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SOVIET PREMIER PLEDGES TO EASE EMIGRATION OF JEWS TO JOIN FAMILIES

PARIS, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin said here yesterday at a press conference that "we will do everything to enable" reunification of Jewish families in the Soviet Union with members living in other countries.

In what was believed to be his first statement on the problem as Premier, Mr. Kosygin, who is now in Paris on a state visit, made the statement in reply to a question by one of the newsmen. He was asked whether the Soviet Union would give permission to Jews in Russia to join their families in other countries. He coupled his reply with a denial of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

He also said -- in reply to another question -- that a Soviet-sponsored peace conference in the Middle East was not possible because the "belligerents" did not want it. In reply to the question about permitting the reunification of Jewish families, the Soviet Premier said:

"Many people in the world have already raised this question. Some are speaking about anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. Others speak about reunification of Jewish families. I have to say to you that there is no anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. That is pure imagination and not a very brilliant way of struggle against the Soviet Union. That is not serious.

"Concerning the problem of families and their reunification, we will do everything to enable this. We will make it easy; we will open the road for those who want to leave. There is no problem about reunification of families. There is not a single country in the world which found a solution to the problem of interior nations as did the Soviet Union. We have in the Soviet Union very many nations and all of them are equal. We take care of the interests of all nations represented in the Soviet Union. This concerns Jews as well as all the others."

The question posed to the Soviet Premier about arranging a Middle East peace conference referred to the peace talks arranged by the Soviet Union in Tashkent between India and Pakistan which brought a cease-fire in the war between those two countries. Replying to the question, Premier Kosygin said: "There is no question of a Tashkent conference for the Middle East. You must understand that there can be such a conference only in case that both sides, that means both belligerents, would agree on such a conference. This is impossible in the Middle East because there they do not want it."

Commission to Present Findings on Soviet Jewry to U.N.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A panel of American religious and civic leaders yesterday called on the leaders of the U.S.S.R. to permit large-scale emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. The call came in a "verdict" issued by members of the Ad Hoc Commission on the Rights of Soviet Jews based on testimony and reports presented at a public hearing here last March 18.

Bayard Rustin, Negro civil rights leader, chaired the tribunal and headed the list of signers who made public their findings today. They were: Dr. John C. Bennett, president, Union Theological Seminary; The Rev. George B. Ford, pastor emeritus, Corpus Christi Church; Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer, United Automobile Workers; Telford Taylor, professor of law, Columbia University; and Norman Thomas, veteran Socialist leader.

Mr. Rustin said the commission would present its findings to United Nations Secretary-General U Thant. The Third Committee of the U.N. General Assembly will begin a debate next week on draft documents outlawing racial and religious bias. The commission's call on the U.S.S.R. to grant permission for emigration cited the "natural right to group life" and the "equally natural right" of Soviet Jews "to seek fulfillment through their own group. "For those Soviet Jews who can find self-realization only in a Jewish state, this would mean the right to leave the U.S.S.R. in order to create a new Jewish life for themselves in Israel," the statement declared.

KOSYGIN'S PLEDGE ON JEWISH EMIGRATION GETS FAVORABLE RECEPTION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Israel gave a favorable reception today to a statement made in Paris by Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin yesterday, declaring he had no objections to the emigration of Jews from the U.S.S.R. for purposes of family reunification.

However, it was noted here that the Kosygin statement must be taken cautiously, pending practical implementation of the presumed pledge. Observers pointed out that unofficial promises of that kind have been made previously in the Soviet Union but, so far, only a trickle of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union has been permitted.

SITUATION IN JORDAN REPORTED STABILIZED AT ISRAEL CABINET MEETING

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today heard a report from Foreign Minister Abba Eban on developments in neighboring Jordan. Mr. Eban reported that the situation in Jordan has now been stabilized, following the recent demonstrations there against King Hussein.

The Cabinet decided today to take no action at this time on a proposal made by United Nations Secretary-General U Thant for enlarging the role of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization by adding a helicopter and a speedboat on Lake Tiberias to the UNTSO facilities.

The decision was taken after Mr. Eban reported on Mr. Thant's suggestion to this effect made last week in a memorandum to the Security Council. Mr. Eban pointed out that the Secretary-General has not yet approached Israel on the matter, confining his suggestion only to a Security Council note. It was pointed out in the Cabinet that such suggestions had been made in the past but that neither Israel nor the Arab states had agreed to the proposals. Israel, it was noted, does not favor expanding the UNTSO into a "third force" in the area.

The Cabinet was also informed by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol that, thus far, the Government has not received official word from Washington about reported plans for sealing the Arab-Israeli borders through mechanical and electronic facilities. Mr. Eshkol told the Cabinet about his conversation here last week with U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, in which the latter queried the Israeli Premier about Israel's reactions to recent developments in the Middle East.

