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## COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM FIGHTS AGAINST ISRAEL PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- A clash between an anti-Zionist witness and members of the Democratic Platform Committee today highlighted testimony before the committee which included discussion of proposals for an Israel-Arab plank, ratification of the United Nations Convention on Genocide, the situation of Soviet Jewry, and other matters of Jewish interest. One of the Committee's panels is holding hearings on these issues, preparatory to the drafting of the entire Democratic platform, to be considered at the party's national convention in Atlantic City next week.

Leonard R. Sussman, testifying for the anti-Zionist American Council for Judaism, alleged that the Johnson Administration had rejected "the Jewish people concept" in domestic and foreign affairs. He cited a State Department expression of last April 20 in this connection, and asked that the platform include a plank reaffirming this alleged stand by the Government.

Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, a member of the Platform Committee, attacked the Sussman allegations. He cited a subsequent State Department expression on the same subject, addressed to Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, of Rochester, N.Y., endorsing a statement by Rabbi Max Nussbaum, president of the Zionist Organization of America. The State Department had termed Rabbi Nussbaum's assertion, that the ACJ had put up "a straw man," as effectively resolving any possible misunderstanding.

### Celler Cites 'Exposure'; Arab Agent Says He Came to Back Council

The Platform Committee was also informed by Rep. Celler of the "exposure" and denunciation of the ACJ by the three major branches of the Jewish faith, issued by the New York Board of Rabbis. A heated situation developed in the hearing room. Spectators in the hearing room became disorderly and shouted demands to be heard by the committee. Acting Chairman William Benton, of Connecticut, called the hearing to order and refused to permit anyone to participate who was not a member of the committee or a witness.

Dr. Mohammed T. Mehdi, secretary-general of the Action Committee on American-Arab Relations, later told the press that he attended the hearing to support the ACJ position and to assist Mr. Sussman. He charged that Rep. Celler spoke as an "Israeli agent," but asserted that Mr. Sussman "speaks as an American." (Action by U.S. immigration authorities for deportation of Mr. Mehdi was sought recently when he intervened previously in the U.S. pre-election activity, involving the New York Senate race. He is a citizen of Iraq and an agent of Arab interests.)

John E. Powers, of Massachusetts, a member of the Platform Committee, told Mr. Sussman, that "I am not of your faith" but felt Israel merited America's full support, including military backing. Mr. Powers said he was not concerned with the ACJ's ideas on Zionism because the pro-Israel plank was in America's own interests, and did not pertain to Zionism. Mr. Powers charged that the witness was anti-Israel when he refused to endorse a plank which Mr. Powers proposed.

The Powers plank included a statement that "as the only true democratic bastion in the Near East, Israel warrants and must have the continued financial, military and moral support of the leader of the democratic world, the United States. The Democratic Party pledges that support."

Mr. Benton expressed assurance in the course of the hearing that "I am sure you will find the committee sympathetic to the protection of a free and independent Israel." The disorder caused in the hearing room by supporters of the ACJ was considered by observers to be unprecedented and lacking in the decorum which usually prevails.

### NCRAC Urges Genocide Pact Action; Farbstein Protests on Soviet Anti-Semitism

Louis E. Spector, of Baltimore, testified next on behalf of the National Community Relations Advisory Council; his testimony pertaining to Genocide pact ratification. However, Mr. Spector noted the preceding heated exchange, and opened his testimony with support of the position of Rep. Celler and Mr. Powers, and voiced his own repudiation of the ACJ. He advocated "a plank urging speedy ratification of the Genocide Pact by the United States Senate."

Mr. Spector said it was difficult to understand why the Senate Foreign Relations Committee did not send the Genocide Pact to the full Senate for a vote. He said that

"after 13 years of inexcusable delay, let us have action." He added: "If there is one misery that is gnawing at the conscience of all men of good will, it is that the nations made it too easy and too cheap for the Hitler murderers to annihilate innocent millions."

Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, testified earlier that the platform should seek Arab-Israel peace, limit American assistance only to peaceful nations, support Congressional backing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and voice protest against Soviet anti-Semitism.

