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## U.S. CLERICS AGAIN LEAD CATHOLIC MOVE TO CLEAR JEWS OF 'DEICIDE'

ROME, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Two United States Bishops, continuing the debate in the Ecumenical Council on Catholic relations with the Jews, insisted today on a declaration rejecting completely any blame on the Jews--past and present--for the crucifixion of Jesus and eliminating any reference which Jews could interpret as a bid for conversion.

The debate on the "Jewish question" began yesterday and was ended today. A vote on the issue was not expected for several weeks.

The American prelates were Archbishop Patrick O. Boyle of Washington, D.C. and Auxiliary Bishop Stephen A. Leven of San Antonio, Texas. They were backed by Archbishop Franjo Seper of Zagreb, Yugoslavia, a member of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, in debate in which 20 of the Council's 2,500 prelates took part.

Council debates are closed to the press. The discussions today were reported again by a press panel sponsored by the American Bishops. The panel said the discussions today showed once more a remarkable consensus of support for changes in the draft declaration to end sharp criticism of the second version, now before the Council's third session.

The first version, prepared by Augustin Cardinal Bea, president of the Secretariat, specifically absolved all Jews, those of Christ's time and of later times through the present, from the ancient charge of deicide. The revised version refers only to Jews of the present, leaving an implication of blame against all prior generations of Jews. It also contains a reference to the traditional Christian hope of "reunion" of Jews with Christianity, which has been widely interpreted by Jews as a bid for conversion.

### Amendments Proposed by Bishops; Jews Backed on Rejecting Proselytization

Archbishop O'Boyle urged amendments so that "the text will be clear to Jews, who otherwise might misunderstand it." He added that "the spirit of the text will be carefully studied by them, and their rightful sensitivity must be taken into full consideration."

"Any even remote suggestion of conversion," the American prelate warned his colleagues, "will recall the sufferings of the past and the forced conversions imposed on them. Therefore our dialogue with them will be gratuitous without that purpose. They are right in opposing any proselytism."

He asked that the version before the Council have its earlier wording restored to exclude from the deicide charge Jews of all time. He also went beyond similar statements made yesterday in the debate, in asking for expression of "an act of contrition" for present and past sins against the Jews.

### Most American Bishops Agree to Two Amendments; Anti-Semitism Assailed

Bishop Leven offered three amendments, the first two in the name of nearly all of the American bishops and the third in his own name. First, he said, the sentence in the original version that Jews must never be called a "deicide people" should be restored to the present version.

The Texan noted that, among the arguments for dropping the term "deicide" from the draft was that the word was philosophically and theologically "absurd and contradictory" and therefore "not worthy" of inclusion in a Council document.

"But," he declared, "we are not dealing with some philosophical entity but with a word of infamy and execration which was invented by Christians and used to blame and persecute Jews: For so many centuries--and even in our own time--Christians have hurled this word against Jews and, because of it, they have justified every kind of horrible excess, and even their slaughter and destruction."

Bishop Leven warned: "It is not up to us to make declarations about something philosophical, but to reprobate and damn a word which has furnished so many occasions of persecution through the centuries. We must," he declared, "tear this word out of the Christian vocabulary so that it may never again be used against Jews."

As his second amendment, he proposed an addition to the draft of a sentence to read: "Not all the Jews of the time of Christ are to be blamed for his death." He asserted "it is

obvious that many of the Jews in Christ's time, especially outside the Holy Land, had never heard of Him. It is as absurd to accuse all the Jews of that time of His death as it would be to blame all the Romans of that time for His death because the Roman, Pilate, delivered Him up, and Roman soldiers nailed Him to the cross."

The third amendment, offered in his own name, Bishop Leven said, was that there be added an expression of the Christian hope that all men and every race and people, Jews and Gentiles, "will be gathered together in God, in the celestial future."

#### Archbishop Seper Answers Moslem Objections, Urges End of Abuses

Archbishop Seper took up the issue of fears of opponents of a stronger draft, stemming from concern over projected consequences in Moslem countries where Catholics reside. He insisted such fears were unfounded because "our declaration is purely theological and not political."

