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EGYPT PROTESTS TO U.S. CONGRESS AGAINST SALE OF JETS TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, May 26. (JTA) -- The Egyptian National Assembly has submitted a protest to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives against the American sale of light jet bombers to Israel.

The National Assembly of Egypt, acting on a motion adopted by that body, told Congress that the deal was "a violent stab at the heart of the Arab nation" and would "have great effect on the relations between the Arab and American peoples." Belief was voiced in the protest that the American conscience "refused to support the forces of aggression embodied in Israel."

The Assembly expressed "strong denunciation of the behavior the U.S. Government has embarked upon by providing Israel with offensive arms." It was charged that Israel was preparing aggression and had an "expansionist plan." A charge was made that the U.S. Government has intensified tensions and "endangered international peace and security."

Egyptian Premier Muhyi Ad-Din, addressing the Egyptian Assembly on the subject his week denounced the U.S. action. Fe said the United States was no longer content in extending economic aid to Israel and putting "pressure" on other nations to sell arms to Israel "but has itself now supplied Israel with arms, although it realizes that these arms are aimed against Arab rights in Palestine." He said: "The U.S. arms supplied to Israel will strengthen the Israeli aggressive force, and induce them to commit further aggression."

A high State Department official said, meanwhile, today that the United States is continuing consideration of Egypt's request for renewal of the aid agreement that expires June 30. Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur II, said in a letter to Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, that "our decision in this matter involves complex considerations relating not only to U.S.-U.A.R. relations but to the U.S. position in the Near East generally."

"We will continue to weigh these often conflicting considerations carefully," Mr. MacArthur wrote. "Meanwhile we feel no useful purpose would be served by engaging in public debate with President Nasser. You may be sure, however, that the Secretary of State is well aware of Congressional interest in this sensitive subject."

STATE DEPT. DENIES RELIGION IS FACTOR IN ASSIGNING PERSCNNEL ABROAD

NEW YORK, May 26. (JTA) -- The State Department, in a letter to the American Jewish Congress, has corrected an "erroneous" assertion by a Department official that religion is a factor in the assignment of U.S. diplomatic personnel abroad.

William J. Crockett, Deputy Undersecretary of State for Administration, said in a letter dated May 19, and released today by Dr. Joachim Prinz, past president of the Congress, that "my purpose in writing this letter is to make clear beyond any doubt that the Department's policy and practice with respect to the assignment of its personnel neither provides for nor tolerates assignment limitations on racial or religious grounds,"

Issuance of the letter came following a meeting of the State Department earlier this month between Mr. Crockett, Dr. Prinz and Phil Baum, of the American Jewish Congress, to discuss charges that the State Department barred Jews from service in Arab countries. Mr. Crockett referred to a communication from Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur II dated January 15, to Rep. Richard S. Schweiker, Pennsylvania Republican, in which Mr. MacArthur had said that "the religion of (State Department) employees is regrettably a factor which cannot be ignored in the case of certain countries.

Commenting on Mr. MacArthur's statement, Mr. Crockett said: "The language implies that an employee's religion is taken into account when assignments are made. I

should explain that this letter was in error with respect to policy and practice. He Mr. Crockett summarized the State Department position as follows:

- "11) Assignments are made on the basis of need and merit, without in any way taking into account race or religion.
- "2) The Department maintains no personnel forms or records which indicate an employee's religious affiliation. In making assignments, personnel officials do not inquire into an employee's religious preference.
- "3) Assignments are made on the basis of our estimate of how well an employee's talents mesh with the requirements of a given position.
- "'4) We have made clear our opposition to any policies of foreign countries that discriminate against Americans because of their religion. This opposition has been active and our embassies have taken the matter up with other governments on a number of occasions. We believe that our efforts are contributing toward our goal of eliminating racial and religious distinctions from international relations and travel."

Commenting on the letter received from Mr. Crockett, Dr. Prinz declared: "The new declaration of State Department policy comes as a welcome affirmation of long cherished American policy. Undersceretary Crockett has made it plain that the United States will not tolerate the attempt by any foreign government to export its local prejudices into our domestic affairs by requiring us to infringe the constitutional prohibition against religious tests for public office."

PREMIER ESHKOL LEAVES TODAY FOR VISITS TO SIX AFRICAN COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, May 26. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, accompanied by Mrs. Eshkol and a number of political advisers, will leave Israel tomorrow, and is scheduled to stop in Paris for two days, then go on to Africa for a tour of six countries on that continent. During the weekend in Paris, a spokesman for the Premier's office said, no "definite agenda" will be followed.

During Mr. Eshkol's absence, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir will act as Premier as well as acting Minister of Defense. The decision to name Mr. Sapir as acting holder of those two top portfolios was made here by the Cabinet.