#### ISRAELI INDIAN JEWS END PROTEST; DISPUTE WITH RABBINATE SEEMS RESOLVED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18: (JTA) -- A delegation representing the Bnei Israel community of Indian Jews today informed Prime Minister Levi Eshkol of a decision to end immediately the sit-down strike in protest against special Chief Rabbinate directives concerning marriages between Bnei Israel members and other Jews.

The end of the sit-down strike followed a special session of Knesset, Israel's Parliament, last night in which the House adopted a resolution declaring that members of the Bnei Israel community are to be considered Jews in every respect. The Knesset also endorsed the Government's position, calling on the Chief Rabbinate to find a way to remove the discriminatory aspect of the marriage directives.

Askenazi, Chief Rabbi Isser Yehuda Unterman, meanwhile, voiced confidence today that the Chief Rabbinate Council would agree to strike out specific reference to the Bnei Israel from the heading of its marriage directives, thus giving the directives general application and removing the cause for any feeling of discrimination.

During their meeting with the Prime Minister, the members of the Bnei Israel delegation, who were accompanied by Jerusalem Mayor Mordechai Ish-Shalom, thanked Mr. Eshkol for his statement in the Knesset. The Premier expressed confidence that the issue would soon be settled.

#### UNITED NATIONS, ISRAEL TO SPEND \$4,000,000 FOR NEW CENTER AT TECHNION

NEW YORK, Aug. 18: (JTA) -- The United Nations Special Fund has made a grant of \$1,139,000 toward the establishment of a Center of Applied Research in Israel, it was announced today by B. Sumner Gruzen, president of the American Technion Society. He reported that, in addition to the United Nations Special Fund grant, the Government of Israel is also making available the sum of \$2,666,666 in Israel funds during the next five years, for the construction and equipment of the Center.

The United Nations grant, Mr. Gruzen said, will be used primarily for the purchase of laboratory and testing equipment, recruiting of foreign experts, and the specialized training of Israelis who will devote themselves to applied research. The 580 members of the Technion's faculty will work in close liaison with the new Center, although the Center will be an independent body directed by a committee made up of Israel Government, United Nations, Technion and Israel industry representatives.

The Center's initial fields of concentration will be in chemistry, polymers (plastics), food processing and fibres, Mr. Gruzen said.

#### AUSTRALIAN MAYOR PLEDGES TO REMOVE SWASTIKA FROM TOWN HALL FLOOR

MELBOURNE, Aug. 18: (JTA) -- Mayor F. I. Smyth of Prahan, a commercial and industrial section in the heart of Melbourne, announced today that he would urge the Prahan Municipal Council to authorize the removal of swastika patterns in the tiles of the floor at the Town Hall.

The move follows complaints by Jewish individuals and organizations that the swastika, which was actually an ancient symbol in use among aborigine tribes in various parts of the world, was a painful reminder of the Nazi regime. The Town Hall has been used in the past by the Australian Zionist Organization and other Jewish groups.

Mayor Smyth said he was sure that the Council would agree to the removal of the symbols now considered offensive. The tiles have been in the Town Hall floor many years.

#### CANADIAN WEEKLY PRINTS 'PROTOCOLS OF ELDERS OF ZION'; ACTION DEMANDED

OTTAWA, Aug. 18: (JTA) -- A weekly publication in this city has stepped up its anti-Semitic activity by printing the ancient canard, "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," the Canadian Jewish Chronicle declared today. An article in the Chronicle called for unity in the Jewish community, so that legal action might be taken against further dissemination of the anti-Semitic propaganda. The article proposed that all ethnic groups, comprising about 30 per cent of the electorate in this area, be mobilized to aid the fight against hate-mongering.

#### EBAN CONFERS WITH BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER DURING 'PRIVATE' LONDON VISIT

LONDON, Aug. 18: (JTA) -- Israel's Deputy Prime Minister Abba Eban, who is currently on a private visit to England, today paid a courtesy call on Foreign Secretary R. A. Butler, during which problems of mutual interest were discussed. Mr. Eban was accompanied by Israel Ambassador Arthur Lourie.