"Our reasons for proposing it," he continued, "are serious and impelling because of the links between Catholicism and the Jews in our common Holy Scriptures, in liturgy. The third reason is the persecutions of Jews, old and recent. Innocents have been put to death, atrocious things were done--how could we disinterest ourselves in a people so strongly linked with God?"

In addition, he said, it was a fact that persecutions of Jews had been "explained" by Catholic "reasons," and the Scriptures have been used to accuse Jews; This is the reason to make this declaration and to finish such abuses once and for all, he insisted.

In proposing changes in the new version, Archbishop Seper urged additions to emphasize what Jews and Catholics had in common--the Scriptures, the history of salvation until Jesus, the belief in Messiah and the "blood relationship" with Jesus, which was understood as a clear rebuke to Hitler's racist theories.

#### Calls for 'Guidebook' on Relations Between Catholics and Jews

Archbishop Seper also went well beyond earlier requests for changes and additions, by proposing that the Secretariat for Christian Unity issue a "guidebook" on Catholic-Jewish relations, and that the Secretariat should continue to treat Jewish problems in the future by creating a special section for that objective.

Another proposal that the Council ask pardon for "all that the Jews had to suffer through the centuries" was offered by Archbishop Elchinger of Strassbourg, France; He said that the Jews of today were "in great number living and authentic witnesses to the Sacred Scriptures" by their intensive studies of the Holy Writ.

"They are the pilgrims of the absolute," he exclaimed. "They have an extreme sensitivity to God's transcendence. Their authentic virtue is their great esteem for the Decalogue. Their family life is imprinted by Biblical influence. Therefore," he asserted, "Jewish believers are privileged partners" with Christians "in defense of eternal God in the face of atheistic attack."

#### Separate Document on Jews Suggested; Cites Pope John

The time has come, the French prelate asserted, to change the "teaching of contempt" for the Jews to "an education of respect." He proposed also that the text on the Jews be treated as a separate document, while all other non-Catholic religions be treated in a third declaration mentioning Moslems and other monotheistic religions.

"Jews are waiting for the right word" from the Council, he added. "What is at stake now is whether the door opened by John XXIII," Pope Paul's predecessor who organized the present Ecumenical Council, "will be open or closed for a long time to come."

Earlier, Spanish Cardinal Jose Maria Bueno y Monreal of Seville, contended that no mention of the word "deicide" was needed in the declaration because "no one really holds that view today." He supported the declaration in general, but added that the Council must make clear that the draft had no political connotation. He said this was necessary because of the Jewish-Arab situation in the Middle East.

#### Official of National Conference of Christians and Jews Sees Pope

ROME, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Brooks Hays, brotherhood chairman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, was received by Pope Paul VI yesterday in a private audience.

Mr. Hays, who is also special assistant to President Johnson on racial problems and a former U. S. Representative from Little Rock, Arkansas, refused to reveal the subject of his talk with Pope Paul.

#### Coptic Church in Egypt Opposes Vatican Step to Absolve Jews of Deicide

LONDON, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The Coptic Church of Egypt today charged that the proposed declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations, being debated by the Ecumenical Council, is motivated by "purely political" considerations according to a Cairo dispatch received here today. The church's official organ called specifically on the Council at the Vatican to avoid adoption of any declaration that would absolve the Jews of deicide.

## CENTRAL AMERICAN PARLEY STUDIES STEPS TO CONSERVE JUDAISM

GUATEMALA CITY, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The most important problem facing the Jews of Central America is that of "conserving our children for our religion and for our people," Eric Heineman, president of the Jewish Communities of Central America, asserted tonight at the close of the seven-day convention of the communities here.

He told the 100 delegates and hundreds of guests at the assembly that their participation in the convention "manifests not only your sense of responsibility but also your serious preoccupation with the destiny and survival of Judaism in this country."

