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POPE PAUL TO VISIT ISRAEL AND JORDAN; 140 BISHOPS GO FOR 10 DAYS

ROME, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Pope Paul VI announced today he would make a brief visit to the Holy Land next month and Vatican sources said he would visit both Israel and Jordan. The visit is expected to last two or three days.

The Pope's announcement to 2,200 Bishops at the final meeting of the second session of the Ecumenical Council made a tremendous impression in Rome. At the same time, it was reported that 140 Bishops would go to the Holy Places in Israel and Jordan for a ten-day visit. Half of them will go first to Israel and the other half to Jordan.

It was learned that Msgr. M. Martin of the Vatican State Secretariat left last week for Israel and probably also for Jordan to arrange details for the Pope's precedent-shattering visit. It will be the first visit by a Pope to the area since St. Peter left and established the Papacy in Rome.

Unconfirmed reports here stated that the Pope would first fly to Tel Aviv but no firm details of his itinerary were known. It was recalled that last year, as a Cardinal, the Pope was invited by the Archbishop Hakim of Nazareth to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Places and that he replied that it was "the dream of my life" which he hoped to carry out some day.

In announcing his planned visit to Israel and Jordan, the Pope told the Bishops today: "We desire, God willing, to go to Palestine in the coming month of January to personally honor the sacred places where Christ was born, lived and died and was resurrected into Heaven."

ISRAELI ARRESTED IN SOVIET UNION SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS' HARD LABOR

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The Israel Foreign Office disclosed today that Yehuda Cogan, who was arrested by Soviet police during a visit to the Soviet Union with a group of Israeli tourists last summer, has been sentenced by a Ukrainian court to ten years at hard labor on desertion charges.

The trial and conviction were disclosed by an official of the Near Eastern department of the Soviet Foreign Office who contacted a representative of the Israeli Embassy in Moscow and read him a statement on the case.

The statement said that Cogan was tried on September 24 "in the presence of lawyers" and that the Israeli "confirmed fully all the charges against him." These were that while he was on active duty with the Soviet army he "betrayed his homeland." The specific charge was that he had been on duty in Germany in 1945 and "went over" to the British occupation zone, from there to the American zone and from there to Palestine in 1947.

It was noted here that while the trial took place in September it was not until last Monday that Israel was informed about the trial and conviction and this information was provided only after many inquiries by Israel about Cogan's fate. He went alone on his visit, his entire family remaining in Israel.

KNESSET VOTES OPPOSITION TO U.N. RESOLUTION ON ARAB REFUGEE ISSUE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Israel's Parliament concluded debate today on the Arab refugee issue by adopting a resolution which endorsed the statement by Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, that Israel would not conduct negotiations on the refugees on the basis of a portion of a United Nations resolution proposing repatriation or compensation of the refugees by Israel.

The debate revolved around the action of the UN General Assembly's Special Political Committee last November 20 of approving a United States-sponsored resolution which was rejected by Israel as "unacceptable." The resolution revived a 1948 General Assembly resolution on repatriation or compensation without any reference to a third alternative of integration of the refugees in their host countries. The General Assembly adopted the same resolution at a plenary yesterday by a vote of 82 to one, the sole negative vote again being cast by Israel.

BRITISH JEWS PROTEST OUSTING OF JEWISH LORD FROM INSURANCE FIRM

LONDON, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews criticized today the action of the Norwich Union Insurance Societies in yielding to Arab boycott pressures in the resignation from its board of Lord Mancroft, a leading Jewish businessman.

The insurance firm admitted in a statement last night that pressure from "Arab interests" had caused the resignation of Lord Mancroft from its London advisory board. At the same time the company said in the statement that "racial discrimination has never been practiced" "and is not practiced today," by the company.

In its statement, the insurance company said that "Arab interests recently informed the Norwich Union that in view of the association of a member of their London advisory board with certain other business interests, Norwich Union policies would no longer be accepted in Arab countries." Lord Mancroft is a director of Great Universal Stores of which Sir Isaac Wolfson, a substantial contributor to Israeli causes, is chairman. Lord Mancroft also is chairman of Global Tours, a travel agency affiliated with the Wolfson store chain. Both the parent firm and the affiliate have business ties in Israel.

The company statement said that the "Arab pressures" would have "seriously prejudiced" the capacity of the company to provide insurance for goods and people in transit "to people of all races" and that this was made known to Lord Mancroft, "who recognized that there was a conflict of interests and offered his resignation. This was reluctantly accepted by the Norwich Union directors, with whom both individually and as a board, he remains on the most friendly terms."

The Board of Deputies made its criticism in a letter to Sir Charles Bignold, the company's president. The letter expressed "surprise and incredulity" over the circumstances of the Jewish baron's resignation and warned that the admitted reasons for the resignation could make "any enterprise or company with which he is connected a target for threats of boycott by the Arab states. Similar instances show clearly that to be a Jew is sufficient to bring on this kind of coercion."

The Board statement added that "discrimination in trade has been condemned by the United Nations, including Britain, which has deplored such obstacles to good international relations and understanding."