CALL FOR MASSIVE U.S. DRIVE TO AID USSR JEWS ISSUED AT HADASSAH PARLEY

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- A massive, all-out drive by American Jewry to obtain action from the United States Government "through diplomatic and other channels to impel the Soviet Union to eradicate anti-Semitism in the USSR and to permit the reunion of Soviet Jews with their broken families in other lands" was proposed before the 50th annual convention of Hadassah here tonight by Dr. Miriam K. Freund, former president of the organization.

In another major address to the 2,000 delegates attending the four-day assembly of the women's Zionist organization, a stern warning was issued by Dr. David Lieber, president of the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, who held that the trend toward assimilation by American Jews must be reversed, lest "a catastrophe too frightening to contemplate" face the American Jewish community.

Dr. Freund, in her address, expressed the hope that the present thaw in the cold war might give the United States the opportunity to take firm action toward "an acceptable solution to the Jewish problem in the Soviet Union." Such a solution, she emphasized, must "include the right, on humanitarian grounds, of Soviet Jews who are members of divided families as a result of the Nazi holocaust to be reunited with their relatives abroad."

As immediate steps, she urged that the Democratic Party's Platform Committee adopt a plank, at the party's national convention in Atlantic City next week, "devoted solely to the Jews in the Soviet Union." That plank, she advocated, should commit the Democratic Party "to press with all the energy at its command for the alleviation of the plight of Soviet Jewry" and the latter's right to rejoin their broken families abroad. She also urged that the Senate pass the pending resolution condemning the treatment of Jews in the USSR. That resolution, introduced by Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff, Connecticut Democrat, and co-sponsored by 63 other members of the Senate, has the support of 24 other Jewish organizations in addition to Hadassah.

"At this time," Dr. Freund said, "it is of the utmost importance that President Johnson, the Cabinet and members of the House and Senate be kept continually aware of our anxiety over the oppression of Soviet Jewry. So important is this, that I urge all Americans to express this concern to Washington in the weeks and months ahead. Our concern must be translated into action on the local level, on the state level, on the regional level, on the national and international levels."

Lieber Presents Four-Point Plan to Assure Jewish Survival in America

Dr. Lieber, after warning of the potential "catastrophe" that could result from the trend toward assimilation, presented "an agenda for American Jews." "The hour is ripe," he said, "for a total assault on Jewish apathy and ignorance, an all-out drive to make Judaism a source of joy and inspiration to the modern Jew." In order to assure the survival of Jewish identity, Dr. Lieber proposed:

1. A clarification and restatement of Jewish purposes, defining what it is that the Jews as a people seek in life; 2. Development of a program of action to strengthen Jewish unity in a society of diversity; 3. Establishment of a system of effective Jewish education--"extended from the cradle to the grave"--and including a network of modern day schools and summer camps to counteract the failure of the home to reinforce the teachings of Judaism; and 4. Rekindling "the love of the Jewish people and its heritage in the heart of the Jew."

At another session, Mrs. Edward H. Lewis, Hadassah's national education chairman, announced that Hadassah will sponsor a 22-day "Bible tour of Israel" from March 14 to April 4, 1965. She said that this tour will be limited to 40 Hadassah national regional and local board members and Hadassah education leaders and their husbands. She said the group will spend 18 days in Israel, 11 of which will be devoted to Bible seminars at different Biblical sites. The tour will be programmed in cooperation with the Israel Bible Society and the education department of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

'Reverse Peace Corps' Proposed; Harman Stresses Israel's Pacific Goals

A "reverse peace corps" that would bring Israeli and other foreign volunteers to teach in American schools and participate in the projected job corps was proposed to Hadassah last night by a top official of the U.S. Peace Corps. Harris Wofford, associate director for planning and evaluation of the Peace Corps, made this proposal with reference to President Johnson's anti-poverty program. He said that America could benefit from skilled youth organizers from Israel.

"To the job corps camps we will be bringing our demoralized young people in the hope that, through such a move into a totally new environment, they can find a new life," he declared, continuing:

"Who better than Israelis know the difficulties and the possibilities of such an educational experiment?" He said that Israeli social workers could be useful in American community action programs.