Marc Turkow, representative of the World Jewish Congress in Latin America, warned the delegates that Zionism and Judaism were indivisible, and that "we cannot permit its division into Zionists and anti-Zionists. Those voicing this theme are anti-Semites who countenance Nazi activities on this continent."

Chaim Borkow, Jewish Agency representative here and organizer of the convention, said that efforts to eliminate the principle that Israel was the "inspiring center of life of all Jews" tend to "undermine the base which has sustained us and to deny the national future."

Aaron Gafni, commercial attache of Israel, told the delegates that one result of the convention would be to keep the youth of the communities "within our people." He said he hoped that relations of Jewish communities with the State of Israel and the Jewish religion would be permanently conserved.

## EBAN VISITS MEXICO; TO CONFER WITH LEADERS OF GOVERNMENT

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Deputy Prime Minister Abba Eban of Israel arrived here today for a week-long visit to Mexico as guest of the Mexican Government. He will hold a series of talks with top Mexican Government officials, and will also deliver addresses before Jewish organizations; Mr. Eban will confer with President Lopez Mateos, President-Elect Diaz Ordaz and Foreign Minister Gorostiza. He will also address the Mexican Congress.

Mr. Eban will also speak at a mass meeting of the Jewish community, and give a lecture to the students and faculty of Mexican National University, the largest in Latin America. All of his addresses will be given in Spanish.

His visit is expected to bring to a new peak the highly cordial relations between the two countries. While the Mexican Government as a rule pursues a neutral foreign policy, including its stand on the Middle East dispute, public opinion generally favors Israel.

## 'ISRAELI AGENT' NAMED IN BRAZIL; JEWISH PAPER DENIES ACCUSATION

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The alleged "Israeli agent" reported recently to have been murdered in Peru, near the Brazilian border, while "presumably" engaged in tracing Josef Mengele, the notorious Auschwitz selection doctor, was identified here today by Interpol as a woman, Nora Eldock. However, the Yiddische Presse, a Jewish newspaper here, immediately denied that report, stating that Nora Eldock died in an accident in Argentina two years ago. The newspaper said she was an Israeli citizen.

The Yiddische Presse severely criticized the Brazilian branch of Interpol for the report about Nora Eldock's alleged involvement as an "Israeli agent," declaring that report was an illustration of the "confusion" rampant in police circles here regarding the Mengele case. "Such confusion only contributes further to Mengele's ability to escape arrest," the Yiddische Presse charged.

## MOROCCAN JEWS DISTURBED BY POLITICIAN'S SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT

CASABLANCA, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Morocco was disturbed today by a violent anti-Jewish statement in Parliament by Allal El Fassi, former Minister of Islamic Affairs.

Asserting he was speaking for the opposition Istiqlal party, which has repeatedly issued charges against Moroccan Jews and government policies concerning Moroccan Jewry, the former Minister charged that the governmental majority had violated the constitution and had, in effect, declared that "Morocco is a Jewish state and not Moslem;" Meyer Obadia, a Jewish Deputy, left Parliament in protest, to applause by the Royalist party.

## PRIME MINISTER ESHKOL DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL AFTER SURGERY

TEL AVIV, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, who recently underwent surgery for a cataract at a hospital here, was discharged today and was reported by his physicians to be "feeling better" and to be able to use his affected eye under limitations. He was ordered by his medical advisers to take more rest and to cut down on reading and writing for the time being. However, he was able to confer with his aides concerning governmental problems.

One of Mr. Eshkol's first acts after his discharge was the dictating of a message of condolence to the widow of the late James G. McDonald, first American envoy to Israel, who died last weekend.

## TORONTO REPORTS RABBIS RECEIVE HIGHEST INCOME AMONG CLERGYMEN

TORONTO, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- A study of the comparative incomes of clergymen in Toronto indicated today that rabbis are the highest-paid spiritual leaders in the city. The data were contained in a feature story in the Toronto Star's church page, giving figures on the income of clergy of the United Church, a union of Methodists, Congregationalists and some Presbyterians; Anglicans, Baptists, Unitarians and Jews.

