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JESUIT ORGAN IN ROME OPTIMISTIC ON PRO-JEWISH DOCUMENT BY VATICAN

ROME, July 20 (JTA) -- Recent developments in the field of Catholic-Jewish relations were seen here today by Civitta Cattolica, the leading Jesuit publication, as having "ripened hope for some document which would definitely mean the end of equivocal exploitation of Christian themes for anti-Semitic purposes." Among the recent developments cited by the publication was the statement made by Pope Paul VI last May to leaders of the American Jewish Committee:

Civitta Cattolica's hope for the emergence of positive action in the field of Catholic-Jewish relations was made as part of a 20-page listing of various statements, documents and press reports dealing with the proposed Church declaration on relations with the Jewish people on the agenda of the Ecumenical Council's next session, scheduled to open September 14:

In an introductory note to the dossier, the publication cited a statement on Catholic-Jewish relations made by a prominent French journalist, Jacques Maduale, when the Ecumenical Council had just opened its first session, two years ago, to the effect that "nobody can foresee the Council's decisions, but there are strong reasons to hope they will be positive and that they will open an era of new relations between Jews and Christians."

"Two years later," commented Civitta Cattolica today, "one can think of Jacques Maduale's remark as still valid; We deem it useful, for documentation purposes only and without desiring in any way to interfere in a problem which is still under the Council's consideration, to assemble what the press has already said about this subject."

Meetings of Jewish Leaders with Vatican Personalities Cited

The Jesuit organ listed a number of meetings between prominent leaders of the Vatican, including the late Pope John XXIII. It recalled visits to Augustin Cardinal Bea by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, and by Label A. Katz, president of B'nai B'rith; and the "long memorandum" given Cardinal Bea in Rome by Dr. Goldmann and Mr. Katz. It noted that A.M. Sonnabend, late president of the American Jewish Committee, and Dr. Immanuel Jakobovitch, formerly chief rabbi of Ireland, had met on this subject with Francis Cardinal Spellman, while Mr. Katz had had an audience with Pope Paul VI recently.

The publication listed what it called "testimonials of approach" on Catholic-Jewish relations by a number of cardinals, including Cardinal Cushing of Boston. It refuted a statement by the Sunday Observer of London last year to the effect that "unfortunately, the Christian attitude against Jews stands still on the concept that the Jewish people collectively are responsible for Christ's death."

"On the contrary," stated Civitta Cattolica, "the opposite view, more balanced and more convincing reasoning, came from others." The publication noted that "some Jewish articles have stressed the Church's responsibility for Jewish suffering," but cited other Jewish sources "which give full credit for improvement of relations to Pope John XXIII and his successor."

Recalling Cardinal Bea's speech before the last session of the Ecumenical Council when he introduced the proposed declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations, and the world-wide reactions to that address, the publication listed a number of favorable reactions, including statements by Cardinals Spellman and Cushing, stressing that these reactions had also been reported by the Vatican radio.

It also listed Jewish reactions, including some from Dr. Goldmann; Sir Barnett Janner, then president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews; Maurice Edelman, then president of the Anglo-Jewish Association; Italy's Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff; and Dr. Pitigliani, president of the Jewish Community of Rome.

In addition to listing those Jewish leaders "who were favorable" to Cardinal Bea's

address, the publication noted that there were other Jewish leaders "who remained indifferent, as well as those who found the declaration not far-reaching enough and others who feared that missionary intentions lay behind the declaration." Protestant reactions were also listed;

Speaks of Differences of Opinions Within American Jewry

Civitta Cattolica then referred to more recent developments on this issue, including reports that the original draft declaration on relations with Jews had been "watered down." It asserted that such rumors stemmed from the fact that the text of the proposed declaration had not been distributed to the Council Fathers last May. It also quoted a Vatican communique of June 13, 1964, announcing the formation of the Secretariat for Christian Unity. The Jesuit organ then significantly added: "It may be presumed that this communique should serve to allay some circles, particularly those of American Jews, who were prematurely alarmed, more than necessary perhaps, but not without grounds; It is, however, interesting to know that the sentiments of such Jewish groups are not universally shared among their coreligionists; Only recently, in the United States, more than one authoritative voice was heard from orthodox Jewry against the action of those who almost seem to implore the Catholic Church for an explicit declaration absolving the Jewish nation from the deicide accusation."