Another speaker, Abraham Harman, Israel Ambassador to the United States, told the Hadassah delegates that "the inevitability of peace in the Middle East and throughout the

world is the underlying assumption of Israel's foreign policy," Ambassador Harman declared: "This is not a goal which can be achieved overnight. While threats persist and her neighbors are against her, Israel must accord priority to her defense needs in her efforts to deter attack. This we are doing and shall continue to do. The hostile policy of assault against Israel has proved unrealistic. When this comes to be understood, the way will be opened to the constructive policy of regional disarmament and mutual cooperation."

#### AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE RAPS ARAB ANTI-SEMITISM IN LATIN AMERICA

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The anti-Semitic activities currently being carried out by Arab agents in Argentina and other countries were sharply criticized here tonight by Morris B. Abram, president of the American Jewish Committee and head of an AJC delegation now visiting Jewish communities in South America; Mr. Abram addressed a dinner held in honor of the delegation.

Noting that the Jewish communities of the world would welcome the activities of Arab groups aimed at spreading the historic values of Arab civilization, Mr. Abram declared: "What we object to and abhor is the fact that the Arab League is not interested in advancing Arab culture. The League is engaged exclusively in virulent anti-Semitic activity."

Among those present at the dinner were Miguel Schweitzer, Chilean Minister of Labor; Israel Ambassador Uri Naor; and members of both houses of the Chilean Parliament; The delegation was greeted by Amalia Fliman, president of the Chilean Zionist Federation.

The AJC visitors arrived here last night for a two-day visit, during which they will meet with Chilean Government leaders and Cardinal Silva Henriquez. They came from Buenos Aires, where they had met with Argentine President Arturo Illia and Antonio Cardinal Caggiano, as well as with other personalities in Argentine public life.

#### Jewish Store Bombed, Jewish Athletes Attacked in Argentine Incidents

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Unidentified terrorists today threw several fire bombs at a branch of a Jewish-owned department store here.

Meanwhile in the northern Argentine city of Tucuman, another incident involving anti-Semitism occurred today, when Christian students assaulted Jewish athletes participating in a local sports tournament. No injuries were reported, and no arrests were made.

#### RABBINICAL GROUP URGES HIGHER PAY FOR JEWISH TEACHERS; ELECTS DR. HECHT

MONTICELLO, N. Y., Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Rabbi Abraham B. Hecht, newly elected president of the Rabbinical Alliance of America, called on the American Jewish community to "make a genuine and sincere effort" to improve employment conditions for Jewish educators. Rabbi Hecht is spiritual leader of the Sephardic Shaare Zion Congregation in Brooklyn.

Addressing the midsummer conference of the Orthodox rabbinical group, Rabbi Hecht deplored the lack of trained teachers in Hebrew day schools and afternoon schools. Unless efforts are made to provide decent salaries and fringe benefits to Jewish educators, he declared, "the finest and most talented young men will just not enter the Hebrew teaching profession. They will follow the pattern of giving their best talents to other pursuits and professions."

Among the resolutions adopted at the conference was one calling upon the Jewish community and lay leadership to increase the salary scale of Hebrew teachers and principals. The conference also urged the American Jewish community to return from vacation resorts to the synagogues in their local neighborhoods, to spend the High Holy Days "in an atmosphere of sanctity and religious warmth which is generated in the synagogue edifice."

#### WALL STREET JOURNAL URGES ELIMINATION OF NATIONAL ORIGINS QUOTA SYSTEM

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Wall Street Journal, leading financial daily newspaper in the United States, today came out in support of proposed changes in U.S. immigration policy which would eliminate the national origins quota system.

Noting that the national origins system has proved "too cumbersome and inflexible" to meet the "simple tests of equity," the newspaper declared in an editorial that the proposed changes "might help put our immigration laws on somewhere near a national basis."

Hailing the provisions of a new bill now pending in Congress as a measure that "would ensure that someone with talents the U. S. can use would not face lengthy delay because of his birthplace," the editorial declared: "It seems only fair not to turn down applicants while places in the total allocation go unused."

"We are convinced," the editorial stated, "most Americans believe it's wrong to discriminate against someone simply because he was born in the wrong place." Under the national origins quota system, "would-be immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe, and from other areas, have a lesser opportunity to enter the United States than persons emigrating from Northern Europe, England or Ireland."