp. Dr. Dietrich Goetz, the prosecutor, riddled Bradfisch's testimony.

Dr. Goetz cited an urgent message Bradfisch had sent asking for a mill with which to grind up the remains of the Kulmhof victims. The prosecutor said "if you didn't know what was happening in the camp and didn't know why you ordered the mill, you really were the wrong man for the job."

Charges against Fuchs were filed when a group of Israelis touring West Germany spotted him on a street in Hanover. They reported his presence in Hanover to officials in Tel Aviv who in turn notified the West Central Agency for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes. Attorneys for the two Nazis indicated they would appeal the verdicts.

ONE OF FEW JEWISH OFFICIALS IN ALGERIA DISMISSED FROM HIS POST

PARIS, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- One of the few remaining Jews still serving in an official post in Algeria, Robert Levy, has been dismissed from his position, it was reported here today from Algiers.

The Algerian Ministry for Tourism dismissed Levy without explanation from his post as director of Local Handicraft Industry. An Algerian Moslem has been named to replace him. Levy, a French national, was one of the few in policy posts. Others are working as "technical experts" with no say in administrative matters.

Jewish organizations in Paris estimated at 4,000 the number of Jews still in Algeria, 3,000 of them living in Algiers, 700 in Oran and the rest in smaller centers. It is expected that by the middle of 1964, all the remaining Jews will have left Algeria.

U.S. REPORTED YIELDING TO ARAB PRESSURE AT U.N. ON REFUGEE ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The United States which, a week ago, introduced a draft resolution in the General Assembly's Special Political Committee dealing with the Arab refugee question, is watering down its own weak draft further under pressure of the Arab members.

The revised U.S. draft will call upon the Palestine Conciliation Commission to intensify its efforts to implement Paragraph 11 of a 1948 Assembly resolution which calls for "repatriation" of the refugees into Israel or their compensation. The third alternative solution to the refugee problem involving resettlement of the refugees in Arab countries and their integration into the Arab Middle East economy, will be entirely ignored in the revised U.S. draft.

The U.S. delegation changed its course after Anton Atalla, Foreign Minister of Jordan, threatened vigorously that the Arab states will positively vote against the early American draft which had already been considered quite weak by friends of Israel.

Meanwhile, however, 18 members of the United Nations today introduced a resolution calling upon the General Assembly to renew "its appeal to the governments concerned to undertake direct negotiations--with the assistance of the Conciliation Commission for Palestine, if they so desire--with a view to finding an agreed solution for the question of the Arab refugees."

Eighteen members including nine African states, five from Latin America and four West Europeans--Denmark, Iceland, Luxembourg and The Netherlands--were the initial co-sponsors of this draft. It became known later today that at least three more members--Liberia, Upper Volta and Cameroon--will bring this list of co-sponsors to 21. There is a third draft resolution before the Committee sponsored on behalf of the Arab states by three Moslem members--Afghanistan, Indonesia and Pakistan.

REFORM CONGREGATIONS START SURVEY ON STAND TOWARD TEMPLE SERVICES

CHICAGO, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- A survey to determine the attitudes of Reform Jews toward worship practices in the synagogue, has been initiated by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, it was reported here today at the 47th biennial General Assembly of the association of Reform congregations.

The study will probe the benefits and values of group prayer at Temple services. This will be the first time that any Jewish group has conducted such a scientific research program in depth to try to fathom the role of worship in modern life.

A general impression of answers thus far received to the questionnaire was that the Temple and its worship in Reform Judaism must assume cultural overtones and that this cultural influence can serve as a major factor in attracting adults who have strayed from the synagogue.

Another finding was that attendance at worship services seems to increase with age, especially where the person has roots in the community and has had some position or office in the congregation. Participation in a synagogue activity, plus being part of the Temple family, is a key in the frequency of worship attendance.

Ranking high as a reason for going to synagogue worship is the need to hold the family close together and to be with friends. What is apparently not so crucial is the sacred aspect of the worship liturgy.

The general significance of the questionnaire responses thus far seems to be that the congregations are family-centered and socially-centered and much less theologically-centered.

CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONS TO CLARIFY STAND ON RITUAL PRACTICES

KIAMESHA LAKE, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- A proposal that a special committee be formed to help the Conservative movement clarify its philosophy and to present a series of appropriate statements in the field of ritual practices, "taking into consideration the conditions and environments of our time," was made here today to the United Synagogue of America.

The proposal, which is certain to be adopted, was made by George Maislen, newly re-elected president of the United Synagogue, holding its 50th anniversary convention here, with 1,600 delegates in attendance. He presented a resolution to this effect.