Among those Americans whose opinions were cited by Civitta Cattolica are Rabbi Leon Feuer, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, of Cleveland, as well as the Rabbinical Council of America and other "recent Jewish opinion." The publication also cited the more recent answer to criticisms about intervention on the issue from the American Jewish Committee, which had stated that the main purpose of the draft declaration was the improvement of Catholic-Jewish relations.

GOLDMANN WARNS NOT TO BE TOO OPTIMISTIC ON DANGERS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

TEL AVIV, July 20 (JTA) -- A warning against "over-optimism" regarding the dangers of the "increasing anti-Semitism" in various parts of the world was voiced here last night by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress; He was the principal speaker at a dinner here climaxing the week-long plenary session of the WJC's executive committee; which had been attended by 100 delegates from 30 countries;

Dr. Goldmann pointed out that optimism in the face of anti-Semitism is dangerous, noting that such an attitude at the beginning of the Hitler regime had proven "catastrophic for the Jewish nation."

Unification of the Jewish people and "maintaining the uniqueness of the Jewish nation, lest it assimilate," he told the assemblage, is another difficulty facing the World Jewish Congress today. Assimilation of the Jewish nation today, he cautioned, "could mean the end of Israel," adding that "that is only one reason for maintaining this uniqueness;" He also emphasized the need for WJC activities "to safeguard Jewish rights everywhere;"

Other speakers at the event included Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Abba Eban, and Tel Aviv Mayor Mordechai Namir. Among those attending the dinner were ambassadors and other leading diplomats from 24 countries;

BRITISH MINISTER PROMISES TO ACT ON DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

LONDON, July 20 (JTA) -- A debate on discriminatory practices in employment in Britain took place in the House of Commons today. It was opened by Sir Barnett Janner who asked Minister of Labor J. B. Godber whether or not he was intending to instruct employment exchanges to discontinue recording the requests of employers who discriminate against candidates on the basis of religion, race or color;

Labor Minister Godber replied that while his local offices register requests containing discriminatory stipulations, several methods have been adopted to discourage employers from continuing their policies of discrimination; The Minister promised to withhold the services of the labor exchanges to employers who resist all efforts to make them alter objectionable hiring practices; Sir Barnett Janner's anti-discrimination views were supported by several Laborite members in the Parliament;

ISRAEL DENIES REPORT THAT EGYPT SHOT DOWN ISRAELI JET FIGHTER

TEL AVIV, July 20 (JTA) -- Israel military spokesmen today denied Egyptian reports claiming that an Israeli Mirage jet fighter plane was shot down yesterday over the Mediterranean near Alexandria;

The Israeli spokesman described the Egyptian story as a "mirage;" Egyptian military sources also alleged that a second Israeli jet was "probably downed;" This was also denied; The denial, issued at the headquarters of the Israel Defense Forces here, said that no Israeli plane had violated Egyptian air space; The Israeli spokesman also rejected a Damascus claim that six Israeli soldiers were killed in an Israel-Syrian border clash north of the Sea of Galilee yesterday;

BRITAIN CLARIFIES STAND ON DECLARATION GUARANTEEING ISRAEL'S BORDERS

LONDON, July 20 (JTA) -- The British Government still considers the 1950 Tripartite Declaration between Britain, France, and the United States, concerning the inviolability of the Arab-Israeli borders, as "valid," but regards the United Nations as primarily responsible for the maintenance of peace in the Middle East, R. A. Butler, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, told the House of Commons here today.