(Upon his arrival last night in New York, Sen. Kennedy said that the United States Government should assure "all parties" in the Middle East that "it will guarantee the integrity of Israel." He upheld the American attitude in the United Nations Security Council which, a week ago, censured Israel for its Nov. 13 raid into Jordan. He advocated that Israeli and Arab students in this country set up a dialogue in an attempt "to communicate better with each other.")

POPE ISSUES PERSONAL APPEAL FOR PEACE BETWEEN ARABS AND JEWS

ROME, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Pope Paul VI, troubled by the growing tension in the Middle East, issued a special personal appeal for peace between Arabs and Jews, it was reported in Vatican circles here. They said the appeal was similar to previous messages pertaining to the Viet Nam situation. They said the message indicated the gravity of the developing Middle East problem as seen by the Pontiff, on the basis of private information available to him in addition to published reports.

The Papal message was sent to the Apostolic Delegate in Jerusalem. It said the Pope "was praying fervently" that "all men of goodwill will be ready to receive the divine message of peace." The message was sent on behalf of the Pope by Vatican Secretary of State Amleto Cardinal Cicognani "with anxiety" because of "the unhappy events taking place which have caused the dear people of the Holy Land further sorrow."

U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR LEAVES ISRAEL; DISCUSSED IRRIGATION PROBLEMS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Irrigation problems of Israel and the National Water Carrier created to help meet those problems occupied W. Willard Wirtz, the United States Secretary of Labor, during his two-day visit here which ended last night.

The Secretary and Mrs. Wirtz were guests of Labor Minister Yigal Allon at his kibbutz on Lake Tiberias. The guests were taken to the Holy Places on the Sea of Galilee including Capernaum. They later visited the National Water Carrier station at Eshed Kinroth where the entire water program was explained. Mr. Wirtz and his wife also visited Nazareth before proceeding to Tel Aviv where they met Aharon Becker, secretary general of the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation.

U.S. PLEDGES \$22,000,000 TO U.N. RELIEF AGENCY FOR ARAB REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The United States pledged this weekend \$22,000,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees for the year ending June 30, 1967. The pledge, announced by U.S. Ambassador Harding Bancroft, is \$700,000 below the amount the United States gave for the fiscal year ending last June 30.

GERMAN JEWISH LEADERS EVALUATE NEO-NAZI SUCCESS IN STATE ELECTIONS

PARIS, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Two leaders of German Jewry told the European executive of the World Jewish Congress here today that, while there is every reason for apprehension among Jews and others over the recent electoral successes of the National Democratic Party in the state elections in the West German provinces of Bavaria and Hesse, the press and public bodies have exaggerated somewhat the picture of the situation in West Germany.

These evaluations were voiced by Dr. Henryk van Dam, general secretary of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, and Dr. Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Jewish community of West Berlin. They were the principal speakers at this morning's session of the WJC executive, which convened here last night.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, summarizing the discussion concerning West German political developments, told the session that "there was no room for panic." At the moment, he said, "we are watching symptoms only." The National Democratic Party in West Germany is a fusion of a number of right-wing groups in that country, some of them openly neo-Nazi and others composed of former members of the Nazi Party under the Hitler regime.

The WJC executive session was opened last night by Britain's Lord Sieff of Brimpton, chairman of the European executive, and heard a general review of the situation of world Jewry and in Israel, delivered by Dr. Goldmann. The sessions of the executive are being attended by delegations representing France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Ireland, Sweden, Hungary and Yugoslavia, in addition to West Germany and West Berlin. The presiding officer at this morning's session, where the German situation was highlighted, was Astorre Mayer, of Italy, vice-chairman of the European executive.

Central Bodies of U.S. Reform Jewry Call for Action on Neo-Nazism

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis called on Jews and non-Jews today to mobilize public opinion to check the resurgence of neo-Nazism in West Germany. The action was taken at a meeting of the Union's board of trustees. A drive was recommended "to teach the horrors of Nazism to the German youth in school, church, university, and all areas of life."

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the UAHC, expressed fear that "our national leaders here in Washington are far too carelessly -- or callously -- indifferent to this problem." Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein, president of the CCAR, said that "in view of the recent history of Germany, we consider it our right to demand action by the responsible elements in the fight against resurgent Nazism."

23, 000 NAZIS ARE STILL HIDING OUT FROM JUSTICE, W.J.C. STUDY FINDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Somewhere in the world about 23, 000 Nazi criminals are hiding out from justice, the World Jewish Congress reported here today. The report is based on statistics published by the West German Central Agency for the Prosecution of Nazi Criminals at Ludwigsburg. Since World War II, the German report states, proceedings have been started against 61, 761 persons. The WJC claims that about 85, 000 Nazi criminals should be tried, and thus about 23, 000 are still missing.

Of the 61, 761, a total of 41, 212 were acquitted by the end of 1964. Of the remaining 20, 549, more than 13, 890 cases were still pending in 1965, 12 persons were sentenced to death before this penalty was abolished by law, 77 went to life imprisonment, 5, 911 received shorter prison sentences, 114 were fined and one person was put on probation when it was revealed that he had been a juvenile at the time of the crime with which he was charged.

The German authorities report that they have been unable to locate 542 persons wanted in connection with the present trials. These cases "could not be pursued because the suspects lived abroad or at an unknown address."

SPAIN COMPLETES DRAFTING OF BILL ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TO JEWS

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A bill guaranteeing religious freedom to the Jews of Spain and to other non-Catholics in that country, has been drafted for introduction into the Cortes (Parliament), it was reported today from Madrid in a dispatch to The New York Times.

While the measure, which was 10 years in preparation, would still leave in force certain religious limitations, particularly proselytization, it would allow Jews and other minority religions to erect and install places of worship which could be marked externally with religious symbols and advertise services. Spanish Jews, according to the new bill, would also be allowed to acquire cemetery plots and would be excused from attending Catholic instruction in schools.

NUMBER OF JEWS IN 'WHITE BACKLASH' AGAINST NEGROES REPORTED GROWING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, yesterday denounced a "growing element" among Jews who he said were part of the "white backlash" against Negroes.

Addressing the opening session of the UAHC's board of trustees here, Dr. Eisendrath told representatives of the Reform Synagogues that "we Jews are becoming victims of the wave of reaction against the Negro that is sweeping the nation." He cited the recent Civilian Review Board question on which he estimated New York Jews voted 3 to 1 against the Board that would protect Negro rights.

He called on Jews to fight anti-Negro reaction and the retreat from the civil rights struggle. He said he felt there was some justification for charges that certain Negro elements were becoming anti-Semitic and displaying "black power" tendencies. But, he added, "we must remember that for every Negro who tosses a brick there are a hundred thousand similarly disadvantaged and disillusioned who do not."

ORTHODOX GROUPS TO DEFEND IN COURT FEDERAL AID TO PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Jewish Orthodox organizations today announced that they will defend in court the Federal Aid to Education program challenged in court suits initiated by the American Jewish Congress and three non-Jewish groups. The suits charging that certain provisions of the Federal Education Act violated the principle of church-state separation were filed last week by the New York Civil Liberties Union, the American Jewish Congress, the United Parents Associations and the United Federation of Teachers.

Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, deplored today as a "disservice to education and religious freedom," the action by the four organizations who filed suit in New York State and Federal Courts challenging the inclusion of pupils at religion-sponsored schools in the benefits of the Education Act. Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, director of Torah Umesorah, the Hebrew day school movement, declared that "We have battled the American Jewish Congress in the U.S. Congress where we favored passage of this legislation and we are prepared to do battle in the courts of the land where here, too, we hope to emerge victorious."

Jewish day school educators and lay leaders in 31 states and 104 communities where America's 330 Hebrew day schools are located pointed out that the American Jewish Congress does not in any way speak for the Jewish community in religious and educational matters and that it is primarily a secular agency. Mr. Karasick, referring in his announcement to the American Jewish Congress, similarly said that that organization "speaks for itself only and is under no circumstances to be taken as representing the American Jewish community. The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, central spokesman for this country's 3,100 Orthodox synagogues, as well as all Orthodox rabbinic bodies and every other Orthodox Jewish body, have given full support to the Federal Education Act and deem its provisions to be consonant with the principle of church-state separation."

CONVENTION OF RELIGIOUS ZIONISTS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON RUSSIA, GERMANY

LONG BEACH, N.Y., Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The 57th annual convention of the Religious Zionists of America concluded here today with the adoption of resolutions calling upon the Soviet Government "to grant opportunities for free and unqualified religious freedom to its 3,000,000 Jewish inhabitants" and appealing to the West German Government "to adopt severe measures to stamp out all vestiges of Nazism wherever found." Rabbi Herschel Schacter, of New York, was elected as the national president of the organization for the coming year.

Addressing the convention last night, Dr. Shlomo Ben Meir, Israel's Deputy Minister of the Interior, said that Israeli Arabs enjoy a higher standard of living than their brothers in neighboring Arab countries. He also pointed out that "Christian and Arab citizens of Israel have complete religious freedom and cultural autonomy in their varied spiritual practices."

In comparing the educational standards enjoyed by Arabs in Israel with those of the non-Israeli Arabs, Dr. Ben Meir cited the statistics which indicate that almost 70 percent of Israeli Arabs receive public school education versus less than 40 percent for Arabs in neighboring countries. "The Government of Israel is erecting a network of schools to meet the needs of Arab and Christian children," he reported. The Government is also subsidizing construction of Arab and Christian religious institutions, he said.

Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum, past president of the organization, appealed to the Soviet Government to permit a representative body of American Jewish leaders "to conduct a free, unfettered, and uninhibited fact-finding study" of the status, welfare and general condition of the Jews of Russia.