The minimum income of United Church clergymen--including salary, auto allowance and the equivalent of a home--is \$6,000 a year. The top United Church salary in the city is \$20,000 plus a free parsonage. Some United Church ministers receive \$10,000 a year.

The best paid Presbyterian minister receives \$11,000 a year. The Anglican minimum is \$3,600. At least two Anglican ministers in Toronto receive \$10,000 annually. One Baptist church pays its minister \$10,000. Catholic priests do not receive a salary but do get non-taxable living allowances. Some priests belonging to certain orders take vows of poverty. One Unitarian minister with a comparatively small congregation of 700 receives \$13,000 a year. Other Unitarian clergymen receive about \$9,000 a year in annual income.

Star Church Editor Allan Spragget reported that rabbis' salaries, which are not published, are on the whole the highest of any group of spiritual leaders. He said that top pay of \$35,000, plus at least another \$10,000 in set fees for weddings, funerals and Bar Mitzvahs, goes to Dr. Stuart Rosenberg, rabbi of Beth Tzedec Congregation. With his free house, Dr. Rosenberg's income is equal to \$50,000 annually, which places him near the top for rabbinical salaries in North America, the newspaper asserted.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut, of Holy Blossom Temple, receives \$30,000 annually, according to the report; and Rabbi Jordan Pearlson of Temple Sinai receives \$18,000. In very small synagogues, the salary is probably considerably less than \$10,000 a year.

The church editor attributed the relatively high salaries of rabbis to "the lack of an anti-money bias in Judaism." One rabbi was quoted by Spraggett as saying that poverty and piety are not related in Judaism as they are in the Christian tradition, that the rabbi is respected by the congregation and it is proud to pay him well.

## ROCKEFELLER SETS 'UNITED HIAS DAY,' LAUDS MIGRATION AGENCY

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Governor Nelson Rockefeller today proclaimed October 7 as United Hias Day in New York State in connection with the celebration by the Jewish migration agency of its 80th birthday. In his proclamation, the Governor noted that Hias had "assisted in rescuing and resettling in the United States and other countries of the free Western world more than 3,000,000 survivors of wars, pogroms and political upheavals."

The Governor also designated October 4 as Interfaith Day in the state. The proclamation said it was "encouraging to report that, in several communities of our state, congregations of Catholics, Protestants and Jews give an admirable and practicable expression to this spirit by gathering at regular intervals in fraternal assembly."

## WAR VETERANS RAP STATE DEPARTMENT STAND ON SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- State Department opposition to a Senate denunciation of Soviet anti-Semitism may be viewed by some as "a whitewash of a shameful problem," national commander Ralph Plofsky, of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., today told Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

In a letter to the Secretary, Mr. Plofsky asked the State Department "to desist from a position already repudiated by the votes of almost the entire Senate." He made reference to adoption by the Senate on September 24 of an amendment to the Foreign Aid bill, voicing the sense of Congress against the rising tide of Soviet anti-Semitism. The resolution was adopted by a vote of virtually the entire Senate, with only one vote in opposition, despite a State Department letter recommending action against the amendment.

## TRUMAN GETS DISTINGUISHED AWARD FROM FREE SONS OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Former President Harry S. Truman was honored with the Distinguished Service Award of the Free Sons of Israel, at a breakfast celebrating the fraternal order's 115th anniversary. Mr. Truman has been a member of the Free Sons of Israel for 50 years. Last year's award was presented to the late President John F. Kennedy.

## HARPO MARX DEAD AT 70; BROKE SILENCE FOR PRO-ISRAEL CAUSES

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Harpo Marx, the silent member of the Marx Brothers, died at Mount Sinai Hospital here last night after undergoing heart surgery. He was 70.

Although in his professional role Mr. Marx never spoke, he often appeared as a speaker at pro-Israel functions throughout the country. His long concern for Israel and the welfare of the Jews was expressed most recently when, in the spring of 1963, he visited Israel to take part in the opening ceremonies of a new hotel in Haifa.