Mr. Butler made that answer when he was questioned in the House, by members of his own Conservative Party as well as by Laborite members.

Gilbert Longden, a Conservative, started the barrage of questioning on the Arab-Israeli issue by asking Mr. Butler whether, in view of Soviet rearming of Egypt, Britain still supports the Tripartite Declaration. "Are you satisfied," Mr. Longden asked, "that President Nasser, who loses no opportunity of telling the world that war with Israel is inevitable, knows what the consequences will be?"

Mr. Butler referred the questioner to a statement made by former Prime Minister Harold Macmillan in May, 1963, "when he endorsed the views of the American President of what likely action would be in the event of trouble." Emanuel Shinwell, a leading member of the Labor Party, then asked: "Will you define what is meant by Government support for the Tripartite Declaration? Does it mean that, in the event of any attack by Israel or by the United Arab Republic, those who sponsor the 1950 agreement will intervene to bring a conflict to an earlier end?"

Supports Peace Efforts of U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission

"We regard the United Nations," replied Mr. Butler, "as primarily responsible for the maintenance of peace in this area. If any threat to the peace arises, we would consult the United Nations immediately and take whatever action we feel would be required." Questioned further, he asserted: "The Government regards the Tripartite Agreement as still valid."

Another Conservative, John Biggs Davidson, tried to pin Mr. Butler down by asking: "Having regard for President Nasser's declaration on July 1, of the Egyptian Government's policy regarding the inevitability of war with Israel, will in that event Her Majesty's Government seek through the United Nations Security Council or diplomatic channels, or both, an Arab-Israel conciliation conference, or other appropriate meeting and, meanwhile, take steps, whether by reaffirmation of the Tripartite Declaration or otherwise, to make clear to Egypt and other powers the consequences of aggression in the Middle East?"

"President Nasser," replied Mr. Butler, "has endorsed Mr. Khrushchev's proposal that force should be renounced in the settlement of regional differences and border disputes. As Mr. Macmillan had said in 1963, we will consult immediately with the United Nations if any threat to the peace arises in the Middle East, and will take whatever action we thought may be required. Meanwhile, Her Majesty's Government supports the efforts of the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission to achieve a settlement of the dispute between the Arab states and Israel."

LORD MANCROFT CONFIRMS ARAB PRESSURE ON LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LONDON, July 20 (JTA) -- Lord Mancroft, the British-Jewish financier, confirmed here last night, following his return from a trip to Israel, that the London Chamber of Commerce has withdrawn an invitation extended to him to take over the Chamber's presidency. "This has been done," he said, "because some members of the Chamber trade with Arab countries." The London Chamber of Commerce has 50,000 members and 49 affiliated trade associations around the country.

Lord Mancroft, who is chairman of Global Tours, Ltd., and who, as a Jew, was forced last winter to resign under Arab pressures from the London advisory board of the Norwich Union Insurance Societies, stated: "The Chamber approached me unofficially two or three weeks ago and asked if I would withdraw my name because it could cause embarrassment to the Chamber's members trading with Arab countries. Naturally I agreed. I had no choice. The first approach inviting me to stand for the Chamber presidency was an informal one, made last September, before the Norwich Union affair."

Philip Herman, chairman of the Chamber, said he did not know Mancroft had been asked to withdraw from the presidential nomination; however, the fact that the withdrawal request may have been made was confirmed by William Luxton, secretary of the Chamber. Mr. Luxton said:

"An informal approach may have been made to Lord Mancroft, but I do not know whether the offer of the presidency has been withdrawn. The question of the successor to the current president, the Earl of Verulam, will be considered at a meeting Thursday, and a final choice will be left to the annual meeting next May. A body like the Chamber has to take into account the problems of the trade boycott. It is clearly a matter for the Chamber's general meeting."

