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### MAJOR U. S. JEWISH GROUPS TO ACT JOINTLY ON SOVIET POLICY ON JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A national Jewish conference, representing all major Jewish organizations--religious and secular--will be held in Washington on April 5 and 6, to voice the unified protest of American Jewry against the suppression of Jewish culture and Jewish religious rights in the Soviet Union, it was learned here today.

A decision to summon such a conference was adopted at a parley of representatives of Jewish organizations active in all phases of Jewish life in this country. The American Jewish Committee and the Synagogue Council of America agreed to join in calling the Washington conference which will, in addition to discussing the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union, also send a delegation to the White House. A delegation of the conference will also seek to present the recommendations of the parley to Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, for transmission to Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

At the preliminary parley held at the Hotel Delmonico here by representatives of all the interested Jewish organizations, tentative preparations were discussed for the broadest measures to attract the widest attention of the American people to the discriminations against Jewish culture and religion in the Soviet Union. The session, held in camera, appointed a coordinating committee to make the necessary preparations for the Washington conference, and to prepare a statement for publication, explaining the purpose of the conference and giving the names of the sponsoring organizations.

### CHANCELLOR'S SECURITY CHIEF, ACCUSED OF KILLING JEWS, HANGS HIMSELF

BONN, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Ewald Peters, 49, chief security officer of President Heinrich Lübke and Chancellor Ludwig Erhard, hanged himself in his prison cell at Dortmund today. He had been in jail since last Thursday, when he was arrested on charges of having murdered or aided to murder about 2,000 Jews in Russia during the Nazi occupation of Soviet territory in World War II.

Peters had been arrested only a few hours after his return from Rome, where he had been in charge of the security arrangements in connection with Chancellor Erhard's official visit to the Italian capital. His arrest came as a surprise to some of West Germany's highest-ranking officials. The warrant for his apprehension had been issued by the Municipal Court here, and specified only that he was a "suspect." While no details of the crimes of which he was suspected had been announced officially, he was suspended from duty immediately by Minister of the Interior Herman Hoehcherle.

The high security officer had served in Russia with the German forces during the war, being designated as a police officer, but was not a member of either the Gestapo or of the SS, Hitler's Elite Guard. A spokesman for the Central Office of Investigation of Nazi Crimes, at Ludwigsburg, said Peters' arrest was not related to any investigations conducted by the agency.

While Peters' assignment was to protect the Federal Republic's highest officials, he was actually a member of the Federal Police Bureau, detailed to the Bonn Security Group. As such, he accompanied Chancellor Erhard last December when the Chancellor went to Texas to confer with President Lyndon B. Johnson. It is believed that he was also in charge of security arrangements when the late President Kennedy visited Germany last year.

### Nazi Guard Admits Being Decorated for Auschwitz Services

FRANKFURT, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- One of the 22 Nazis on trial here for the mass murder of Jews and other inmates at Auschwitz today admitted that he had been awarded a high Nazi decoration, the Cross of Merit, shortly after a series of mass murders at the death camp in Poland.

The defendant-witness, taking the stand again this morning as the trial went into its seventh week, is Herbert Scherpe, 56. Along with several other former members of the SS on trial with him, he is accused of having administered lethal injections to 119 children at Auschwitz.

Henry Ormond, one of the private prosecutors representing families of Auschwitz martyrs, asked Scherpe whether it is not true that, in April 1943, two months after a

series of mass murders at Auschwitz, he had received the Cross of Merit with Swords. Mr. Ormond charged that that Nazi decoration was awarded to Scherpe and to two other co-defendants, Joseph Klehr and Oswald Kaduk.

Scherpe argued that he had received the decoration "without swords," and was supported in that contention by Klehr and Kaduk. Except for that point, however, Scherpe insisted he remembered very little about his activities during the five years he had served as medical corpsman at Auschwitz and at other death camps in countries occupied by the Germans. He told the court that the number of fenolic acid injections given inmates at the Auschwitz hospital where he worked never exceeded more than one or two a day.