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE SAYS SITUATION OF SOVIET JEWS WORSENING

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee charged here today that conditions of the Jews in the Soviet Union "appear to have become worse" as "Jews continue to be made the scapegoat" for the USSR's economic difficulties.

In a special resolution, the Committee stressed that it "did not seek to encourage international hostility toward the Soviet Union." However, the Committee urged that "the Soviet Union uphold its own constitution and laws, and treat its Jewish population on the basis of equality with all other groups."

The Committee resolution called upon Soviet authorities to: 1. Permit Jewish religious practices and the acquisition of religious materials without discrimination; 2. Make possible the free development of Jewish cultural institutions; 3. Allow Jewish education to develop freely, and 4. Vigorously combat anti-Semitism in all its forms.

The "scapegoat" problem, the Committee said, was underscored by a recent editorial demand in Izvestia, the official organ of the Soviet Government, calling for a "show trial" which the Committee said "would place responsibility for general economic inefficiency and corruption on Soviet Jews" and "aggravate anti-Jewish bias among the masses of the Soviet peoples."

Soviet Writers Refuse to Meet with Americans on Anti-Semitism

CLEVELAND, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A group of Soviet writers, including Aron Vergelis, editor of the Moscow Yiddish bimonthly magazine, Sovietisch Heimland, refused to meet here with representatives of the Cleveland Committee on Soviet Anti-Semitism, according to a statement issued by the committee here today.

The statement was signed by the committee's four co-chairmen: Msgr. Lawrence P. Cahill, a Catholic, who is president of St. John's College; Rabbi Philip Horowitz, spiritual leader of Brith Emeth Congregation; the Rev. B. Bruce Whittemore, a Protestant leader, who is executive director of the Cleveland Area Church Federation; and Leo A. Jackson, a member of the Cleveland City Council.

According to the committee leader, the Russians gave "lack of time" as their excuse for not meeting with the local leaders. Actually, the leaders said, the Russians feared to meet with the local group, thereby "virtually conceding the falsity of earlier sweeping statements to the press." In those statements, Vergelis and other members of the Russian group denied there was any anti-Semitism or indeed the existence of any Jewish problem in the USSR.

J.D.C. HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING TODAY; WILL ADOPT BUDGET FOR 1964 PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee will hold its 49th annual meeting here tomorrow with community leaders from all parts of the country participating in the adoption of a wide range of welfare and rehabilitation programs for needy Jews in 30 lands. The delegates will also adopt a budget for JDC activities in 1964. The budget will be submitted to the three-day national conference of the United Jewish Appeal which will open on Friday. The budget of the JDC for 1963 totaled \$30,769,000.

Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the JDC, in a report prepared for the annual meeting reviews the 1963 activities of the organization in Europe, North Africa, Israel and other parts of the world. The major part of the JDC work in Europe was conducted in France where approximately 51,000 Jews, most of them refugees from North Africa and Eastern Europe, received some form of JDC aid.

Mr. Leavitt reported also on JDC work in Poland, Austria, Belgium, West Germany, and Italy. "A more limited number" of JDC beneficiaries, he said, were aided in Greece, Norway, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. More than 3,000 were assisted in those countries.

90,000 Jews Aided in Moslem Lands; 83,320 Assisted in Israel

In North Africa, he reported, the number of Jews requiring JDC aid has shown relatively little decrease, despite the steadily shrinking Jewish populations in that area. Preliminary figures for the first half of 1963, he said, showed that almost 90,000 Jews in Moslem countries were assisted by JDC. Of that total, 66,720 were in North Africa; 21,100 in Iran; and almost 2,000 in other Moslem countries.

Emphasizing that in Israel, the JDC provided in 1963 some form of assistance for 83,320 men, women and children, Mr. Leavitt pointed out that of this number 47,675 were helped by JDC-Malben, the welfare program on behalf of aged, ill and handicapped newcomers in the country.

"During the first six months of 1963, 13,475 persons per month received grants from 'Ma'anak' to enable them to live outside of Malben homes," Mr. Leavitt added. "This fund is supported by Malben, the Jewish Agency, the Ministry of Welfare and the municipalities. There was an increase of 300 persons among those living in the communities who were provided with housing, housekeeping or day-care services. During this period Malben provided technical assistance and financial aid to 38 Golden Age Clubs with a registered membership of some 4,200 elderly people and also provided technical assistance to another 11 Golden Age Clubs."

Along with a wide range of other programs, Mr. Leavitt reported, Malben continued to provide other vitally needed assistance in Israel. During the first six months of this year, he stated, 117 constructive loans, amounting to \$40,620, were given to 900 handicapped newcomers. Malben's staff, he said, included, as of April 1, 1963, a total of 1,459, including 57 physicians, 286 nurses, nurses aides and other medical personnel, and 41 social workers.

