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ADMINISTRATION OPPOSES SENATE BILL SEEKING TO CHECK ARAB BOYCOTT IN U.S.

WASHINGTON, May 24. (JTA) -- Undersecretary of State George Ball and Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor today told a Senate committee that while the Arab boycott of American firms dealing with Israel is looked upon by the Administration with resentment, it nevertheless firmly opposes the bill now before the Senate aimed at checking such boycott.

Hearings on the bill, which was proposed by Senator Harrison Williams, New Jersey Democrat, and Senator Jacobs Javits, New York Republican, started this morning before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee. Undersecretary Ball concentrated practically all his arguments to convince the Committee that the proposed legislation would gravely hurt Administration policies.

Under questioning, Mr. Ball asserted that firms that cooperate with the Arab boycott are in a better position "to work out solution" to their blacklisting problems than firms that refuse to cooperate with the boycott office. Asked whether the wording adopted during the weekend by the House International Trade Subcommittee--which would give the President the discretionary authority to promulgate anti-boycott regulations--would be acceptable to the State Department, Mr. Ball replied: "Quite frankly, I myself would not know what the Department of Commerce (which would have to act for the President) could do. Very little, I think."

Secretary of Commerce Connor asserted in his testimony that should the law prohibit American firms from responding to boycott office questionnaires, American business would be subjected to more serious prohibitions on the part of the Arabs. He claimed that while it may be assumed that the 150 American firms that are now on the Arab blacklist were interested in the proposed legislation, firms that now choose to trade with the Arabs to the exclusion of Israel were not interested in such legislation. Both the Secretary of Commerce and the Undersecretary of State before him asserted that the boycott has only a "marginal" effect on Israel.

State and Commerce Departments Criticized at Senate Hearing

Senator Williams, who is a member of the Senate Banking Committee, declared at the beginning of his questioning of the witnesses that it is highly inconsistent of the Administration to declare itself opposed to the Arab boycott but at the same time oppose effective measures against it. He rejected the argument that the bill would affect American embargo on trade with Cuba noting that the bill specifically refers to boycotts against nations friendly to the United States.

Referring to Administration arguments that the boycott can best be handled by the Administration on a case to case basis, Sen. Williams noted that he himself and the other 30 Senators who co-sponsored the proposed bill believe that "neither the State nor the Commerce Departments have effectively dealt with this problem nor efficiently protected the American businessman."

The grave warnings of possible Arab reaction to an anti-boycott bill were ridiculed by Sen. William Proxmire, Wisconsin Democrat, in his questioning of Administration witnesses. "I find it hard to believe that a country as powerful as the United States would be seriously affected by Arab attempts to put all American firms on a blacklist. This seems to be most ridiculous," Sen. Proxmire declared.

Another member of the committee, Sen. Walter Mondale, Minnesota Democrat, also told Administration witnesses that he as a co-sponsor of the bill, was "greatly surprised by the Administration arguments" noting that while the bill is sufficiently flexible, it would "give the Administration an important new tool against the Arab boycott which the State Department also depletes."

Sen. Edmund Muskie, Maine Democrat, asked the State Department to submit documentation to show what help the Department provides to businessmen who were affected by the Arab boycott.

The first public witness in support of the bill today was Irving J. Fain, chairman of Apex Rubber and Tire Company of Rhode Island who appeared on behalf of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. His testimony was so impressive that members of the committee, who received a copy of his statement in advance, took the unusual step of

asking Administration witnesses to reply to Mr. Fain's arguments even before Mr. Fain testified, and later when some of his argument were countered by Administration witnesses, Mr. Fain was asked by the members of the committee to reply to those counter-arguments.

Mr. Fain, who also testified before the House Subcommittee last week, rejected the argument that the Arab boycott is not effective, noting that Administration statistics showing the expansion of Israel's trade do not show the deterrent effect of the boycott on the American business community. Mr. Fain also stressed the difference between the nature of the Arab boycott measures and the American policy of economic denial against Cuba and noted that the Administration itself, in several cases concerning other friendly nations, instructed American companies not to provide documents requested from abroad.