He denied specifically murdering the 119 children, but conceded that he had witnessed mass killings. "They were all quiet except one," he said, "this one screamed." He maintained that he had "refused" to participate in the killing of children or in other executions. "Does this mean that you disobeyed orders?" asked Mr. Ormond. "Yes, it does," answered Scherpe.

The next witness, Amiel Hantel, 61, also denied that he had given fatal injections to children, but said he had witnessed such deeds performed by Klehr. When Klehr denied such accusations, Hantel said "he is lying." Hantel said he had seen Klehr on duty in the death chamber at Auschwitz on Christmas Day, 1942. Klehr had previously denied he had been on duty at the hospital on that day and that he had killed 250 Jews through fatal injections during that period. Hantel told the court "my only duty in the hospital block was only to write the death certificates."

#### ISRAEL AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTERS CONCLUDE TALKS; BOTH SATISFIED

PARIS, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Golda Meir expressed satisfaction here today with her talks with French Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville in which, it is understood, the two ministers reviewed overall Franco-Israel relations and dealt especially with Israel's efforts to reach an agreement with the European Economic Community.

The two foreign ministers met today after Mrs. Meir arrived here yesterday on the first leg of a visit to Paris and Rome to discuss with French and Italian officials Israel's long-standing quest for a viable economic link with the European Common Market.

Immediately after the meeting, M. Couve de Murville told newsmen that he sincerely hoped "that the prolonged negotiations between Israel and the Common Market will soon reach a successful conclusion." At a press conference later in the day, Mrs. Meir expressed the view that Israel's prospects with the EEC had "improved" in recent weeks. She said that all six member nations of the EEC "are filled with good will" towards Israel and her application for association.

As to Israel's negotiations with the EEC, Mrs. Meir said: "We hope that an agreement with the Market will be reached in the near future. We also hope that this agreement will, at some future date, be developed into a global pact." She said that "not one of the six states is opposed to Israel. On the contrary, all are friendly and want to help her reach a satisfactory agreement."

Among the issues discussed was the recent Arab summit meeting in Cairo which, Mrs. Meir said, does not seem to improve the prospects for peaceful coexistence in the area. She stressed that although Israel's basic policy has been one of peace since the establishment of the state, "Israel must be powerful enough so that its strength should serve as a deterrent to any Arab aggressive plans."

#### SHIP SUNK IN 1940 WITH 'ILLEGAL' JEWISH IMMIGRANTS TO BE SALVAGED

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- An effort will be made by a Dutch ship salvage firm to dig up the SS Patria, a vessel sunk in the Port of Haifa, eight years before Israel was established, with the loss of 202 Jewish immigrants and 50 other persons, according to an announcement here today by the Wijnmuller Towing Company. The firm announced it is sending a salvage vessel for a two-year project which will attempt to clear the Port of Haifa of six wrecks, including the sunken Patria.

In 1940, the British mandatory power in Palestine rounded up 1,771 "illegal" Jewish immigrants and placed them aboard a French vessel, the Patria, planning to deport them to Mauritius. On November 25, 1940, an explosion took place on the ship, which sank in the harbor. The death toll included 202 of the Jewish immigrants, members of the crew and some policemen aboard. Blame for the explosion was attributed to the Jewish underground, which had hoped to delay the wholesale deportation.

#### ISRAEL TREASURY SEEKS TO DOUBLE TAXES ON TRAVEL ABROAD.

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Treasury today presented for approval to the Finance Committee of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, a proposal doubling of the present travel taxes to 180 pounds (\$60) on airline flights abroad and 150 pounds (\$50) on ship tickets. "It is expected that the Committee will approve the measure. No further action by the Knesset is required to put the proposal into effect."

### MONTREAL JEWS SEEK STATE GRANTS FOR PUPILS IN JEWISH SCHOOLS

MONTREAL, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress appeared before the Quebec Royal Commission on Taxation here to request that grants made available from the Provincial Government to the School Commission on a per capita basis for children attending these schools be also applicable to children attending Jewish day schools.