Mr. Maislen proposed that the joint committee of Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly "undertake the preparation and publication of a series of responses on various questions of Jewish law." Such responses, he said, would "help our generation in a better understanding of the essential validity of Jewish law and tradition, and of the Torah, in its historical expositions."

Dr. Louis Finkelstein, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, discussing the question of ritual practices, said that "forced observance is not the solution; observance from within by persuasion is the kind of observance we must have."

JUDGE GIVES \$300,000 TO NEW YORK UNIVERSITY FOR HEBRAIC STUDIES

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- New York University announced today a gift of \$300,000 from Judge Abraham Lieberman of Weehawken, N.J. to endow a professorship in Hebraic studies and to provide scholarship aid to students in related programs at the university.

Dr. James M. Hester, university president, said that distinguished scholars from all parts of the world would be named to the "Judge Abraham Lieberman Professorship in Hebraic Studies" in the university's Institute of Hebrew Studies. They will spend one or more years conducting courses and seminars.

Dr. Hester said the new endowment fund "will give further impetus to the largest Hebraic studies program at any non-sectarian university in the country." The donor graduated from NYU in 1923. An attorney, Judge Lieberman, is a founder and former New Jersey state chairman of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University and honorary state chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. He is a director of the Joint Distribution Committee and the Hebrew Home and Hospital of New Jersey.

PITTSBURGH PHILANTHROPIST GIVES \$250,000 FOR JEWISH INSTITUTION

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The Jewish Home for the Aged at Pittsburgh has announced a gift of \$250,000 from Samuel M. Hyman, Pittsburgh business leader, to the Home's recently established endowment fund.

Mr. Hyman, a member of the board of the Home for many years, stipulated that \$150,000 of his gift would be paid to the fund when it reached the \$2,000,000 mark. Harry M. Kamin, president of the Home, said the endowment fund was established eight months ago to guarantee the ability of the Home to meet future needs for services to an expanding aged population.

More than 90 communities are served by the Home which has more than 430 residents. It was established in 1906. Mr. Hyman visited Israel in 1951 and established a radio and electronics plant that year, now the largest of its kind.

ISRAEL ENVOY IN BRAZIL REPORTS ON TRAINING OF LATIN AMERICANS

SAO PAULO, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Israel is training 88 Latin American students now, and is planning further courses for students from this continent in 1964, Arie Eshel, Israel's Ambassador to Brazil, reported here today to the session of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

Working in conjunction with the Organization of American States, he said, Israel was doing all it could to contribute to "the progress and advancement of our friends in this continent." The courses being studied by the 88 Latin Americans this year, he said, concern agricultural planning, the role of cooperative organizations in developing countries, arid zone agriculture, and irrigation.

In addition to establishing these courses, this year and for 1964, in cooperation with the OAS, he reported, Israel has been giving scholarships to students from several Latin American countries with which Israel has bilateral agreements.

SHAH OF IRAN ENCOURAGES EXPANSION OF ALLIANCE ISRAELITE SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The Emperor of Iran has assured one of the world leaders of the Alliance Israélite Universelle that he wants to encourage expansion of the organization's work on behalf of the Iranian Jewish community, it was announced here today by the American Friends of the Alliance.

A cable received here reported that the Shah of Iran this weekend received Admiral Louis Kahn, of Paris, deputy president of the Alliance. Showing himself as being well informed of the work of the Alliance schools in Iran, where 6,000 Jewish students are now enrolled, the Shah told Admiral Kahn that he is interested in the welfare of the Iranian Jews, who have enjoyed peaceful conditions in Persia-Iran since the days of King Cyrus the Great.

ITZIK MANGER, YIDDISH POET, AWARDED PRIZE BY JEWISH CULTURE CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Itzik Manger, the well-known Yiddish poet, was awarded last night the \$1,000 H. Leivick Prize by the Congress for Jewish Culture. Mr. Manger's poetry has been published in Yiddish books and magazines and translated into numerous other languages since his first work in 1929. The prize was awarded on the occasion of the first anniversary of Leivick's death.

RABBI TOAFF, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF ITALIAN RABBIS, DIES IN LONDON

LEGHORN, Italy, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Rabbi Sabato Alfredo Toaff, Chief Rabbi of the Jewish Community of Leghorn and president of the Council of Italian Rabbis, died here yesterday at the age of 83. As a sign of mourning, the Jewish community here, one of the oldest in Europe, has closed its offices and all Jewish schools.

A native of Leghorn, Rabbi Toaff was actively interested in Jewish history. One of his surviving sons is Rabbi Elio Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Rome.