The witness disclosed that last March some American firms had to provide certificates that the goods shipped to Arab countries do not originate not only in Israel but even in West Germany. He pointed out that if left unchallenged, the Arab boycott would set a precedent involving the United States in all the economic warfare activities between other countries.

BOURGUIBA SAYS ARAB VENTURES AGAINST ISRAEL ARE DOOMED TO FAILURE

LONDON, May 24. (JTA) -- President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia today declared in Tunis that "Arab ventures against Israel are doomed to failure," according to press reports received here. He added that "Tunisia will have no part of them."

(In an interview taped in Tunis and broadcast yesterday from Washington by CBS-TV, Mr. Bourguiba asserted that his proposal for a peaceful solution of the Arab-Israel conflict has been received favorably in many countries of North Africa and the Middle East. He said his voicing of a suggestion for Arab-Israeli peace talks "has permitted many people who used to be terrorized and felt completely inhibited to express their real views.")

KNECSET GETS BILL PREVENTING MEDICAL STUDENTS FROM LEAVING ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 24. (JTA) -- A bill to prevent graduates of the Hebrew University Medical School from leaving Israel during the first three years after graduation was introduced in Israel's Parliament.

The bill would also authorize the Health Minister to specify certain areas of Israel where graduates could not practice in the first year after they obtained licenses as doctors. Sponsors of the measure indicated they believed the bill would ensure enough doctors for rural development areas where there are shortages despite the fact that Israel has the highest ratio of doctors to residents in the world.

FOUR NAZIS CHARGED WITH EXECUTION OF JEWS ARRESTED IN WEST BERLIN

BONN, May 24. (JTA) -- The arrest of four former members of one of the Nazi war-time execution squads in West Berlin was announced today by the West Berlin Law Court. Former SS Brigade Leader Lothar Beutel of West Berlin was listed as one of the four members of Einsatzgruppe IV who was arrested. Names of the other three were withheld. The court said the four men were accused of participating in mass murders of Jews in Eastern Europe.

The prosecution in the Frankfurt trial of 20 former personnel of the Auschwitz death camp completed its presentation today with a demand for life terms for 16 of the former camp officials, life terms with limitations for two others and acquittal of two for lack of evidence.

The trial began on December 20, 1963 and extended through 153 court sessions, the longest Nazi war crimes trial in West Germany. Between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 victims, most of them Jews, were put to death in Auschwitz during the war. Some 360 witnesses have testified to multiple acts of beatings, torture and murder by the defendants.

U.N. GROUP APPEALS TO BONN FOR COMPENSATION TO MORE NAZI VICTIMS

LONDON, May 24. (JTA) -- The 20th annual meeting of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland approved unanimously today an appeal for equal compensation by West Germany to the victims of Nazism who were unable to file claims because they were trapped in Iron Curtain countries. Under present West German law, such claims were barred after October 1, 1953.

West Germany has approved plans for a hardship fund of \$175,000,000 for such claims but Jewish refugee organizations have been pressing for equal claims status for such refugees with those who have received full compensation.

(From Bonn, it was reported today that the Bundestag, lower house of the German Parliament, will start debate Wednesday on the amendment to the indemnification law affecting post-1953 Jewish applicants.)

CALLING OF WORLD JEWISH ASSEMBLY PROPOSED AT RABBINICAL CONVENTION

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., May 24. (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Assembly, the organization of the American Conservative rabbinate, was urged here today to summon a World Jewish Assembly for the purpose of forming a new, worldwide, Jewish organization based on the proposition that the World Zionist Organization "is no longer adequate."