The grants presently available to these schools favor secondary schools only. Parents of recognized independent secondary educational institutions receive up to \$200 per annum paid by the School Board having such child under its jurisdiction.

Particular reference was made in the Congress brief to legislation which was adopted in the Province of Quebec in 1961 providing that the school commissions will receive an all-inclusive per capita grant for children attending their schools -- from kindergarten up to Grade II -- in lieu of the proceeds of the special sales tax formerly levied for educational purposes.

The submission by Congress was made by Saul Hayes, executive vice-president; and Messrs. Leon Kronitz, chairman, Eastern Region; Ben Beutel, chairman of the Education Committee and Samuel Lewin, associate education director.

### ISSUE OF ILLINOIS STUDENT PUBLICATION BANNED AS 'ANTI-SEMITIC'

CHICAGO, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The administration of the Illinois Institute of Technology here today banned further distribution of the issue of a student publication, "Listening," charging the issue was "anti-Semitic." Four hundred copies of the magazine had already been circulated before the ban went into effect. The magazine carried a poem attacking high prices in the campus bookshop, using as a headline the term "Jew'em" coupled with a pornographic word.

Rich Wackerlin, one of the editors of the magazine, promising "we will try not to do it again," was quoted, however, as saying that the controversy leading to the ban has not hurt the publication. "We didn't lose," he said. "Our publicity has risen, and new advertisers want to get in. We are sorry it happened. It is often difficult to put out a magazine which appeals to the student body and will be agreeable, at the same time, to the administration."

### CHICAGO POLICE SAY MONEY FROM ROBBERY WENT TO AMERICAN NAZI PARTY

CHICAGO, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- A man indicted here as one of a gang of robbers who held up a jewelry shop, taking \$28,000 worth of valuables, was said by a spokesman for the police department today to have been the "propaganda minister" for the American Nazi Party.

The suspect is George C. Culver who, the police said, was found to have in his apartment a stormtrooper's uniform and a stack of pro-Nazi literature. The police department officer, Sgt. Walter Murphy, said "we have information that the money obtained from the sale of the stolen jewelry went to the Nazi Party," the Sentinel, English-Jewish publication, reported.

### SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADER NAMED SUPREME COURT JUDGE

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Appointment of J. J. Friedman, eminent Durban barrister and Jewish communal leader, as a judge of the Supreme Court, has been announced here. He will become a permanent judge from Feb. 16, when Justice Henochsberg retires from the bench.

Like Mr. Friedman, Judge E. S. Henochsberg is also a well-known personality in the Jewish community and has played a leading part in Jewish communal affairs. Both are past presidents of the Council of Natal Jewry.

The appointment has further been announced of Mr. Fred Zwarenstein, well known Johannesburg Jewish barrister, as a Senior Counsel, equivalent to Queens Counsel in Britain and Commonwealth. Mr. Zwarenstein is a former member of the executive council of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

### HADASSAH OPENS THREE-DAY NATIONAL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Congress was urged today not to curtail or reduce the program of the Agency for International Development, in an address by Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, national president of Hadassah, delivered at the opening session of the three-day mid-winter conference of the organization. More than 200 Hadassah leaders from all parts of the country are attending the conference. "The Agency for International Development still has an important role to play in promoting the development of free nations until they become self-supporting," Mrs. Kramarsky said.

The session also was addressed by Dr. Miriam K. Freund, former national president of Hadassah, who now heads Hadassah's National Affairs Committee. She announced that in order to counteract the "lack of understanding of Zionist purposes and ideals among Jews in this country," Hadassah is embarking upon a special program "to inform and educate" American Jews as to the importance of Zionism in terms of "community life."

# JEWISH CONGRESS ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR AMERICAN-ISRAEL 'DIALOGUE'

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress announced plans today for its third annual American-Israel "Dialogue" to be held in Jerusalem and Haifa August 10-14.

