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HUGE NEW YORK RALLY PROTESTS SOVIET POLICY ON JEWS; BACKED BY JOHNSON

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- More than 18,000 Jews packed Madison Square Garden tonight in a massive act of protest against the continuing suppression by the Soviet Union of the cultural and religious freedom of the 3,000,000 Jews of Russia.

The "Rally for Soviet Jewry" adopted a resolution appealing to Soviet authorities to extend to Jewish citizens the full measure of equality guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution, including religious and cultural rights, the right to affiliate with co-religionists in religious groups within the Soviet Union and to allow religious and cultural bonds with Jewish communities abroad.

President Johnson, in a message addressed to the rally, said: "I have more than once expressed my deep concern and that of this Administration regarding the plight of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union. All Americans sympathetically concerned with injustice cannot but deplore the difficulties faced by that community and the restrictions which hamper its religious and cultural life. We believe that in the interests of all humanity, the spiritual and cultural heritage of these people should be nurtured and preserved.

"In a spirit of peace and reason, we express our earnest hope that the Soviet leadership will ameliorate the situation of its Jewish minority. Doing so would go a long way toward removing a moral and emotional barrier between us and contribute to a relaxation of tensions. And we all earnestly hope for this," President Johnson stated. His message was read to the rally by Dr. Joachim Prinz, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Mayor Wagner, Senators Kennedy and Javits Address Audience

Senator Jacob K. Javits, addressing the audience, said: "It is indeed tragic that twice within the short span of a generation, we find ourselves now participating in this rally protesting anti-Jewish acts in Europe. The measure of success these protests have received, although small, must give new strength to our expressions of concern."

Senator Robert F. Kennedy told the mass-gathering: "Today, three million Jews in Russia need help but they do not march alone. The conscience of the world cries out in their behalf." He added that to champion freedom in any part of the world was very much in the American tradition, citing the guarantees in the American constitution of freedom of religion and assembly and the right to petition for redress of grievances.

Mayor Wagner, who was one of the speakers, proclaimed the day as "Conference on Soviet Jewry Day in New York City." He declared that "deprivation of human rights cannot be condoned" and added that "we earnestly pray for the end of these discriminations." Gov. Nelson Rockefeller proclaimed the day as "A Day of Protest in New York Against Anti-Semitism." He said that "this discrimination is abhorrent and it is fitting that we publicly manifest our protest of these procedures by the Soviets."

Petition with 1,000,000 Protest Signatures to be Sent to U. N.

Dr. Max Nussbaum, chairman of the American Zionist Council, told the rally that petitions being circulated for 1,000,000 protest signatures would be sent to President Johnson and the United Nations Human Rights Commission, urging them to use their influence with Soviet leaders to extend to Soviet Jewry the right to religious and cultural expression granted to other Soviet minorities. He emphasized that the gathering was not an anti-Soviet rally. "What we demand is that the Soviet authorities accord their Jewish community the same freedom to live their lives as is extended to the Armenians, the Germans and the Gypsies," he said.

Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, past president of the New York Board of Rabbis, paraphrased Lincoln's dictum that a government cannot endure permanently "half-slave and half-free" and urged the Soviet leadership to abolish "the last vestiges of slavery" and to restore justice and equality to the Jews as well as to other minorities in Russia.

Other speakers included Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, president of the City College of New York, Socialist leader Norman Thomas, labor leader A. Philip Randolph and Morris B. Abram, United States delegate to the UN Human Rights Commission and American Jewish Committee president.

U. S. REBUFFS SOVIET DEMAND TO REMOVE SYNAGOGUE PLAQUE IN NEW YORK

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 3. (JTA) -- The United States rebuffed today a demand by the Soviet Mission to the United Nations that the United States act to remove a plaque on a synagogue near the Mission building in New York City which accuses the Soviet Union of discriminations against Jews in the Soviet Union.

