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U. J. A. CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUE TO BE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE, WASHINGTON RULES

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal announced today that the Internal Revenue Service has ruled that contributions made to the UJA are and continue to be tax-deductible under the recent ruling relating to charitable funds used abroad.

In making this announcement, Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the UJA, emphasized that "the Internal Revenue Service approval covers contributions by individuals, corporations and foundations." (The ruling was made Dec. 9.)

"The ruling," the UJA executive head said, "has reference to so-called 'conduit' organizations where funds are raised for overseas philanthropies without control over these funds by American citizens. The United Jewish Appeal is not a conduit organization, since its beneficiaries control the use of funds through boards made up of American citizens."

"The rules for deductibility just publicly announced by the Internal Revenue Service have already been applied by it to the United Jewish Appeal, and the Service has ruled that the UJA meets these requirements. There is therefore no question about the tax deductibility of contributions to the United Jewish Appeal," the UJA statement stressed.

(In Washington, Internal Revenue officials said that the ruling did not represent a reversal of policy as such. They said that the agency had been making rulings along this line, upon request from individual charitable organizations for about five years. The number of requests for individual rulings became so large, they said, that they decided to issue a general ruling.)

ISRAEL NAMES NEW CHIEF OF STAFF FOR ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Brigadier General Yitzhak Rabin, deputy chief of staff of Israel's armed forces since 1959, was elevated today to the post of chief of staff, heading Israel's army, navy and air force. He will assume his new office January 1, succeeding Brigadier General Zvi Tsur, who will retire from his post on December 31.

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol announced General Rabin's appointment at the regular weekly meeting of the Cabinet here today, and the promotion was approved by the Cabinet. Gen. Tsur, who has held the post three years, expects to take a long leave before assuming another position.

Gen. Rabin, who is 41, was born in this city. He is the son of parents who were both active in the Haganah, the self-defense units of the pre-Israel Jewish settlement in Palestine. His mother became known during anti-Jewish riots here in 1920 and 1921, when she distributed arms to Jewish defenders in Jerusalem. His father served in the Jewish Battalion in World War I.

Young Rabin was educated in agriculture, excelling in his studies, and received his graduation diploma at the hands of the British High Commissioner at the time, Harold McMichael. Later, he became a member of Haganah and, still later, of Palmach, the Haganah striking force. He distinguished himself in carrying out a series of one-man missions against the British police. He commanded a force of Jewish fighters who broke into the Atlit camp where "illegal" Jewish immigrants were imprisoned, freeing all the immigrants.

During the War of Liberation in 1948-1949, he commanded a battalion which fought in Jerusalem, and later succeeded in keeping open the route from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He also held a number of commands on Israel's southern front. He was Israel's senior military officer in the negotiation of the armistice agreement with Jordan.

Later, he studied at the British Staff College at Camberley, England, and also received missile-warfare training in the United States. He is said to be highly popular with subordinates in Israel's armed forces. He is married, and the father of two children.

NASSER AND ALGERIAN PRESIDENT CALL FOR ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL

PARIS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Three North African heads of state, including Egypt's President Nasser, met in Bizerte this weekend to stress efforts toward "Arab unity." For two of them, this meant doing something against Israel.

Nasser set the tone by calling for unity against Israel, "one of the last sequels of colonialism." He was seconded by President Ahmed Ben Bella, of Algeria, who called Israel "colonialism imposed by the West" and said "all means" should be used to end this "colonialism."

However, host President Habib Bourguiba said nothing about either Israel or Socialism, another favorite topic of Nasser and Ben Bella. He stressed instead step-by-step unity, first of North Africa, then of the entire Arab world. The occasion was the anniversary of the withdrawal of French troops from Tunisia. King Hassan II of Morocco sent a representative, but refused to come because Nasser was there.

TWO NON-JEWISH MEMBERS RESIGN FROM FIRM WHICH OUSTED LORD MANCROFT

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Lord Mancroft, the Jewish financier forced under Arab pressure to resign from the board of the Norwich Union Insurance Companies, then offered his job again, which he refused to accept, today donated to his synagogue in Norwich an estimated 20,000 pounds sterling (\$56,000) which the firm gave him as compensation.

Meanwhile, two non-Jewish members of Norwich's London advisory board--Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe and Sir Hugh Knatchbull-Hugessen--resigned from that board in protest of the manner in which the company had handled the Mancroft affair. Both said they had not been consulted about the Mancroft "resignation," deploring the subsequent events.

Sir Hugh also asserted that anti-Semitism was a factor in the Mancroft affair, declaring: "I know for a fact that this claim about there being no anti-Semitism involved is rubbish. The fact is that, wherever you have a Jew involved in a company, they affect you. People can twist it any way they like, but there it is."