SOVIET SCIENTIST TO LECTURE AT TEL AVIV U. ON PLANETARY PHYSICS

JERUSALEM, May 26. (JTA) -- A prominent Soviet scientist has cabled Tel Aviv University that he will come to Israel to participate in a seminar organized by the university, officials announced today,

Prof. Georgi Marziuk of Novosibirsk will lecture at the seminar, which will deal with planetary physics. His acceptance followed Soviet cancellation of a planned Israel Philharmonic tour of the Soviet Union and it was welcomed by observers here as a sign of at least a small warming of Israeli-Soviet relations,

PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA ARRIVES IN ISRAEL FOR SIX-DAY VISIT

TEL AVIV, May 26. (JTA) -- The President of Nicaragua, Dr. Rene Schick Gutierraz, arrived in Israel tonight for a six-day visit. He was met at Lydda Airport by President Shazar, Acting Premier Pinhas Sapir and Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

In brief statements at the airport, the two Presidents stressed the friendship between the two countries. The Nicaragua President has a crowded itinerary of tours, ceremonies and functions. On Sunday, he will sign an agreement for Israeli-Nicaragua technical aid cooperation. Fis party includes Foreign Minister Alfonso Ortega Urbina, Finance Minister Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero and Education Minister Pizzo Sanson Teran,

ISRAEL'S STAND ON GERMAN-POLISH BORDER CRITICIZED IN BUNDESTAG

BONN, May 26. (JTA) -- A Free Democratic member of West Germany's Parliament criticized the Government today for giving aid to Israel, a state which "of its own free will" has endorsed the Oder-Niesse line as the permanent boundary between Germany and Poland. The criticism was made by Joseph Ertl in the Bundestag, the lower house of Parliament, who said it was "inexplicable" that Israel should receive economic aid.

Dr. Karl Carstens, State Secretary at the Foreign Office, replied that the Government gave economic aid without political conditions. He added, however, that he expected from states receiving such aid "understanding for Germany's particular position,"

Meanwhile, President Heinrich Luebke received today former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer who described his visit earlier this month to Israel.

TEEN-AGERS IN SMALL COMMUNITIES WANT TO MAINTAIN JEWISH IDENTITY

NEW YORK, May 26. (JTA) -- Jewish teen-agers in a typical urban American community overwhelmingly desire to maintain and intensify their Jewish identification, and have no intention of denying their Jewish heritage. This was among the findings reported today in a study made public by the American Jewish Committee.

The study, a survey of attitudes and values as expressed by 225 teen-agers of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was sponsored by the Wilkes-Barre chapter of the American Jew-ish Committee and the Jewish Community Center of Wilkes-Barre. It was conducted by Dr. Irving Jacks, assistant professor of psychology at Pennsylvania State University.

A large majority of the teen-agers participating in the Wilkes-Barre study in a community of 350,000 with a Jewish population of 5,400, expressed a desire "to know more about Judaism and Jewish matters," though they were generally satisfied with the quality of the Jewish schooling which they had received.

The findings further indicated that synagogue attendance in Wilkes-Barre, both among the teen-agers and their parents, is limited in large measure to the High Foly Days. If the synagogue is to have a more meaningful role in the everyday life of the teen-agers, the report suggests, parents will need to attend weekly services more regularly. Dr. Jacks added that a de-emphasis of the Bar Mitzvah ceremony was advisable "in order to counter the tendency for it to be seen as a terminal point" of weekly synagogue attendance.

Indicate Feeling of Security; Free of Fear of Anti-Semitism

The teen-agers indicated a feeling of security in relation to non-Jewish teen-agers, and expressed themselves as free of the fear of anti-Semitism. Ecwever, their close friendship patterns are largely limited to Jewish teen-agers, the study revealed.

The survey revealed virtually unanimous agreement that belief in God was essentiate to being a good Jew -- a finding contrary to the popularly-held view that American youth, Jewish included, is rampantly embracing atheism. However, only a minority of those surveyed felt that observance of traditional Jewish dietary laws, attendance at weekly synagogue services, support of Israel, or contributing to Jewish philanthropies was essential to being a good Jew.

"This decline of interest in traditional Jewish patterns, the survey warned, may "presage a massive turn toward assimilation," Dr. Jacks suggested that this was a "plausible reading of the signs, particularly so if Jewish communal life fails to provide the Jewish teen-ager with positive models and positive values to undergird their Jewish identity, in order that it may be seen by the Jewish teen-ager as having relevance to his life in contemporary America."

In the area of interdating and intermarriage, 84 percent of the teen-agers in the study were unopposed to dating non-Jewish teen-agers, and two-thirds of them said they had dated non-Jews. Somewhat over one-half, however, rejected the possibility of intermarriage.

Dr. Jacks suggested, in summarizing the study, that "the focus of community efforts to enrich the Jewish identity of the teen-agers should be centered on meeting this need. Thus, we have recommended programming of post-Bar Mitzvah Jewish schooling for teen-agers, emphasizing the social-scientific aspects of Judaicm -- history and philosophy of Judaism, modern Jewish life -- as distinguished from a theological or ritualistic aspect."