The proposal was made at the Rabbinical Assembly's annual convention which is taking place here, with 500 rabbis in attendance. It was contained in a report entitled "Israel, Judaism, the Jewish people and Zionism," which stated that the purpose of the World Jewish Assembly would be:

"To provide a structure which the majority of Jews would recognize as their spokesman in international bodies such as the United Nations; to mobilize world opinion to protect the physical and economic security of Jewish communities whose rights are threatened; to foster those institutions which teach and preserve Jewish values, while recognizing that diversity precludes coercion on behalf or exclusion of any legitimate Jewish group; and to inculcate a sense of *ahavat Israel* (love for Israel) in all who recognized the authority of the Assembly."

Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, of New York, who presented the report, made clear to the convention the Conservative rabbinate's "unflinching support, politically and economically," for the State of Israel, and said that it is only the World Zionist Organization "that is found wanting." The proposed World Jewish Assembly, as envisaged in the report, would be composed of:

"1. Representatives of all national rabbinic and synagogal groups accepting the legitimacy of Jewish religious groups which differ from them in ideology and practice but have reverence for the integrity and sanctity of each other's religious leadership and institutions.

"2. Representatives of other national and international Jewish organizations with substantial constituencies which accept the first principle and recognize the worldwide fellowship of the Jewish people, our responsibility for the physical security, political freedom and spiritual survival of the Jewish tradition and people wherever they dwell."

CONVENTION OF JEWISH PUBLISHERS URGES SENATE TO ACT ON ARAB BOYCOTT

ATLANTA, May 24. (JTA) -- A resolution strongly urging the United States Senate to adopt the pending Williams-Javits measure which would prevent boycott activities by Arab states against Americans doing business with Israel was adopted here yesterday at the concluding session of the annual convention of the American Jewish Press Association. At the same session, terminating the association's four-day parley, the AJPA re-elected Morris Janoff, editor-publisher of the Jewish Standard, Jersey City, N. J., as president.

Another resolution adopted unanimously expressed the association's appreciation to the U. S. Senate for its action in protest against the mistreatment of Soviet Jewry by the Soviet Government. The AJPA also decided to launch a project for standardizing the transliteration of Hebrew terms used frequently in the English-language Jewish press.

Among the highlights of the convention was an address by Philip Slomovitz, editor-publisher of the Jewish News of Detroit, who took exception to a survey published by B'nai B'rith, characterizing the Jewish press as "dull" and as "disproportionately" devoted to social news. Mr. Slomovitz, chairman of the annual Jewish Press Week, repudiated the charges as "unwarranted, unimaginative, certainly not factual." He noted that the English-Jewish press, which publishes social news just as all newspapers do, "also offers the world Jewish news compiled for us by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, as the major news-gathering agency in world Jewry." "It is wrong," he said, "to denigrate a great instrument in Jewish life, especially when it is the only means of making American Jewry an informed constituency."

The association paid tribute to two Southern Jewish newspapers--the Southern Israelite of this city and the Hebrew Watchman of Memphis--who are currently celebrating their 40th anniversaries. In a special ceremony, Arnold Rosenberg, editor-publisher of the Southern Israelite, was honored by leaders of the Atlanta Jewish community.

In addition to re-electing Mr. Janoff as president, the association elected Leo Frisch, of the American Jewish World of Minneapolis-St. Paul, as honorary vice-president, citing him as "one of the chief pioneers of American Jewish journalism."

Other officers chosen were: Mr. Rosenberg as first vice-president; Albert Golomb, Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle and Mrs. Lee Neusner, Connecticut Jewish Ledger, Hartford, vice-presidents; Eli R. Jacobs, Buffalo Jewish Review, treasurer; Jimmy Wisch, Texas Jewish Post, secretary. Elected to the executive board were Martin Korik, Jewish Record, Atlantic City; Conrad Isenberg, Jewish Civil Leader, Worcester; and Milton Pinsky, Ohio Jewish Chronicle, Columbus.

CLEVELAND JEWISH WELFARE FUND DRIVE CLOSES WITH \$6, 070, 000 RAISED

CLEVELAND, May 24. (JTA) -- The Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal closed at a dinner-meeting at the Statler Hilton Hotel, with pledges reported at a goal-topping, record-setting total of \$6, 070, 220. Goal of the campaign was \$6, 066, 000. The previous record high was set last year when \$5, 922, 005 was realized.