BELGIAN PARLIAMENT HEARS CATHOLIC APPEAL ON JEWS IN SOVIET RUSSIA

BRUSSELS, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- A leading Catholic deputy appealed in the Belgian Parliament yesterday to Foreign Minister Paul-Henri Spaak to "use his great prestige" to help ease the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union.

The issue was raised during a debate on the foreign affairs budget which followed a report by the Foreign Minister. A. Tindemans, a deputy, referring to world press reports on the position of Soviet Jews, cited a recent declaration in Geneva by Daniel Mayer, president of the League For the Rights of Man, in which Mayer said that the present political relaxation between East and West "should be utilized to intervene" with the Soviet Government on behalf of the Jews.

"This affair is serious," Deputy Tindemans stressed. "At the beginning of this year, Francois Mauriac, Bertrand Russell and Martin Buber sent telegrams of protest to Premier Khrushchev. The problem also was discussed at the recent conference of the Socialist International in Amsterdam."

Pointing out that "progressive elements" were maintaining a campaign against Soviet anti-Semitism, the Catholic deputy stated that the condition of Soviet Jewry was "an obstacle" in the path of political relaxation. "I appeal to the Minister to use his great prestige in this matter," he said. His statement was warmly applauded by deputies of all parties. Mr. Tindemans is national secretary of the Christian Socialist Party.

JEWS IN WEST GERMANY JOIN IN MOURNING DEATH OF PRESIDENT HEUSS

BONN, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Leaders of German Jewry joined their fellow-citizens in this country in mourning the death of the late President, Dr. Theodor Heuss. Jewish community leaders will attend the obsequies for West Germany's former Chief of State, to be held Tuesday. Dr. Heuss, twice President of the Federal Republic, died at Stuttgart this weekend, aged 79.

Jews in this country and abroad knew Dr. Heuss as one who had striven hard for a reconciliation between Jews, whom he considered victims of vile racism, and the German people. He was honorary chairman of the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation. When a wave of anti-Jewish manifestations broke out in this country several years ago, Dr. Heuss broadcast an impassioned appeal against such activities over a national radio network, calling upon the German people to "master their past." He was a severe critic of court leniency to former Nazis.

JEWISH CONGRESS FINDS 1963 WAS YEAR OF INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING

NEW YORK, Dec. 15, (JTA) -- The year 1963 has seen "more progress toward inter-religious understanding than any previous year," Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress, reported to the national governing council of his organization, meeting here today. The council is the Congress policy-making group. Rabbi Prinz listed the year's major developments as follows:

1. The Conference on Religion and Race held in Chicago last January at which Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders "for the first time sat down together to map out a joint strategy in support of their joint commitment to the civil rights struggle."
2. The Vatican Council in Rome, "from which has emanated a new ecumenical spirit embracing not only Christians but men of all faiths." Dr. Prinz noted that American bishops participating in the Council had been among the most vigorous supporters of the proposed schema on Catholic attitudes toward the Jews which, "when finally adopted, promises to establish a new relationship between the people of the Old and New Testaments."
3. Announcement by Pope Paul VI of plans to visit the Holy Land which Dr. Prinz described as "tangible recognition of the shared roots of the Jewish and Christian traditions."
4. The growing number of inter-religious "dialogues" in communities across the country in which differences between religious groups on issues of public concern are discussed "in free and open debate in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect."

N.Y. STATE APPROVES NATIVITY SCENES FOR SCHOOLS; CITY DISAPPROVES

NEW YORK, Dec. 15, (JTA) -- Charles A. Brind, counsel for the New York State Department of Education, ruled this weekend that nativity scenes may be presented in public schools. Christmas trees may be displayed, and Christmas plays may be given because, he said, the birth of Jesus Christ "has not only religious significance but is an event of history."

Referring to the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling banning official religious observances in public schools, Mr. Brind said: "There is no violation of either the Federal or State constitutions in presenting factual material relating to the birth of Christ in the public schools." He said his opinion was "general," and each school observance would have to be judged on its own merits as history, not as religion.

Thomas Nevins, assistant superintendent of New York City schools, said that, while the holiday season would be noted in many of the city's schools this month, the programs will not include religious or devotional exercises, or symbols associated with religious groups.

The standard practice in this city, he said, "has been to urge principals not to have religious or devotional exercises in the public schools. Schools should not permit symbols which are closely identified with religious groups--such as the cross, or Chanukah candles or the Star of David."

Declaring that, when Christmas carols are sung, they must be part of a secular program, he stated that there are many beautiful carols which "are not purely religious or devotional in nature that can be sung during the holiday season with enjoyment by the pupils."