WORLD PARLEY OF CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUES DISCUSSES WESTERN CULTURE

MEXICO CITY, July 20 (JTA) -- The worldwide Jewish community was urged today to confront Western culture, rather than avoid or evade it, by Rabbi Theodore Friedman, past president of the Rabbinical Assembly. He was the keynote speaker at the fifth international convention of the World Council of Synagogues which opened here today. The World Council embraces congregations of the Conservative movement in Judaism and has affiliates and associates in twenty-two countries around the world.

Rabbi Friedman said that all Jewish communities have the same problems arising out of their existence in the environment of Western culture whether in New York, Mexico City, London, or Tel Aviv. He rejected the attitude of some sections of Judaism which advocate a policy of isolation from Western culture for their adherents. Such elements in Judaism, he said, in Brooklyn, B'nai Brak, and in Buenos Aires, favored the erection of barriers between Judaism and the Western world.

The Conservative movement in Judaism, he said, has rejected this attitude because it was doomed to failure and, even more important, because it is the obligation of the Jewish community not to escape from the world but to persuade the world. "We have much to learn from Western culture and much to teach it," he stressed.

Taking note of the special problems besetting Jewish youth throughout the world, Rabbi Friedman counseled them to face up to Western culture. He advised Jewish youth to remember that in Judaism lies the answer to the human problem in the modern world.

President of the World Council, Charles Rosengarten, of Waterbury, Conn., in his report to the convention on his administration, emphasized that education was the primary need of Jewish communities throughout the world. He pledged that the World Council would continue to address itself to the task of providing educational facilities, including leadership training, so that all Jewish communities could better understand their Jewish heritage and preserve their Jewish identity.

The convention was opened by its chairman, Bert Godfrey, of Toronto, Canada, who welcomed the 300 delegates from countries around the world. The closing session will be held on Wednesday.

SHAH OF IRAN INVITES JEWS TO CELEBRATION OF 2,500TH ANNIVERSARY

TEHERAN, July 20 (JTA) -- World Jewry has been invited by the Shah of Iran to participate in the forthcoming celebration here of the 2,500th anniversary of the founding of the Iranian Empire by Cyrus the Great, according to an announcement made today by Jamshid Kashfi, a member of the Iranian Parliament.

The invitation, he said, was extended to Dr. Henry Raphael Gold, New York psychiatrist and Talmudic scholar, who was received by the Ministry of the Shah's Court. The Shah's hope that Jewry would play a role in the celebration was relayed to world Jewry through Dr. Gold.

Cyrus the Great, who conquered the Babylonians in the year 539 before the Christian era, had immediately restored to the Jews the vessels taken by Babylon from the First Temple, and permitted the Jews to return to Palestine.

'AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD' CHANGES FORMAT TO INCREASE COVERAGE OF NEWS

MINNEAPOLIS, July 20 (JTA) -- The American Jewish World, Minneapolis-St. Paul based English-Jewish weekly, changed its format this week to that of a tabloid. Heretofore, throughout its 52-year history, the publication has appeared as a news magazine. The weekly's page size has been increased from a four-column width to five columns and the page depth lengthened. A larger and more legible type-face was introduced with the changeover.

L. H. Frisch, publisher and editor of The American Jewish World since its founding in 1912, emphasized that the newspaper in its new "dress" will be enabled "to increase coverage of local, national and international news. The change will make possible a more efficient presentation of news, editorials, feature articles and advertisements."

SAMUEL REISS, WELL-KNOWN TRANSLATOR, DEAD; MASTERED 32 LANGUAGES

CLEVELAND, July 20 (JTA) -- Samuel Reiss, well-known American-Jewish translator and linguist, died here today at the age of 59. Mr. Reiss knew 32 languages and was a translator for the Lewis Research Center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as well as the author of four books on the relationship between language and thought.

Born in Kulikowo, Poland, he came to this country at the age of nine and grew up in New York City. He was a graduate of New York's City College and also held a degree from the Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Some of the languages he knew, such as Swahili, Chinese and Greek, he learned on his own.