In the same exchange, the United States also rejected a protest by the Soviets against a protest march from the United Nations building to the Soviet Mission building organized by Jewish groups on January 17 to protest the Soviet denial of cultural and religious freedom to Russian Jewry.

The United States position was given in a statement released today by the U. S. Mission to the United Nations. It cited an earlier statement by the United States last February 24, which it said made it clear "that the erection of the plaque on Congregation Zichron Ephraim Synagogue in no way violates the privileges and immunities of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations" and that "the Government of the United States has nothing to add to that note."

The Soviet Mission note declared that despite USSR Mission protests, "an anti-Soviet demonstration was organized" in front of the Mission building in which Mayor Robert Wagner "and other official persons took part. At the same time, a bronze plaque was installed opposite the Mission with an inscription which is slanderous and hostile to the Soviet Union." The inscription, which the Soviets did not quote but which was quoted by the United States in its reply, is "Hear the cry of the oppressed--the Jewish community in the Soviet Union."

Soviet Note Says Inscription of Plaque Is 'Slanderous'

The Soviet Mission charged that "such acts violate the normal conditions required by the USSR Mission for the performance of its functions" and that the acts were "an impermissible violation of the privileges and immunities of the Mission." The note cited the agreement of June 26, 1946 between the United Nations and the United States Government on offices of the UN and the "universally recognized principles of international law on diplomatic relations."

The Soviet note contended that the fact that the plaque was on private property did not change the situation, since international law "imposes on each state the obligation not to permit and to prevent the commission of unlawful acts in its territory against representatives of foreign countries by private persons."

The Soviet note also held that the protest rally and the continued presence of the plaque ran counter to United States assurances last February 19 that measures were being taken to guard Soviet Embassy or UN mission buildings according to a rule banning demonstrations "at a distance of less than 500 feet from Embassy or Mission buildings." The note finally protested the "negligence" of United States authorities and demanded "the immediate removal of the slanderous inscription."

U. S. Says Soviet Immunities Not Impaired by Jewish Plaque

The United States reply noted that all appropriate measures were taken to ensure that the protest meeting was "completely orderly, that no violence occurred and that there was no physical interference with entry or exit into the Soviet Mission or with its performance of its normal functions."

The reply referred to the contrast between the orderly protest and the "organized mob violence recently directed against official United States Government buildings in the Soviet Union. The United States note also stressed that the placement of the plaque was a private action "with which the United States Government has had no association of any kind" and that its placement has not resulted "in violence against the Mission or in impediment in any way to the fulfillment by the Soviet Mission of its functions."

The note rejected the Soviet complaint of alleged violation of various agreements because "the privileges and immunities assured to the Soviet Mission" by those agreements "are not impaired by the plaque's erection."

BEN-GURION REFUSES TO HEAD MAPAI LIST IF ESHKOL RETAINS PREMIERSHIP

TEL AVIV, June 3. (JTA) -- Former Premier David Ben-Gurion informed the Mapai Center today that he was not prepared to head the Mapai list of candidates to the forthcoming Parliamentary elections if the Center decided that Levi Eshkol should retain the Premiership.

The members of the Mapai Center will have to decide tonight on who should head the party's list of candidates to the Parliament and who should be the Mapai candidate to Premiership. All indications point to the fact that Mr. Eshkol will be named candidate for Premier and that Mr. Ben-Gurion will be asked to head the election list.

JEWSH GROUPS URGED NOT TO INTERVENE FOR JEWSH COMMUNITIES ABROAD

GENEVA, June 3. (JTA) -- The World Conference of Jewish Organizations today closed its annual meeting here with an appeal to Jewish groups to refrain from "intervening in the affairs of Jewish communities in other lands" unless invited to do so.

The COJO appeal, in a resolution, urged organizations engaged in international affairs "to respect the autonomy and authority" of the representative Jewish groups in countries who "are competent to conduct their own affairs." The resolution was approved in response to a plea by representatives of ADALA, the representative agency of Argentine Jewry, who criticized "the intensive actions of American organizations without prior discussion or clearance with the representative body of Argentine Jewry."

Noting that Argentine Jewry had been troubled in recent years by neo-Nazi movements, the COJO directed its appeal to Jewish groups, "whether members of COJO or not." It urged them not to intervene "without invitation from the central representative body, except where there is no representative body or such body has been deprived of the freedom to speak and act."

NEUMANN REJECTS ATTACK OF CONSERVATIVE RABBIS ON ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, today took issue with some of the Conservative rabbis who at their recent convention criticized the World Zionist Organization and urged its replacement by a World Jewish Assembly. Declaring that the statement presented at the convention "does not reflect the views of large numbers" of the Conservative rabbis, "Dr. Neumann said:

"As I note, the criticism of the WZO was not adopted as an expression of the convention; it expressed the views of a five-member committee in the course of a wide-ranging, free-wheeling document touching on a variety of subjects and criticizing other Jewish organizations and institutions, as well. It obviously does not represent the views of large numbers of Conservative rabbis who are actively devoted to the Zionist Movement. If the World Zionist Organization was highlighted in the press reports, it is but a reflection of the unique position it occupies in the Jewish world.

"Such attacks from various quarters, coupled with the suggestion that the WZO should make way for some other worldwide organization vaguely conceived, began to be heard immediately after the successful establishment of the State of Israel. But these periodic blasts of the trumpet, whatever the motivation, did not shatter the Walls of Jericho.

"In the present instance the criticism is directed more particularly at the structure of the WZO at the very moment when it is seriously engaged in a number of steps designed to modify its own structure and broaden its base, in accordance with the decisions of the last Zionist Congress. Among these steps now in the process of implementation are: the enlargement of the World Zionist Executive (Jewish Agency) to include representative Jewish personalities on a non-party basis; broadening the composition of the Zionist General Council (Actions Committee) in a similar manner; and the setting up of a Special Commission on the structure of the Zionist Movement.

"This Commission, with a non-party majority, is due to hold its first plenary meeting in August of this year. It is charged to present its findings and recommendations, after a thoroughgoing study, one year before the next Zionist Congress, at the latest. These significant developments are wholly ignored in the paper under discussion. One may doubt whether the five authors will make faster progress toward realizing their idea of creating a new worldwide organization to replace both the WZO and the World Jewish Congress.

"Personally I regard a certain ferment among many Conservative Rabbis as a sign of alertness to the many problems and challenges confronting our generation; and I have a feeling of kinship with those who are earnestly seeking answers to perplexing questions. I am confident that the Conservative Movement with its long history of pro-Zionist effort and orientation will not be guided by negativist attitudes, but will seek and find positive, constructive answers to the question of its relationship with the World Zionist Movement."

ALEXANDER GOLDBERG ELECTED PRESIDENT OF TECHNION; REPLACES GEN. DORI

HAIFA, June 3. (JTA) -- Alexander Goldberg, general director of Chemicals and Phosphates, was unanimously elected today president of the Haifa Institute of Technology, replacing Gen. Yaacov Dori, who resigned for reasons of health.

The new Technion president was born in Vilna and came to Israel in 1948, after study in London. He has been managing director of the chemical firm since that time. He has also held the post of managing director of the Negev Phosphates Co. and was a member of the board of the Dead Sea Works. He has been chairman of the board of governors of the Technion for several years.

ISRAEL ENVOY CONFERS WITH U. N. SECRETARY GENERAL ON BORDER SITUATION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 3. (JTA) -- Ambassador Michael S. Comay, Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, met with UN Secretary General U Thant here today to discuss developments and exchange information on the Israel-Arab border situation activities carried out by Arab Fatah terrorists inside Israel. Ambassador Comay was accompanied during the talks by Col. Jacob Monbaz, Counsellor of the Israel Mission to the United Nations.