ANTI-JEWISH SLOGANS SMEARED IN GUATEMALA; JEWISH PARLEY PROTECTED

GUATEMALA CITY, Dec. 15, (JTA) -- Swastikas and the phrases "Heil Hitler" and "Juden Raus" were found smeared today on walls of the hotel Posad Belem in Antigua, and on cars parked by the hotel. The first Central American Panama Jewish Youth Seminar is taking place in Antigua, an ancient colonial capital which was once a major tourist attraction.

Carlos Garcia Cortez, Governor of Antigua, moved to avoid future incidents, and provided police protection for the Seminar. He criticized the smearings. Miguel Collado, local tourist director, also assailed the vandalism, attributing it to "irresponsible rabble-rousers" seeking to prejudice the good name and hospitality of the Guatemalan people.

TURKISH AUTHORITIES REFUSE PERMISSION TO OPEN NEW JEWISH SCHOOL

ISTANBUL, Dec. 15, (JTA) -- A request by the Jewish community here for the establishment of a new Jewish school has been rejected by the Turkish authorities, it was learned here today. The school was to be located in a modern section of the city now inhabited by many Jews. All the other Jewish schools are in the older quarters. The reason for the rejection by the authorities of the Jewish community's request has not been disclosed.

\$815,000 BEQUEATHED BY LEHMAN FOR CHARITABLE AND CULTURAL CAUSES

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Eleven organizations and institutions, most of them Jewish, were bequeathed a total of \$815,000 in the will of the late Governor Herbert H. Lehman, which was filed for probate here this weekend. Mr. Lehman died at the age of 85 on December 5.

The largest amount, \$300,000, will go the Edith and Herbert Lehman Foundation, a charity trust established by Mr. Lehman and Mrs. Lehman. The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York is to receive \$100,000. Bequests of \$50,000 each were made to Mount Sinai Hospital, Brandeis University, Jewish Theological Seminary, Henry Street Settlement, the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Guild for the Blind, the Play School Association and Williams College. Recordings for the Blind is to receive \$15,000.

In addition, 32 works of art are to be distributed among charitable organizations to be named by the executors of Mr. Lehman's estate.

BNAI ZION PRESENTS AWARD TO U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE DOUGLAS

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Associate Justice William O. Douglas, of the United States Supreme Court, was granted here tonight the first annual Bnai Zion Bill of Rights Award, a citation carrying a \$1,000 cash prize, established by Bnai Zion, an American fraternal Zionist organization. Today is the 172nd anniversary of the adoption of the United States Bill of Rights.

Accepting the award, voted to him unanimously by the organization's American Affairs Committee, and presented to him by New York State Supreme Court Justice Arthur Markowich, former president of Bnai Zion, Justice Douglas warned against bigotry in the United States. "If the bigots command the platform and occupy editorial desks," he said, "the rule of law degenerates into a regime of whim and caprice."

Preceding the presentation of the award, a memorial service for the late President Kennedy was conducted by Rabbi William Berkowitz, a national vice-president of Bnai Zion. Dr. Harris J. Levine, chairman of the Bnai Zion Foundation, announced at the dinner that the evaluation and therapeutic center for mentally retarded children, being built by Bnai Zion at Kfar Hashwedi, Jerusalem, will be named for the late President Kennedy.

JEWISH SCHOOL IN LONDON ESTABLISHES KENNEDY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Carmel College, a private Jewish school, has collected 20,000 pounds sterling (\$56,000) for the school's new "John F. Kennedy Scholarship Fund," it was announced here today. The fund was established in memory of Mr. Kennedy "because of his friendship to and interest in Jews during his time in office," school officials said.

OBSERVANCE OF BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF TOURO SYNAGOGUE ENDS

NEWPORT, R.I., Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Solemn services were held here today at the Jewish Community Center, with the participation of rabbis from New York and London, climaxing a month-long observance of the bicentennial anniversary of the Touro Synagogue, the oldest synagogue on the North American continent. The synagogue is an official national historic shrine.

PINHAS SCHWARTZ, YIDDISH AUTHOR AND CULTURAL LEADER, DIES IN N.Y.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Pinhas Schwartz, Yiddish author and former secretary general of the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research, died here today. He was 61 years old.

Born in Poland, he came to the United States in 1940. He was a member of the editorial staff of the *Folkszeitung*, the organ of the Jewish Socialist Bund in Poland, and continued to be active in the Bund group in the United States upon his arrival in this country. Prior to his becoming secretary general of Yivo, he was executive secretary of the Congress for Jewish Culture.

CHARLES A. SILVER, NEW YORK JEWISH PHILANTHROPIST, DEAD; WAS 79

NEW YORK, Dec. 15. (JTA) -- Charles A. Silver, New York Jewish philanthropist, who was active in numerous Jewish organizations and institutions, died here this weekend at the age of 79.

He was a founder and member of the board of Yeshiva University and of Albert Einstein Medical College. He was also active in the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies.