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SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN ISRAEL PROPOSES NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN MID-EAST

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- Soviet Ambassador Dimitry Chuvakhin proposed here this weekend the formation of a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. Addressing the Israeli council of the World Jewish Congress, he said that a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East would lessen tensions in the region "and increase the chances for peace talks between the governments of the area."

Referring to "the spirit of Tashkent" -- the pacification of the latest India-Pakistan conflict through mediation by the USSR -- he said his Government is trying to find similar solutions to problems in other parts of the world. He called upon organized Jewish opinion to back Soviet opposition to what he called "West German revanchism and militarism."

Addressing the same meeting in the presence of the envoy from Moscow, Tel Aviv Mayor Mordechai Namir expressed the hope that the Soviet Government would "understand our feelings toward Russian Jews." The Mayor asked that the USSR "allow the Jews to develop their traditions and culture" and to permit Russian Jews who wish to emigrate to leave their country "to unite with their relatives in Israel."

AMERICAN 'JURY' TO HEAR EYEWITNESS REPORTS ON JEWS IN SOVIET UNION

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- A panel of eight distinguished Americans will conduct a public tribunal next Friday at the Carnegie International Center to hear a series of eyewitness reports on the condition of the Jews in the Soviet Union, it was announced here today.

At an all-day hearing, eight "jurors" will take testimony, receive reports and question witnesses in preparation for the issuance of a comprehensive report later this month. Members of the jury, who have joined in forming an Ad Hoc Commission on the Rights of Soviet Jews, will be:

Dr. John C. Bennett, president of the Union Theological Seminary; James Farmer, former executive director, Congress of Racial Equality; Father George B. Ford, pastor emeritus of the Corpus Christi Church; Emil Mazey, secretary-general of the United Automobile Workers; Bayard Rustin, director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Telford Taylor, chief U.S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials; Norman Thomas, veteran Socialist leader; and Lionel Trilling, author and critic.

A spokesman for the Ad Hoc Commission said today that major attention would be focused on evaluating reports of a recent easing of religious and cultural discrimination against the Jews of the USSR. The hearing will seek to determine whether these reports denote token concessions to world protests or mark a genuine change in Soviet policy towards the country's Jewish community, it was stated. The public tribunal will take place just 10 days before the next Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR.

ISRAEL AND SYRIA EXCHANGE PRISONERS IN PRESENCE OF U.N. OBSERVERS

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- An American youth, Edward Levi, who crossed over into Syria two years ago, near Ein Gev, was returned to Israel today in an exchange of prisoners between Israel and Syria. It was the first such exchange in two years.

The exchange, in the presence of United Nations military observers, took place at the Bnot Yaacov crossing point on the Israeli-Syrian border. Israel, in turn, handed over to the Syrians a 19-year-old Syrian who had crossed over into Israel a year ago. Levi told Israeli police he had no idea where he had been kept by the Syrians. He will be turned over to the United States Embassy for repatriation.

PRESIDENT SHAZAR OF ISRAEL LEAVES BY PLANE FOR STATE VISIT TO NEPAL

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- President and Mrs. Zalman Shazar, left here by air tonight for a week's state visit to Nepal. The President is returning the official visit paid to Israel last fall by King Mahendras. Mr. Shazar had been scheduled to make the trip several months ago, but postponed the journey because there was warfare in progress at the time between India and Pakistan, whose air space the Israeli plane must pass to reach the Nepalese capital of Katmandu. The visit is expected to broaden further the friendly relations between Israel and Nepal.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY BOARD REFUSES TO ACCEPT DR. WISE'S RESIGNATION

TEL AVIV, March 13; (JTA) -- The executive board of Tel Aviv University voted here last night not to accept the resignation of Dr. George Wise, who had quit the presidency of the university, as well as to refuse to accept "all other recent resignations." The board's decision was voted by a ballot of six to two, the dissenters being Dr. Ben-Zion Katz, rector of the university, and Prof. Alfred Klopstock, the former rector.

The board called on Dr. Wise, who had left for the United States, to return here as soon as possible and resume his duties as president. Tel Aviv Mayor Mordechai Namir was instructed to communicate with Dr. Wise immediately and to inform him that, as soon as he comes back, the executive board will meet with him to iron out the disputes between him and the various governing bodies of the university. Pending Dr. Wise's return, the board ruled that Aharon Doron, the university's director-general, would head the institution's administrative and financial departments as acting president.

After the meeting, Dr. Katz, who said he will not resign, stated that he had opposed the rejection of Dr. Wise's resignation because Dr. Wise "interfered in academic matters in such a way as to endanger the university's level of instruction." "I don't believe," he added, "that Dr. Wise would change his habits."

EXCLUSION OF JEWS FROM U. S. DIPLOMATIC POSTS IN ARAB LANDS PROTESTED

NEW YORK, March 13; (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today called on Secretary of State Dean Rusk to repudiate the "ugly practice" of excluding Jews from diplomatic posts in Arab countries, it was reported today at a meeting of the organization's Governing Council.

Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the Congress, voiced "dismay and disbelief" at a written explanation of State Department policy on overseas assignments by Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur, 2nd. Mr. MacArthur said in a letter: "While the United States does not normally take into account the religion of its employees in assigning them for duty abroad, this is regrettably a factor which cannot be ignored in the case of certain countries whose policies in this respect we cannot control; however much we disagree with them.

Mr. MacArthur's statement was in reply to Rep. Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, a member of the House Armed Services and Government Operations Committees, who had inquired into allegations that the State Department was barring American Jews from appointment to foreign service posts abroad.

"We are astonished that the State Department should adopt this view," Dr. Prinz wrote to Secretary Rusk. "Once we concede the right of foreign governments to exclude an American representative solely because of his religion, then ultimately only a certain kind of moral, political and ethnic neuter will be found eligible for diplomatic posts."

TRIAL OF AUSCHWITZ 'SELECTION' DOCTOR OPENS IN COMMUNIST GERMANY

LONDON, March 13; (JTA) -- Dr. Horst Fischer, a former "selection" doctor at the Auschwitz death camp, went on trial in Communist East Germany this weekend on charges of consigning to death between 55,000 and 75,000 Auschwitz inmates, according to a dispatch received here today from East Berlin.

The physician, a member of the SS during the Hitler era, admitted to the court that he had been a "selection" doctor. He said he had divided Auschwitz inmates, between November, 1941 and January, 1945, into categories of "capable to work" and "doomed to death." He was charged with having also ordered the execution of 4,000 sick inmates at Auschwitz.

U. N. BODY FAVORS UPBRINGING ORPHANS IN RELIGION OF THEIR PARENTS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 13; (JTA) -- Israel won a significant victory here this weekend, over staunch opposition, by getting a favorable vote in the Commission on Human Rights of a proposal that all countries should assure orphaned children that they must be brought up in accordance with the "expressed or presumed" religious wishes of their dead parents.

A non-governmental speaker during the debate, Dr. Isaac Lewin, of the World Agudath Israel, had told the Commission that, following World War II, at least 20,000 orphans had been turned over to Gentiles for their upbringing, thus being "lost to their people."

The Israeli move, started by Israel's representative on the Commission, Associate Supreme Court Justice Haim H. Cohn, and aided by the deputy Israeli permanent representative, Dr. Joel Barzoni, had been ruled out of order by the group's chairman, Fernando Volio Jimenez, of Costa Rica. Justice Cohn took the unusual step of appealing from the chair's ruling, winning by a vote of 10-4 with seven abstentions. The Israeli clause was then adopted by a vote of 9-7 with four abstentions, being supported among others by the United States, Britain and France, with the USSR in opposition.

C. J. F. W. F. ESTABLISHES COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH JEWISH EDUCATION

NEW YORK, March 13: (JTA) -- A Committee on Federation Planning for Jewish Education has been established by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, it was announced today by Lewis H. Weinstein, CJFWF president.

The committee will be concerned with community responsibilities for strengthening the quality of Jewish education to make it most helpful to the children and adults served and to the community as a whole. Formation of the committee was recommended by delegates to the annual General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, which had been held in Montreal.

The Council and the American Association for Jewish Education are cooperating closely in the work of the committee, whose chairman is Mandel Berman of Detroit. Mr. Berman is a leader of the Jewish Welfare Federation and of Jewish education in Detroit. He is a national vice-president of the AAJE. Lavy M. Becker, past president of the Montreal Federation and a board member of the CJFWF, is vice-chairman; Maurice Bernstein, director of community planning for the CJFWF, is committee secretary. The committee is addressing itself to the following questions:

1. What responsibilities are most appropriate for Jewish Federations in the field of Jewish education?

2. What criteria should guide Jewish Federations in supporting Jewish education?

3. What should be the relationship between Federations and such central instruments as Bureaus of Jewish Education, Jewish education committees, United Hebrew Schools, Associated Talmud Torahs?

4. What should be the relationship of Jewish Federations with "communal schools" and synagogue schools?

5. What should be the financial and planning relationship of these Jewish Federations to the different types of Jewish schools?

6. How can the major problems in Jewish education be overcome? What can be done about indifference in the community, fragmentation in Jewish education, quality of teacher training, curriculum with inadequate student impact, limitation of most Jewish education to elementary years, the need for top-level lay leadership in Jewish education, and the present inadequate status of Jewish education generally?

The committee will also examine how Jewish education can be related to other communal responsibilities through the community planning process. Committee members include a number of Jewish Federation leaders throughout North America, chairmen of community planning committees on Jewish education, chairmen and directors of Bureaus of Jewish Education, executive directors of Federations, and educational leaders in the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform congregational movements.

AMERICAN JEWISH ORTHODOX GROUPS REMIND MOSCOW OF PLEDGE ON MATZOH

NEW YORK, March 13: (JTA) -- The heads of two Orthodox Jewish organizations appealed to the Soviet Union last night to "fulfill their pledge" to permit the baking of matzoh throughout the Soviet Union for Passover.

In a statement issued here, Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, and Moses I. Feuerstein, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said that, according to press reports "which have been confirmed," the baking of matzoh will be permitted only in Moscow and Leningrad, thus the overwhelming majority of Jews throughout the Soviet Union will be left without matzoh.

The two Jewish leaders said that American Jewish communities were "ready and willing to offer sufficient quantities of matzoh to Russian Jewry so that they may be able to celebrate the Passover festival."

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ACQUIRES COLLECTION OF RARE HEBREW BOOKS

NEW YORK, March 13: (JTA) -- A 9,000-volume private collection of rare Hebrew works, including more than 30 of the 100 Hebrew books printed before 1500 and still in existence, has been acquired by Yeshiva University for the Manuscript and Rare Book Division of its new Central University Library scheduled for completion next year, it was announced here this weekend by Dr. Samuel Belkin, university president.

The collection, which was originally assembled by Baruch Straus, a German-born Jew who settled in London, was acquired by Yeshiva University with the financial help of Ludwig Jesselson, a prominent philanthropist and collector of Judaica, and Max Stern, founder of the University's Stern College for Women.

In addition to the Hebrew incunabula, works published in the first 50 years after the invention of printing, the collection includes 16th century first editions printed in Italy and products of early presses in Prague, Cracow, Lublin and Basel.

20,000 ATTEND FUNERAL OF RABBI ADLER; DAY OF MOURNING DECLARED

DETROIT, March 13. (JTA) -- Led by highest clerical and lay dignitaries of the state and city, including Gov. George Romney, Mayor Jerome Cavanagh, and their official families, 20,000 persons today attended funeral services for Rabbi Morris Adler, held at his own Shaarey Zedek Temple, in suburban Southfield.

The rabbi, who would have been 60 on March 30, succumbed Friday to a gunshot wound in his head, received 27 days earlier, when a young, demented congregant fired at him while the rabbi was conducting Sabbath services in his pulpit. He was taken to Sinai Hospital and had never regained consciousness. His wife, Mrs. Goldie Adler, was at his bedside when he died. His assailant, who had turned the gun on himself, died from his self-inflicted bullet wound in four days.

Both Gov. Romney and Mayor Cavanagh declared today an official day of mourning for the entire state and city. The rabbi's remains were laid out in the temple last night, and thousands of mourners passed by the bier throughout the night and all morning today.

The services for Rabbi Adler were conducted by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; Rabbi Max Arzst, provost of the seminary; Rabbi Irwin Goren, Rabbi Adler's associate; Rabbi Mordechai Halpern, of Temple Beth Shalom, Detroit, a cousin of Rabbi Adler; and cantors Jacob H. Sinenklar and Reuven Frankel. Interment was at Clover Hill Park, Royal Oak, Mich.

Every pew in the 5,000-seat Shaarey Zedek Temple's sanctuary was filled when the services were begun at 2 p.m. More than 1,000 other mourners listened to the services over loud speakers in other temple halls and study rooms. Thousands jammed the streets outside the magnificent \$4,500,000 temple dedicated in 1962 under the supervision of Rabbi Adler, following the services and reciting "amens" that came over other loud speakers.

500 Automobiles Follow Funeral Procession to Cemetery

More than 500 automobiles followed the funeral procession from the temple to the cemetery. Among the national Jewish organizations represented at the funeral were the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, the Zionist Organization of America, the Jewish National Fund, and the Jewish War Veterans of the United States. The Israel Government was represented by Consul Aviv Ekroni of the Consulate-General in Chicago, and the B'nai B'rith delegation was led by Label A. Katz, former national president of the organization.

In addition to official delegations representing Jewish groups, there were also delegations representing Roman Catholic and Protestant churches. Archbishop John F. Deegan, Roman Catholic prelate of the Detroit diocese, lauded Rabbi Adler in his official mourning pronouncement. Lewis H. Weinstein, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, called Rabbi Adler "a giant in his leadership of our people and our nation."

Rabbi Adler was not only outstanding among America's Jewish spiritual leaders, but also a prime proponent of the ecumenical spirit in this country, as well as one of Detroit's -- and the country's -- leaders in efforts to bring about labor-management peace and sound relations between industry and trade unions.

Born in Slutsk, Russia, in 1906, the son of Rabbi Joseph Adler, he was brought to the United States at the age of 7. He studied first at the City College of New York, where he received a bachelor of science degree, and was ordained a rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1935. He started his career in the Conservative rabbinate as the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El, Buffalo, N.Y., and assumed the leadership of Temple Shaarey Zedek in Detroit in 1938.

He became one of the leaders of the Jewish community as well as one of the outstanding citizens of the general community. During World War II, he served as a chaplain in the United States Army and, for a time after Japan had been defeated, served as the first Jewish army chaplain in Tokyo.

He was chairman of the Rabbinical Assembly's Commission on Adult Education, and a member of the B'nai B'rith Commission on Adult Education. Locally, he was also a member of the board of the Jewish Welfare Federation. He was also a member of the Detroit Round Table of Christians and Jews, of the Labor-Management Citizens' Committee, the Governor's Commission on Higher Education, vice-president of the Community Health Association, and an adviser to the Wayne State University in this city.

A prolific writer as well as a noted lecturer, he was the author of Great Passages from the Torah, The World of the Talmud, and many monographs and magazine articles.