Leavitt Stresses Aid Through Loans and Vocational Schools

During the first six months of 1963, Mr. Leavitt said in his report, 38 JDC-sponsored loan institutions made more than 2,800 loans amounting to \$1,660,000. Twenty-one of these loan funds were in 12 European countries, others were in South America, North Africa, Israel and Australia; 14 of the institutions were jointly sponsored with the Jewish Colonization Association.

Between January 1st and June 30th, more than 24,500 students attended JDC-aided ORT vocational training schools and courses in Europe, Israel, and Moslem countries as well as the new ORT school in India.

Some 257,000 pounds of matzoh were shipped to Jewish communities in Albania, Austria, Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Yugoslavia. JDC also made special grants to about 60,000 needy Jews in Algeria, Iran, Morocco, and Tunisia to help them purchase matzoh locally. In addition, JDC assisted Jews in Poland to make matzoh, and the needy received it free.

More than 24,000 children and young people spent vacations in 116 summer camps organized with JDC's financial and technical help, and sponsored by Jewish organizations in 13 countries. Of this number, more than 10,000 youngsters were in 71 camps in France; seven more camps have had to be opened to accommodate all the applicants, particularly the children of refugees from Algeria.

During the first half of 1963 nearly 9,000,000 pounds of food was contributed by the United States Government for JDC feeding programs, with Israel and Morocco receiving more than 3,000,000 pounds each. In addition, more than 2,100,000 pounds of Government-contributed food was sent by JDC for general distribution in Tunisia. The JDC agreed to contribute \$6,200 toward the construction of a school for Samaritan children in Jordan. JDC has, since 1949, been assisting the Samaritan community, the majority of whom live in Nablus, Jordan. There is a smaller group in Israel.

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD ADOPTS \$1,588,850 BUDGET FOR 1964

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board has adopted a 1964 operating budget of \$1,588,850 to carry out its responsibilities as the national association of Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHA's and the government-authorized agency for meeting the religious and morale needs of Jewish military personnel and their dependents.

The budget includes \$80,650 to implement the new system of serving Jewish military personnel in the United States being set up as a result of the impending withdrawal of USO funds for domestic operations after April 1, 1964.

JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY GETS \$100,000 BEQUEST TO AID AUTHORS

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A bequest in the amount of \$100,000 has been received by the Jewish Publication Society of America, which has its national headquarters here, according to a joint announcement made today by Sol Satinsky, president of the JPS, and Philip Werner Amram, executor of the estate of Adolf Amram. Under terms of the bequest, the JPS will use the income "to provide writing fellowships as subventions to qualified author-scholars to prepare books of scholarly quality and of scholarly interest which cannot be financed on a commercial basis."

Edwin Wolf, 2nd, chairman of the JPS publication committee, in expressing the gratitude of the JPS board of trustees, pointed out that this bequest will make possible the creation and publication of excellent manuscripts which would otherwise remain unpublished. He stated further that details regarding the Adolf Amram Award were now being worked out and that a public announcement would be made in the near future.

The donor, Adolf Amram, came to the United States as a penniless immigrant in 1900. He settled in Greenville, Miss. and later came to New York City where he made his fortune in the insurance business. His widespread cultural interests will be perpetuated by the bequests made from his estate to cultural institutions in New York City, Philadelphia and Washington.

HADASSAH AND MIZRACHI WOMEN TO ESTABLISH MEMORIALS FOR KENNEDY

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Hadassah and the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America announced plans today to create memorials in Israel to the late President John F. Kennedy.

Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, Hadassah President, said that Hadassah planned to construct an information center, to be called "The John F. Kennedy Memorial Building" at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem. The building, which will cost about \$500,000, is expected to be ready for use at the end of 1964, she said. It will include an auditorium, exhibit hall, public relations and tourist offices and dining facilities.

Mrs. Eli Resnikoff, Mizrahi Woman's president, said the Women's religious Zionist group would establish a John F. Kennedy Memorial Library in its Bakka Settlement Houses in Jerusalem. The library will include sections on American history, government and literature, world politics, current events, education, Jewish history and religion and Hebrew language and literature.

VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY HOLDS MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR KENNEDY

VIENNA, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A memorial service for the late President John F. Kennedy was held in Vienna's main synagogue today in the presence of Austrian Chancellor Alfons Gorbach, Cabinet ministers, members of the diplomatic corps and leading personalities in public life.

Among those taking part in the service were Justice Minister Christian Broda, State Secretary Ludwig Steiner, Israel Ambassador Simon and representatives of all religious communities. Austrian Chief Rabbi Akiba Eisenberg delivered the sermon in memory of President Kennedy.

ANNUAL CHANUKAH CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY HELD AT N.Y. CITY HALL

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The annual candle-lighting ceremony marking the advent of the eight-day Jewish holiday of Chanukah was held in the rotunda of City Hall today to commemorate the victory of Judah Maccabee and the Jewish people over forces of religious oppression in 165 B.C.E.

Mayor Wagner participated in the ceremony, which will be repeated at three performances of the Chanukah Festival for Israel Bonds on December 9, December 23 and January 2 in Madison Square Garden.