An enthusiastic audience of more than 500 workers cheered the announcement of the result by Samuel H. Miller, general chairman of the campaign, who presided. Mr. Miller declared that the precedent-setting result "would echo not only throughout Cleveland and the American Jewish community but would also reach Israel and other overseas areas."

David N. Myers, president of The Jewish Community Federation, sponsor of the annual campaign, paid tribute to the leadership of Mr. Miller, and hailed his "dedication, dynamism, and determination for victory." A basic strength of the Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal was attributed by several campaign officers to the retention of seasoned veterans while attracting newer leadership. Henry L. Zucker is executive director of The Jewish Community Federation. Director of the campaign is Gerald S. Soroker, Federation assistant director.

C. J. F. W. F. GETS \$79, 680 U. S. GRANT TO CONTINUE STUDY OF SENILE AGED

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds has received a grant of \$79, 680 from the National Institute of Mental Health to be used for a second year of study on the treatment and prevention of mental impairment among the aged, it was announced today by Irving W. Rabb of Boston.

Mr. Rabb, who is the CJFWF advisory committee chairman for the study, noted that the grant represents approximately one-third of the government's overall financing for the three-year project. The study is to be completed on May 31, 1967 at a cost of \$224, 640, he said. Reporting on the completion of the first year of the research program, he pointed out that the study is the first nationwide effort to explore the nature of mental disturbance and deterioration--popularly known as senility--among the elderly in Jewish and non-Jewish homes for the aged.

The project is being conducted by a team of research investigators who will examine existing treatment, prevention and administrative practices in an effort to ascertain specifically how current programs are succeeding--or failing--to meet the needs of the senile and disturbed aged. The investigators thus far have completed organizational and first research phases of the study, which will involve a sample selected from the 4, 000 voluntary homes for the aged, Mr. Rabb reported. He emphasized that the results of the study are expected to provide a sounder basis for treating and preventing senility and related areas of concern.

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS ADOPTS \$1, 500, 000 BUDGET

NEW YORK, May 24. (JTA) -- A budget totaling \$1, 500, 000 for the 1965-66 operating and program expenditures of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was adopted here today at the annual meeting of the UAHC's board of trustees.

The expenditures will include allocations to involve Reform synagogues in the war on poverty; experimental programs to develop new religious services; expansion of interreligious programs with Catholics, Protestants and Jews; establishment of a department of youth education and new publications of texts for religious school and adult study courses; establishment of new congregations in new housing developments and rural areas; and the expansion of facilities and services of seven UAHC camp institutes and 12 regional UAHC offices to serve the 660 member Reform temples in the United States and Canada.

Rabbi Maurice S. Eisendrath, president of the UAHC, reported to the board that 1, 500 Jewish teenagers will spend the summer this year in this country and throughout the world, including Israel, working to help the underprivileged, studying Judaism and training as temple youth leaders, "translating the Jewish heritage into new art forms, and carrying out acts of social justice."

LABOR UNIONS IN DETROIT BUY \$303, 300 IN ISRAEL BONDS; HONOR LEADER

DETROIT, May 24. (JTA) -- A total of \$303, 300 in Israel bonds was sold at a dinner, sponsored by the Trade Union Division of the Israel Bond campaign here in honor of Al Barbour, president of the Wayne County AFL-CIO Council. More than 800 Detroit leaders of government, labor, education, religion and other areas attended the event.

The purchase of \$100, 000 in Israel bonds by the United Automobile Workers of America led the list of 15 unions which announced their investment in Israel bonds at the dinner. The UAW has made substantial purchases of Israel bonds in previous years as well. Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the UAW, was chairman of the dinner. Senator George McGovern of South Dakota, who was the guest speaker, pointed out the dangers which still face Israel, and stressed the key importance of the country's economic development aided by Israel bonds.