The American delegation will be led by Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the Congress. It will include Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, assistant to the president of Yeshiva University, Prof. Edmund Cahn of New York University Law School, and Dr. Gershon Cohen, who succeeded Dr. Sato Baron in the Chair in Jewish History at Columbia University.

The Israeli participants in the four-day exchanges of views are now being selected by a committee in Israel which includes representatives of the Israel Government.

# JEWISH AGENCY LIMITS 1964 BAR MITZVAH PILGRIMAGE TO 120 YOUTHS

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency's 1964 Bar Mitzvah Pilgrimage to Israel will be limited to 120 boys and girls, it was announced by the Department of Education and Culture of the Jewish Agency here as it opened registration for the seven-week summer tour to Israel for boys and girls of Bar Mitzvah age. The group of youngsters, who will have celebrated their Bar Mitzvah in the 1963-64 academic year, will have a full program in Israel that will include Hebrew and Bible lessons as well as lectures on various aspects of life in the Jewish State.

The Bar Mitzvah Pilgrimage makes its headquarters at the children's village of Atonei Yitzhak which has recently received a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin that made possible the Samuel W. Halprin Garden, which includes a modern American-style swimming pool for the youngsters' use. This gift was made following a recent visit to Israel by the Halprins when they became patrons of the Pilgrimage. Mrs. Halprin, former president of Hadassah and a member of the Jewish Agency executive, has for some time been associated with Atonei Yitzhak through the establishment there of the Rose L. Halprin Hall.

In previous years, the Pilgrimage participants have come from 25 American communities, as far west as Oregon, as far north as Canada, and as far south as Texas. Following the success of the American Pilgrimage, a companion program has been initiated by the Jewish Agency in South America and plans for similar tours are now being considered in other countries throughout the world.

# JEWISH GENERAL PROMOTED IN U.S. AIR FORCE; HOLDS STRATEGIC COMMAND POST

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Nebr., Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The U.S. Air Force today announced the promotion to the rank of Major General of A.J. Beck, who serves as inspector general of the Strategic Air Command, with headquarters here. General Beck has been in the Air Force since 1940.

Before coming to SAC headquarters, Gen. Beck commanded the 817th air division in Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire. He is a native of Dallas, Tex, where he earned a law degree. He entered the service as a flying cadet. He rose in the ranks and was decorated for action. He holds the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the distinguished Flying Cross, the air medal with three oak leaf clusters, the British Military Cross, the Presidential unit citation and the Air Force commendation medal.

Rabbi Abraham Jacobson, who is part-time chaplain at Pease Air Force Base, recalls General Beck as "a man who is well oriented in Judaism and in whose life there is a positive approach to faith and practice." Rabbi Jacobson noted that the general not only attended service regularly with his family, but was frequently called to the Torah.

# PRESIDENT JOHNSON HONORS EDDIE CANTOR FOR SERVICE TO THE NATION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- On behalf of President Lyndon Johnson, Governor Edmund G. Brown of California presented Eddie Cantor, a prominent actor, a certificate of commendation for his distinguished service to the nation during a career which has spanned over half a century. The certificate was presented to Mr. Cantor, whose efforts in behalf of Jewish causes have been unlimited, at his Beverly Hills home.

# DR. LANDAU, SOVIET JEWISH SCIENTIST, RECOVERS; LEAVES MOSCOW HOSPITAL

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Lev D. Landau, the Soviet Jewish scientist who was awarded the 1962 Nobel prize in physics while he lay in his hospital bed in Moscow after a near fatal traffic accident, has been released from the hospital after what was described as a "miraculous" recovery from injuries suffered in the accident, it was reported here today from Moscow. The report said he had been pronounced "clinically dead" four times before his recovery. The 56-year-old physicist is expected to return to work.

# YITZHAK YAARI, PROMINENT ISRAELI JOURNALIST, DIES IN TEL AVIV; WAS 48

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- Hundreds of journalists and members of the staff of Davar, the Histadrut daily, were among the mourners attending funeral services here today for Yitzhak Yaari, a member of the editorial staff of Davar, who died yesterday of a heart attack. He was 48 years of age.