N. Y. LAW PROVIDING TEXTBOOKS FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS TO BE CHALLENGED

ALBANY, N. Y., June 3. (JTA) -- The bill signed into law Tuesday by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, which will provide textbooks to children in both public and religious schools in the state, is virtually certain to be challenged on the basis of a constitutional provision barring the use of public funds "directly or indirectly" to aid sectarian schools; it was predicted here today. An estimated 35,000 pupils in Jewish schools in New York City are expected to benefit from the new law.

Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz disclosed today that he had warned the Governor that there were serious questions about the constitutionality of the new law, which becomes effective September 1, 1966. Jewish organizations, mostly Orthodox, have endorsed the bill and the parallel federal aid law. The American Jewish Congress has criticized the law as breaching the church-state separation principle.

(The New York Times today criticized the new bill for the second time in an editorial urging that a court test be held. "If this law is constitutional," the editorial declared, "the State Constitution does not mean what it appears to say." Similar editorials appeared in the New York Post and New York World Telegram and Sun. The Journal-American, however, published an editorial favoring the newly enacted measure;)

FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND PRESENTS \$25,000 TO UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

NEW YORK, June 3; (JTA) -- Henry Ford II, on behalf of the Ford Motor Company Fund, has presented \$25,000 to the humanitarian work of the nationwide 1965 United Jewish Appeal.

Announcement of the presentation was made tonight by Max M. Fisher, UJA General Chairman, at a dinner here of the Automotive Division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. Some 200 representatives of manufacturers and distributors in the New York area of automobiles and automotive supplies and accessories were present to announce a total of more than \$150,000 in UJA contributions.

DR. BOEHM HONORED ON 70TH BIRTHDAY; NEGOTIATED REPARATIONS AGREEMENT

COLOGNE, June 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Franz Boehm, who headed the West German delegation which negotiated the German-Israel reparations treaty, was honored on his 70th birthday yesterday at a reception tendered by the Israel Mission in Cologne.

Dr. Felix Shinnar, head of the mission, described Dr. Boehm as one of the "righteous" to whom Jews pay their high respects. He said Prof. Boehm did much as head of the reparations team and that as a member of the Bundestag, the West German Parliamentary lower house and as assistant chairman of the Bundestag indemnification committee, he had shown deep understanding of the problems of the victims of Nazism.

Dr. Shinnar added that 70 trees had been planted in Dr. Boehm's honor in the Martyrs Wood in Israel. He then read special birthday greetings sent by Israel Premier Levi Eshkol, Foreign Minister Mrs. Golda Meir and former Premier David Ben-Gurion. Among participants in the reception were Cologne Mayor Theo Burauen, Vice-Chancellor Viktor Westrick and other West German leaders. The event was also a farewell reception for Dr. Shinnar as he ends his duties in Cologne and returns to Israel soon.

KENNEDY FAMILY ACCEPTS BOOK OF SPEECHES ON ISRAEL BY LATE PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- Sen. Robert F. Kennedy accepted today on behalf of the Kennedy Family the first copy of a book published by the Zionist Organization of America of all writings and speeches on Israel, Zionism and matters of related Jewish interest by the late President Kennedy.

The presentation was made at ceremonies here by Dr. Max Nussbaum, ZOA president, who headed a group of ZOA leaders attending the ceremony. The hard cover book, entitled "John F. Kennedy on Israel, Zionism and Jewish Issues," was published by the Herzl Press. It was compiled by Ernest E. Barbarash, Zionist publicist.

200 HASSIDIM FROM ENGLAND COME TO VISIT LUBAVITCHER REBBE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- More than 200 "Friends of the Lubavitcher Movement" from England will attend the forthcoming Shavuoth holiday at the Lubavitcher Center in New York this weekend.

One group arrived today aboard a chartered airliner, and another group of those predominantly from the Manchester area will leave Manchester today aboard a second specially chartered flight. The guests will be housed in homes of Lubavitcher Chassidim.