This recommendation is being implemented in Wilkes-Barre, where a trained social worker with specialized experience in Jewish life has been added to the staff of the Jewish Community Center to help organize such a program. It will consist of post-Bar Mitzvah Jewish education with and for teen-agers. The plan, one of the first efforts of its kind in this country, was worked out by Jewish community leaders, parents and rabbis in Wilkes-Barre, in cooperation with the Center and the American Jewish Committee chapter.

PITTSBURGE JEWISH FEDERATION REPORTS RAISING \$1,807,225 IN 1966 DRIVE

PITTSBURGH, May 26. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh brought its 1966 fund-raising campaign to a successful conclusion with a total of \$1,807,225 raised for its 36 local, national and overseas beneficiary agencies, it was announced here today.

UJF president Alvin Rogal reported that more than \$190,000 was raised than the starting figure in the campaign. Fe stated that this was the first campaign in the history of the Federation where a goal had been achieved. Campaign chairman David Lowenthal announced that this was the largest amount raised during a regular non-emergency campaign since 1951, and that the community was well on its way towards becoming a \$2,000,000 community.

SENATE BODY STARTS FEARINGS ON COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN'S PROJECT

WASHINGTON, May 26. (JTA) -- Hearings have started in the Senate on a bill to establish a National Senior Community Service Corps based on the Senior Service Corps program of the National Council of Jewish Women. The bill is sponsored by Sen. Earrison A. Williams, New Jersey Democrat, who has submitted the success of the NCJW project as proof of the desirability of federal sponsorship of similar activities.

The proposed federal agency would employ adults aged 60 and over for jobs with community and non-profit partitime agencies. Mrs. Myron Barg of Fhiladelphia, consultant to the NCJW, appeared on behalf of the measure before the Special Sub-Committee on Aging of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee. She said the NCJW project had uncovered many retirees with needed skills and willingness to serve in community agencies which urgently need such volunteer help. The NCJW has started senior service activities in 13 cities.

STAND OF REFORM CONGREGATIONS ON VIET NAM DENGUNCED IN SENATE

WASEINGTON, May 26. (JTA) -- Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, a member of the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security, in a Senate speech denounced appeals for Vietnamese peace by the Union of American Febrew Congregations as reflective of a "vociferous minority" and allegedly not representative of Jewish opinion in the United States,

The Connecticut Democrat cited a featured article by Albert Vorspan in "American Judaism," the UARC official organ, that said "Jews are traditionally fighters for peace" and that "Viet Nam is not comparable to Munich and Fitler." Sen. Dodd deplored the position of Reform Judaism, as voiced by Mr. Vorspan, and said such thinking "has since been criticized by many Jewish leaders who are interested in making it clear that this statement does not represent their view."

For what he saw as a more typical and "perceptive" Jewish view of Viet Nam, Sen, Dodd referred to an article in the "Jewish Veteran" by JWV national executive director Monroe R. Sheinberg. Mr. Sheinberg, speaking for the JWV, attacked the Vorse and pastition and justified the "morality of our current commitment" in Viet Nam. The Senator introduced into the Senate speech the entire text of the JWV pro-war stand. Sen. Dodd alleged that the bulk of religious sentiment -- Jewish as well as Catholic and Protestant -- endorsed the war.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE ON SCVIET JEWRY ATTACKS DR. HESCHEL

NEW YORK, May 26. (JTA) -- Dr. Abraham J. Heschel, professor of Jewish ethics and mysticism at the Jewish Theological Zeminary, was accused of "demagoguery" in making "unfounded and irresponsible charges" in his criticism of the organized American Jewish community's handling of the protests to the Soviet Government on the cultural and religious discrimination against its three million Jews.

Prof. Heschel had criticized the program of the American Jewish community in regard to Soviet bias against Russian Jewry, when he addressed the convention of the Rabbinical Assembly, last week, at Toronto. In his critique, the scholar mentioned specifically the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Crganizations — and that criticism was rejected by Dr. Joachim Prinz, Chairman of the President's Conference. The retort today was made by Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.

"The American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry and the 25 national religious and secular organizations that are its components, is the organized voice of the American Jewish community to register its great concern for the fate of Soviet Jewry. Both collectively, and individually, we have dedicated outselves to a continuing campaign to obliterate the religious and cultural discriminations that engulf Russia's three million Jews, "Rabbi Miller said.

"We invite Dr. Feschel to join with us in this great work, rather than level unfounded and irresponsible charges, as he recently did, against one of the constituent agencies of the Conference on Soviet Jewry." The statement continued: "Even a respected scholar of such eminence as Prof. Feschel has the responsibility of knowledge of the facts before engaging in such vocal demagoguery. Further, while not denying him the right of his own opinion, it should be noted that he is a member of at least two groups, representing the religious grouping with which he is affiliated, that are participating members of the American Jewish Conference on Coviet Jewry."

Pointing out that the Conference has reason to believe "that our message is getting through to the Soviet Government," the statement concluded: "Within the limitations of an educational program, we are best serving the cause of the Jews of Russia. We urge Prof. Feschel to join with us in this great work, rather than to sit on the sidelines and critically snipe at the sincere efforts of the great majority of American Jewry."